

East Side Union High School District



Kudos

ACADEMIC, PERSONAL AND SOCIAL SUCCESS FOR EACH AND EVERY STUDENT

A Publication of the Office of Public Information

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Jack Mahrt
New Chief Financial Officer



Jack Mahrt brings to the district 28 years of service from Financial Analyst in the Fresno Unified School District to his most recent position as Vice Chancellor Business Services for West Hills Community College District in Coalinga.

Yerba Buena Student Wins Award

Ana Hernandez, a graduate of Yerba Buena High School last year, recently was awarded a \$25,000 scholarship that she can use for four years by The East Bay Community Foundation. **Ana** essentially raised herself working several jobs and living on her own, after her mother and baby sister died in a car crash. Through perseverance and the help of caring teachers, she graduated on time and with good grades. **Rigo Chacon**, the former Channel 7 news anchor, awarded her \$2,000 through his annual Abrazos and Books scholarship program on top of the \$2,000 she received from the school and the Kiwanis. **Ana** started as a freshman at San Jose State this fall and will be living in a dorm on campus.

Superintendent's Message

Congratulations to all East Side Union High Schools. I am proud to recognize all teachers and site administrators for all of their efforts to ensure the great API and AYP results. This is the first time that all eleven schools have met their academic expectations. These results call for great celebration and pride for all of us. We must recognize that we have much work ahead of us to continue the higher expectations and meeting higher standards for all our students. A special acknowledgement goes out to the faculty and administration of James Lick High School for their outstanding 52-point increase in the API results. At the September 16th Board meeting, all board members asked the superintendent to provide a way to celebrate and acknowledge the historical results. If you have any suggestions, please e-mail your ideas to the superintendent.

On the budgetary side of the house, we welcome **Jack Mahrt**, our new CFO for the ESUHS. He has been handed a major agenda to work with an ever-challenging budget. **Jack Mahrt**, along with **Alan Garofalo**, are the administrators leading the parcel tax effort to seek community support for additional funding to maintain our services. Regardless of our parcel election outcome, the District will be recommending a four million dollar reduction in its operating budget from 2004 through 2006 school years. There are difficult decisions that will require stakeholder participation at all levels. **Mr. Mahrt** will be working with stakeholders beginning late September.

We will continue to work through our budget issues as smoothly as possible. These are challenging times requiring difficult decisions. In addition to **Jack Mahrt**, I would like to welcome **Geraldine Forte** as new Villa Principal at Independence High School, **Wendy Gudalewicz** as Principal at Independence High School and **John Torres** our Energy Manager Administrator.

Esperanza Zendejas, Ed.D.,
Superintendent

Measure G Projects

Alan Garofalo, District Chief of Facilities, has announced that the following Measure G projects are in design or under construction at the different sites:

Andrew Hill	All weather track and synthetic turf project Building 100 modernization
Foothill	On going infrastructure improvements
Independence	Villa A,B,C,D classroom modernization Main gym modernization Low voltage infrastructure upgrade
James Lick	Admin. Building and landscape/streetscape Main gym modernization and locker room Student services building modernization
Mt. Pleasant	All weather track and synthetic turf project Bleacher modernization Classroom building
Oak Grove	Music building modernization
Piedmont Hills	All weather track and synthetic turf project Wings C,D,E classroom modernization All weather track and synthetic turf project Landscape/streetscape
Santa Teresa	All weather track and synthetic turf project Landscape/streetscape Campus technology infrastructure upgrade
Silver Creek	Landscape/streetscape New classroom building
WC Overfelt	Campus renovation Sports field renovation
Yerba Buena	Building 200 modernization All weather track and synthetic turf project
WC Overfelt Adult Ed.	Education building
Independence Adult Ed.	Education building

