

News from the Creek

P. O. Box 426 - Cave Creek, AZ 85327 www.ccusd93.org

Volume 9-6

January, 2017

Dr. Debbi Burdick, Superintendent

Governing Board Meetings

33016 North 60th Street
Scottsdale, AZ 6:00 p.m.
January 9 & 23, 2017

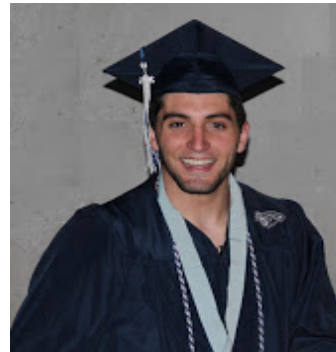


Governing Board Members

Mark Warren, President
Cynthia Weiss, Vice President
Janet Busbee, Member
Kathryn Hill, Member
James Rich, Member

Julia Scotto, Editor

Start with us, Grow with us, Graduate with us



DON'T FORGET TO VOTE – March 14, 2017

<http://recorder.maricopa.gov/web/elections.aspx>

CCUSD is ranked #1 in Maricopa County for Student Achievement

A Note from the Superintendent...

Dear CCUSD Parents, Community and Staff,

Happy New Year! Welcome back to the CCUSD second semester. We hope that everyone had a fun, restful and memorable holiday break. It is invigorating to be back in our classrooms and see the renewed energy and excitement for learning from our students as they once again get into the routine of “school.”

Please note that we are off for the Martin Luther King Holiday on Monday, January 16th and on Wednesday, January 25th, there is a K-12 Early Release Day for teacher professional development.

I look forward to seeing you in our schools!

Sincerely,

Debbi Burdick

Get social with CCUSD



BREAKING STUDENT NEWS

Let's Celebrate the Class of 2017...

The Superintendent would like to honor the Class of 2017! We will be posting college, trade school, military enlistees and work acceptances to our social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram and Twitter) and in our monthly newsletter, *News from the Creek* through May 24, 2017. If you'd like to share your child's successes, please send the following information to jscotto@ccusd93.org: Student Name; College, Trade school, Branch of Military or Work acceptance; Scholarship received (academic and/or athletic) amount and Student picture (for use on social media platforms)

Thank you for helping us recognize the Class of 2017 and congratulations!

- **Adam Braude** - Adam will be attending **Concordia University** in Seward, NE. He has received both an academic and athletic scholarship (over \$70K for 4 years).
- **Nolan Andrus** - Nolan has been accepted to **Boise State University**.
- **Brianne Kunkel** - Brianne's heart belongs to **ASU**, so she only applied there. She was accepted and awarded an academic scholarship. She plans on studying International Business and Non-Profit Management, maybe Disability Law, aspiring to fulfill her dreams to change how the world views and treats those with intellectual disabilities. Special thanks to Coach J (Dr. Janelle Roberts-Perrin) and the students in her Adapted P.E. class for sparking this fire! Thank you CCUSD and go Sun Devils!
- **Sonora Scheven** – to date, Sonora has been accepted to: **Arizona State University** (New American University Academic Scholarship \$24K); **University of Arizona** (Wildcat Excellence Award Academic Scholarship \$24K); and **University of Oregon** (Summit Academic Scholarship \$36K).
- **Marisa Scotto** –Marisa enlisted in the **Army** and is in the 14th month senior program. She will have a final enlistment after she graduates CSHS. On May 30, 2017, she will ship out to basic training at Ft. Sill, OK for two months. After basic, she will go to Joint Base San Antonio in Texas for her training as an Operating Room Specialist. After six months of training, she will be transported to a unit to begin her job. Marisa has been training with the help of the Anthem Recruiting Station.

Cactus Shadows' own Caitlin Bickle...

Click [here](#) to read all about CSHS' Caitlin Bickle who was featured on espn.com – horseback riding to basketball...Falcon Pride!

Cactus Shadows and Sonoran Trails Cheer...

CCUSD swept the UCA's Desert Southwest competition last month. Congratulations to Sonoran Trails Cheer, Cactus Shadows JV and Varsity Cheer for ALL bringing home FIRST PLACE!

Falcon Football – 2016 AZ All-Academic Football Team...

