

Bard Briefs



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE JANUARY 20, 2015 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

► Superintendent and Board Recognize Student and School Stars

The Superintendent and Board recognized the following students:

- Oak Valley sixth grader Jessica Carscadden appeared on the Today Show recently to discuss “We Care Bears,” a charitable organization Jessica founded that donates stuffed animals to first responders to share with children they encounter in their work. In October, Jessica was awarded a \$50,000 grant through Peace First Fellowship, a non-profit organization that supports the projects of students motivated to help others.
- Oak Valley seventh grader Jenna Kim won first place in the San Diego California Association of Teachers of English (CATE) student creative writing contest for grades 7-8. Jenna and her teacher Michele Gallo will be invited to attend an awards ceremony at the San Diego County Office of Education.
- Three Poway Unified students have been recognized by the College Board for earning the highest score of 2400 on the national SAT (School Aptitude Test). The three-part test includes sections on Writing, Mathematics, and Language Arts. These students are from the October sitting. We will be bringing more students to future meetings with perfect scores for SAT tests taken in November and December. The following students were recognized:
 - Jane Huang, Del Norte High
 - Isabella Ortiz, Rancho Bernardo High
 - Henry Z. Xu, Westview High
- There is also a list in our agenda tonight of all Poway Unified students who received the maximum possible score of 800 in a subject area test on the SAT. Congratulations to all.
- Oak Valley Middle School’s FIRST Lego League (FLL) Team was victorious at the Annual FLL Legoland Tournament, taking home both trophies awarded annually to Southern California schools. The winning OVMS FLL teams will now go on to the U.S. and World Competitions.

► Board Receives Presentation on Student, Staff and Community Engagement Plan

PUSD Director of Innovation, Rich Newman and Director, Noreen Walton presented the Community Engagement Plan for the 2014-2015 school year. The plan is designed to seek and incorporate input from a wide range of stakeholders to guide the refinement of the District’s Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) for the 2015-2016 school year, as required by the California Education Code.

The presentation focused on the LCAP, a plan centered around the District’s three goals:

1. Ensure each student engages in a challenging 21st Century learning experience.
2. Develop and maintain communications systems that create collective engagement among all stakeholders.
3. Create a collaborative culture of continuous learning for all staff.

The ongoing process for engaging community, staff and students was reviewed including California Healthy Kids Survey, Parent Perception Survey, School Climate Survey, Student Speak Up Survey, School Site Surveys, Superintendent’s Student Advisory Committee, InnovationU Challenges, District Advisory Committee, District English Learner Advisory Committee, Special Education Community Advisory Committee, LCAP District and Site Meetings and Academic Performance Review Meetings.

The five key topics the District will be focusing on this year are: Safety, Learning Experiences, Measures of Success, Fiscal Management; and Communication. The two-way communication plans for Spring 2015 were then reviewed for each stakeholder group including parents, certificated and classified staff, students, community and businesses.

► Board Approves Resolution No. 28-2015, Proclaiming February 2-6 as National School Counseling Week

The Board approved Resolution No. 28-2015, proclaiming February 2-6 as National School Counseling Week 2015. This resolution is being presented tonight to the Board of Education as part of National School Counseling Week to focus public attention on the unique contribution of professional school counselors within the Poway Unified School District. National School Counseling Week 2015 highlights the tremendous impact school counselors make in helping students achieve school success. The comprehensive counseling program promotes and enhances the learning process by facilitating development in three broad areas: academic development, personal/social development, and career development.

This special week provides recognition for our school counselors who implement these counseling programs. Our counselors are being recognized for their constant encouragement of students and helping them examine their abilities, strengths, interests, and talents. National School Counseling Week 2015, February 2-6, highlights the tremendous impact that counselors have in helping students achieve school success.

► **Future meetings**

Regular Meetings:

Tuesday, February 10, 2015 in the District Office (6 p.m.)

Tuesday, March 10, 2015 in the District Office (6 p.m.)

*Published by the Poway Unified School District Communications Office
For more information about PUSD, visit our website www.powayusd.com
like us on Facebook www.facebook.com/PowayUSD
follow us on Twitter www.twitter.com/PowayUSD*