Upcoming Events

Parent Empowerment Conference	EVHS	October 2 nd	8:00 AM
Planning Your Future (12 th grade)	EVJC	October 8 th	8:30 AM
Planning Your Future (11 th grade)	EVJC	October 22 nd	8:30 AM
College Night	EVHS	November 1 st	6:00 PM
Planning Your Future (10 th grade)	EVJC	November 19 th	8:30 AM
District Student Leadership Conf.	IHS	November 21 st	8:30 AM
Martin Luther King Luncheon	4 th St. Garage	January 14 th	1:30 PM
Planning Your Future (9 th grade)	EVJC	February 4 th	8:30 AM
Cesar Chavez Luncheon	TBA	March 24 th	12:00 noon
Retirement and Pin Party	Embassy	May 19 th	6:00 PM

Kudos was initiated to promote the many achievements of the East Side family members, schools, staff, students, parents and alumni. If you are aware of special recognitions given to members of our family, please send the information to: Jim deDiego (dediegoj@esuhsd.org), Public Information Office, 830 North Capitol Avenue, San Jose, CA 95133.



Evergreen Valley Coach Honored

Frank Slaton was recently named as a recipient of the CIF Model Coach Award. This award is designed to recognize coaches who have served as positive role models in their schools and communities and have exhibited the traits apparent in the principles of Pursuing Victory With Honor. Winners were nominated by their CIF Section office.

Slaton has been inspiring track & field and cross country athletes since he began coaching in 1972. He coached at Piedmont Hills, Silver Creek and most recently at Evergreen Valley. He is a co-founder of the Hampton-Phillips Classic Track Club, and in 1999, was named the CCS Track & Field Coach of the Year.

“**Mr. Slaton** is an exceptional coach who demonstrates on a daily basis what it takes to be a contributing member of society. He continues to inspire, teach and coach me to be the best possible teacher, coach and person I can be,” said former student and now colleague **Michelle Sunseri**. Congratulations **Frank**.



Olympic Wrestler

Eric Guerrero, formerly of Independence High School, participated at the Summer Olympic Games in Athens for the United States this past summer. As a competitor at Independence High School, **Eric** won 168 consecutive matches and took home three state titles. Eric also won three NCAA championships for Oklahoma State. He made the United States freestyle team at 132 pounds by winning the U.S. Olympic Trials in Indianapolis in May. He missed out on an Olympic berth in 2000 when he finished third at the trials.

Eric is currently an assistant coach at Oklahoma State. “It’s been a lifelong commitment, but it’s not a dream anymore. I’m finally going to get my shot, and I’m excited about that,” said **Guerrero**. **Eric** lost his two matches, but don’t count him out in the future. Congratulations to **Eric** and his coach at Independence, **Anthony Palomino**.

Community Health Partnership



Community Health Partnership honored **Maricela Villalobos**, a medical assistant at Yerba Buena High School Health Clinic at a luncheon on August 12th.

Maricela was honored as an individual who makes a positive impact on the care received by children and adults in their surrounding neighborhoods. These

clinics treat individuals for a wide range of illness and disease. They are a vital resource in neighborhoods where many families lack adequate medical coverage.

Maricela has been assisting students since 1999. The Yerba Buena Health Clinic sees approximately 400 students each year. The staff strives to educate students on healthy life-style habits such as proper diet and exercise, and the risks of tobacco, drug and alcohol abuse as well. "**Maricela** is such an asset to our practice in so many ways—she's a consummate multi-tasker and has superior organizational skills. Upon meeting her, all our patients realize almost instantly that she is genuinely interested in them and their well-being," stated **Fran Combe**, Nurse Practitioner at Yerba Buena.

During the summer months, **Villalobos** spent her days helping children at five other health sites operated by School Health Clinics of Santa Clara County. Her dedication to the youth we serve is truly commendable. Congratulations **Maricela**.



Superintendent Meets with Education Center Staff

Superintendent Esperanza Zendejas met with all Ed. Center staff for an update on what is happening in the District, and to introduce her Cabinet. The superintendent spoke of upcoming financial difficulties that the District is experiencing and how everyone needed to pull together and support each other. As part of the meeting, **Dr. Zendejas** and each chief awarded a medal to someone who has performed outstanding work in their department or the District.

