

S J C O E

Outlook

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Students perform their civic duty during Mock Election

STUDENTS FROM one. sites throughout the county participated in a Mock Election that brought the semester's government curriculum to an end. One of those students was sophomore Alan Alameda from one. Manteca, who registered to vote, watched a debate, and cast his choice for President and propositions.

Coincidentally, the results from one.'s Mock Election selected Barack Obama as President Elect.

"Prior to this (Mock Election) experience, I was not interested in the election. Now, when I turn 18 I will vote," said Alameda who voted for an unrepresented party candidate. "The only part of the election process that I don't like is the mudslinging. I really do not like it when one candidate puts another one down."

During the Mock Election students discussed each bill within a committee, presented their proposed bills to Congress, watched a Presidential debate, and then cast their vote. After the ballots were tabulated, Obama won by a landslide, receiving 74 percent of the votes.

"This was a great opportunity for our students to learn how the election process works," said Gabriel Perez, teacher at one.Achievement.

For more information about San Joaquin County Office of Education's Alternative Education program, one., visit www.sjcoe.org/alted.

Read about the Mock Election in an article written by The Record

Staff Writer, Tara Cuslidge, found at www.recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20081101/A_NEWS/811010327/1/A_NEWS13.



Alan Alameda, a sophomore at one. Manteca, was one of nearly 1,000 students throughout the county who cast his vote during one.'s Mock Election



Inside this Outlook:



Bilingual Special Day Class Helps Mario Take Spelling Seriously



SJCOE named Teacher Professional Development Center by National Board



Assistant Principal at Stagg High Shares What Hooked Him On Education

COUNTY SCHOOLS PROVIDE BILINGUAL SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS WITH UNIQUE SERVICES

Lathrop Elementary School is home to one of two bilingual special day classes operated by San Joaquin County Office of Education's Special Education program. Teachers like Glenda Esquivel have taught this program within Ripon, Escalon, and Lathrop for more than 20 years.

Currently, Esquivel teaches students in grades four through six who have met the eligibility criteria for special education services and are classified as being limited in English proficiency.

"Students receive instruction in their primary language with the goal of being able to work entirely in English," said Esquivel.

To make this happen, Esquivel and Maria Mendoza-Soto, an instructional assistant, use every opportunity to enrich the students' experiences and develop their language skills.

"We do pre-teaching with vocabulary development for most lessons. If necessary, we modify lessons and adjust the curriculum pace for students," said Esquivel.

The county also provides bilingual students with speech and language services, as needed in an Individualized Education Plan. Esquivel collaborates with therapists to determine the group language development activities that should be

"STUDENTS RECEIVE INSTRUCTION IN THEIR PRIMARY LANGUAGE WITH THE GOAL OF BEING ABLE TO WORK ENTIRELY IN ENGLISH"

- SAID GLENDA ESQUIVEL, TEACHER, SJCOE SPECIAL EDUCATION

used to follow up with students throughout the week.

For more information about Lathrop Elementary, call 858-7240.

To learn more about San Joaquin County Office of Education's Special Education program, visit www.sjcoe.org/sep.



TEACHER, GLENDA ESQUIVEL, WORKS WITH A BILINGUAL SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENT AT LATHROP ELEMENTARY

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION/SELPA DIRECTOR ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT PLANS

DR. SANDEE KLUDT recently announced that she will retire as Assistant Superintendent of Special Education and Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) Director at San Joaquin County Office of Education (SJCOE).

"Sandee has been a champion for special needs children all of her professional life," said Deputy Superintendent of SJCOE, Mick Founts. "We have been fortunate to have had her as our Assistant Superintendent of Special Education/SELPA Director, but more importantly the students, parents, and educational team are all better for having both known her, and benefited from her leadership and vision."

WE'RE BETTER FOR HAVING BOTH KNOWN HER, AND BENEFITED FROM HER LEADERSHIP AND VISION

- MICK FOUNTS, DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

Prior to being an Assistant Superintendent, Kludt spent 40 years working within education, as a general and special education teacher, and then special education administrator. Throughout the years Kludt has helped advance special education – in particular

by serving the autistic population.

"Autism is an area that I have been involved in for over 15 years," said Kludt. "It is the fastest growing area in special education and I plan to stay very engaged in serving these children."

Nonetheless, after a long and productive career, Kludt knows that she will miss many things.



"I will have a hard time saying goodbye to all of the people with whom I work with. I also will miss the challenge of leadership and the drive that influences and implements programs and procedures that benefit students with autism and all of our students in special education."

