

# The Nugget



## News from the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools office

August 2016

Holly Hermansen, Superintendent

### **NEW!** ~ Highlights from the CDE Calendar of Events:

Each month a simple list of selected calendar items will be listed from the CDE Calendar of Events. Learn, at-a-glance, what the CDE promotes.

## News & Notes

### WELCOME BACK!



**Holly Hermansen**  
*Nevada County  
Superintendent of Schools*

Welcome Back! I hope everyone had a restful and fun summer and you are all ready and renewed for the year to come. Here at NCSOS we have been very busy all summer getting ready for the upcoming year. I just have a feeling this is going to be a great year. There are so many exciting and innovative things happening here and in schools all around the county. We are particularly excited to be planning our second annual countywide Professional Development Day! You can read more about it in this Nugget. Also, ongoing planning continues for our second amazing and exciting STEAM Expo! For those of you who were able to attend last year, you will find an even more innovative and stimulating event this year on Saturday March 25<sup>th</sup>. Stay tuned for more information about this. NCSOS is also very busy getting prepared for a move to our new office at 380 Crown Point Circle. We are currently getting ready to do some minor renovations to the building and adding parking spaces. We hope to move at the end of October or early November. We are all very much looking forward to this move and excited about our new facility.

Two things caught my interest over the summer that I think will have a big impact in the year to come. The first is an initiative from the California Department of Education called The Great Kindness Challenge. This is a national program that provides a terrific way to promote kindness in our schools and community. The Great Kindness Challenge is one school week devoted to performing as many acts of kindness as possible from a 50 item checklist. But why stop there? Some schools I know are participating in a Million Acts of Kindness and carrying it through the entire year! This ties in perfectly to our Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS) program and helps to create a culture of kindness at our schools. You can find more information and the checklist on the Great Kindness Challenge website at [www.greatkindnesschallenge.org](http://www.greatkindnesschallenge.org).

The second thing that caught my attention was a book that I read called *How Full is Your Bucket*, by Tom Rath and Donald Clifton. This quick and easy to read book reveals how even the briefest interactions affect your relationships, productivity, health and longevity. The message is a simple metaphor about a bucket and a dipper. Each of us has an invisible bucket that can be filled or emptied. A dipper is used to fill a bucket when we receive or give kind words, actions or other positive interactions. The dipper can also be used to empty a bucket by focusing on the negative, or saying unkind or

hurtful things to others, or thinking about them ourselves. A full bucket keeps us energized and we feel great. An empty bucket leaves us feeling tired and defeated. When we fill others' buckets, our bucket is filled, and when we dip from others we are also emptying our own. So, what a great thought to start out the year, by filling as many buckets as possible! I think that the impact can be profound.

Have a great year!



### Ghidotti High School Receives Blue Ribbon School Recognition

**Noah Levinson**

*Principal*

Pictured L-R: NJUHSD Dir. of Edu. Serv. Melissa Madigan, English Teacher Janet Mason, NJUHSD Supt. Louise Johnson, Ghidotti Prin. Noah Levinson



In November of 2015, Ghidotti was one of only eight California high schools to be recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School. The award, which was first established in 1982, recognizes public and private elementary, middle, and high schools for attaining high student achievement or for making significant progress in closing achievement gaps among its students. It was a great honor that served as a wonderful way to celebrate Ghidotti's 10th school year.

Perhaps most importantly, Blue Ribbon recognition afforded Ghidotti the opportunity to stop and reflect on its work. The world of education often feels like a race with no finish line -- there are always new goals to achieve, new students to help, and new mandates to understand. But for those few crisp autumn days, Ghidotti could focus on what they had accomplished and the many wonderful folks who supported them along the way. It was a time to appreciate the hard work and dedication of the Nevada Joint Union High School District, Sierra College, Ghidotti parents, staff and, of course, students.

It should be noted that there was one unintended consequence to winning the Blue Ribbon. Receiving the award seemed to bolster the perception that Ghidotti is an elite school that caters only to Ivy League-bound students. In reality, we have a diverse and well-rounded group of students, just like any school in the county. As they move forward, Ghidotti is working on changing its image -- they are, and always have been, a school that welcomes many different kinds of students, especially those that would benefit most from two free years of college.

Earning the Blue Ribbon award was valuable in many ways. But most importantly it provided Ghidotti High School with the opportunity to reflect on past successes and plan for future goals. And now the new school year is upon us. It's time to get back in the race!

