

The Nugget



News from the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools office

September/October 2015

Holly Hermansen, Superintendent

News & Notes

Teachers of the Year Honored

Judy Nielsen
Nugget Editor



Luke Browning
NJUHSD Teacher of the Year
Nevada County Teacher of the Year

Nine exemplary teachers have been selected as their school district's Teacher of the Year. They are Sandi Kasting (Chicago Park SD), Lisa Kauffman (Clear Creek SD), Melody Arnett (Grass Valley SD), Leila Barber (NCSOS Yuba River Charter), Luke Browning (NJUHSD), Melissa Conley (Penn Valley Union Elementary SD), Jacqueline Hollister (Pleasant Ridge Union SD), Sarah Johnson (Twin Ridges Elementary SD), and Beth Buti (Union Hill SD). 'Teachers of the Year' is a program of the California Department of Education, which begins on a school district level all the way thru to a national program. It is a voluntary program on the part of the districts and is a true honor to be selected for this recognition, as these teachers represent excellence in education in each of their academic arenas.

This year the Nevada Countywide Teacher of the Year is Luke Browning, who teaches Agriculture Mechanics along with all other aspects of the FFA program at Nevada Union High School. Luke is a dedicated mentor and coach. Luke spends many hours of time outside of the classroom coaching students in extra-curricular Future Farmers of America career development events. His coaching has led to his teams winning state championships in both Extemporaneous Speaking and

Advanced Parliamentary Procedure; and placed 4th in the nation in Parliamentary Procedure in 2014. Luke is a member of the California Association of Teachers and is the current president of the California Agriculture Teachers Association (CATA) for the Superior Region. In 2010-11 Luke was named Superior Region CATA Outstanding Young Teacher for both the Shasta Section and for the Superior Region. He has implemented many innovative programs such as developing a new agriculture teacher mentorship program and developed/organized a conference for new agriculture teachers in the Superior Region.

All nine school districts' Teachers of the Year were honored at a recognition dinner on October 1, 2015 by school board members, ACSA, and NCSOS.



Traveling Native History Kiosk from Library

Laura Pappani
Nevada County Librarian

Josie Andrews
Grass Valley Branch Manager

The Nevada County Library just wrapped up a year-long grant-funded collaboration with the Nisenan tribe of the Nevada City Rancheria. The project focused on collecting and preserving historical and cultural materials related to western Nevada County's indigenous people. One part of the project involved the creation of an interactive kiosk about the Nisenan that can travel around to schools and other venues in the County. The kiosk used [i]cell technology to present eight different audio/video modules, activated by waving your hand over the subject you would like to access. It will be

available in October and the Library would love to loan the kiosk to your school. It is tall, but does not use much of a footprint. Please contact County Librarian Laura Pappani at 265-7078 or Laura.Pappani@co.nevada.ca.us for more information and to make arrangements. This exciting project was funded by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian.

It's a 'Happening': Nevada County STEM/STEAM EXPO & Math Competition

Shar Johns

Associate Superintendent, Educational Services

The Nevada County Superintendent of Schools office is excited to announce a new and updated tournament this year to help promote 21st Century Learning Skills in our countywide competitions. This year both the outdated math tournament and traditional Science Fair have been evaluated and have been reorganized to include a fabulous STEM/STEAM EXPO (grades 4 -12) and National Math Competition (grades 6-12). This new tournament might include such content as environmental/agricultural innovation, invention, reverse engineering, robotics and computer science, and Rube Goldberg construction.

There will be an initial planning and organizational meeting scheduled to take place Tuesday, October 27, 2015 from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the NCSOS Houser Room. School principals have received information on how to register administrators and a site representative, to participate in this unique opportunity to plan, create, and organize the new Nevada County STEM/STEAM EXPO and National Math Competition. One teacher representative from each school site should attend.

The NCSOS office will provide lunch along with paying for a ½ day sub for **one** representative from each school site. Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to help change the face of Nevada County Science and Math Competitions. Together we can make great things happen!