Congratulations to the following Cactus Shadows Falcon Football players for being named to the 2016 AZ All-Academic Football Team for Divisions 4A-1A. First team: **Joe Emmett** (OL) 4.368 GPA; **Nicholas Wintermeyer** (DB) 4.417 GPA. Honorable Mention: **Isaiah Shipley** (WR/TE) 4.154 GPA and **Trey Elletson** (KL) 4.026 GPA. FALCON PRIDE! Read all about it here: <http://360az.co/2gNrIy8>

Cactus Shadows' own – Joe Emmett...

Congratulations to Cactus Shadows' own **Joseph Emmett** – Varsity Football Center (CSHS '17). Joseph was named to the American Family Insurance All-USA Arizona High School Football Team.

Cactus Shadows Alum – What are they doing now?...

Cassie Miller (CSHS Class of '13) has gotten a lot of press lately. Cassie is goalkeeper for Florida State University's Women's Soccer Team. She has been named [Honda Award Nominee](#), has earned the [NSCAA All-American Honors](#), and has been named to the [NSCAA All-Southeast Region First Team](#). Cassie will graduate from FSU on December 16th with a BS in Psychology and a minor in child development. She was just accepted into the School of Law to pursue a Masters in the Juris Master Program.

Sonoran Trails Students of the month...

Congratulations to the December students of the month: 7th grade – **Crystal Beltran Comacho; Nicole Betts; Emma Crum; Joel Gaf; Tanner Jacob; Lyla Newman** and 8th grade: **Elizabeth Fragala; Riley Hearn; Julia Knies; Colin Mesenbrink; Gabriele Misius; Elanah Otero**. Way to go Stingers!

Sonoran Trails Student Artists...

Sonoran Trails Art students have mastered the fun art of Stempunk! Way to go Stingers - **Kiera Reinhard** (1st place); **Joe Denzak** (2nd place); **Alyssa Schiele** (3rd place); **Madalyn Ladendorf** (4th place); **Tess Kinard** (5th place); **Mia Sabbara; Morgan Bondell; Gavin Bush; Kristine Dishov; Megan Hinsberg; Tori Haber Place; Natalie Persyn; Grace Tipton and Katelyn Wible Place**. Click [here](#) to see their art work:

Horseshoe Trails/Sonoran Trails Rubik's Cube...

Students from Horseshoe Trails Elementary and Sonoran Trails Middle Schools competed in a Rubik's Cube competition at Fuller Elementary. The CCUSD students took 2nd place with a mind boggling 3 minute and 40 second solve of 25 cubes! **Ty Wilson** (5th grade) came in first place in Division 1 with a 21 second solve; **Lucas Harrison** (7th grade) came in first place in division 2 with a 25 second solve; and **Kevan Ata-Abadi** (7th grade) came in 2nd place in division 2 with a 28 second solve.

BREAKING SCHOOL NEWS

It's Official...

Are you looking for OFFICIAL Cactus Shadows High School gear – look no further.

Here's the link to Cactus Shadows High School's new ONLINE DECA store...all others are just imitation: http://varsityshop.com/ccusd_cactus_shadows_high

Horseshoe Trails Elementary – Excellence Awards...

Horseshoe Trails Elementary celebrated their Excellence Awards at last month's Governing Board Meeting. Congratulations to **Tracy Steffan** (teacher); **Bella Morrissey** (student); and **Melissa Ladendorf** (community member).

BREAKING FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

CCUSD Inspiration Citation & Employees of the Month...

Congratulations to the following employees!

Inspiration Citation Winners December 2016

Jenny Couturier	Admin Assistant	STMS	Rodworks Gift Card
Ray Flamm	Librarian	CSHS	Summit Diner Gift Certificate
Stephanie L. Gamber	Teacher	BMES	Barnes & Noble Gift Card
Kathy Grandprey	Preschool Teacher	ECS/HTES	BCBS Cookbook
April Guagenti	Health Clinic Assistant	DSA	U of A Backpack
Laura Johnson	KC Program Manager	ECS/BMES	Chick-fil-a Gift Card
Teresa King	Admin Assistant	ECS/DO	BCBS Cookbook
Arlene Lehr	HR Employment Coordinator/Certified	HR/DO	Rodworks Gift Card
Shannon Morse	Psychologist	STMS/DSA	Scooter Hair Design
Miriam Pissas	SI Preschool	ECS/DWES	Dove Valley Ranch Gift Cert
Maria Lourdes Torres	SI Preschool Teacher Assistant	ECS/DWES	BCBS Cooler Bag
Denice Walz	Preschool sub	ECS	Barnes & Noble Gift Card

