



Catalina Foothills Unified School District #16  
2101 E. River Road, Tucson, AZ 85718

(520) 209-7500

(520) 209-7570 FAX

www.cfsd16.org

## BOARD AGENDA ITEM

**ITEM NO:** 1.4

**BOARD MEETING DATE:** Tuesday, March 12, 2019

**OPENING ITEM:** Outstanding Achievements

**SUBMITTED BY:** Margie Jones, Administrative Assistant

**PRESENTED BY:** Mary Kamerzell, Superintendent

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I am pleased to highlight the following CFSD staff and student achievements:

### Canyon View Elementary School

CV students were winners at the Southern Arizona Research, Science and Engineering Foundation (SARSEF) competition. Following are the grade level, student name, science project title, and award: Kindergarten - Abby Henson, *What Happens When You Batteries in the Freezer?*, 3rd place; 1st Grade - Bay Jenkins, *Got Fingerprints?*, 3rd place & TI 3rd Place Elementary School Award; Levi Siemens, *Effects of Acid Rain on Our Environment*, AZ Hydrological Society Awards; 2nd Grade - David Dehon, *I Can Fly with Balloons in the Sky!*, Curiosity Award; Hunter Simon-Topoff, *Why Can't I Watch SpongeBob SquarePants On TV When It Is Raining?*, 2nd Place; Elijah Weaton, *Betta Shaka*, 1st Place; 3rd Grade - Lucia Carini & Michelle Chiu, *Bacteria in Rotten vs Living Cacti*, 2nd Place; Rhys Gibson, *Pet Suits*, 2nd Place & Curiosity Award; Kelly Jean Siemens, *Biodegradation and the Earth*, 2nd Place & Passion for Science Award; 5th Grade - Cody Looker Edwards, *Birds and Cats*, 1st Place; Maddy Nielsen, *How Gravity Affects Plant Growth*, 3rd Place.

### Catalina Foothills High School

Congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick awarded Grant Thompson, CFHS freshman and the teen who discovered Apple's FaceTime glitch, with a Certificate of Congressional Recognition. She wrote, "On behalf of Congressional District 2,

thank you, Grant, for protecting our privacy! We're looking forward to seeing you grow and pursue your career in tech!"

Jonathan Martinez, CFHS freshman on the high school's varsity chess team, traveled to Cuba as a chess ambassador over Winter Break. The US Chess Federation published an article about Jonathan's experience in which he annotates one of his games against a FIDA master in Trinidad, Cuba.

The CFHS Change of Pace and Women's Silver Choirs competed at the Jazz/Madrigal Festival at NAU. Change of Pace earned a Superior award for their jazz set, and both groups earned a Superior award with a perfect score for their madrigal set.

CFHS wrestler, Michael Moussa, took 3rd place at the State Wrestling Tournament.

Ryan Chen performed with the Tucson Philharmonic Youth Orchestra on February 10. He is the first guitar soloist in the 65-year history of the Orchestra. Ryan was also the 1st place winner in the senior Strings Division of the Civic Orchestra of Tucson Young Artist Competition and the first guitarist to win in this division. In addition, Ryan traveled to Florida this past November to take part in the National Association of Music Educator's All National Honor Guitar Ensemble.

Pioneer 327, the CFHS FIRST Tech Challenge team, went undefeated in the Duel in the Desert in Glendale, Arizona. Our FTC team came in first place in the finals in addition to winning the CONTROL award for innovative coding. The team will compete in the state championships. Remember that this is the first year that this team has existed.

The CFHS Pomline earned 2nd place at Pink State in Division 1-3 Varsity Jazz.

CFHS Senior Zoe Benson was one of 26 winners in the Tucson Festival of Books Young Authors contest. She was honored on March 2 at the U of A.

The Arizona Interscholastic Association named the following CFHS athletes to the 4A Kino All-Region Teams: Boys Basketball - First Team, Carson Janes and Will Menaugh; Second Team, Hayden Moser. Coach Doug D'Amore was named 4A Kino Region Coach of the Year. Carson James was named Region Offensive Player of the Year. Girls Basketball - First Team, Emily Chua. Boys Soccer - First Team, Dylan Montoya, Diego Carrasco, Adrian McCune, Jack Johnson, Ryan

Whitney; Second Team, Noah Rubin, Jaden Boling, Alvaro Burrola, Dylan McCartney. Ryan Whitney was named Region Offensive Player of the Year. Girls Soccer - First Team, Soli Moton, Tatianna Lizarraga, Hannah Draper, Katelyn Kelch; Second Team, Emma Nance, Caitlyn Maher, Ellie Robinson, Flavia Burrell, Dania Ben. Tatianna Lizarraga was named Region Offensive Player of the Year.

