

WHAT'S GOOD!

AT PJUSD



Pierce Joint Unified School District Newsletter

August 2018

New Multi-Purpose Room Opens



On July 31 the district held an Open House and ribbon cutting ceremony for the brand-new multi-purpose room and kitchen at Pierce High School. Community members and staff were able to tour the facility. District staff utilized the facility for their welcome back breakfast and training on August 3. High school students began using the new facility on August 8, the first day of school.

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School Messenger Being Launched

Communication with parents will soon be enhanced through the use of School Messenger. Parents will be receiving email, phone and text alerts from the schools through this system beginning as early as the beginning of September. This system is connected to our student information system that has all of our parent contact information. It is extremely important that you have your information correct for each of your children at each of the school sites. If you are not receiving text messages or emails by mid-September, you should contact your child's school to update your information. For example, if your home phone is listed as the main contact number, you will not get text messages.

2018/19 Enrollment

Arbuckle Elementary:	613
Grand Island Elementary:	43
Lloyd G. Johnson Jr. High:	382
Pierce High:	428
Arbuckle Alternative High:	10
TOTAL ENROLLMENT:	1476

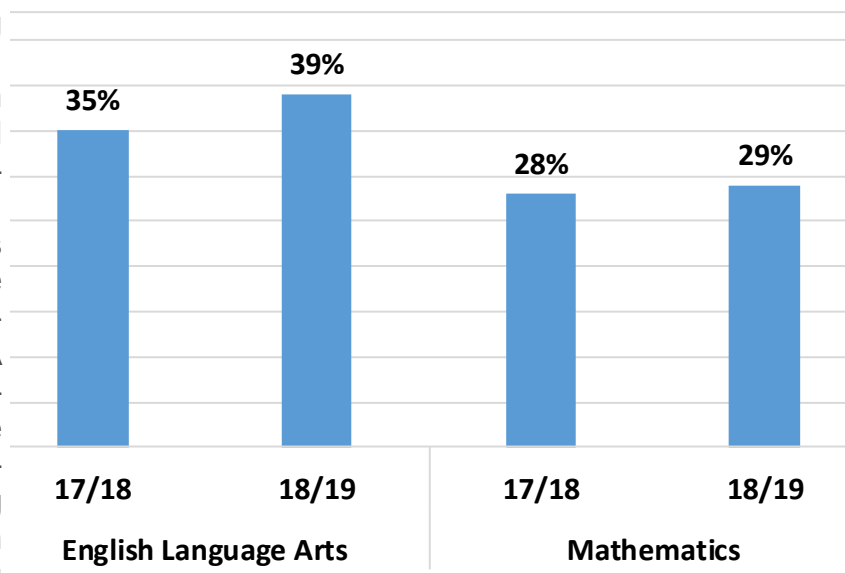
District Schools Utilizing Digital Character Development and Behavior Intervention

This year the district has purchased an online curriculum, called Suite 360 through Evolution Labs, that will be implemented at each school. At the elementary schools, each teacher will be using the program to teach students to become responsible, self-directed citizens. Examples of lesson topics include: respect, social awareness, goal setting, character development, and relating to others. At the middle and high schools, the program will be used as a tool to modify student behavior. Site administrators will assign relevant video topics to students as part of the discipline process for common infractions. Students will view the video content as part of their consequence so that they understand the impact of their actions and how to make things right with those affected by what they have done. The goal is for student behavior to improve as measured by fewer suspensions and discipline referrals, and repeat offenders so students are spending their time in classrooms learning. For more information on this program, visit <https://www.evpco.com/k-12/>.

Self-Control
Excellence
Honesty
Respect
Responsibility
Courteous

California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) State Test Results

Test results from spring state testing show an overall increase of 4% in English Language Arts (ELA) and 1% in Mathematics in comparison to the previous year. Eleventh and third grades had the highest percentage of students meeting or exceeding proficiency in ELA with 59% and 58% respectively. Third grade had the highest percentage of students meeting or exceeding proficiency standard in math at 62%. Complete testing results will soon be released by the state and will be available on the California Department of Education's website.



District Training



District staff, which included teachers, administrators, cooks, directors, bus drivers, custodians, campus supervisors, counselors, secretaries, maintenance, mechanics, grounds men, instructional aides, district office staff and school board members, was welcomed back to school on Friday, August 3 with a staff breakfast. The morning continued with the introduction of new staff, recognizing staff for years of service and training. Training this year was focused on the needs of the whole-child in terms of Social Emotional Learning (SEL). Carol Geyer, Superintendent, presented on the 5 core competencies of Social-Emotional well-being. Matt Reddam from the Special Education division of the Colusa County Office of Education spent a few hours working with the staff on understanding the

needs of students including students struggling with trauma. Research shows that students need to be in the right state of mind emotionally in order for their brains to be able to learn content. All staff interacting with students have the ability to affect students' emotional well-being. It is essential that the adults working in the schools build solid, supportive relationships with the students they interact with on a daily basis.

DISTRICT IMPLEMENTING MOBILE APPLICATION AS PART OF SAFETY SYSTEM

Safety of students and staff is a constant and top priority in the district. Annually the schools update their emergency plans and work to improve their systems in the event of an emergency or crisis. As part of these plans, drills are conducted on a regular basis. Examples of the types of drills include: fire, earthquake and intruder. The district now has a mobile application called Raptor to initiate these drills and to initiate actual emergencies. Once the event is initiated on the mobile App, all staff are notified through a text alert, an email alert and a push notification on their phone or tablet. Staff then work with their students to follow the directives for the specific emergency alert. Through the App, teachers are able to account for their students by marking them present. This student accounting system is visible to the site administration. If a true emergency event were to take place, this application will also be used to reunify students with their parents. Parent contact information is integrated into the application through the information in our student information system, Aeries. It is of utmost importance to ensure that parent and contact information is up-to-date. Please inform the school office immediately upon changing phone numbers and your address.



CELEBRATING STAFF

Years of Service Awards 2018



10 Years of Service

Adriana Rodriguez, Lisa Kitchen,
Jewel Kannengieser, Jennifer Kessinger,
Julie Dillard, Manual Moore



15 Years of Service

Jodi Arens



20 Years of Service

Shelly Langlois,
Antonia Quezada,
Gloria Rodriguez



25 Years of Service

Scott Burnum,
Felicia Garcia



30 Years of Service

Isabel Hernandez,
Debbie Scott,
Carol Geyer

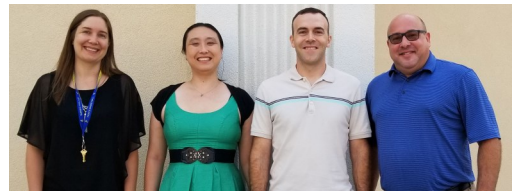
New Faces in the District



New Staff at AES: Jonathan Alvarado: Custodian/
Groundswoker/Bus Driver, Erica Pina Munoz: P.E.,
Katherine Moresco: 2nd Grade, Hallie Ochoa: 3rd
Grade, Keri Lovelady-Matamoros: 3rd Grade



New Staff at JJH: Jessica Geierman: Principal,
Jonah McInnis: History, Kyle Teremoto: 6th
Grade, Matthew Peterson: History,
Shelly Fullerton: English, Christine Dyer: Science



New Staff at PHS: Heather Riley: Spanish,
Patricia Bendorf: Math, David Coorough: Math,
Dave Vujovich: Principal; Matthias Breithaupt:
Music—Not Pictured



New Staff District-Wide
Janet Myers, District Nurse,
Darcy Godinez, Bus Driver