We thank our sponsors **Dove Valley Golf Club** and **Tobias Automotive** who have consistently supported our Inspiration Citation Recognition Program. Other community partners include: **Chick-Fil-A, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Delta Dental, FCF's Desert Foothills Theater, Scooter Hair Design, The Summit Diner, Pretty Please Fashion, Rod Works and Barnes & Noble.**

Employee of the Month Recipients December 2016

Heather Bicknell	Teacher	DPS	Certified
Krista Collins	Registrar	BMES	Classified
Sara Haugen	Admin Assistant CTE	CSHS	Classified
Ping Jurich	Chinese Immersion Teacher	HTES	Certified
Patti Keeling	Assistive Technology Coordinator	SPED	Certified

Janet Onan	Bookstore Manager	CSHS	Classified
Jennifer Schwartz	Speech Pathologist	STMS	Certified
Tamara Smargie	Payroll Coordinator	Finance/DO	Classified

Employees of the Month are honored at a breakfast and presented with a plaque. One of the winners will be chosen to receive a foursome from **Rancho Manana Golf Club**. CCUSD® thanks the sponsors of the Employees of the Month program: **The Summit Diner, Noah Kendrick of Raymond James/Kendrick Wealth Management Group and Rancho Manana Golf Club.**

Going Over the Edge...

Cactus Shadows High School had four people going Over the Edge this past month in support of Special Olympics. They raised over \$4K. This event raises over \$250,000 for Special Olympics and directly supports our programs here in CCUSD. A big shout out to **Dr. Rob Reisener, Ms. Haley Arnold, Mr. Bill Dolezal and Ms. Shannon Griffith.**

BREAKING DISTRICT NEWS

Thank you Karen Tuffs and Dave Schaefer...

Karen Tuffs and Dave Schaefer were celebrated for their service to the CCUSD family at last month's Governing Board Meeting. President Warren and Dr. Burdick read letters written to Mr. Schaefer and Ms. Tuffs by Representative Heather Carter and presented them with plaques from CCUSD. Everyone in attendance enjoyed cake - thank you for your service to the CCUSD family.

Veterans Heritage Project...

The 2017 Arizona Humanities Awards have been announced! Congratulations to **Barbara Hatch**, Cactus Shadows Veterans Heritage Project Adviser, on winning the Friend of the Humanities, Juliana Yoder Award. Read the full article here <http://www.azhumanities.org/>

CCUSD is hiring...

CCUSD is hiring – please pass along to your friends!

CAVE CREEK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT IS FULL OF A+ SCHOOLS AS DESIGNATED BY THE ARIZONA EDUCATION FOUNDATION. THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS ARE AVAILABLE:

SERVICE WORKER – FINE ARTS CENTER
 KIDS CLUB PROGRAM LEADERS
 FOOD SERVICE WORKERS
 ENRICHMENT INSTRUCTORS
 TEACHER AIDES
 BUS DRIVER/AIDES

*COMPREHENSIVE BENEFITS PACKAGE OFFERED.

Apply online at:

<https://ccusd93.tedk12.com/hire/index.aspx>



Superintendent's Coffee & Conversation...

The next Superintendent's Coffee & Conversation will be held on Friday, January 27, 2017, at 9:00 am. This informal meeting is held at the district office, 33016 N. 60th Street, Scottsdale. Please RSVP to jscotto@ccusd93.org no later than January 25, 2017.

DID YOU KNOW...

CCUSD is ranked the **#1 school district in Maricopa County** for Student Achievement! Proud to be CCUSD!

3TVs Silver Apple Award...

