

Staff Report

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Chandler Unified School District
The Premier District of CHOICE



ACP-Erie Teacher Lauded

ACP-Erie biology teacher Rachna Nath received "honorable mention" for the Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Educators 2019, sponsored by the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the year 2019.

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Operation Back to School Set July 20



The biggest back-to-school donation drive for Chandler students is back again this year. Chandler K-12 students in need can receive backpacks, school supplies, shoes, uniforms, socks and underwear (as they last) in addition to information on afterschool programs, free giveaways and prizes.

When: Saturday, July 20, 2019

6:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Chandler High School

350 N. Arizona Avenue

[Donations and volunteers are needed leading up to the event. Visit the website to sign up.](#)

Summer Food Program Offered

The summer food service program starts on June 3 and will be held at various sites throughout the district. [Please visit the website to find a location.](#)

Summer food sites provide FREE meals to children ages 18 and younger during approved meal services times and dates.

Contact [Jenny Bracamonte](#) with any questions.



District Office Open During Summer

The District Office will remain open during the summer to serve staff and the public.

Beginning June 6, district office employees will work four 10-hour shifts through July 3 and will be **closed on Fridays**. Offices will be closed July 4 to commemorate Independence Day. Employee schedules for Information Systems and Support Services will vary.

Normal business hours and services will resume July 5. If you wish to speak with a specific individual over the summer, it might be best to call first to assure that person is not on vacation.



Interoffice mail will be picked up and delivered daily.

Community Education will also be following the district office schedule this year.



The Instructional Resource Center will follow the district office schedule this year.



Have a great summer, everyone!

Rotary Tabs CTA Freedom Teacher

The Sun Lakes Rotary last week honored **Ricque Pekara** from **CTA Freedom** as teacher of the month for May.

She received a framed certificate, a \$100 personal award from the Sun Lakes Rotary and an additional \$100 from Trust Bank to be used in her classroom.

Ricque will also be honored May 31 as the Chandler Chamber of Commerce Educator of the Year.



Social Media Post of the Week

Willis Junior High chess club tweeted about sending the 8th graders off to high school. They not only remembered to tag the district, but tagged all the CUSD high schools as well.

Important Dates

May 1-31

CUSD Senior Highlights

Campaign: Please like, post, share, retweet and engage with our senior spotlights on social media. (#CUSDSeniors2019 #Classof2019 #CUSDStory)

May 23-29

CUSD Class of 2019 Graduation Ceremonies:

May 23- Hill Learning Academy - ICAN Graduation, 5 p.m.

May 23- Chandler Early College Graduation, 6 p.m.

May 23- Hill Learning Academy - MAIN Campus Graduation, 7 p.m.

May 28 - Chandler Online Academy Graduation, 6 p.m.

May 28 - Perry High Graduation, 6 p.m.

May 29 - Hamilton High Graduation, 2:30 p.m.

May 29 - ACP-Erie Graduation, 5 p.m.

May 29 - Basha High Graduation, 7:30 p.m.

May 29 - Casteel High Graduation, 8 p.m.

May 29 - Chandler High Graduation, 8 p.m.

July 20

Operation Back to School –

Backpack and school supplies will be provided to low-income families at Chandler High from 6:30-10 a.m.

2019 Summer Reading Programs

The [Chandler Public Library](#) is hosting summer reading programs for students. The summer reading program can make a huge difference for children who are working on their proficiency in reading.



The program begins June 1 and runs through August 1. Participants can register online from home, or at any one of the four [Chandler Public Library](#) locations.

Along with reading activities, each of the Chandler Public Library locations will be hosting many events to keep kids busy during their school break.



A Look at What's Going on Around the District

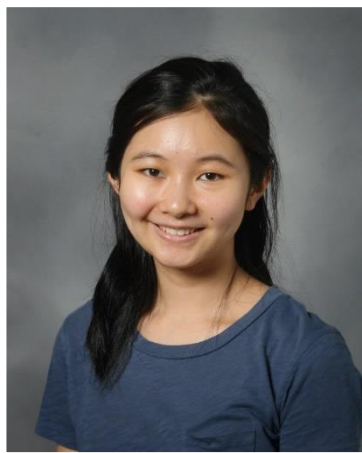


- **Pictured on the cover:** Jacobson Elementary students in Shannan Wright's class had the opportunity to work with Earnest Robinson of the CUSD videography crew and record their "I Am" poems, which highlight their cultural diversity, for the upcoming Equity Symposium, which will reach CUSD teachers and staff as well as surrounding districts. Dr. Adama Sallu was kind enough to visit the class earlier in the year, while they were exploring their cultural heritages and highlight that diversity creates a rich classroom environment.



- **Hamilton High** senior Daniel Obarski was selected as the State of Arizona's winner for the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association essay contest. He received a plaque and a \$500 check. He is pictured here with Hamilton Athletic Director Brett Palmer.