Former Migrant Education student makes her way to Capitol Hill

LIZETTE MATA FORGED HER journey to Capitol Hill through motivation and by turning her struggles into strengths. Mata, now working under Speaker Karen Bass in the State Capitol's Press and Communications Office, is the daughter



Lizette Mata (right) and Dolores Huerta (left) were guest speakers at Migrant Education's celebration of 40 Years of Educational Excellence

of migrant workers within San Joaquin County. Mata was placed in Migrant Education as a child, where she found strong friendships and

supportive mentors who motivated her to excel academically and find her passion and success in politics. Mata participated in Migrant Education's summer program from first- to eighth-grade. "Summer school was something I looked forward to because of Migrant Education," said Mata. "It was an escape for me and a chance to form bonds with children that had similar struggles."

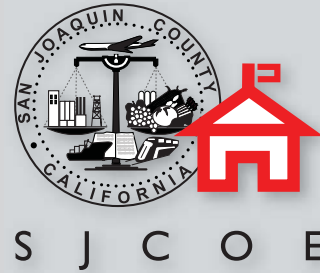
In fact, during her junior year at Franklin High School, Mata was invited to Washington D.C. to experience democracy through a partnership between Migrant Education and Bert Corona Leadership Institute (BCLI). "This was an eye-opening experience," said Mata. "In D.C., I learned how to use my voice through politics."

After graduating from University of California Davis, Mata received a position as a Press Intern with former Speaker of Assembly Fabian Nunez. Once Nunez left office, Bass kept Mata as a full-time Press Aid because of her strong work ethic and bilingual skills. "Being bilingual has been a huge asset for me. It's why I've excelled in my position and continue to have unique opportunities," said Mata.

Mata continues to use her skills by working with visiting Latin American Diplomats including President of Mexico, Felipe Calderon, and President Michelle Bachelet Jeria of Chile.

For more information about Migrant Education, visit www.sjcoe.org/migrated.

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY ENSURES SUPERIOR EDUCATION THROUGH HIGH QUALITY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



San Joaquin County Office of Education (SJCOE) has been named as one of five Teacher Professional Development Centers in California by National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) as part of a statewide effort to provide a quality education for every child. This endeavor will help strengthen California's support for National Board Certification, the highest credential in the teaching profession.

Hancock added that now SJCOE also can offer Take One!, an opportunity for teachers to try out the program before making a full commitment. Within this trial period, a teacher will complete and

One! and Advanced Candidacy. This support is funded by Stuart Foundation scholarships, which are available only through centers like SJCOE that have undergone a rigorous application and selection process.

"This generous support from the Stuart Foundation for funding centers shows that the single most important action to improve our schools is to strengthen teaching," said NBPTS President and CEO, Joseph A. Aguerrebere.

There are also state provided scholarships of up to \$1,250 for first time applicants working toward full certification.

The certification process focuses on improving teacher practices, which in turn has a positive impact on student learning. Recently, National Research

Council of the National Academies found that students taught by National Board Certified Teachers make higher gains on achievement tests than those taught by teachers who have not participated or did not achieve certification. The Congressionally

mandated report also found that National Board Certification (NBC) has a positive impact on teacher retention and professional development.

"One of the key factors for the country's future economic well-being is ensuring a quality education for every child and a quality education begins with engaged and effective teachers in the classroom," said the Stuart Foundation's Vice President for Program and Operations, Rhonnel Sotelo. "The Foundation is pleased to support NBC because it represents one of the best hopes we have for improving teaching and learning over the long haul."

The primary goal of this initiative is to increase the number of National Board Certified Teachers working in low-performing schools with an emphasis on schools receiving Quality Education Investment Act (QEIA) funding.

National Board Certification is a voluntary assessment program designed to recognize and reward accomplished teachers. Certification is achieved through a rigorous, performance-based assessment that typically takes one to three years to complete.

For more information about the Teacher Professional Development Center at SJCOE, contact Shawn Chavez at schavez@sjcoe.net or 468-4967. For general information regarding NBC, visit www.nbpts.org.



HOLLY DOUCETTE (LEFT) AND SUSAN BULZOMI (RIGHT) WORK TOGETHER DURING NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFICATION TRAINING, A PROGRAM THAT HELPS IMPROVE TEACHER PRACTICES AND IN TURN THE LEARNING OF STUDENTS

submit one portfolio that can be held and applied toward the conclusion of the program. The entire process requires teachers to submit four portfolios and six assessment center sections.

SJCOE is offering financial support for teachers who participate in Take

"Having a Center located at San Joaquin County Office of Education will expand the nine-year program we have in place, as well as provide more opportunities to support our best teachers in their quest toward national certification," said Director I of Reading Implementation Center for SJCOE, Dr. Ellen Hancock.

Hooked on Education: Chris Goodwin

OUTLOOK ASKED EDUCATORS throughout the county to share why they became a teacher. This month, Christopher Goodwin, an Assistant Principal at Stockton Unified School District's Stagg High School, told his story.