Law Day

Melissa Parrett

Student Services Program Coordinator

Law Day is an annual 5th grade countywide field trip to the Nevada County Courthouse. Students experience and learn about the legal system and law enforcement efforts by going on special tours and presentations by agency stakeholders. A big thank you goes out to all teachers and chaperones that helped make Law Day a successful event again this year! Many court staff members have commented on the appropriate dress and behavior of the students. Judge Anderson shared that Law Day has become one of the "best days of the year at the Nevada County Courthouse".

Get SMART

Melissa Parrett

Student Services Program Coordinator

The countywide Special Multi-Agency Resource Team (SMART) is a valuable resource to address the needs of at risk children. Over the years team members agree that it is one of the most valuable meetings that so many times can make the difference for a positive family outcome.

SMART convenes at NCSOS every Wednesday morning. Agencies represented include, but are not limited to: Children's Behavioral Health, Child Protective Services, Probation, Sierra Forever Families, EMQ Families First, Victor Community Services, Public Health, and CalWorks. Case staffing occurs during the first 15 minutes of the meeting. Then, the parent joins the team for the remaining 45 mins. to identify family/child strengths, concerns and to ultimately create a team plan.

Teachers can talk to a school counselor or site administrator if you have a student you feel might need this type of support. The referring school/agency is responsible for inviting the parent to the team meeting as well as to obtain verbal consent for exchange of information to occur during the meeting. SMART referrals can be submitted to Melissa Parrett at NCSOS.

Trainings • Field Trips • Opportunities for All

Trainings

Early Childhood Education Leadership 2015-16 Workshop Series #1 of Six: Creating Positive Interactions with Children

Dedicated care providers are able to further their knowledge and skills.

The workshop series enhances an early childhood community that supports our learners from the start and helps Nevada County's kids be ready for kindergarten. Individuals attending at least four of the six workshops will receive a \$60 stipend.

Thursday, October 22, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. join presenter Morgan Best for an exploration of positive

interactions. Leave with ideas and inspiration. A light dinner will be provided. Workshops take place at NCSOS and are sponsored by NCSOS, First 5 Nevada County, Sierra Nevada Children's Services, and the Childcare Coordinating

Trainings • Field Trips • Opportunities for All...

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Council. For more information contact Sandi at First 5 Nevada County at 274-5361 or www.first5nevco.org. To sign up go to <http://www.first5nevco.org/early-childhood-education-classes-201516/> See the *Quick Reference Calendar* below for a complete list of workshop dates and topics.

CSU Expository Reading & Writing Course for 7th/8th Grade Teachers

The CSU Expository Reading and Writing Course (ERWC) for 7th and 8th grade teachers takes place 10/23/15, 1/15/16, and 4/8/16 from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. in the NCSOS Houser Room. The ERWC is aligned with CCSS and emphasizes the in-depth study of expository, analytical, and argumentative reading and writing. Teachers attending the three training days will receive materials, access to the ERWC online community, and access to four modules each for 7th and 8th grades.

Field Trips



Music in the Mountains

These MIM Educational Programs are FREE to Nevada County Schools:

- + Peers Performing for Peers
- + Music Live
- + Classics 4 Kids
- + Take Five for Music (formerly the Brummitt-Taylor Classical Music Listening Program)

These MIM Educational Programs are at a minimal cost:

- + Carnegie Link Up
- + Young Composers

Education Director Mark Vance
265.6173 x202

Sierra Master Chorale Youth Vocal Competition

The Sierra Master Chorale Youth Vocal Competition is comprised of Nevada County students ages 12 – 21. Concert takes place Sunday, October 11, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. at The Center for the Arts in Grass Valley.

InConcert Sierra: 3rd Grade Concert

InConcert Sierra invites all 3rd grade classes to a free concert featuring The Rose Ensemble, an award winning early music vocal and instrumental group. Concert is scheduled for Monday, April 18, 2016 from 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Busses may be provided. For more info or to make reservations contact Susan Duey at info@innconcertsierra.org / 273-3990.

