



INSPIRING EXCELLENCE

Casa Grande Union High School District ♦ March 2022 ♦



Casa Grande Union High School District

1362 N Casa Grande Ave
Casa Grande, AZ 85122
520-316-3360

Dr. Anna Battle
Superintendent

Ralph Belloc
Facilities Director

Sean Casey
Student Services Director

Melani Edwards
Curriculum & Instruction Director

Marilyn Gardner
Federal & State Programs Director

David Griffis
Information Technology Director

Lisa Miller
Career & Technical Education Director

Pam Reynolds
Human Resources Director

Gina Salazar
Business Services Director

Casa Grande Union High School

2730 N Trekell Rd
Casa Grande AZ 85122
520-836-8500

Brian Mabb
Principal

Greg Anderson
Assistant Principal, Curriculum/Instruction

Randy Robbins
Assistant Principal, Student Affairs

Rebecca Spallinger
Assistant Principal, Student Services

Vista Grande High School

1556 N Arizola Rd
Casa Grande, AZ 85122
520-876-9400

Vance Danzy
Principal

Jeanette Beechum
Assistant Principal, Curriculum/Instruction

Miguel Marrero
Assistant Principal, Student Affairs

Jared Walther
Assistant Principal, Student Services

CGUHSD Online Academy

1362 N Casa Grande Ave
Casa Grande, AZ 85122
520-316-3360 ext. 5102

Andrea Teran
Administrator

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FROM SUPERINTENDENT DR. ANNA BATTLE

March 2022




Dr. Anna Battle
Superintendent

Dear CGUHSD,

What a pleasure it is to have another opportunity to recognize a valued staff member in the CGUHSD Newsletter. Each month, I will recognize an amazing member of the district for their Organizational Skills, Love of the Subject, Humility, Resilience, and Love of the Challenge. Everyone who works in schools are valued educators. Certified, classified, and administrative staff are teachers who make an impact on students and others each and every day. It is not about a title but, most importantly, it is about the love, service, and dedication to excellence we are privileged to give that makes another smile and feel worthy, and improves the quality of the culture where students are excited to learn.

The qualities below will remain constant each month as they are sound characteristics that capture the essence of educators in schools.

<p>Organizational Skills The best buildings are built on a firm foundation. For an educator, that foundation is great organizational skills. Organizational skills provide the structure necessary to care for so many pupils.</p>	<p>Love of the Subject Students are much more apt to become excited about what they do for students and have genuine enthusiasm. An educator with a love for what they do is able to give students the joy of sharing something they love.</p>	<p>Humility The ability to accept that you aren't always right about something is a quality that makes for a great educator. Great educators are willing to learn more than one already knows.</p>
<p>Resilience The hard days can leave you discouraged. Students are complex at times, but a great educator ensures that they are cooperating. Unruly students and unpredictable environments can leave an educator questioning the profession. The resilient educator perseveres.</p>	<p>Love of the Challenge A great educator sees a challenge and is inspired by it. He/She does not avoid a challenging topic or student because of its difficulty. Rather, a great educator sees challenges as opportunities to grow and learn. At the end of the day, every educator is still a student and possesses a desire to learn.</p>	 <p>5 Qualities of an Exceptional Teacher (alignstaffing.com)</p>



Jovahn Delcid
School Counselor

Staff Member of the Month:

Mr. Jovahn Delcid has made tremendous impacts in the lives of Vista Grande High School (VGHS) students. His heart and soul have been with Casa Grande Union High School District (CGUHSD) since his adolescent days. He is a graduate of VGHS and, therefore, relates to the students exceptionally well. I recall seeing the enthusiasm in his eyes when he visited with me about a possible change he introduced. That is what a Superintendent wants to see in the eyes of educators; excitement, enthusiasm, and desire to create positive change in students he serves. Jovahn is one of the VGHS school counselors. Educators who lead with respect and build relationships will have the greatest success with high school students. School Counselors around the country are working feverishly to ensure students are placed in the proper classes, the course load for students is student-centered, and students are setting realistic goals, which instill hope for the future. Stepping up and stepping out to do more is in Jovahn's nature. From planning the newly implemented Open House to attending the feeder schools to register our incoming students, we can count on Jovahn every day. We are proud to have Mr. Delcid on our CGUHSD team! Go Spartans!