### Grass Valley Charter Receives Gold Ribbon School Recognition

**Brian Martinez**

*Principal*



Pictured L-R: NCSOS Holly Hermansen, GV Charter 2/3 Teacher Lori Davis, Prin. Brian Martinez, CA Supt. of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson, GVSD Trustee Bonnie Taylor, GVSD Supt. Eric Fredrickson, NC Assoc. Supt. of Educational Services Shar Johns

The California Gold Ribbon Schools Award was created to honor schools while the California Distinguished Schools Program is on hiatus as California transitions to new assessment and accountability systems.

On alternating years, elementary schools and high schools are eligible to submit a rigorous application that demonstrates model programs that include standards-based activities, projects, strategies, and practices that schools have adopted during this transitional period, and which can be replicated by other local educational agencies. If your application makes the cut, the school is visited by a local team that evaluates the effectiveness of programs that were highlighted in the original application. In addition there are a series of meetings with board members, students, teaching staff and administrators. It is with great pride that Grass Valley Charter received the California Gold Ribbon School award, highlighting their exceptional model in EL Education (formerly Expeditionary Learning). EL Education uses an expanded definition of student achievement that includes mastery of standards, high quality work that matters, and student character.

2016 Elementary Gold Ribbon Schools and National Blue Ribbon Schools were honored in June during a regional ceremony in Sacramento. Awards were accepted from Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson.



Pictured L-R: Ghidotti Prin. Noah Levinson, GV Charter Prin. Brian Martinez

## August is National Immunization Awareness Month

Sharyn Turner, MA, RN

Coordinator of Student Health

We all need vaccinations or immunizations to help protect us from serious diseases. Shots can prevent serious diseases like the flu, measles, and pneumonia. It's important to know which shots you need and when to get them. To help keep our community safe, Nevada County Public Health and Nevada County schools are proudly participating in National Immunization Awareness Month.

Immunization requirements for California School Entry, under a new law known as SB 277, have been in effect beginning January 1, 2016. Exemptions based on personal beliefs, including religious beliefs, are no longer an option for vaccines that are currently required for entry into child care or school in California. Most families will not be affected by the new law because their children have received all required vaccinations. Personal beliefs exemptions on file for a child already attending child care or school will remain valid until the child reaches the next immunization checkpoint. Checkpoints are at kindergarten (including transitional kindergarten) and 7th grade.

For more information about SB 277, see Frequently Asked Questions available at: <http://www.shotsforschool.org/laws/sb277faq/>. For more information about school immunization requirements and resources, visit the California Department of Public Health's website at [www.shotsforschool.org](http://www.shotsforschool.org), or contact Nevada County Public Health <https://www.mynevadacounty.com/nc/hhsa/ph/Pages/Home.aspx>. A guide to immunizations required for child care, pre-school and grades TK/K-12 can be found on Nevada County Superintendent of Schools website [www.nevco.org](http://www.nevco.org) as well.

### Special to the Nugget:



### **TOURNAMENT COORDINATORS!**

In the past, countywide tournaments have been coordinated by NCSOS staff. This year begins a change in implementation. Each tournament – Geography, Spelling, Writing, and Speech - will be coordinated by individual Nevada County teachers or staff members that have interest in organizing and coordinating a countywide academic tournament. A stipend will be paid for these

duties. In some cases you may have been instrumental in a tournament process at your sites and it would be a matter of expanding what you have already been doing for years. This is a fun and rewarding opportunity. Interested parties should contact NCSOS Associate Superintendent of Educational Services Shar Johns (478-6400 x205 or [sjohns@nevco.org](mailto:sjohns@nevco.org)) or Director of Curriculum & Instruction Kathleen Kiefer (478-6400 x246 or [kkiefer@nevco.org](mailto:kkiefer@nevco.org)).

## **ENERGIZE!**

### **Countywide Professional Development Day September 19, 2016**

**Kathleen Kiefer**

*Director of Curriculum & Instruction*

The NCSOS Educational Services team is excited to kick off the year with the annual Countywide Professional Development Day taking place at Nevada Union High School on September 19, 2016. This year's theme is **ENERGIZE!**. The day will include a special presentation from our keynote speaker, John Corrippio from highly regarded CUE, who will also be one of many presenters for self-selected breakout sessions. A range of approximately forty break-out sessions will be presented by Nevada County teachers and instructional leaders, addressing the most current topics of interest. These sessions include offerings for teachers, administrators, para professionals, and trainings for front-line office staff. Session topics and descriptions will be distributed by site-administrators the week of August 23.