I was inspired to be an educator because I never really had a teacher who pushed me to my full potential. In fact, I barely made it through school. As a result, I had to work extra hard in college. I was lucky. Not all students have the same opportunity or support system I had. I always thought - if only someone had pushed me. I wanted to become a teacher so that I could prevent the same thing from happening to other kids. I have always enjoyed the challenge of motivating the unmotivated. That is how I become inspired. Every kid deserves the best education, even if they do not realize it yet.

"Treat people as if they were what they ought to be and you help them to become what they are capable of being."
- Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Read more anecdotes from educators in the news and announcements section of San Joaquin County Office of Education's website, www.sjcoe.org. To tell Outlook why you became an educator, send an email to Jacqueline Ratto at jratto@sjcoe.net.

Institute helps teachers understand students better

In July, San Joaquin County Office of Education (SJCOE) Teacher Development launched a Multiple Pathways Institute with a small group of single subject (English, math, or science) and Career Technical Education teachers. Voices of Our Students was one event in the Multiple Pathways Institute, where Venture Academy students shared their thoughts about their school experiences with teachers from the Institute.

"The most important thing I learned was the need for teachers to take the time to listen to students," said West High Teacher, Debbie Wittkowske. "A student might be falling behind or receiving poor grades, but until we listen to them and learn to ask why this is happening, we can't help them."

Wittkowske pointed to the alarming effect personal problems have on a student's productivity. She learned that developing quality and positive relationships with adults

was an important element to students feeling successful in school.

Venture students also discussed their desire to explore not only what they are learning, but why they are learning it.

"Teachers need to make an effort to link what students are learning to what they'll be doing in the future," said Director I of Teacher Development, Diane Camahan. "When teachers make these connections, students are more motivated to listen and be engaged."

The discussion inspired Wittkowske to be more aware of each student's individual interests. "Students want information they're learning to tell a story and be relatable," said Wittkowske. "They want it to mean something to them and their future."

For more information, call 468-9057.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Open lines of communication with multilingual students

Enroll today in a Spanish Language course that will help you learn and improve language skills! Multilingual Education provides professional development and technical assistance to teachers of English Learners, as well as provides courses to teachers and the community at all levels of proficiency. Some courses provide participants with extension units and professional development points.

Spanish and other language courses are offered throughout the year. To sign-up for a Spanish course or to obtain more information, contact tludolph@sjcoe.net. For information about future language courses or about the department, visit www.sjcoe.org/multi.

Watch "Outlook: The Television Show" on Wednesday nights

SJCOE Productions presents "Outlook: The Television Show" airing Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m. on Comcast Channel 95. This segment features Venture Academy's Family of Schools new Career and Technical Education Center, *imagine-IT*; Dr. Gary Dei Rossi's educational excursion to Korea; one. Staff Congress' inservice; Migrant Education's Summer Program at Fresno State; Healthwise; a look at San Joaquin Graduate School of Education; the NASA Space Shuttle Simulation brought to San Joaquin County Office of Education; Heat Illness Prevention Efforts Press Conference held at SJCOE; Lincoln Technology Academy; and a view of the "Go Film" Summer Film Production workshop.

Filmmakers' contest accepts entries

Calling all filmmakers! The San Joaquin Film Society has announced the global call for entries for feature and short films for the 2nd San Joaquin International Film Festival to be held May 14 - 21, 2009. Film submissions are open to filmmakers, artists, and production companies worldwide, with entry fees ranging from \$17 to \$55. The festival will include a film program of award-winning, innovative, and new independent films from around the world. There will be a diverse collection, from big-budget international blockbusters to stellar low-budget films. Entries must be submitted by January 21, 2009. For more information about registration and criteria, visit www.sjiff.org.

American Red Cross is seeking Heroes

The San Joaquin County Chapter of American Red Cross (SJCARC) is searching for heroes within the community. The event, now in its seventh year, has been created to honor local people who have shown courage, selflessness, and compassion in exceptional situations.

Nominations for American Red Cross Heroes are being accepted and must be received by February 20, 2009. Award categories

can be found at sanjoaquincounty.redcross.org and nomination forms can be found at http://sanjoaquincounty.redcross.org/index.php?pr+Heroes_Nomination_Form.

SJCARC is asking students of grades K - 12 to participate in the essay contest, *How Do You Define A Hero?* Two essays will be chosen as winners and used as a guideline in the committee's selection of the 2009 Heroes. Winning essays also will be published with

local media and read at the annual Heroes Breakfast. For consideration, essays must be received by February 20, 2009. Email submissions to lizah@sanjoaquincounty.redcross.org (subject line: *What is a Hero?*), or fax to 466-4910 (Attn: Heroes Nomination Committee).

Essay contest winners and heroes will be honored at the Heroes Breakfast on April 1, 2009 at Stockton Golf and Country Club.