Congratulations! Go CGUHSD!!!

Sincerely,
Dr. Anna Battle

INSPIRING EXCELLENCE WITH PASSIONATE, PATIENT, PERSISTENT PERFORMANCE!!!



Educator's Leadership Workshop

VGHS's Lisa Borninkhof, Cedric Collins, Jennifer Kortsen, and Cara Osmer attended a week-long Educator's Leadership Workshop in February with the United States Marine Corps in San Diego, California.



PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE



Vision
All Living the Pursuit of Excellence for Lifetime Achievement

Mission
The Mission of CGUHSD is to inspire excellence by providing globally competitive educational and career opportunities for all students.



Priorities and Goals

- Competitive Educational and Workforce Development
- Viable Curriculum that Promotes High Student Achievement
- Positive, Safe, and Healthy Learning Environment
- Effective and Efficient Communication
- Effective and Efficient Use of Resources

[Video: Dr. Anna Battle, Superintendent >](#)



The [CGUHSD Vision, Mission, and Priorities](#) are the essence of the district’s fundamental practices implemented inside and outside of the classroom. Whatever students strive to accomplish, educators help students achieve beyond what one may imagine. A team of staff from all schools met to discuss students’ interest, to capture the required preparation for students’ post-secondary goals, and to ensure what we do with students in schools provides varied opportunities to support aspirations derived from rich discussions and activities during their high school years. This work resulted in the following qualities a CGUHSD graduate will possess. In high school, students are engaged in their learning processes and activities, and experiencing a myriad of relationships. We are committed to partnering with families and legal guardians to ensure that these qualities are evident in the staff and the students.



<p>RESILIENCE</p> <p>Adaptable to change</p> <p>Self-Respecting and having self-worth</p> <p>Emotional Intelligence to foster long-term relationship</p>	<p>ACCOUNTABILITY</p> <p>Follows through on commitments and responsibilities</p> <p>Acts intentionally to achieve personal best</p> <p>Reflects on progress with a focus on the future</p>	<p>INNOVATION</p> <p>Inspires to improve through research and inquiry</p> <p>Thinks and acts with the future in mind</p> <p>Welcomes and encourages creative transformation</p>	<p>INTEGRITY</p> <p>Displays an ethical mindset</p> <p>Behaves with honesty, respect, and responsibility</p> <p>Seeks to trust and to be trustworthy</p> <p>Chooses thoughts and actions based on values rather than personal gain</p>
<p>CRITICAL THINKING</p> <p>Curious and inquisitive nature</p> <p>Creative-Solution seeker</p> <p>Problem-Solving skills</p>	<p>COLLABORATION</p> <p>Learns from, contributes to, and demonstrates flexibility while working productively</p> <p>Seeks out input from diverse stakeholders</p> <p>Demonstrates the ability to communicate effectively and respectfully with diverse teams</p>	<p>CULTURAL LITERACY</p> <p>Respects differences in others</p> <p>Appreciates a variety of cultures</p> <p>Celebrates the creative expression and uniqueness of others</p>	



For more information about the Rotary Club of Casa Grande, visit <https://casagranderotary.org/>. For past recipients, visit www.cguhsd.org/cgRotaryStudentOfMonth.aspx (CGUHS) or www.cguhsd.org/vgRotaryStudentOfMonth.aspx (VGHS).

Sean Price CGUHS

Sean Price of Casa Grande Union High School (CGUHS) was recognized Tuesday, March 1, as the Casa Grande Union High School District's [CGUHS Rotary Club of Casa Grande Student of the Month](#) during the district's Governing Board meeting. Sean was recognized for his accomplishments and activities: GPA (4.55), AP/Honor Classes, CTE Student of the Month, Link Crew (President), Debate Club (President), SEDS (Historian) (Finance Chair Head), National Honor Society, Marching Band, Church Service (Trinity Southern Baptist), and Volunteer (Refugee Assistance) (Blue Santa). His hobbies include debate, history, cooking/baking, and working out. Sean's plan for the future is to become a lawyer as he wants to help protect innocent people.



