

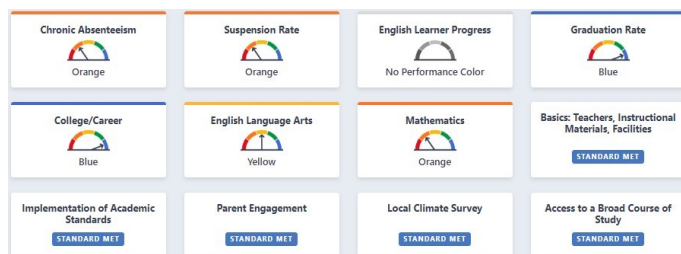
WHAT'S GOOD! AT PJUSD



Pierce Joint Unified School District Newsletter

February 2019

CA School Dashboard Data



The California Department of Education recently released the California School Dashboard with 2017/18 data on schools and school districts throughout the state. Data is reported on each of the state indicators. State indi-

cator categories are: Chronic Absenteeism, Suspension Rate, English Learner Progress, Graduation Rate, College/Career, English Language Arts, Mathematics and Local Indicators. The dashboard has been redesigned and is now utilizing color gauges in its rating system. Colors include blue, green, yellow, orange and red. Blue represents a positive rating while red represents a low rating. School districts utilize this information to assess how they are progressing in each area and recognizing areas in which improvement is needed. All of these data points are included in the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) and the actions and services within this plan address how the district will move forward in this continuous improvement process. Visit the state's website to see how Pierce Joint Unified School District is performing in each of these areas. There are areas of success to celebrate as well as areas that continue to be a challenge and an opportunity for growth.

Find the data at: www.caschooldashboard.org

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HELP US MEET OUR GOAL!

Conflict Facilitation at JJH

On Friday, February 22, JJH hosted a Conflict Facilitator Training for an excited group of students, teachers and support staff. Trainer Bob led us through a daylong seminar of how to mediate conflicts, what techniques students and teachers can use both inside and outside of the classroom to de-escalate high stress situations and how to best meet the challenges and needs of our students. Students had the opportunity to practice these skills in various simulation activities while also bonding with their fellow peers and dynamic staff. We look forward to the positive changes this training will bring to our campus. Thank you for putting together this positive PR! We appreciate it.



District Gets New App!



Download on your mobile device today and select yes to receive notifications. We are working toward 250 app downloads by March 31st! Download the app today!

6th Graders Attend Shady Creek



The Pierce Joint Unified School District would like to thank all of the parent volunteers, community members, and individuals who have donated time and dollars so that our 6th



graders can continue to visit Shady Creek Outdoor School.

FFA News!

On January 23rd 19 members of Arbuckle FFA scored high enough on their record books to receive their FFA State Degree. In order to receive their state degrees, candidates must keep a detailed record book of their project, make at least \$1000 on their project and have 500 hours minimum invested in there project along with several other criteria that must be met. The State FFA Degree is awarded to FFA members who have demonstrated the highest level of commitment to the California State FFA Association and made significant accomplishments in their Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAEs). Approximately 1,800 State FFA Degrees are handed out each year. That number represents approximately 3% of the California FFA association membership, making it the State's highest honor. In addition to their degree, each recipient receives a gold State FFA Degree charm. The top State FFA Degree recipients may also apply for a Star Award.



Arbuckle Future Farmers of America members, Crystal Medina and Emiliano Rodriguez, made a presentation to the school board at the December meeting. Both students attended the National Convention in Indianapolis earlier in the fall and shared about their experience. Crystal spoke specifically about the American Farmer degree which was earned by 4 Arbuckle FFA alumni: Ashleigh Ehrke, Jessica Croxson, Devin Griffith, and Jacob Amsler. She explained that an extremely small percentage of students nationally earn this prestigious award yet Pierce High School had 6 this year alone! It is a great honor. Emiliano talked about the convention in general and specifically about going on a tour of a soybean farm which allowed him and the others to see agriculture outside of California.