County to Celebrate 50 years of Music

All County Musical programs will celebrate, including High School and Middle School Honor Band and Choir, Solo Ensemble, Instrumental Festival, Choir Masters Class and Contracted Music Services

SJCOE is asking all past participants to take a walk down memory lane by contacting Sandra Wendell (468-9264) to become part of the celebration



January 10, 2009, from 6-7 p.m., High School Honors Concert will follow. Atherton Auditorium, SJ Delta College

DECEMBER 2008

Cut here and post this page!	6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Parental Rights in the IEP Process 468-4928		1	2	3	4	5	6
	4:00 - 5:00 p.m. County Spelling Bee				3:00 - 5:30 p.m. County Spelling Final Rounds	3:30 p.m. Family Holiday Party Escalon Library 937-8221	10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. SJ County Historical Society Museum Christmas Festival of Trees	
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
		4:00 - 7:00 p.m. Asperger Syndrome & Bullying 468-4907	3:45 - 5:00 p.m. Academic Decathlon Coaches Meeting 468-9030	7:30 - 9:00 a.m. AVID Breakfast 468-9189	3:45 - 5:00 p.m. Mock Trial Coaches Meeting 468-9030		9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. San Joaquin County Mock Trial Invitational 468-9030	
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
		6:30 p.m. Frosty's Puppet Show Weston Ranch Library 937-8221	4:00 p.m. Great Valley Serpentarium Thornton Library 937-8221	3:45 - 5:00 p.m. Science Olympiad B/C Meeting 468-9030				
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
	1:00 p.m. Sunday Scribblers Manteca Library 937-8221							
	28	29	30	31				
				New Year's Eve				

JANUARY 2009

New Year's Day										2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10					
	5:30 - 9:00 p.m. High School Honor Choir Rehearsal #2 468-4973			3:45 - 5:00 p.m. Science Olympiad A2 Coaches Meeting 468-9030		8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. High School Honor Choir Rehearsal #4 468-4973	6 - 7 p.m. (Reception) 7 - 9:00 p.m. (Concert) San Joaquin County High School Honors Concert 468-4973				
				5:30 - 9:00 p.m. High School Honor Choir Rehearsal #3 468-4973		5:30 - 9:00 p.m. High School Honor Band Rehearsal #3 468-4973					
				5:30 - 9:00 p.m. High School Honor Band Rehearsal #2 468-4973							
Cut here and post this page!	11	12	13	14	15	16	17				
					3:45 - 5:00 p.m. Science Olympiad B/C Coaches Meeting 468-9030						
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24				
		Martin Luther King, Jr. Day			8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Capitol Area Science Education Leaders (CASEL) Annual Conference Keynote Speaker 468-9096						
		25	26	27	28	29	30	31	7:45 a.m. Academic Decathlon Competition - Speech, Interview, Essay 468-9030		

Outlook

Visit www.sjcoe.org
for more news and
announcements

Outlook is published monthly, September through May of each year, by SJCOE Public Information Office. Submissions and story ideas are welcome and must be received by the first day of the month before publication.

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• Jacqueline Ratto, Editor •

• Donna Bergmen, Patrick Gannon, and Denise Irvin, Assistant Editors •

PODESTA RANCH DEDICATES SITE TO NAMESAKE

CHILDREN, EDUCATORS, AND COMMUNITY members were dazzled by the Red Tailed Hawk presentation given during the dedication ceremony of the Podesta Ranch Elementary School, located in Stockton but part of Lodi Unified School District (LUSD).

The new campus offers the following amenities for kindergarten through sixth-grade: 34 teaching stations; 25 classrooms; six re-locatable classrooms; one computer lab; as well as one severe and one non-severe special education classroom.

Podesta Ranch Elementary School opened its doors to 300 students in July. The school was named after Emile and Mary Podesta, who purchased the land in 1929. The property was originally used to plant row crops and alfalfa. Their daughters, Edna and Bernice Podesta, married Foppiano brothers, Floyd and John. The Podesta-Foppiano

sisters owned the land until 1964, when Lodi Unified School District purchased the land from them. The elementary school was given the name Podesta Ranch Elementary after the original Podesta namesake.

Podesta Ranch Elementary School was designed by Rainforth Grau Architects and construction of this more than 58,000 square

foot facility was directed by C.T. Brayton & Sons.

More than 29,000 children are enrolled with LUSD, which encompasses 350 square miles.

For more information about LUSD, visit www.lodiusd.net.



Fredrick A. Wentworth, Ed.D.,
Superintendent of Schools

Mick Founts, Ed.D.,
Deputy Superintendent,
Student Programs and Services

Jim Thomas,
Deputy Superintendent,
Business Services

Gary Dei Rossi, Ed.D.,
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