New this year at NCSOS, is an online registration program, OMS (Online Management System), which will improve and streamline the registration process not only for this PD Day, but for all programs calling for registration or sign-up with NCSOS. It is required that all participants must be registered with OMS for individual login information and subsequent registration for PD Day. Registration week for **ENERGIZE!** is August 29-September 2, but why not create your required account now. Personal login can be set up prior to registration by following this link: <http://nevco.k12oms.org/login.php>.

We look forward to your participation in this inspiring and unifying professional development opportunity.

### **Teacher Induction – Formerly BTSA**

**Susan Clarabut**

*Nevada County Teacher Induction Coordinator*

There are multiple studies indicating that teacher retention is greatly improved through the addition of mentors who specifically and strategically support new teachers. In California this program is called Teacher Induction, formerly BTSA. As has been the case for the

many years that we have had a beginning teacher program in Nevada County, our induction program this year will be a combination of weekly mentor/candidate meetings and monthly seminars held at NCSOS. This year there are 40 induction participants who will be clearing their Multiple Subject, Single Subject, Education Specialist and/or Career Tech Ed credentials.

One big change in our induction program is that Year 1 credential candidates and their mentors are asked to meet with the candidates' administrators to talk over their induction goals for the year. Adding the administrator to that mix will ensure that candidates' goals are workable and appropriate for their sites and teaching assignments.

Without a doubt, Nevada County is incredibly supportive of the teacher induction program. On behalf of the candidates and their mentors, a big thank-you to the districts and boards who continue to support teachers as they clear their credentials.

## **CA Transitional Kindergarten Stipend Program**

**Rossnina Dort**

*Child Care Coordinating Council*

The California Transitional Kindergarten (CTKS) Program provides the means for new and current TK teachers to meet new CA legislation requirements. SB 876 requires all TK teachers who are assigned to TK or TK/K blended classrooms after July 1, 2015 to have 24 units of early childhood education or child development by August 1, 2020. Additionally, all TK classrooms are required to align curriculum to the CA Preschool Learning Foundations and Frameworks. TK teachers hired after July 1, 2015 will have 5 years to meet these requirements.

The Child Care Coordinating Council (CCCC) administers the CTKS Program, which provides educational scholarships and stipends of up to \$4000 to

help meet coursework requirements. The CTKS Program also provides academic reimbursements to preschool teachers in State funded preschool programs for completion of credit-bearing coursework in early childhood education or child development.

Teachers have the critical role of creating early learning experiences that give young children the skills and learning dispositions for present and future educational success. This program advances teachers' early childhood education and professional development in using approaches to instruction specific to the needs of preschool and TK classrooms. Go to <http://cccnevco.wixsite.com/cccnevco/tk-scholarships> for detailed information or contact Rossnina Dort at 271-0258 for more info and to request an application.

## **Nevada County Number One in Country**

**Judy Nielsen**

*Editor of the NUGGET*

The Digital Counties Survey is conducted in partnership with the National Association of Counties and The Center for Digital Government, which examines overall technology programs and plans of the county. The survey identifies the best technology practices among U.S. counties, including initiatives that save tax dollars through newfound efficiencies; boosts transparency, cybersecurity and engagement; or innovates through unique and exciting projects.

Nevada County lost 28% of its staff during the great recession. To offset the loss, the county implemented new technology to improve workforce productivity, enable citizen self-service offerings, and enhance organizational efficiencies. In the category of 'population up to 150,000', Nevada County received the honor of first place in the nation for 2016. Congratulations Nevada County!

# ***Trainings • Field Trips • Opportunities for All***

## **Trainings**

**NCSOS Countywide PD Day:  
Monday, September 19, 2016**

**ENERGIZE!**

Nevada County's countywide PD Day, takes place Monday, September 19 at Nevada Union High School, from 8:15 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. OMS (Online Management System) requires personal log-in set-up prior to

registration by following this link:

<http://nevco.k12oms.org/login.php>.

This can be done now. Registration takes place August 29 – September 2.

## **Mandated Reporter Training**

Nevada County Child Protective Services (CPS) believes in serving the local community. One of the methods in which CPS shows this is by conducting Mandated Reporter

Trainings for local agencies, service providers, schools, clubs, individuals or groups. CPS takes this opportunity to connect and educate the community about child abuse and neglect related issues such as the types of abuse/neglect, how to report, what is a mandated reporter, who is a mandated reporter, the inner workings of Child Welfare, and more. If you are interested in setting up a Mandated Reporter Training please feel free to

contact Nicholas Ready, Program Manager for Nevada County Child Protective Services at [nicholas.ready@co.nevada.ca.us](mailto:nicholas.ready@co.nevada.ca.us) or 530-265-1654.

