

East Side Union High School District

830 North Capitol Avenue, San Jose, CA 95133



Kudos

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Foothill Wins National Robotics Tournament

The Foothill Botball Team won the Botball National Tournament in Seattle this summer. They were competing against 47 other high schools from throughout the United States.

The Botball Robotics competition is not easy. It requires each team to build a robot using *legos*, to program a 37k microprocessor, and to connect the two into one operating unit. Robots score points using ping pong balls. The team with the most points wins and moves on in the competition.

East Side was a major contender in this tournament. The "Final 16" of the competition included teams from

Overfelt, Andrew Hill, Foothill and Independence High Schools.

Congratulations to Coaches **Jeneva Westendorf** (FH teacher), **Aaron Whyte** (engineer from NASA-Ames), Foothill Botball Team members **Saveth Orm**, **Chis DeGuzman**, **Johnny Le**, **Jose Sierra**, **Angie Macias**, **Priscilla Preciado**, **Juan Salinas** and **Joanne Phromsombath** and Foothill chaperones and cheerleaders **Charlene Marquez-Roybal**, **Linda Burroughs**, **Sal Martinez**.

Thanks to the publicity provided by NASA-Ames, the Foothill team was featured on television and in the *San Jose Mercury*.

East Side Receives Major Grant for School Reform

The district received a three hundred thousand dollar grant (\$300,000) from the Bay Area School Reform Collaborative (BASRC), a private non-profit organization that assists public schools in improving student achievement.

The focus of the grant is on developing data based continuous improvement processes throughout the district. James Lick, Oak Grove, Piedmont Hills, Santa Teresa, and W.C. Overfelt High Schools will participate in the grant.

In addition, the district administration must engage in reform activities. Last year the East Side Union High School District was one of nine districts to receive a small, pilot grant to work with BASRC to explore practical ways districts could support schools with reform. During the first-year pilot, districts (with BASRC assistance) examined ways of improving the collection and analyzing student achievement data, implementing standards, conducting assessments, and providing professional development for teachers. The district's role is to continue addressing these areas with the targeted schools.

Three of the districts schools, Oak Grove, Independence, and Santa Teresa, have been actively involved with BASRC since 1996. All three of these schools received BASRC grants, integrated reforms, and made progress in improving student achievement. In the new grant, Oak Grove and Santa Teresa have been designated as anchor schools and they will work with James Lick, Piedmont Hills, and W.C. Overfelt to support them as they make changes to improve.

Kudos to **Laurene Payne**, **Freddie Stewart**, **Dan Ordaz**, **Bernie Olmos**, **Bill Yamaki**, **Tim McDonough**, **John Cannizzaro**, **Alan Garafalo** and **Julia Lawrence**.



Welcome to the ESUHSD!

Over forty teachers participated in the district-sponsored new teacher orientation program. Three intensive days were designed specifically for teachers who are new to the profession. **Mary Navarro** facilitated the interactive program, which covered topics, such as, the California Standards for the Teaching Profession, classroom management, standards-based instruction, literacy, lesson planning, and survival skills. The new teachers also had an opportunity to meet with their SACs to discuss content standards.

On the fourth day, all teachers new-to-the-district were invited to participate in several workshops. In the first session, **Chris Evans**, library SAC, and **Kevin Heyman**, IHS librarian, delivered an informative and humorous presentation on the various school library databases and using them as instructional tools. In the

second session, **Carla Holtzclaw** and a SJPD officer gave a multimedia presentation on school safety.

At lunch, which was provided by the East Side Teachers Association, **Don McKell**, ESTA president, welcomed the new teachers to the district and introduced them to the many services that are available from the association, CTA, and NEA.

In the afternoon sessions, **Valerie Fedder** and **Christina Rivera** assisted the new teachers in navigating the maze of paperwork related to health benefits, insurance, salary, credential status, and other employment issues.

Good luck to our new teachers and thanks to the excellent presenters and facilitators and to the support staff who contributed to the success of this program.



Creek NJROTC Ranked as Outstanding

The Chief of Naval Education and Training for the United States Navy awarded Silver Creek High School's JROTC the Distinguished Unit Award for Outstanding Performance during the 2000-2001 school year.