Three CFHS musical groups performed at the Southeast Region Music Festival. The Regional Choir included 16 CFHS students. CFHS percussion provided the accompaniment. A record-setting 58 CFHS students performed in the Regional Band. At the same event, 20 CFHS students performed in the Regional Orchestra. Remember that this is the first year of our high school strings program.

Three CFHS graphic design students competed in the 11th Annual Tucson Area High School Graphic Design Regional Championships. The graphics team of John Konrad, Noah Rojas, and Masi Sanchez took 1st place in overall team competition. In individual competition, John Konrad took 2nd overall, and his menu design took 1st with a perfect score. Masi Sanchez's logo design took 2nd, and Noah Rojas' logo design took 3rd.

The CFHS DECA team competed in state competition. Lauren Vaz, Alexis Tretschok, and Brittney Hum qualified for the international DECA competition in Orlando, Florida.

Several CFHS Speech and Debate team members competed well at the Southwest Speech and Debate Institute Tournament. Kulindu Vithanachchi made it to quarterfinals in Novice Lincoln Douglas Debate. Romit Banerjee was a semifinalist in Dramatic Interpretation. Josh Tint was a finalist in Congressional Debate. Yusuf Rahman placed 5th in Informative Speaking. Bella Wexler and Kaley Kyer placed 4th in Duet Acting.

The CFHS band program placed the largest number of students of any high school in the all-state band. The following students were placed by audition: Elaine Chaffee - Clarinet, Thomas Gerald - Tuba (1st chair 4 consecutive years), Phoenix Hanes - Tuba, Sevren Jackson - Trumpet, Claire Kross - Oboe, Gracie Hufford - Flute, Sean Laing - Euphonium, Eli Lefkowitz - Bassoon, Andrew Liu - Trombone, Layne Reiners - Alto Saxophone, Hanna Seo - Trombone, and Caleb York - Percussion. Students chosen as first alternates are Aidan Gee - Baritone Sax, Will Kurth - Trombone, and Mia Pearson - Flute.

CFHS Coach Ryan Whitney and son Ryan Whitney were named Boys Soccer Coach of the Year and Boys Soccer Player of the Year by All Sports Tucson.

The CFHS DECA team members earned the following awards in state competition: Alexis Tretschok & Lauren Vaz, 1st place, competitive entrepreneurship; Britney Hum, 3rd overall, management. Alexis, Lauren, and Britney will move onto International Competition in April in Orlando, Florida. Miriam Arden earned a medal for a test score in the top 10% of competitive testers at state. Ishan Shah & Kennedy Sata-Williams were one of just six teams that made it into the final competitions.

#### Esperero Middle School

EC 6th grader, Sebastian Tokkaris, was one of 24 winners in the Tucson Festival of Books Young Artists contest. He was honored on March 2 at the U of A.

At the Arizona Band and Orchestra Directors Association's Elementary/Middle School Festival at Amphitheater High School on March 6, the Catalina Foothills Middle School Orchestra received a Superior with Distinction, the highest possible score. The orchestra includes 55 students from both of our middle schools.

These ECMS students were winners at the SARSEF competition: 6th Grade - Preston Stricker, *Water Temperature Stream Flow and Dissolved Oxygen in an Arizona Creek*, 1st Place, AZ Wildlife Conservation Award, AZ Hydrological Society Award, Biodiversity Award & Sonoran Desert Science Award; 8th Grade - Asha Viswanathan & Lily E. Wood, *Pavement: That's Hot*, 3rd Place.

#### Manzanita Elementary School

MZ 4th grader, Mason Hashim, was one of 24 winners in the Tucson Festival of Books Young Artists contest. He was honored on March 2 at the U of A.

