Teachers of the Year 2023

Nevada County is home to an extensive number of amazing educators who go above and beyond every day for our students.

This month Nevada County is celebrating our schools’ Teachers of the Year. This group of eight stellar teachers have several common attributes, such as a tireless zest to make learning relevant, fun, and student centered.

The Teachers of the Year will be honored on October 5th with their colleagues in Nevada City.

They are:
Audrey Delany, Chicago Park School
Jen Lubarsky, Clear Creek School
Cynthia Grapel, Grass Valley Charter School
Claire Thibodeau, Seven Hills School
Jennifer Weir, Bear River High School
Nate Henderson, Williams Ranch School
Jean Bevel, Cottage Hill School
Shirley Fernandez, Union Hill School

I hope you will join me in celebrating these eight and all they do for our students in Nevada County.

Take care,

Scott W. Lay, Superintendent
On September 7, 49 members of the Social Emotional Learning Community of Practice represented 11 Nevada County district and charter teams at the launch of NCSoS’s “Designing for Equity and Inclusion” series with facilitator Nicole Tucker-Smith. The 2022-23 focus is to create environments “where all students feel valued and able to pursue learning options with agency.”

At September’s session, team members collaborated around planning brave spaces with CARE:

- Cultivate the Environment
- Anchor with Protocols
- Relate with Scaffolds
- Exit Purposefully

As part of “cultivating the environment,” teams explored tips for maintaining health and well-being and reflected on learner variability; strategies that work for one student (or adult) may not work for another. Providing time and space for exploration helps learners determine what strategies are most helpful and when.

During the year, SEL teams will attend five sessions and will meet during action periods to further develop tools that support all students.

Thank you to all partnering agencies who participated in the recent School Safety Summit for the community. Nevada County Superintendents Office facilitated the two-night event held at the Bear River High School Theater and John Baggett Theater at Nevada Union High School. The in-person and Zoom audiences heard from our local first responders about the cooperation, collaboration, planning and practice between agencies and the schools to keep students and staff safe. A special thank you to all those participating in this event.

School Safety

- Scott W. Lay, Nevada County Superintendent of School
- Chris Espedal, Director of School Safety, NCSoS
- Dan Frisella, NJUHSD Superintendent
- Captain Sam Brown, Nevada County Sheriff’s Office
- Lt. Sean Scales, Nevada County Sheriff’s Office – Office of Emergency Services
- Deputy Chief Steve Johnson, Grass Valley Police Department
- Chief Dan Foss, Nevada City Police Department
- Officer Jason Bice, Public Information Officer – California Highway Patrol
- Assistant Chief Jim Mathias, Cal Fire – Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit
- Battalion Chief Matt Wallen – Cal Fire
- Division Chief of Operations Pat Sullivan, Nevada County Consolidated Fire
- Chief Mark Buttron, Grass Valley Fire Department

Resource Tables:
- Morgan Welty-Geissick – Foster Youth Services, NCSoS
- Granite Wellness
- Laurie DeMartini - FRC
- Nevada County Office of Emergency Services

If you missed the event, please feel free to view it below:

NU safety meeting
October is Bullying Prevention Month

"If children feel safe, they can take risks, ask questions, make mistakes, learn to trust, share their feelings, and grow." - Alfie Kohn

Download a Student Activity Kit.
Use this guide to explore, plan, celebrate, and reflect over the course of the month.

Greater Good in Education
Create an account and access science-based practices for kinder, happier schools.

DoSomething.org
Check out campaigns focused on reducing bullying and creating a positive climate.

Consider a poster contest - or incorporate other forms of media. Encourage students to share their voices.

Unity Day is Wednesday, Oct. 19
Wear orange to promote kindness, acceptance, and inclusion.
Not in attendance because of October break? Choose an alternate date for your school community!

Questions about the Social Emotional Learning Community of Practice? Contact Meghan Salter at msalter@nevco.org.
Don’t Miss Out! Tools for Teachers Shared Practices Webinar!

Teachers and administrators—you will not want to miss these upcoming webinars introducing the Tools for Teachers Website! This free professional learning opportunity will be held virtually and all sessions are recorded. Join us to hear California educators from district and classroom levels share how they use Tools for Teachers professional learning and instructional resources to support teaching and learning in the classroom. In addition, there will be time for attendees to ask questions about the presentation and Tools for Teachers.