The Silver Creek NJROTC has been recognized for the past five years. They received the Honor Unit Award for three consecutive years and the Distinguished Unit Award twice. For the first semester of last year, the program had only one Navy Senior Instructor to provide guidance to the cadets as they prepared for their annual inspection. But as expected, the cadets along with their instructor **Master Chief Willie Howell**, rose to the occasion and demonstrated that they are well deserving of their awards.

Master Chief Howell attributed their success to the caliber of the cadets in the program and the support of the school's administration and faculty.

Congratulations to **Master Chief Howell** and the NJROTC cadets on their awards. Kudos to Silver Creek administrators and staff on their support to this program.

Two Overfelt Staff Recognized by Community Organization

Ron Cueba, activities director, and **James Radcliffe**, science teacher at W. C. Overfelt, were formally recognized by the Coalition of Nationalist Vietnamese Organizations of Northern California for the assistance they have provided to Vietnamese students at W.C. Overfelt. The Moccasin Award for Community Service was presented to **Ron** and **James** in June at an annual recognition event held by the Coalition. The award is given to individuals who demonstrate leadership and commitment to the community.

Congratulations to **Ron** and **James** on this prestigious recognition.

Exodus Communications, Inc. Invests in Electronics Academies

Exodus Communications, Inc. walks the talk when it comes to business education partnership. This year Exodus has given the District an executive on loan, Mr. John Glover, to help recruit other business partners for the District's Electronics Academies. They gave the Academies 30 *Think Pad* computers and they purchased space in the San Jose/Silicon Valley book at a cost of \$5,000 to feature the relationship they have with our schools.

Kudos to Exodus Communications, Inc.'s CEO, **Ellen Hancock** for demonstrating a commitment to education and to our executive on loan **John Glover** who has done an outstanding job of rallying business support for the Electronics Academies.

W.C. Overfelt Celebrates Royally Successful Summer Institute

W. C. Overfelt summer institute graduates celebrated their success with their parents and relatives. The incoming 9th graders completed an intensive three-week institute preparing them for a successful high school experience. The students improved their math and English skills, learned about note taking, binder organization, and time management, developed presentation and team building skills, learned about high school and college requirements and visited colleges. This program was initiated as a result of W.C. Overfelt's involvement in the Bay Area School Reform Collaborative (BASRC). The staff initiated the program to enhance the skills of incoming 9th graders, which was a focus of their BASRC proposal.

At the closing ceremony the students demonstrated these new skills to their parents, relatives and friends and left confident that they will be graduating in four years ready for college.

Congratulations to the following W.C. Overfelt staff on the efforts to enhance the chances for success for these 100 students: **Lynn Murray, Vito Chiala, James Frazee, Debra Branagan, Jeff Martinez, Floyd Hurndon, Susie Caton, Rosemary Miller** and Fischer staff member **Imme Almazan!**

Superintendent Selected for Leadership Award by California School Library Association

Superintendent Joe Coto has been selected as the 2001 recipient of the California School Library Association Leadership Award. His name was submitted by **Chris Evans**, James Lick librarians.

The superintendent will receive his award at the California School Library Association Annual State conference in early November.

Congratulations to our
Superintendent.



Information Systems Thanks East Side Staff

Over one thousand employees completed a survey disseminated by Information Systems last June. The division is using the feedback they received to improve services. Information Systems Director, Mike Pine wanted to express his appreciation to all the employees who took the time to complete the survey. The results will be distributed shortly.



IBM Gives Computers to the Electronics Academies

At a press conference in mid August held at IBM, **Ted Olsson**, Manager of the IBM Western Region Corporate Community Relations Department, presented the East Side Electronics Academies with 15 computers. Staff from the three Academy schools, (W.C. Overfelt, Silver Creek and Independence) were in attendance to accept the generous contribution.

The press conference also highlighted the internships that 19 of the Academy students had this past summer. Students made short presentations on their experiences and representatives from the

sponsoring companies discussed the benefits they realized from the student interns.

Kudos to IBM on their commitment to our students and to Seimans, Agilent, IBM and Hewlett Packard for providing internships for our students.