For more than 25 years, 3TV has been honoring deserving teachers across Arizona for their dedication in the classroom and commitment to excellence. This year, eight teachers will be selected, surprised in their classrooms by 3TV's Javier Soto and handed a check for \$500! Nominations accepted through Feb. 24, 2017. Here's the link: <http://www.azfamily.com/category/297405/silver-apple>

BREAKING ECS NEWS

Child's Play Preschool – We are still accepting registrations for **2016-17** School Year. Children must be 3 years old and potty trained to attend. Visit our website for more information and Registration packets at www.ecsforall.org or call our office for availability at 480-575-2440.

Mark Your Calendar: Desert Willow Preschool Spanish Immersion Lottery Meeting: Wednesday January 18th @ 4:15PM (in computer lab) at DWES.

Plan to attend if you are interested in having your child attend the Desert Willow Spanish Immersion Preschool for the 2017-18 School Year. Spaces are limited and lottery placements will take place January 30 -February 3.

Registrations will be taken for Black Mountain, Horseshoe Trails and ECS/D.O. Preschools for returning students – February 13 – 14. New families for those sites can register starting February 15. Downloadable registration packets can be found on our website www.ecsforall.org.

Enrichment Opportunities for Preschoolers

Drawing classes are being offered for 4 & 5 year olds at Desert Willow Elementary. **Young Rembrandts (Mindful Colors)**. Register now for the Desert Willow location.

FUN2TUMBLE: This year we are pleased to announce that we will be offering a Parent - Toddler tumbling class for 18 mos. to 3.5 yrs. as well as a Preschool Gymnastics class for 3.5 year olds to 5 years to be held at Lone Mountain Elementary School and the District Office campus. Visit our website www.ecsforall.org for dates and times.

KID'S Club (Before and After School)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Register Today for Winter Camp: Ooey Gooey Science!

January 2-6th at Horseshoe Trails Elementary School. Register at the ECS Office.

Night Owls Event:

January 20th New Year's Dance Party.

Kids Club Registration Dates:

Returning Families – February 22 - 28th. Register at Kids Club Site.

New Families – March 2nd – 9th. Register at the ECS Office

Spring Break Camp: “The Great Outdoors”

March 27th – 31st at Horseshoe Trails. Registration opens after Winter Break.

Coding is coming to Cave Creek!

USA Today reports that parents across the U.S. are eager for their children to learn coding and other computer-science skills. The trend is growing and ECS Enrichment is partnering with CodaKid to jump on board to offer spring classes. There are afterschool classes scheduled to begin and many of the CCUSD elementary schools and middle school.

CodaKid students will use real programming languages, the same professional grade coding tools (IDEs) used at Facebook, Google, Intel, and others. Learning real programming languages while using professional tools gives students 21st century skills that can help them in tomorrow's job market. Students build real software. CodaKid has a fun, unique way of making coding accessible for young people. Course subjects vary. Use of drag and drop/visual block interfaces or a simple closed platform approach is not used. For more information about CodaKid, please visit www.codakid.com.

We're excited to offer these classes to the students in the community. The catalog will have all of the details on all of our programs, along with our online registration pages. Our catalog will come out in January but a sneak peek of Spring classes can be found through our online registration link found on our website, www.ecsforall.org. Also, follow ECS on Facebook for updates at: <https://www.facebook.com/cavecreekecs/> Our classes are available to all community members, CCUSD, Charter, Private students and employees.

We continue to strive to provide quality programs in a wide variety of interests. Thank you for your continued interest and involvement in our programs!

The ECS Enrichment Programs provide quality, affordable classes, camps, workshops and seminars for ages 3 years through adults. For registration questions, please call the ECS Office 480-575-2440.

Upcoming Event

Rachel's Challenge Community Events

January 31, 2017 Sonoran Trails Middle School 6:30 – 7:30 PM, Gym
February 1, 2017 Cactus Shadows High School 6:30-7:30 PM, Lecture Hall

Rachel's Challenge exists to equip and inspire individuals to replace acts of violence, bullying, and negativity with acts of respect, kindness, and compassion. Rachel's Challenge is based on the life and writings of Rachel Joy Scott who was the first victim of the Columbine school shootings in 1999. Through her example, Rachel's Challenge is making a positive impact in the lives of millions of people every year.