2022–23 Tools for Teachers Shared Practices Webinar Series are:

Boosting Instruction with Formative Assessment and Accessibility Strategies
Date: November 15, 2022, 3:30–4:30 p.m.

Supporting Student Success with Interim Assessments and Tools for Teachers
Date: February 21, 2023, 3:30–4:30 p.m.

Registration for each of the webinars in this series is available on the CAASPP Upcoming Training Opportunities web page. Questions regarding this webinar series should be directed to the California Outreach Team by email at CalOutreach@ets.org.

Check it out at https://smartertoolsforteachers.org/
Tools for Teachers
PARTNERS Family Resource Center’s Latino Outreach Specialist, Rocio, and NCSOS put on their first annual Latino Family Festival. The festival, held at Condon Park on September 15th had over 172 people in attendance. The goal was to encourage community building, form relationships with families and help facilitate connections with local agencies and inform families of all the services and supports the county has to offer.

Families were able to connect with a variety of community resources. Agencies in attendance were Community Beyond Violence, WIC, Nevada County Social Services, Nevada Union Adult Education, Grass Valley Police Department, Office of Emergency Services, Bright Futures for Youth, Nevada County Libraries, First 5, Sierra College, Nevada County Public Health, FREED, 211 Connecting Point, What’s Up Wellness, Nevada County Sheriff, and more!

The community enjoyed free entertainment provided by Mariachi Band, Los Viejitos, and traditional dancing by Ballet Folklorico. Kids enjoyed popcorn, snow cones, balloon animals, and face painting. It truly was a fun evening for all! One of the providers in attendance stated that this was the best resource fair they had been to in a long time because of all the connections they made with the attendees. It was a remarkably successful event, a wonderful display of our community, and we can’t wait for next year’s festival!
After months of community meetings in hand-hewn homes and the North San Juan Firehall, the San Juan Ridge Family Resource Center was born, opening its doors on the Oak Tree School Campus in 2006. Since that time, the FRC has steadfastly adhered to fulfilling their mission statement, “to connect, support and celebrate the families of the San Juan Ridge.” From children’s playgroups and summer camps to a food pantry and clothes closet, the FRC has strived to fill basic needs and provide opportunities for San Juan Ridge families.

On September 24, over 130 of the FRC’s friends and neighbors joined in celebrating 16 years of service to the San Juan Ridge Community. There was something for everyone: crafts, party games, prizes, balloon animals, a children’s fashion show, a magic show and a reptile petting zoo! Oak Tree campus was filled with the squeals and laughter of gleeful children and cheerful chatter of adults, happy to spend a few pleasant hours visiting with friends and neighbors.

Smiles were everywhere and we can honestly say that a good time was had by all!

SJR FRC extends a heartfelt thank you A to Z Reptiles, Bernard & Diana Bradshaw, Food Bank of Nevada County, Grizzly Hill School’s PTC, Little Acorns Preschool, Masters Market, Nevada County 4-H, Nevada County Superintendent of Schools, North San Juan Early Head Start, North San Juan Fire Department, and the San Juan Ridge Community who has embraced and supported their FRC through the years. We are grateful to all who contributed to the success and joyousness of the event!
We are excited to announce a new Lunch & Learn series designed to support improved attendance efforts. This series of monthly presentations will highlight best practices throughout the state running monthly from noon to 1pm. Please review the flyer for more information and check out the upcoming October 19th session. All are welcome!

Join Zoom Meeting
https://rcoc.zoom.us/j/92363748322
Meeting ID: 923 6374 8322

For additional information, please contact:
Amir Alavi, Esq., Director | (951) 249-8819
The Foster Kincare Class Education program meets again this month. There is a Nurtured Heart Approach training happening in Fall and again in Spring of 2023. Please see www.nevco.org for the class schedule. Also, if you are a guardian of a relative, please reach out to the Kincare support group for ongoing meetings, trainings, and of course, support. The Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program is fully supporting the ongoing meetings and trainings for family raising family. We know our caregiver need in Nevada County is great and we hope to provide leadership, guidance and support for those who are already raising a relative and to those who are planning to.

