

# CGUHSD

# Express



**Dr. Steve Bebee, Superintendent**

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*A note from the Superintendent...*



**Dear CGUHSD Parents, Community and Staff:**

Over the past several months, we have continued to watch the Arizona Department of Health Services benchmarks to make decisions for the safety of our students and staff in order to safely return students back on campus. We are very excited to have students back once again in our modified in-person learning model. Currently, we are waiting for Pinal County benchmarks to fall into moderate transmission status so that all students who have chosen to learn in-person are able to come to school 5 days a week. For Pinal County to be considered in moderate transmission status, the number of cases in our county must be less than 50/100K and the percent positivity less than 5% over a seven-day period. The weekly benchmark data is released every Thursday morning by ADHS. We have already achieved the percent positivity benchmark and we are at 3.8% for the week of March 14, 2021. The number of cases also continues to drop daily, and we believe we are just weeks away from our students to return 5 days a week. Since we are very close to the moderate transmission goal, it is important that we start to plan and prepare for that return. When our benchmark does fall into the moderate transmission range, we will notify students, parents and staff of the exact date in which we will return to everyday instruction on our campuses.

Please continue to be safe and to do those things that are causing our cases to decline so that we can allow students to finish the school year the way it should be finished. Please stay tuned as we anticipate this change coming shortly.

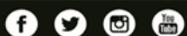
Sincerely,  
Steve Bebee



## Upcoming Dates of Importance



APRIL 2	In-Lieu Day – No School
APRIL 7	Early Release at 1:55 PM
APRIL 14	Early Release at 1:55 PM
APRIL 21	Early Release at 1:55 PM



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## Arizona Education Tax Credit 100% Return on Investment Guarantee!



The deadline to contribute to student programs and activities in our district is April 15<sup>th</sup>. Single taxpayers may contribute up to \$200 and married, filing jointly, up to \$400 for which you will be paid back with a **DOLLAR-FOR-DOLLAR TAX CREDIT** to help guarantee that our students experience all that high school has to offer. Visit [www.cguhsd.org/doTaxCredit.aspx](http://www.cguhsd.org/doTaxCredit.aspx) for more information.

## VGHS Baseball Team Gives Back!

The VGHS Baseball Team partnered up with Casa Grande Youth Alliance and Casa Grande Middle School to do a little cleaning up in the community garden last week. The food from the community garden goes to different people who are in need around Casa Grande. The baseball team is always looking to help and give back to their community since the community does a great job of supporting them. Way to go, Spartans!



## CGUHS Memorial Garden Gets Makeover



The CGUHS Memorial Garden was designed many years ago to serve as a reminder of all the wonderful students and staff members we have lost each year. The garden is a special place to remember their personalities and contributions to the district. The iron sign was made by the talented CTE Department when the garden was established. Recently, the grounds department put much effort into redesigning the area and adding landscaping rocks, fresh flowers, and plants. We invite you to stroll by when you have a chance and admire their hard work!

## CGUHS Key Club Hosts Teacher Luncheon



The CGUHS Key Club hosted an appreciation luncheon for their teachers. The club provided pizza, drinks, chips, and a dessert, delicious brownies provided by Mr. Curtis and Ms. Arvizu. The students want teachers to know how grateful they are for everything they are doing during these stressful times. A good time was had by all!

## VGHS Students Volunteer at Thrift Shop

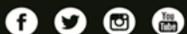
In February, VGHS SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) and Cross Country team members volunteered in small groups of 4-6 at the St. Anthony's Thrift Shop. Students met the store director and were assigned duties such as unloading a delivery, picking up trash around the premises, and organizing areas to help get the store reopened after a long unforeseen closure. Way to help out!



## VGHS DECA Competes!



Each year, VGHS DECA strives to be an award-winning chapter and they have once again shown not only themselves, but the entire state of Arizona what it means to be a VGHS DECA member. They recently competed in the Arizona State Career and Development Conference, which was held virtually, and while this can add special challenges for the students, they are still thriving and striving! There were seven students who competed in five different events: Jose Granados, Aniya Khan, Justyce Martinez, Mia Mooring, Damian Araiza, Aceton McGuire, and Paul Sanchez. The skills they learned to just participate in the event will serve them well both at school and in their future careers. Great job!





