

East Side Union High School District Newsletter

Issue: 05

August 2013



Dear Parents/East Side Community Members,

In an effort to improve our communication with all stakeholders, I will be sending out monthly or bimonthly newsletters updating you on all of the outstanding activities and successes in our district. I hope you enjoy this issue and please share it with anyone else who is interested in hearing the great things that are happening in our organization.

Welcome Back!

Dear East Side Community,

Welcome back to the 2013/14 school year! As I begin my second year as Superintendent, I reflect on the many conversations I have had with the dedicated certificated, classified and administrative staff I had the pleasure to meet across the district. I have visited close to 700 classrooms and have seen first-hand powerful teaching and learning taking place in the newly remodeled classrooms. I have witnessed the creativity and pride of our students through their presentations at the Board Meetings each month. We had outstanding turnout throughout the school year at our parent meetings and our community conversations. I'm extremely proud to serve as your Superintendent.

With the start of the new year, we have many hopes and challenges we must face together. The Governor's new Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) will bring much needed relief to our budget and the ability to start having conversations regarding eliminating the furlough days, and, in the coming years, restoring vital resources and positions. This will take collaboration among all bargaining units and management, including listening to the needs of our community. It will take a total of eight years for us to see the full benefit of the LCFF. For more information on LCFF, click [here](#).

The Common Core Standards are another opportunity for our organization to make sweeping changes in how we teach and how our students demonstrate learning. The first set of assessments that will be required in California are in English and Mathematics, beginning in the spring of 2014 at the eleventh grade. There is an enormous amount of work to complete in order to be ready for these first assessments. We will provide constant

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updates and support on the roll out for the Common Core.

We are in the final stages of completing our new five-year Strategic Plan. The Board of Trustees approved the vision, mission and core values at the June 27th Board meeting. We will continue to develop the Strategic Plan this fall with the anticipated Board adoption at the December 2013 Board meeting. To view the Board adopted Vision, Mission and Core Values, click [here](#).

2013 Downtown Doors

This past April, 2013, students submitted their art work to the Annual San Jose Downtown 2013 Downtown Doors contest. In total, there were 160 submissions from 16 high schools and 2 middle schools. The San Jose Downtown Foundation selected 25 works of art, with 9 of the pieces by East Side students:

- Jazmin Eusebio - Andrew Hill HS: "Mama"
- Daniel Valencia - Andrew Hill HS: "Half Developed"
- Daniel Valencia - Andrew Hill HS: "Do it for the Glory"
- Alexis Elazegui - Evergreen Valley High School: "Still"
- Melissa Tow - Evergreen Valley HS: "Wallflower"
- Jasmine Fuentes - Independence HS: "Bat"
- Amy Lam - Piedmont Hills HS: "Siren"
- Thong H. Luc - Piedmont Hills HS: "Untitled Photograph"
- Valerie Nguyen - Silver Creek HS: "Light on the Wall"

The students' work are displayed downtown and will remain on display until next year's winners have been selected. To view the walking map of the 25 pieces of work, click [here](#).

Andrew Hill High School

Miguel Vasquez Wins CCS Title

Andrew Hill High School student Miguel Vasquez won the Central Coast Section in the boys' 1600 m. He ran a time of 4:12.48. His second race of the evening was the 800 m. He took second place with a time of 1:52.55 (sixth fastest in the state). On June 1st at the California Interscholastic Federation State meet, Miguel won the Silver medal in the 1600 m with a time of 4:08. He also took seventh place in the 800 m final. Miguel will be attending UC Riverside this year on a full athletic scholarship.

Independence High School

Academy of Finance

The Independence Academy of Finance students attended the International Economic Summit at San Jose State University. This is an all-day competition between teams from different schools. Each team represents a different country (there were 32 countries/teams) and they compete in a series of activities, which test their understanding of world economics, international trade, building political alliances, GDP, improving standards of living, and much more. Besides strengthening research, teamwork and communications skills, students develop negotiating and debating skills, as well. Below are the results of their hard work and dedication:

1st Place for Table Display: Team Zimbabwe

(Jada Sweat, KC Lanuza, Alen He, John Ocampo, John Caragay)

2nd Place for Table Display: Team Japan

(Sidney Adams, Malia Molifua, Christian Rasay, Irvin Franco)

1st Place Middle Income Country: Team Mexico

(Keny Santos, TJ Garcia, Liezl Sumagit, Julius Romero)

1st Place Low Income Country: Team Nigeria

(Ryan Spelick, Julian Delte, Ron Villalobos, Joseph Martinez-Apodaca; prep support from Teo Fonseca)

1st Place Global Proposal Debate: Team Nigeria

(Ryan Spelick)

Mt. Pleasant High School**Animation Magnet Program**

For the third consecutive year, the Mt. Pleasant Animation Magnet Program earned "Best of Show" at the Santa Clara High School Animation Festival. The Festival is only in its third year. Magnum cum Laude Senior Madison Rubia won "Best of Show," "Best Animated Short Subject," and "Most Cutting Edge Film" with her animation titled "Silhouette." Over seven high schools participated in this annual event from the south bay and the peninsula. The Animation Club "Shrunken Headman" from San Jose State University, one of the top three public college animation programs in the country, judged the festival entries. Congratulations Madison Rubia!

Class Warfare Theatrical Production

The Mt. Pleasant High School Drama Class and Club have been invited to the 2014 Edinburgh International Theater Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland. What makes this such an amazing accomplishment and honor is that *Class Warfare* was written and directed by MPHS alumni and produced and performed by MP's Drama Class and Club. To view the article written by the Evergreen Times, click [here](#).

Santa Teresa High School**Media Journalism Program**

On May 1, the Santa Teresa High School Media Journalism Program was awarded the CreaTV Media Access Project Grant for a second time in a row. The grant provides the Media Journalism Program with \$50,000 of equipment, such as cameras, lights, and five editing computers.

San Jose Health Department Viral Video Contest

Five STHS students won the San Jose Health Department's Viral Video Contest, which was a Public Service Announcement that promotes STD awareness. Each of the five students will receive an iPad, with the program receiving \$5,000.

California Student Media Festival

STHS student Lib Dub was selected as the winner for the California Student Media Festival, which is the largest high school media competition in the nation. The festival and award ceremony was held at the Chinese Theater in Hollywood.

SJSU Impact Newsletter

Attached is a wonderful article regarding W.C. Overfelt High School and Principal, Vito Chiala, click [here](#).

Thank you, in advance, for your continued support for East Side Union High School District.

Sincerely,

Chris D. Funk, Superintendent
East Side Union High School District

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