Along those lines, the county is in need of recruiting foster families who can help our children. Unfortunately, Nevada County does not yet hold enough resource families to house the current number of youths in foster care. This means that many of our youth are moving out of the county to live with approved foster parents. Although we are grateful for those parents, we know that the move out of home into a new environment can be detrimental to the well-being of a person and can cause learning loss when forced to leave their school of origin. It would be ideal if our Nevada County parents, families and community members could provide care for the children. If you are interested, there are three different licensing agencies who can support you and your family in becoming a licensed foster family:

- **Child Welfare Services**
- **EA Family Services**
- **Stanford Sierra Youth & Families**

All have wonderful programs to empower you as a foster parent. Please don’t hesitate to reach out to your local FYSCP staff at 530-478-6400 ex 2020 for questions.

The Independent Living Program met in person once again. It was a breath of fresh air to see the faces of many collaborative agencies including Twin Cities Church, Children’s Behavioral Health, and Victors Community Support Services and the students of ILP class. The ILP classes will be hosted one time monthly as a hybrid model to incorporate issues or unable to meet in person for another reason while the other monthly meeting will be in person.

The Transitional Housing Plus program has welcomed a new participant this month. The program continues to find a need in helping young people secure reliable, low-cost vehicles and/or affordable maintenance for the vehicles they already own. If these are interesting to you, please reach out to Morgan Welty-Geisick at 530-478-6400 ex 2040.

The FYSCP staff was grateful to be in attendance at the Safety Summit that recently passed and continues to support local students with "Go bags", readiness training and practice drills that promote safety against any/all threats to our schools and our community.
Direct any questions or requests for professional development to Nancy Jackson, NCSoS Continuous Improvement Instructional Specialist for ELA & the Arts njackson@nevco.org.

The Art Docent Program is in full swing at four school sites. Hundreds of Nevada County students are experiencing an enriched Arts curriculum. If you would like to see the Art Docent Program at your site, please contact your site administrator. If you have any questions contact Nancy Jackson at njackson@nevco.org.

NCSOS Nevada County

STEAM

Save the Date – Notice & Wonder Nevada County!
STEAM Student Showcase & Competitions
STEAM Community & School Exhibits
Saturday, March 25, 2023 From 9AM to 3PM at the Nevada County Fairgrounds – IN PERSON!
For more information visit: www.nevcoexpo.org

(Click on the image to be directed to the website.)
Celebrating Retired Teachers Week
November 6-12, 2022

Retired or soon-to-be retired teachers in Nevada County are invited to a complimentary brunch.

Where: Tofanelli’s Restaurant
802 West Main Street, Grass Valley

When: Wednesday, November 9, 2022 at 10 a.m.

RSVP is requested by November 2, 2022 by calling call Chris Knox (530) 210-5209
Nevada County Library is calling on all Nevada County High School students to create a logo based on the Nevada County Reads 2023 book, Interior Chinatown by: Charles Yu.

Submit your design to your art teacher or to Sydney.Joyce@nevadacountyca.gov the winning entry will be used in marketing for NCR 2023.

- Entries will be accepted by November 10th at the latest.
- All designs must be submitted as a high quality picture or scan of the original artwork that is 2.5" X 2.5" in size.
- Open to all currently enrolled Nevada County high school students.
- All artwork must be original, previously unpublished and free of copyright restrictions.
- It must be based on or inspired by the NCR book Interior Chinatown.
- One entry per person.
- The winning logo will be determined by a committee of library staff, educational staff and community members.
**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>TIME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, October 5, 2022</td>
<td>2023 Teachers of the Year Dinner</td>
<td>5:00 —7:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, October 11, 2022</td>
<td>HSI Adult First CPR, AED, Adult <strong>Click to register</strong></td>
<td>3:45 —5:45 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, October 14, 2022</td>
<td>Geography Tournament Registration Due</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, October 27, 2022</td>
<td>Pediatric Plus CPR, AED, First Aid for Child/Infant/Adult <strong>Click to register</strong></td>
<td>3:45 —5:45 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 17 –21, 2022</td>
<td>October Break</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, October 27, 2022</td>
<td>Geography Tournament</td>
<td>8:30 AM —12:30 PM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Submissions for future Nugget issues:**

**Please submit your request by the 15th of the preceding month.** Not all content received will be published as approval will be required for publication.

Email: ocarson@nevco.org  Prior issues of *The Nugget* can be found [here](#).