Two MZ Odyssey of the Mind Teams competed in the Southern Regional Odyssey of the Mind Tournament. Team members Leah Andrews, Evan Gaither, Samantha Gaither, Simon Semonsky, Sarah Swaroop, Carter Willems, and Nathan Wu won 1st place and advance to state competition. Team members Maddie Andrews, Dash Chavez, Julia Ellis, Liv Lefkon, Ariana Madrid, Madison McCoy, and Zara Montevaldo-Wood won 6th place.

These MZ 5th graders were winners at the SARSEF competition: Christina Angel, *You Did What?*, 2nd Place; Aidan Brown, *A Study of USA Baseball Bats*, 1st Place; Isabelle Franco, *Is Water Fountain Water Clean?*, 2nd Place; Sydney

Meyer, *Goodnight Blue Light*, 2nd Place; Esteban Munro, *Does Exercise Improve Short Term Memory?*, 3rd Place; Liana Tang, *What Happens to Bacteria Exposed to Carcinogens?*, 1st Place.

MZ students competed in the South Regional Chess Championships, earning the following awards: Primary Team of Wylie Fisher, Elise Kim, Sahil Shah & Hugo Surdeanu, 1st place; K-5 Team of Sahil Shah, Nathan Wu & Aaron Zeldin, 5th place; Individuals - Wylie Fisher, 5th Place; Haoyu Wang, 2nd Place; and Elise Yin, 2nd Place.

### Orange Grove Middle School

OG 6th grader, Thomas Benson, was one of 26 winners in the Tucson Festival of Books Young Authors contest. He was honored on March 2 at the U of A.

OG 8th grader, Michelle Zhang, won several regional awards from the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards Alliance for Young Artists & Writers. She won two gold keys for two flash fiction stories, a silver key for a short story, and an honorable mention for another flash fiction. She advances to national judging in New York City where she will be considered for National Medals to be announced on March 13.

At the Arizona Band and Orchestra Directors Association's Elementary/Middle School Festival at Amphitheater High School on March 6, the Catalina Foothills Middle School Orchestra received a Superior with Distinction, the highest possible score. The orchestra includes 55 students from both of our middle schools.

### Sunrise Drive Elementary School

These SD students were winners at the SARSEF competition: 2nd Grade - Danielle Ben Dror, *Almandine and Maghemite Deposits in the Flecha Caida Wash*, 1st Place; 3rd Grade - Audrey Dessent, *Can Pets Make Our Hearts Happy?*, 1st Place; 5th Grade - Yash Chauhan, *Impact of Fertilizers on Electricity Production from Mud*, 1st Place & TEP Award of Excellence; Zachary Burgess, Nathan Doak & William Jacobsen, *Dogs and Colors*, 2nd Place; Lily Johnson & Zoe MacDowell, *Algae Blooms*, 3rd Place; Gabriela Malo-Molina, *Garlic, Olive Oil and Microbes*, 3rd Place; Oliver J Joeller, *Are Sulfites in Wine Necessary*, 1st place & Professor Snape's Potion Award for Excellence in Chemistry; Basil Wood, *Conservation of Gyroscopic Angular Momentum*, 2nd Place.

### Ventana Vista Elementary School

VV 3rd grader, Aislyn Allison, was one of 26 winners in the Tucson Festival of Books Young Authors contest. She was honored on March 2 at the U of A.

Two VV Odyssey of the Mind teams competed in the Southern Regional Odyssey of the Mind Tournament. The Problem 5 team of Ethan Bailis, Arianna Dupont, Evelyn Higgins, Ezra Mandel, Teagan Keller, Tessa Strickland, and Delilah Velderrain won 1st place. The Problem 1 team of Lily Dupont, Ruby Goldberg, Sophia Hudgens, Alex Kapke, Audrey Landau, Natalie Liu, and Mateo Perez won 2nd place. Both teams will move onto state competition.

These VV students were winners at the SARSEF competition: 2nd Grade - Zeke Bialis, *Paint the Frosting Red*, 3rd Place; Vivien Higgins, *The Ink in Your Kitchen*, 1st Place; 5th Place - Allita Barefoot, *Best Bloomers*, 3rd Place; Ethan Bialis, *Boiling Blood*, 2nd Place; CJ Cariaso, *Why Is It Scary?*, 3rd Place; Airanna Dupont, *Color Does Matter*, 3rd Place; Santiago Perez, *Cooked or Cold*, 2nd Place; Diego Rico, *Battle of the Cookie Sheets*, 3rd Place.