Opportunities for All

Gearing Up for Poetry Out Loud



The 2015/16 Poetry Out Loud high school recitation competition begins now. Students can begin choosing their poems by linking to <http://www.poetryoutloud.org/>. The anthology and Teacher Guide has been distributed to all high school campuses. Nevada County students have held winning spots in the California Arts Council's State Finals three years in a row with Falyn Lazarus winning 2nd place this past March. 1st place goes on to Washington, D.C. Dates to remember:

- November 15 - last day to indicate your class' participation. The California Arts Council needs this information.
- January 11-15, 2016 – individual high school competition days
- January 27, 2016 - Nevada County competition

Contact Penelope Curtis at penelcurtis@gmail.com or Steve Hansen at shansen@njuhsd.com for more information or assistance.

Annual Countywide Flu Clinic offered by SIG

SIG Wellness will provide on-site FREE flu shots to SIG medical benefit members. Protect yourself and others from the flu. Wednesday, Oct. 21 from 3 p.m. – 5 p.m. Earle Jamieson, 12338 McCourtney Rd. RSVP to your district rep or school nurse to insure the correct amount of vaccines are available at the clinic.

Hallway of Student Art

The Hallway of Student Art is an opportunity to highlight student works of art at the NCSOS office. Each show is approximately one month in duration. This year we would like exhibits to highlight programs that were implemented with the assistance of Educator Grant Program funding. To schedule or for further information contact Judy Nielsen at jnielsen@nevco.org.

National Campaign: Every Kid in a Park

Beginning September 1, 2015 every 4th grade student can download their own voucher or pass to gain unlimited access to any federal lands or waters for the entire calendar year. This includes more than 400 national parks and millions of acres of federal lands and waters. Managing agencies include the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Park Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the U.S. Forest Service. Go to www.everykidinapark.gov.

CPR & First Aid Training

See *Quick Reference Calendar* below for dates and times thru November 2015. CPR & First Aid Training is \$30. Fees must be prepaid to reserve a spot in the class. For further info call Faith at 478-6400 x201 or register on-line at www.nevco.org/register.

Quick Reference Calendar...

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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.



Upcoming CPR Class Dates

CPR & FIRST AID	Thurs. 10/29	3 p.m. – 7 p.m.
CPR & FIRST AID	Wed. 11/4	3 p.m. – 7 p.m.
CPR & FIRST AID	Mon. 11/30	3 p.m. – 7 p.m.



Beginning Teachers Support & Assessment (BTSA)

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

DATE	GROUP
Wed., October 7	Year 2 Seminar
Thurs., October 8	Year 1 Seminar
Wed., November 9	Special Education Seminar
Thurs., November 12	Year 1 Seminar
Wed., January 6	Year 2 Seminar
Thurs., January 7	Year 1 Seminar
Thurs., February 4	Year 1 Seminar
Wed., April 6	Year 2 Seminar
Thurs., April 7	Year 1 Seminar
Thurs., May 5	Special Education Seminar



Tournament Schedule for School Year 2015-16

EVENT	GRADE	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Spelling	5 th - 6 th	11/3	9-2	Miners Foundry
Spelling	7 th - 8 th	11/5	9-2	Miners Foundry
Writing	7 th - 8 th	1/12	9-2	Miners Foundry
Speech Prelims	4 th - 8 th	3/10	9 - 12:30 1 - 4:30	Calvary Bible Church – Speech Topic: “What Music Means to Me...”
Speech Finals	4 th - 8 th	3/15	6:30 - 8:30	Nevada Theatre
STEM/STEAM EXPO & Math Competition	4 th - 12 th	TBD	TBD	TBD

Quick Reference Calendar

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Student Theatre Matinees

October 9 Center for the Arts – *I Am Jack*
October 20 Center for the Arts – *The Giver*



Early Childhood Education Workshop Series

October 22 Creating Positive Interactions with Children
November 19 Cooking with Children/Creative Snacks
January 21 Emergency Preparedness
February 18 Strategies for Resolving Challenging Behaviors
March 17 Speech/Language Development: Early Signs for Intervention
April 21 How do I know if I need to do a mandated report for child abuse?



Poetry Out Loud

November 15 last day to indicate your class' participation
January 11-15, 2016 individual high school competition days
January 27, 2016 Countywide competition



NCSOS Educator Grant Program: Letter of Interest deadline to apply for Cycle II

December 1, 2015 Cycle II