Dr. Zendejas honored **Kim Vasquez** for attendance accounting

Alan Garofalo honored **Mary Fox** for knowledgeable work in facilities

Ric Abeyta honored **George Sanchez** for running the summer school program

Bob Nuñez honored **Irene Sandoval** for dealing with transitional changes in Human Resource

Jack Mahrt honored **Vida Branner** for Payroll Supervisor

In the absence of **Art Darin**, **Dr. Zendejas** honored **Cathy Giammona** for outstanding work in staff development and **Aurora Quevedo** for outstanding work in ELL



Honor The Game

Over 450 students, parents and coaches descended upon Evergreen Valley High School for the Blossom Valley Athletic League annual Honor The Game program. Evergreen Principal **Tim McDonough** was the host and master of ceremonies. **Dr. Esperanza Zendejas** welcomed everyone on behalf of the District and shared moments of her athletic life as a student competing in 4th grade track and hardball against males and through her three point basketball shooting in college. She shared with her audience important moments in her life and the relevance they have now with her position as superintendent. **Roger Blake**, an assistant with the CIF, was the keynote speaker. He spoke about the violence in sports and how a survey done with student athletes rated having fun as their #1 answer. Staying in shape was #2 and to win was #10. 78% of students would like the chance to play in a contest rather than sit on the bench



and win a league championship.

Students then broke into groups and shared their ideas on how the game should be played. Athletic directors and coaches led the students in their discussions. Each school brought representatives from cheerleading,



athletics, journalism, coaches and parents.

Ecolab Grant Winners

Ecolab just announced their award winners for the 2004-2005 school year. Ecolab received a total of 31 grant requests from teachers at 12 schools in three districts – all in San Jose.

Out of 21 grants being funded, nine are going to teachers at ESUHSD, totaling \$11,354.06. Congratulations go to the award winners as they did outstanding work getting their proposals through.

Award winners, schools and amounts

Teresa Barbella	Andrew Hill	\$1,000
Victor Bagno	Independence	\$2,000
Carol Lindstrom	James Lick	\$2,000 & \$1,069.68
Susan Vieira	James Lick	\$500
J. Terry Yim	James Lick	\$354.54
Bonnie Sooy	James Lick	\$500
Karen Judge-Delgado	James Lick	\$1,424.27
George Kleidon	Silver Creek	\$2,514.57

Mt. Pleasant Hall of Fame

On September 25th, twenty eight Mt. Pleasant graduates were inducted into the Mt. Pleasant Hall of Fame. The people inducted represented educators, doctors, business people, the General Manager of the Chicago White Sox to a photographer, dance performer/instructor and a Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy of Polymers Engineer.

At the end of the ceremony, a special recognition was given to **Wil Concklin**, the founding principal at Mt. Pleasant. Wil was inducted into the Hall of Fame as Principal Emeritus. Congratulations to all.



Outstanding Adult Ed. Teacher

A special recognition ceremony was held this summer to acknowledge this region's outstanding adult educators. **Sandra Dilling** was recognized by the California Council for Adult Education for *Excellence in Teaching*. Ms. Dilling has worked at the Independence Adult Education Center for the past ten years and was praised for her commitment to her students. **Sandra's** name will be forwarded to the state level for recognition at the annual state conference in Anaheim.

Oak Grove Academy Kickoff



Seventeen new freshmen were welcomed at the 2nd annual Career Academy Kick-off Breakfast held in the Oak Grove Cafeteria on September 23rd. The Career Academy is run by **Jan Matranga**. Oak Grove Academy Teachers **Tim Ewers** and **Carmen Martinez** were there to greet the students. This program focuses on careers and is sponsored by the ESUHSD, the Special Education Department, Career Vocational Education and WorkAbility 1. In attendance from the District were **Art Darin**, **Alan Garofalo**, **Brenda Childress** and **Annette Rodarte**. Representing Oak Grove were **Rich Frias**, **Julia Lawrence** and **Bernie Olmos**. Community business partners were represented by **Kim Curtis** from Johnson & Johnson, **Gael Robinson** from Home Depot and **Jane Shaffran** from the Mercury News. Each student was presented with a goodie bag. The theme for the year is "Perseverance", and students were handed a flyer that depicted this. Congratulations on a fine start and great program.

A Publication of the East Side Union High School District Public Information Office

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