- **Casteel Junior High** Academic Pentathlon, under the direction of **Sheila Wilson**, finished fifth overall at nationals in Nashville Tennessee. Additional awards include: Ajay Maslanka won bronze in math, placed fourth in science, and also ninth overall in Honors. Tiara Furukawa finished fourth in social science and eighth overall in Scholastic division. Kendall Smith finished fourth in literature and 8th overall in varsity division. Ernie Clark was fourth in science and math. Steven Donaldson finished fourth in science. The team earned a total of 21 top 10 finishes. They represented Casteel well and made a big impression in their rookie year.



- **Hamilton High** sophomore Jessica Zhang was one of 18 pianists from around the world selected to participate in the 17th Annual Southeastern Piano Festival at the University of South Carolina this summer. She was the only Arizona student selected.
- The **Chandler CARE Center** on May 22 celebrated as 26 children completed the Learning Together program. This class, funded in part by First Things First, with additional support from TOYOTA Financial Services and Chandler Service Club, provides 32 weeks of hands-on learning for children ages 3-5 who are not enrolled in school. The program is free for families who participate. Parents/caregivers attend the classes with the child. This supports the caregiver as their child's first teacher and to help them learn tools for promoting early literacy, language, art, math, science, social skills and more.



A Look at What's Going on Around the District



- **Payne Junior High** loves bus drivers rocking their attire! They are a great group of people who keep kids safe and are always working to make connections with students.



- **CTA Independence** National Elementary Honor Society students toured and visited with Hamilton High social worker Rajani Rastogi. She took them into the Mindfulness room for a session. The students also met with NHS students and Husky Helpers.

- Sixth graders from **Jacobson Elementary** and **CTA Independence** collaborated with **Hamilton High School** to help homeless and underprivileged students and families at Hamilton. Jacobson Elementary gifted students stitched bags that included hygiene items for students and CTA Independence National Elementary Honor Society students donated gift cards within the past two years. Last week, students from both schools toured Hamilton, they visited the supply room where Hamilton distributes food, clothing, hygiene and school supplies for students in need and they participated in a Mindfulness Session. Jacobson students also participated in a service project to sort food items for the Families in Transition program and school supplies in duffle bags for Title I schools.



- **Tarwater Elementary** recently honored the amazing parent volunteers with an assembly filled with music, chants and even a little magic! Their parents go above and beyond for them each day, and hopefully they made them feel appreciated for all the love and

- **Hancock Elementary** fifth grader Sam Saliba was the winner in his division in this year's Drug Awareness Poster, "Drugs Take Away..." The judges chose his entry out of 48 essays received from students all over the city. Sam was honored Wednesday, May 15 at The Youth Awards Nights Banquet, held at the Chandler Elks Lodge.



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Notice of Nondiscrimination

Chandler Unified School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex or gender, sexual orientation, disability, or age in its programs and activities. The Title IX coordinators are Dr. Craig Gilbert at 812-7630, and Sandy Cooper at 812-7624, and the Section 504 coordinator is Dr. Kym Marshall, 224-3732. Address: 1525 W. Frye Road, Chandler, AZ 85224

[Notice of Nondiscrimination](#)

[Notificación de Non Discriminación](#)

2019-2020 School Calendar

July 2019

9 – New Teachers Report
16 – Returning Teachers Report
16-22 – Meet the teacher night at elementary schools
20 – Operation Back-to-School event at CHS
23 – First day of school for students

August 2019

20/22 – Junior High parent teacher conferences
28-29 – Elementary parent teacher conferences

September 2019

2 – Labor Day holiday – no school
27 – 1st Quarter ends (48 days)
30 – 1st Intersession (Sept 30-Oct 11)

October 2019

1-11 – 1st Intersession (Sept 30-Oct 11)
14 – Teacher inservice workday

November 2019

11 – Veterans Day Holiday – No School
27 – No School for students
28-29 – Thanksgiving holidays

December 2019

18-19 – Junior High/High school early release
19 – 2nd Quarter ends (44 days/92 semester)
20 – Teacher inservice workday
23-31 – 2nd Intersession (Dec 23 – Jan 3)

January 2020

1-3 – 2nd Intersession continued
6 – Teacher inservice workday – no school
20 – Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday – no school

February 2020

4/6 – Junior High parent teacher conferences
12-13 – Elementary parent teacher conferences
17 – Presidents Day holiday

March 2020

6 – 3rd Quarter ends (42 days)
9-20 – 3rd Intersession
23 – Teacher inservice workday

April 2020

10 – Spring holiday

May 2020

25 – Memorial Day holiday
27-28 – Junior High /High school early release
28 – 4th Quarter ends (46 days/88 semester)
28 – High school graduation / last day of school (1/2 day)
29 – Teacher inservice workday

June 2020**CUSD**

Dedicated to Excellence!

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