Special thanks to **John Glover**, executive on loan and **Brenda Childress**, Director of Career Services, for their efforts to secure internships and general support for the Electronics Academies.





Oak Grove Teacher Recognized by WorkForce Silicon Valley

WorkForce Silicon Valley recently recognized **Dennis Barbata** (OG) for his outstanding work to better prepare students for the 21st century workforce. Dennis has implemented the Eagleweb program as a part of the Information Technology Pathway at Oak Grove. Building web pages and web sites is an integral part of this program. Eagleweb matches students talented in web design with small companies and non profits who need a presence on the internet.

The WorkForce Silicon Valley was formed under the auspices of the Santa Clara Manufacturing Group and it includes all 34 school districts in Santa Clara County, seven community colleges, 113 employers, CBO's and vocational training institutions. The organization is working with schools to develop a framework for assessing the types of skills employers will need from future workers. The WorkForce sees School-to-Work as a powerful force in bringing about educational reform and providing workers for the Silicon Valley.

Dennis was recognized for his leadership in implementing work-based learning opportunities and for his commitment to generating resources for the work force preparation of students.

Kudos to **Dennis** for his efforts to prepare our students for 21st century jobs.



East Side has 39 Hispanic Scholarship Fund Winners

Students from throughout the district were recently selected to receive over \$96,250 in scholarship funds from the Hispanic Scholarship Fund (HSF).

This scholarship opportunity was created by a partnership between the district and HSF. The foundation only works with districts who will commit to matching the funds they provide for scholarships. East Side doubled the number of scholarships this year.

The majority of the students receiving the scholarships will be going to San Jose State University, Santa Clara University, and UC/State colleges.

Congratulations to the following recipients and kudos to the staff who encouraged and supported them in the application process.

Students

Aurora Andres
Ricardo Banuelos
Erika Chagolla
Adriana Contreras
Krishna Cruz
Joanna Ixta
Jessica Martinez
Marcilla Moreno
Mayra Perez
Nubia Pineda
Theresa Salas
Fabian Villarreal
Jacqueline Cervantes
Ricardo Barajas
Alexandra Higareda
Antonieta Moran
Sabrina Santa Cruz
Rosana Acosta
Monica Acosta
Saul Rosales
Juan Andrade, Jr.
Sergio Buenrostro, Jr.
Laura Carrasco
Rafael Lopez
Christina Mexicano
Rodrigo Oliva
Sarah Duran
Melissa Nicho
Arleen Cardenas
Erik Lacayo
Patricia Flores
Ramon Jimenez
Alejandro Gonzalez
Maria Gutierrez
Gustavo Martinez
Wendy Mendoza
Herminio Torres
Gabriel Valencia
Mariana Alvarez

School

Andrew Hill
Andrew Hill
Andrew Hill
Andrew Hill
Andrew Hill
Andrew Hill
Andrew Hill
Andrew Hill
Andrew Hill
Andrew Hill
Andrew Hill
Andrew Hill
Andrew Hill
Andrew Hill
Andrew Hill
Foothill
Independence
Independence
Independence
Independence
James Lick
James Lick
James Lick
Mt. Pleasant
Mt. Pleasant
Mt. Pleasant
Mt. Pleasant
Mt. Pleasant
Mt. Pleasant
Oak Grove
Oak Grove
Santa Teresa
Silver Creek
Santa Teresa
Santa Teresa
W.C. Overfelt
W.C. Overfelt
W.C. Overfelt
W.C. Overfelt
W.C. Overfelt
W.C. Overfelt
Yerba Buena



Oak Grove Video Yearbook Receives Award

The Oak Grove Video Yearbook was selected as one of the 2001 Secondary Subject Area Award Winning Videos at the 35th Annual California Student Media & Multimedia Festival. This competition which was held in June, celebrated multimedia projects designed for students. Over 7,000 students and hundreds of teachers took part in this year's festival.

Congratulations to **Gary Berg**, teacher/advisor and his students—**Aaron Klarfeld**, **Will Richason**, **John DeJong**, **Robert Grays** and **Mike Wells**.



Superintendent

Joe Coto

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