### **Tournament Schedule for School Year 2016-17**

See the Quick Reference Calendar at the end of the NUGGET for the 2016-17 Tournament Schedule.

### **Teacher Induction (formerly BTSA)**

See the Quick Reference Calendar at the end of the NUGGET for the 2016-17 BTSA seminar calendar. Contact for the program is Susan Clarabut at [sclarbut@scoe.org](mailto:sclarbut@scoe.org) with any questions about the program.

### **Triple P: Power of Positive Parenting Classes**

Triple P is a program of the NCSOS office and is conducted by Parenting Specialist Meg Luce, LMFT. The current 8-week session of Triple P takes place Aug. 25-Oct. 13 from 6 p.m.–8 p.m. in the Scotten School library. Triple P is for parents of children ages 2-12. There is a materials fee of \$30. Scholarships are available. Pizza and childcare are provided! For more info or to register call 913-2745. Space is limited.



### **Field Trips**

#### **50<sup>th</sup> Annual Nevada City Constitution Day Parade & Weekend Celebration: September 10-11**

The Constitution Day Parade is a living-history educational opportunity perfectly suited for students. School groups, including band groups, are enthusiastically invited to join in the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Nevada City Constitution Day Parade on Sept. 11. Schools or classes that enter to participate in the parade will be provided with flags to carry, provided by the Nevada City Chamber of Commerce. Join the fun and bring some positive exposure to your school in our community.

This year's parade will feature hometown celebrity Indianapolis 500 2016 Champion Alexander Rossi! In addition there are a multitude of other activities including Revolutionary War Living History reenactments at Pioneer Park, reenactment of the signing of the U.S. Constitution, Gold Country Duck Race, outdoor concerts and more. This year a historic photo exhibit in City Hall, reflecting 50 years of the Constitution Day Parade is already displayed for viewing. This could be a perfect walking field trip for some schools. For more info on the calendar or events or parade registration, go to: <https://www.nevadacitychamber.com/nevada-city-events/constitution-day-parade/>.

### **Nevada County Film Festival Coincides with STEAM**

As part of the nationally acclaimed Nevada County Film Festival, Kaleidoscope VR will present a virtual reality showcase at the Miners Foundry. With an emphasis on and excitement around STEAM, this film exhibition could be an expanding educational experience for middle and high school aged students. These film shorts are the best in cinematic virtual reality from independent artists all over the world. They have showcased at film festivals such as Sundance, Tribeca, and Cannes, and exhibited in cities such as New York, London, San Francisco, Tokyo, Madrid, and now Nevada City! The first 100 middle school or high school students with student i.d. and accompanied by a parent, will be admitted free on Friday, September 9 for the Kaleidoscope Virtual Reality Program. For more info go to [www.nevadacityfilmfestival.com](http://www.nevadacityfilmfestival.com). Go to <https://vimeo.com/164644331> for a sense of the showcase by viewing a short video.

### **Opportunities for All**

#### **Carnegie Link Up**

3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade students learn to play a recorder, sing, and move in the classroom, learning the basic

fundamentals of music. No previous musical background is necessary on the part of educators and a session will be offered on PD Day. For the culminating concert in March, students bring their newly acquired musical skills to the concert hall where, from their seats, they perform with a professional orchestra. Participating school sign-ups take place in September. And then this music literacy program is implemented in your classroom in October and continues throughout the school year. Site administrators should contact MIM Education Director Mark Vance at [mark@musicinthemountains.org](mailto:mark@musicinthemountains.org) or 265-6173 x202.

### **Young Composers Project**

Application deadline for Music in the Mountains Young Composers Project is Friday, Sept. 4. Curriculum includes theory, history, harmony, listening, conducting, visiting musicians, rehearsals/performance, dictation, software notation, public speaking, and composition. Go to [www.musicinthemountains.org](http://www.musicinthemountains.org) for the application form or call Education Director Mark Vance, at (530) 265-6173 x202.

