

OUR STUDENTS

Superintendent's Report



BY STEVE VAN ZANT,
SUPERINTENDENT

As I sat down to write my article for the month, I had all sorts of things I wanted to tell you about. About how well our seventh graders are doing at the elementary schools. I wanted to tell you how the High School just received a grant from the San Diego Chargers to purchase track and fitness equipment. I wanted to let you know how we are working to streamline our curriculum to ensure each of our student's progress at an accelerated rate by reducing the amount of re-teaching we are currently doing. Or, tell you how we are weathering the economic storm at the state level and how we are managing to not lay off employees, cut pay, dramatically increase class sizes, or decrease services to students like they are in many districts. Not this time. Instead, what I really decided I need to tell you about was... you.

Many of you in the community are doing things that reminded me what a special place this is to work. Through the efforts many of you make, the entire

community, and especially the schools are better off than they ordinarily would be. The full realization of how special many of you are to the community hit me Friday night after the football game. However, to be fair, it was actually three separate events that have me feeling this way.

The first was the Campo Cougar Club Fall Festival held out at the Star Ranch. When I showed up to the event the first thing I noticed was tired volunteers who had spent most of the previous night and all of that day, setting up and arranging what I thought was a very ambitious, well thought out, well run festival. My wife and I are very happy that when we went through the Haunted House that the volunteers were on break so we didn't have to suffer the full effect because it was scary enough just the way it was. Hard working volunteers had to work at a frenzied pace to keep up on the orders being placed at the food booth, and the horseshoe tournament was a nice touch. It was a great event and I look forward to seeing what the club has in store for their next event.

The next event that left me feeling great about our district wasn't so much of an event as it was a communication with a student. The first was a call I received from the Father of a student who told me that

his daughter had some good ideas for her school. Well, since I am always looking for good ideas I called her back. For ten minutes I had the opportunity to listen to an intelligent young lady give me some of the best ideas I've heard in a long time. I was very proud to be her superintendent and look forward to her doing great things in the future.

The final event was our Football game on Friday night. A full stadium watched our boys drive down the field for the final touchdown with four minutes to go and then held Escondido Charter's team out of the end zone in the final minutes. It was an exciting game and the crowd energized our team and cheered like I have not heard before here. As the final seconds ticked off the crowd gave the team a standing ovation. I knew I was some place special.

Each of you who support our schools really make our district a district on the move. The spirit and energy you put out helps to make our schools better each day. Seeing you in action heartens and motivates me to build the type of schools you need and deserve. I am truly honored to be your superintendent and will continue to do whatever I can to reward the effort you show on your children's behalf.

Alternative Education



BY KEN EDWARDS,
DIRECTOR OF ALTERNATIVE
EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The Campo Alternative Education Center hosted our first board of trustees meeting in over a year on September 9th and would like to thank those community members who were in attendance that evening. We hoped the efforts by our students and staff to make the board and guests feel welcome were successful.

Alternative Ways To Graduate

Progress continues to be made in the reorganization of the district's alternative education programs and initial efforts seem to be paying dividends with more students currently enrolled in Campo and Mountain Meadow Continuation High Schools than in previous years. Additionally, we are working closely with Mountain Empire High School to complete early identification of senior students who, while behind in credits for graduation this year, could make up

credits and still graduate on time by doing concurrent enrollment. In this program those students would remain at MEHS and make up those few credits they need through the Hillside Jr/Sr High independent study program. In addition to those students Hillside has at least two students who are in the program simply to accelerate their graduation & finish high school in less than four years. One of those students will be making the commitment to finish all the junior year courses in the first semester and then complete all the senior level courses in the second semester, thereby finishing high school in three years.

We are also starting the process of identifying those second year high school students who did not achieve the level of success needed in their first year of high school and so are at risk of not graduating from MEHS in a timely manner. Conferences with these students and their families have begun so as to get them into an appropriate alternative program & allow them to recover lost credits, returning to the comprehensive high school program at MEHS as soon as possible.

We continue to define suitable project-based learning experiences for the students at both Campo and Mountain Meadow Continuation High Schools and will report on those efforts in future articles. As has been mentioned

before, the district has been seeking to provide an appropriate educational setting for students in seventh through ninth grade who are experiencing difficulty mastering the required learning at that level and could benefit from a small school, small classroom environment. As a result of that work, we are proud to announce the Board of Trustees approved the establishment of the MEUSD Redhawk Preparatory Academy at their October 14th meeting. We look forward to offering Redhawk Academy as another educational option for those families in the community who believe it may be the correct choice for their student. As always, I would encourage any community members who have an interest in any of our programs or ideas about alternative education programs in general to contact me at the Campo Alternative Educational Center at 478-2735 x201.