Superintendents, principals, teachers, parents, and students bring Rachel's Challenge into their schools because of escalating problems such as: bullying, student isolation, teen suicide, discrimination, school violence, and increased disciplinary actions. Through powerful presentations, trainings, community events, and professional development, Rachel's Challenge provides the sustainable solution.

Rachel's inspiring story provides a simple, yet powerful example of how small acts of kindness and acceptance motivate us to consider our relationships with the people we come in contact with every day. Rachel's Challenge renews our hope that our life has meaning and purpose. Rachel's story gives us permission to start our own chain reaction of kindness and compassion, which positively affects the climate in our schools and communities.

Monthly A.W.A.R.E Tips:

1. As the holidays draw near, it is helpful to have some tips on how to avoid child anxiety and holiday stress during the busy holiday season

Article <https://www.verywell.com/holiday-stress-and-anxiety-in-children-620516>

By [Katherine Lee](#)

The holidays are a fun and joyous time but also a very busy one, and holiday stress and anxiety in children can and does happen. During the holidays, there are lots of fun activities and events going on, both at home and at school. And while that can be a good thing, the reality is that all that hustle and bustle means schedules are often out of whack, bedtimes get pushed back, and routines are disrupted. As a result, it's inevitable that kids may feel some degree of holiday stress. Please read the article for more on the 9 tips!

2. **Dr. Lisa Strohman** joins Good Morning Arizona to discuss how to tell if your child is being bullied or is the bully <https://vimeo.com/187078158>
3. "SEL Is The New Smart"

Article by Allison Wedell Schumacher

<http://www.cfchildren.org/second-step/social-emotional-learning/sel-is-the-new-smart>

BREAKING COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT & BUSINESS PARTNER NEWS

Community Spotlight of the Month:

This month's **Community Member of the Month** is **Mr. Alaa Eljallad**, a Desert Sun Academy parent to sixth grader, Jordan. Mr. Eljallad donated five remote controls to enhance classroom and school presentations. DSA appreciates Mr. Eljallad's support and generosity!

Do you know of a phenomenal parent(s)/grandparent(s)/community member? If so, send in a short paragraph and let us know what they're doing to Inspire Excellence in our schools or for our District! Send your nomination to jscotto@ccusd93.org – they may be included in an upcoming issue of *News from the Creek!*

Business Partner of the Month:

The **January Business Partner of the Month** is ***Pretty Please Fashion***. *Pretty Please Fashion* is a women's clothing boutique that provides stylish and affordable fashion options for women of all ages. *Pretty Please Fashion* supports the CCUSD Inspiration Citation Program with giftcards and store merchandise. Inspiration Citations are given out to employees who are recognized by their colleagues for inspiring others. Thank you, *Pretty Please Fashion* at the Summit!

Business Partner of the Month is to highlight the extraordinary businesses that go above and beyond to *Inspire Excellence* in the Cave Creek Unified School district.

BREAKING COMMUNITY CORNER NEWS

PVCC @ Black Mountain Star Party...

Save the Date - **Jan 26 – 7:00 - 9:45pm – PVCC at Black Mountain Star Party**
Join us Thursday evening for our free community Star Party. Observe the night skies through high power telescopes. The event is a partnership with PVCC Astronomy faculty and the Phoenix Astronomical Society. RSVP are requested so we can ensure we have enough telescopes. Info: 602-561-5398 RSVP: events@pasaz.org . PVCC at Black Mountain 34250 N 60th Street, Scottsdale, AZ 85266.

For Your Information

The award winning CSHS' CSPress – Please visit www.cactusshadowscspress.com

Cave Creek Unified Education Foundation (CCUEF) – Please visit www.ccuef.org

Superintendent's Challenge - CCUSD students 5th through 12th grade...Are you up for it? Check it out – click [here](#) for information!

CCUSD's 2016-2017 Budget Resource Guide - Click [here](#)

CCUSD's Bond Brochure - Click [here](#)

CCUSD® Schools Accepting Open Enrollment – Click [here](#)

CCUSD® Partners Page - Click [here](#)

MedReturn Box –Drug Disposal Facility - MCSO District 4 Office, 37622 N. Cave Creek Road, Cave Creek, AZ.

Desert Foothills Library information – Please visit www.desertfoothillslibrary.org

Pinnacle Concert Series – Click [here](#) for information.