### **Create a Little Work of Art for the Person that Continues to Introduce Art to Thousands**

Wish a happy 90<sup>th</sup> birthday to the author of the Art Docent Program Barbara Herberholz. Art Docent Program participants, or anyone for that matter, can send handmade cards signed by docents, students and/or teachers to Judy Nielsen at NCSOS by September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Mrs. Herberholz developed the Art Docent Program in 1983 while working as an art education consultant for school districts. Many Nevada County schools have participated in the Art Docent Program for the past 33 years!

Last November Mrs. Herberholz received the Lifetime Achievement award from the California Art Education Association (CAEA) for her contributions, including textbooks, to art education. Mrs. Herberholz is the fourth recipient to ever receive the award and is truly honored for the recognition. This is an opportunity for Nevada County schools to thank Mrs.

Herberholz for the multitude of art lessons she has inspired in the classroom.

### STEAM Expo 2017

STEAM Expo 2017 takes place March 23-24-25, 2017. Information needed by teachers, to prepare students for STEAM Expo 2017, can be found at <http://www.nevcoexpo.org>.

### Immunization Opportunities

Childhood immunizations, ages 0-18, are given by Nevada County Public Health Dept. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays monthly, 1p.m. -4 p.m. In addition back-to-school clinics will be held on Tuesday, August 16, 2016, 12p.m. - 4 p.m. and Wednesday August 17, 2016, 12-4 p.m. at the GV Veterans Building - 255 S. Auburn in Grass Valley. Children may be

eligible to receive free vaccines at Nevada County Public Health through the Vaccines for Children Program.

### Teacher Educator Grant

The Teacher Educator Grant program is on hiatus for school-year 2016-17. The past two years have produced exemplary programs in the classroom. Congratulations to teachers and administrators, for innovative curriculum and enthusiastic participation. The program has proven to support outstanding curriculum implementation, which the NCSOS office hopes to continue in future years.

### CPR & First Aid Training

NCSOS coordinated CPR classes are changing! Soon you will be able to take the CPR/AED course on-line and then come in to NCSOS to

demonstrate the skills you learned in order to receive certification. If it's your initial training, plan on the on-line course taking up to 3.0 hours; if you are renewing, count on much less time. The anticipated start date will be in September 2016. For updated information check the NCSOS website in late August at [www.nevco.org/register](http://www.nevco.org/register) or contact Faith Yamamoto at [fyamamoto@nevco.org](mailto:fyamamoto@nevco.org).

### Highlights from the CDE Calendar of Events

- August is National Immunization Awareness Month: See article in *News & Notes*
- Women's Equality Day, 8/26/2016

## Quick Reference Calendar...

Calendar events have been highlighted in previous editions of *The Nugget* and are listed in chronological order. Back issues of *The Nugget*, with additional information, can be found at [www.nevco.org/news-events](http://www.nevco.org/news-events).



### Teacher Induction (formerly BTSA)

All seminars not online take place in the NCSOS Houser Room from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

DATE	GROUP	ON-LINE
Tues., September 6	Year 1 Seminar	
Wed., September 7	Year 2 Seminar	
Tues., October 4	Year 1 Seminar	
Wed., October 5	Year 2 Seminar	
Tues., November 1	Year 1 Seminar	
November Seminar	Year 2	X
December Seminar	Year 1	X
December Seminar	Year 2	X
Tues., January 10	Year 1 Seminar	
Weds., January 11	Year 2 Seminar	
Tues., February 7	Year 1	
February Seminar	Year 2	X
March Seminar	Year 1	X
March Seminar	Year 2	X
Mon., April 4	Year 1	
Tues., April 5	Year 2	



## **NCSOS Countywide Professional Development Day**

Monday, September 19, 2016      8:15 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.      Nevada Union High School



### **Tournament Schedule for School Year 2015-16**

EVENT	GRADE	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Geography	7 <sup>th</sup>	10/11	9-1	Chicago Park School
AMC	8 <sup>th</sup>	11/15	3:30 - 5	NCSOS
Spelling	5 <sup>th</sup> - 6 <sup>th</sup>	11/15	9-2	Miners Foundry
Spelling	7 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	11/17	9-2	Miners Foundry
Writing	7 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	1/10	9-2	Miners Foundry
AMC	10 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup>	2/7	3:30 - 5:15	NCSOS
Speech Prelims	4 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	3/9	9 - 12:30 1 - 4:30	Calvary Bible Church – Speech Topic: “What Music Means to Me...”
Speech Finals	4 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	3/14	6:30 - 8:30	Nevada Theatre
STEAM Expo 2017	K-12 <sup>th</sup>	3/25	9-3	Nevada County Fairgrounds

