

# Staff Report

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**Chandler Unified School District**  
*The Premier District of CHOICE*



## AzSCA 2021 Supervisor of the Year

The Arizona School Counselors Association (AzSCA) named CUSD's Brenda Vargas (pictured on the cover), director of the counseling and social services department, as the 2021 Supervisor of the Year. This award recognizes an administrator, coordinator, director or supervisor whose leadership has shown outstanding support in the school counseling field. Congratulations Brenda!



### Jacobson Student Represents CUSD

Jacobson Elementary fifth grader Cayden Brenes was the runner up at the Maricopa Region 6 spelling bee. He will be representing CUSD and our region at the state spelling bee on March 20.

## Hull Teacher Recognized by PayPal

Hull Elementary second grade teacher was recognized as a "Teacher We Love" by PayPal. She won a \$250 dollar gift card. She was nominated by her student Kalen.



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## Equity Corner: Spotlight on Hamilton High

Hamilton High School's AP Seminar with African Diaspora content students invited Dr. Sallu to their final group presentations. Students delivered 8-to-10-minute presentations and answered oral defense questions. The groups researched the following topics: the skin whitening industry, discrimination against Black women in the US healthcare system, ethnic studies courses in Arizona, how the model minority myth affects college students, and child trafficking in Nepal. Each group member researched their topic through a different lens (economic, social/cultural, political, scientific, etc.), and then the groups considered all lenses before proposing a solution. These inspiring young scholars are learning how to find research-based solutions to the world's problems.



## CUSD Sports 64 National Merit Finalists

CUSD has a record 64 National Merit **finalists** this year, out of the 66 that were named semifinalists in the fall. We wish them luck in becoming National Merit Scholars. They are among 15,000 finalists nationwide out of more than 1.6 million students. In May, 7,500 scholars will be chosen to win a scholarship.

**ACP-Erie:** Nikhil Dave; Brian Gibson; Dominic Gnecco; Connor Kantrud; Kristin Myer

**Basha High:** Nikita Bharati; Olivia Breen; Jasmeen Sidhu; Jake Summers; Reed Uhlik

**Chandler High:** Katarina Fenner; Aryan Mathur

**Hamilton High:** Abhinav Adari; Jayashree Adivarahan; Sabah Ashfeen; Vinayak Athavale; Nidhi Athreya; Katie Boatright; Kabir Cheema; Andrew Chen; Michael Chen; Viveka Chinnasamy; Raj Chopra; Rachel Cox; Dylan Crespo; Anika Desai; Amanda Gong; Rishabh Guttal; Manvi Harde; Zara Jahan; Ika Lin; Emilie Ma; Ria Manathkar; David Navale; Ramya Nishtala; Liane Ozoemelam; Shivan Patel; Shivan Pejavar; Aishwarya Potturu; Archana Ram; Sanjana Ramakrishnan; Szama Sarwar; Afreen Shah; Neha Shakir; Niharika Sharma; Rick Sun; Kaitlyn Tam; Amy Wang; Angela Wang; Joseph Wang; Ethan Xiong; Arthur Yang; Jessica Zhang; Xenia Zhao; Aris Zhu

**Perry High:** Ella Barnum; Rylee Engelken; Taylor Hancock; Mahir Kabir; Madison Roth; Adithya Sivakumar; Nicole Smith; Kai Xi; Seung Won Yoo



### Social Media Post of the Week

Bologna Elementary tweeted about their Black History Month board honoring inspiring world leaders and a tribute to Amanda Gorman, the inaugural poet. They not only tagged the district, but also tagged Amanda Gorman, and they were retweeted by her!

### Important Dates

#### February 24

Last day to fill out the forms to enter the CUSD [Trip Reduction Contest](#).

#### February 26

Trip Reduction contest drawing. Winners will be published in the staff report on March 1.

#### February 22

Equity Lecture and Film Series: NotYourModelMinority: Moving Beyond Stereotypes of Asian American and Pacific Islander Students, 6-7:30 p.m. Speaker: Dr. Kathryn Nakagawa, Associate Professor of Asian Pacific American Studies, Arizona State University – School of Social Transformation. Click here to [REGISTER](#).