Calling All Marines!

On a final note, I am asking that any current or former Marines in the community who are interested in banding together to provide a community service and character development opportunity for youth of the Mountain Empire to contact me at the above telephone number. Like we were all told when we originally signed up with Uncle Sam, you'll get more details when you sign on the dotted line! Give me a call, Marines!

MEHS SPORTS CALENDAR

Cross Country Schedule November

7	Th. 10/29	2nd Citrus League East meet	3:00	ME hosts at Lake Morena	
	Fri. 11/6	Bye			
8	Th. 11/12	Citrus League Championship	2:30	Chollas Lake, College Grove area	Moved up one day
9	Sat. 11/21	CIF for San Diego Section	8:00am	Morley Field	top 7 per team only race
10	Sat. 11/28	State CIF meet	8:00am	Woodward Park, Fresno	must qualify

Football Schedule November

Friday	10/30/2009	4:30	7:00	Holtville*	Away
Friday	11/6/2009	4:30	7:00	Calipatria**	Home
Friday	11/13/2009	4:30	7:00	Vincent Memorial***	Home

Girl's Volleyball Schedule November

Thursday	10/29/2009	4:30		Lutheran	Home
Tuesday	11/3/2009	4:30		Calvary Christian (C.V)	Away
Thursday	11/5/2009	5:00		cancelled	Away

Campo Cougars Club PTO

BY REBECCA ETHINGTON

The Campo Cougars Club Inc. would like to take an opportunity to thank the following Businesses, Volunteers, and Vendors for their support with our 2009 October Festival which was held on October 10th at Star Ranch. We know how difficult it was to donate with the current economy; however, it did not stop the following from donating. A special thank you to: The San Diego Chargers, The S.D. Padres, Starbucks, Pine Creek Posse, Star Ranch, El Rancho Grande, Wal-Mart, the Back Country Messenger, Wild Bills, East County Lumber, Heather Sepulveda - Mary Kay Rep., Carl Meyer for the Pumpkin donations, Spanky's, Albertson's, Drew Ford, Costco, East County Sign Works, Food for Less, DJ Jerry, Campo VFW Post #2080, Campo Fire Dept., Campo Lake Morena Kiwanis, Tony Bailey and the Campo Sheriff's Dept., Miss Mt.

Empire Pageant, Freedom Ranch, Border Patrol, Innerchild's Shop, Campo Girl Scouts, Pine Valley Cheer, Pine Valley ASB, Gene and Nancy Vick, Brian



Elmore, Rick Northcote, Cliff Northcote, Randy and Barb Lenac, Jessica Hanson, Gerald Barksdale, Gary Ethington, Larry and Geisla Noland, Jeff Shoemaker, Gerald Kor Sr., Al Kor, Tammy Monroe, Dan and Patty Lawrence, Milo Angel, Dwayne Hart, Mr. VanZant, Tony and Lynn

Neff, Benny and Marsha Wright, Nikki Wright, Rick Shaplin, Bob Applegate, Clayton Costello, Ellen Shotts, Debbie the face painter, Katrina Heald, Justin Moyers, Jon Moyers, Ben and Christine Vlassis, Bob McFeters, Doug Paul, The Bayliss family, Mary Brady, Madi Daniels, Dakota Daniels, Wyatt Daniels, Ashley Shuster, Louise Shuster, Jerry Shuster, Hannah Shuster, Jonathan Shuster, Melissa Daniels, Patty Soul, Yenni Shuster, Mirro Shuster, Javier Acevedo Jr., Little Gene, Kim and Rebekah Adams, Justin and Shanna Elliott, and all volunteers that we were unable to mention by name due to space, all Vendors, the Campo Cougars Club Inc. Board, and all Community members who came out to support this event. We know without you, this event would not have been such a big success.

Mountain Empire High School Cheerleaders

Sports Program Available Now!

ASK A CHEERLEADER!

The Sports Program is the way our cheerleaders raise money for cheer camp, uniforms and other expenses. Thank you Advertisers and Supporters!