FBLA Attends Northern Section Conference



On Saturday, February 9th, the Pierce High School Chapter of FBLA competed at the California FBLA Northern Section Conference. Seven students represented Pierce, this year choosing to appear in a new “uniform”. The team consisted of 9th Graders Lillian Arens and Kiley Wilkerson; 10th Grader Annalise Danner; 11th Graders Santos Merino and Alejandro Centeno; and 12th Grader Cody Stafford. All students chose objective test events to compete in including Health Care Administration, Business Financial Math, Business Communication, Marketing and Entrepreneurship. One student chose to compete in a speaking event. In objective test events, the top 5 students qualify to

compete at the State Conference in April. In speaking events, the top 2 qualify to compete at the State level. Rankings for all students have not been released yet, but all students felt confident of their performance. Santos Merino placed 2nd place in Impromptu Speaking, qualifying for State. Cody Stafford competed in Entrepreneurship and Marketing. Both of these events are team events. While all other schools had three people on each team competing, Cody chose to compete as a solo competitor. He placed 4th in BOTH competitions and qualifying to compete at the State level. There he will participate in a second round of objective testing against the other sections in California. The top 10 of that test will move on to a presentation round for finals. Best of luck to the Pierce High School FBLA Team!

FRESHMAN CLASS PARTICIPATES IN CHALLENGE DAY



they are different. Those commonalities were brought forward during activities throughout the day. At the end of the day, students vowed to inspire positive change in their school and community.

The entire freshman class along with over 20 adults gathered in the gymnasium on Monday, February 25 to take part in Challenge Day. Students spent the entire day working to break stereotypes and connect at a deeper level as human beings. The work centered around the idea of people being more alike than

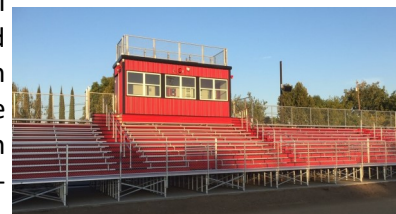


Pierce High School Bleacher Project



Excavation begins

Work has begun at the high school football field to replace the outdated bleachers and press box. Construction crews are already working to prepare the area for the new bleachers which includes a press box. The project includes installing a sidewalk that will lead to accessible bathrooms. Completion of the project will be prior to the first home football game of the season.



Sample Press Box
(ours will be blue)

Valentine's Tea at Grand Island Elementary

Grand Island held their annual Valentines Tea on February 15, 2019. Parents and community friends experienced a morning of entertainment, and delicious treats. Our 5th grade boys practiced escorting parents to their tables, while the 5th grade girls practiced the proper techniques of servicing food and drink to the guests. Mr. Rector led each classroom with enthusiastic singing centered on the Valentine theme. Mrs. Kessinger's students played their recorders and danced to the delight of the audience. The culminating activity was the presentations of mailboxes by the Grand Island students. Students showed off their creative mailbox design in front of the crowd, and the adults voted for their favorite mailbox in eight different categories. The winner in each



category won a prize for their efforts. A big thanks to the Grand Island Parents Club for the beautiful decorations and their continued support of our school.



Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) District Advisory Committee Meeting

Any and all parents, community members, employees and board members were invited to participate in the district's LCAP meeting. The meeting was held on Wednesday, February 6 at 6 p.m. in the evening. Superintendent, Carol Geyer facilitated the meeting. Participants were given an overview of the California Data Dashboard system that is used as an accountability component for school districts across the state. Each individual then had an opportunity to use a Chromebook device to take a deeper look at the data for individual schools in the district. The group was able to identify strengths and weaknesses from the data. An opportunity was given for members to share input and solution ideas that could support the weaknesses. Stakeholder input will be utilized in the updating of the 2019/20 LCAP that will go to the school board for



Pierce Joint Unified School District welcomed newly elected board of trustee, Barbara Bair, to the school board. Superintendent Carol Geyer administered the oath of office during the December school board meeting. Amy Charter, who was re-elected, as a board of trustee took her oath of office as well. This ceremony was part of the Annual Organizational Meeting of the board. Both members are beginning a four year term.