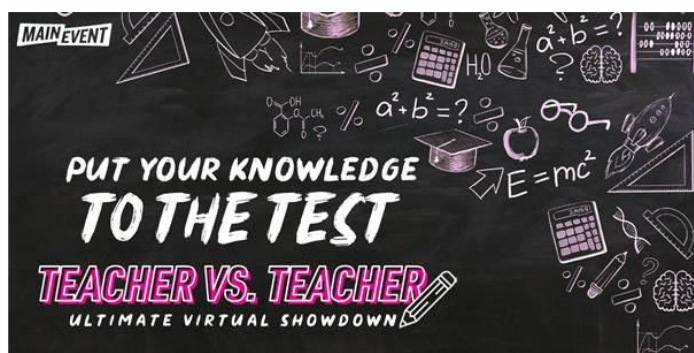
#### February 28

Sun Lakes Rotary Educator of the Year Application Deadline.

#### March 22

Chandler Education Foundation Winner's Choice car or cash raffle drawing. Buy a ticket today at [www.cef-raffle.com](http://www.cef-raffle.com)

## Main Event Virtual Showdown for Teachers



Test your trivia knowledge with teachers around the country during [Main Event's free Teacher vs Teacher Ultimate Virtual Showdown virtual event](#), with a chance to win an iPad, family pack, \$250 gift certificate, and other awesome prizes!

Ready to play? RSVP for any of the following dates:

- Feb 25, 5:30 – 7 p.m.
- March 5, 5:30 – 7 p.m.
- March 13, 12:30 – 2 p.m.

Please note: this event requires ZOOM & YouTube

[Reserve your spot for this FREE event today by clicking here.](#)

You can contact Amy Schutter directly for more information at [amy.schutter@mainevent.com](mailto:amy.schutter@mainevent.com) or 462-2200.

## A Look at What's Going on Around the District



- Chandler High** Future Farmers of America (FFA) students had a successful weekend at the Sweetheart Showdown Livestock Show in Gilbert. They had six hogs and four cattle shown by CHS FFA members, it was the first livestock show for eight of the students. Addison Keeme placed fourth in the market class (pictured right). Annabelle Williams won her first buckle for Grand Champion Junior Showman and won Reserve Champion Market Steer (pictured middle). Chandra Andazola won the Grand Champion Senior Showman belt buckle and the Grand Champion Simmental Heifer (pictured left).

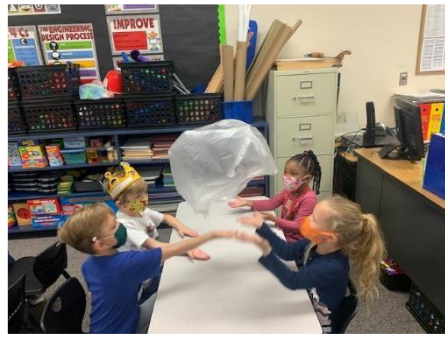


- Perry High** Lil Explorers celebrated Community Education Apple Achievement Award winner Abby Klein. Even the babies came out in a decorated crib.

- Hull Elementary** third graders in Cara Fenton's class used Valentine's Day candy to work on some math problems.



- Students in Carole Brown's pre-kindergarten class at **CTA-Freedom** investigated how air moves things during their Astonishing Air science unit.



- Hull Elementary** second graders from Heidi Raaf's classroom show off the dragons they made while studying and learning about Chinese New Year as they make a stop in China on their travels around the world!

## A Look at What's Going on Around the District



- Tarwater Elementary** celebrated the Chinese New Year on February 12. The year of the Ox is a special year for sixth graders who are 12 and were born in the year of the Ox. An ox is also like a Toro.



- CTA Humphrey / Elite Performance Academy** kitchen staff Linda Thielsen, cafeteria manager, Eliana Davila, cashier, and Jessika Varelas, cafeteria helper, keep students healthy and their bellies full.