## CTE Students of the Month



**Melissa Waldren** is a student at Vista Grande High School and daughter of Donald and Juanita Waldren. She was nominated by her teachers to represent the Graphic Design Program. Melissa always goes above and beyond the expectations. She has a positive attitude and respect for the schoolwide goals and is appreciated for the effort she puts into everything she does. Melissa is a true Spartan that models Positivity, Respect, Integrity, and Determination, and the true definition of Striving for Excellence. She is one of two Student Ambassadors that represent the Graphic Design Program on recruiting trips to feeder schools and was recently filmed for the program’s recruitment video. Upon graduation Melissa plans to attend college and study animation and graphic design.



**Kenneth Hernandez** is a student at Vista Grande High School and son of Raul and Arianna Hernandez. He was nominated by his Automation Robotics teacher, Mr. Ramon Estrada Vega. Kenneth always has a positive attitude toward learning new things and helping others. He follows directions as instruction takes place in the classroom and the online platform. He works hard on his projects with the VEX technology, completes assignments and robotics activities on time and with quality, all while demonstrating excellent teamwork and collaboration skills. Kenneth also demonstrates safety in the workplace when working with electrical and mechanical systems. He is a team player who is always willing to help others by assisting them with technical support to ensure his teammates can succeed in their learning.

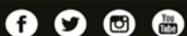
## Rotary Students of the Month



**McKayla Wright** is a student at Casa Grande Union High School and the daughter of Brian and Aimee Wright. Her activities and accomplishments include honor roll all four years, graduating with honors in the Top 3% of her class, being an ECE intern and Cougar Ambassador and member of Student Council, Key Club, National Honor Society, Link Crew, FCCLA, Spiritline. Her personal accomplishments and activities include tutoring a 2<sup>nd</sup> grader after school, active with her church’s youth and church choir, completing college courses her junior and senior year, and being accepted, with scholarships, to NAU, ASU, CCU and UofA. McKayla plans to obtain her ECE certificate this summer and start working in a preschool. She then plans to attend college and get a BA and Masters in Speech Language Pathology and work in a school in Arizona.



**Benjamin Mollet** is a student at Vista Grande High School and the son of Ana and John Mollet. His school activities and accomplishments include being 2<sup>nd</sup> in Command in his JROTC unit and competing in Track. His personal activities and accomplishments include helping his church win a volleyball tournament, working at the local Sonic, placing 1<sup>st</sup> in Flag Football 2015, Division V, and is a blue belt in karate. His life and career goals are to graduate Air Force ROTC and become an officer in the Air Force to fly aircraft. Because airports are his favorite place to be, he eventually wants to work for an airline and make a lot of friends.





Making It Happen

### Employee of the Month & Golden Ticket Program



To show appreciation for our employees, an Employee Recognition Award Program was started to honor a selected group of employees each month. Employees are nominated through our Employee of the Month criteria and selected by our Recognition Committee to receive that honor. Selected Employees of the Month are invited to breakfast at The Big House Cafe with the Superintendent and are recognized at the monthly Governing Board meeting. We have also started the Golden Ticket recognition. These tickets are for district employees to recognize each other for any positive reason! The original Golden Ticket is given to the person being recognized and a copy is placed in the Golden Box at the site. Drawings for gift cards are held monthly by the Recognition Committee.

#### March 2021 Employees of the Month

Kiana Peck	Athletic Trainer	VGHS
Pat Amado	Bookstore Manager	VGHS
Krystal Villegas	Math Teacher	VGHS
Jaque Arvizu	CTE Paraprofessional	CGUHS
Greg Anderson	Assistant Principal	CGUHS
Shieraldine Matas	Math Teacher	CGUHS
Beth Craig	Social Studies Teacher	CGUHS
David Griffis	IT Director	DO

#### Below are the Lucky Winners chosen from the 17 Golden Ticket recipients:

Gloria Ruiz	VGHS (Grand Prize Winner)
Lori Hutton	VGHS
Marissa Yap	CGUHS
Chris Mallek	CGUHS