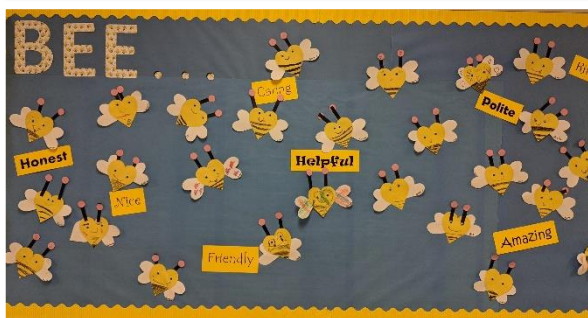
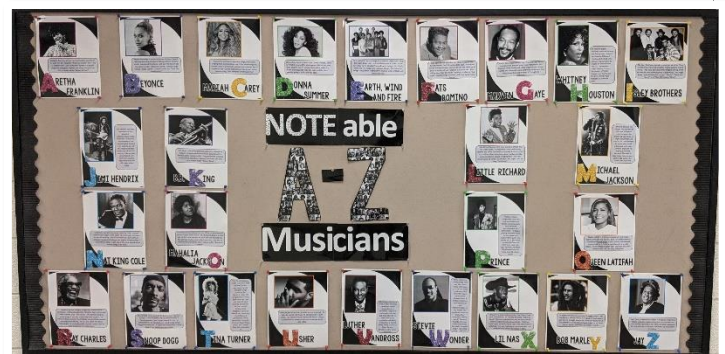
- Jacobson Elementary** won the local School Cents challenge – their fun challenge with Tarwater helped! Both schools did well together; first place going to Jacobson and third place going to **Tarwater**.

SCHOOL CENTS			
FINAL POINTS THROUGH JANUARY 15, 2021			
SCHOOL	POINTS	RANK	PRIZE
Jacobson Elementary	778,245	1	\$3,000
Corona Del Sol High School	583,290	2	\$2,500
Tarwater Elementary	463,745	3	\$2,000
Center for Educational Excellence	285,950	4	\$1,500
Santan Elementary - Chandler	271,540	5	\$1,000
Fulton Elementary	217,870	6	\$800
Basha Elementary	195,825	7	\$750
Selton Catholic Prep High School	187,395	8	\$700
Kyrene de las Brisas Elementary	183,385	9	\$650
Kyrene Aprenda Middle School	135,130	10	\$600
Chandler High School	117,720	11	\$500
Arizona College Prep - Oakland	86,155	12	\$500
Summit School of Ahwatukee	83,165	13	\$500
CTA Goodman Elementary	74,755	14	\$500
Kyrene Del Cielo Elementary	64,370	15	\$500
Boghe Junior High School	58,985	16	\$400
Conley Elementary	58,355	17	\$400
Hancock Elementary	58,255	18	\$400
Knox Gifted Academy	36,875	19	\$400
AZ Compass & Vector Prep	36,770	20	\$400



- Bologna Elementary** created a bulletin board of inspiring black leaders to celebrate Black History Month.

- Hull Elementary** music teacher Rachel Kaemmerer put up a bulletin board showcasing some amazing african american musicians who have given so much to our music history! Additionally, kindergarten students in Melissa Mocks, Kim Varner, and Amany Youssef's classes, want to remind everyone to "bee" on their bulletin boards.



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[Notificación de Non Discriminación](#)

# Governing Board Agenda

## Agenda for Wednesday, February 24, 2021

**5 p.m.** — Executive Session

**6 p.m.** — Study Session  
▪ Inclusive curriculum update

**7 p.m.** — Business meeting

**7:10 p.m.** — Student Body President Comments / Citizen Comments

**7:30 p.m.** — Tarwater Dual Language Presentation

**Action Items**

- Consent agenda
- Playgroud refresh

**Information Item**

- My World interactive geography 2019 spanish survey
- Early childhood education textbook and digital resource adoption – early childhood education career & technical ecuation program
- Medical professions textbook and digital resource adoption – nursing services career & technical education program
- Survey results for the position of interim superintendent
- Student activity, auxiliary operations, and tax credit reports
- Better Chinese / Better Immersion Curriclar Materials for Dual Language Exploration Preschool
- CUSD Board agenda roadmap

**Comments**

- Superintendent comments
- Board member recognition/comments

**Note:** Board meeting recordings and other CUSD event videos are now posted online and can be accessed through the Chandler EdTV website, [www.CET99.org](http://www.CET99.org). Click the "Watch" tab to see the videos. This is in addition to the regular air times on the cable channel and video stream.

Agendas available online 24 hours prior to the meeting at:  
[www.cusd80.com/school-board.html](http://www.cusd80.com/school-board.html)

## CUSD

*Dedicated to Excellence!*

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