[L-R] Dr. Anna Battle (Superintendent) and Sean Price (Rotary Student of the Month)



[L-R] Dr. Anna Battle (Superintendent), Josue Calderon (Rotary Student of the Month), and Vance Danzy (Principal)

Josue Calderon VGHS

Josue Calderon of Vista Grande High School was recognized Tuesday, March 1, as the Casa Grande Union High School District's [VGHS Rotary Club of Casa Grande Student of the Month](#) during the district's Governing Board meeting. Josue was recognized for his accomplishments and activities: GPA (4.5), Academic Achievement Award (4-Yr), NROTC Scholarship, Symphonic Band (3-Yr), Jazz Band (3-Yr), Link Crew (Commissioner), Key Club, SAAC, National Honors Society, and Volunteer (Church's Sound Booth). In addition, he has visited fifteen (15) states, including Montana, Alaska, and New York, and can play the alto saxophone. After high school, he plans to attend Arizona State University to study Electrical Engineering. From there, he will be commissioned as an officer in the Navy. Josue's mother is Maribel Buena.



Over 1,600 students are enrolled in 15 different Career & Technical Education (CTE) programs throughout the Casa Grande Union High School District. Each month, a CTE program nominates a deserving student for this honor. For more information about our district's CTE program, visit www.cquhsd.org/CTE.aspx.

James Bowen Jr. VGHS

James Bowen Jr. of Vista Grande High School was recognized Tuesday, March 1, as one of the Casa Grande Union High School District's VGHS Career & Technical Education (CTE) Students of the Month at the district's Governing Board meeting. James was nominated by his [Automation & Robotics II](#) teacher, Ramon Estrada-Vega, who had this to say about him, "James Bowen Jr. provides a lot of knowledge and skills gained in previous 3D printing projects to Vista Grande High School. He has expanded his knowledge by learning SolidWorks, a design software. Mr. Bowen always has a positive attitude towards learning new things and applying those skills. Moreover, he is always willing to help the students' learning journey with new technology and innovation. Mr. Bowen follows directions as instruction takes place in the classroom and online platform. He works hard on his projects incorporating the new technology learned in his robotics class. Mr. Bowen's background and previous experience on the 3D printer have granted him the ability to become a

leader in the classroom. He completes assignments and robotic activities on time and with quality. Mr. Bowen has developed excellent teamwork and collaboration skills that are necessary for the workforce industry requirements. He displays safety in the workplace when working with electrical and mechanical projects. Mr. Bowen 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. He encourages a positive and enthusiastic classroom learning environment that every VGHS student enjoys in the robotics program. Mr. Bowen's dedication, hard work, and determination to learn new knowledge and practice new technology in automation and robotics has earned him the Student of the Month award." His parents are James & Lisa Bowen of Arizona City.



[L-R] Dr. Anna Battle (Superintendent) and James Bowen Jr. (CTE Student of the Month)



[L-R] Dr. Anna Battle (Superintendent) and Maricela Valenzuela (CTE Student of the Month)

Maricela Valenzuela VGHS

Maricela Valenzuela of Vista Grande High School was recognized Tuesday, March 1, as one of the Casa Grande Union High School District's VGHS Career & Technical Education (CTE) Students of the Month at the district's Governing Board meeting. Maricela was nominated by her [Graphic Design II](#) teacher, Miss Mercedes Clemons, who had this to say about her, "Maricela is an outstanding second-year Graphic Design student. Throughout her two years in CTE Graphic Design, she has shown extreme professionalism and passion towards the field we are studying. Not only is Mari extremely creative, but she also has a technical talent for the industry programs we use in class revolving around the Adobe Creative Cloud programs. Beyond her creative endeavors, Maricela is an extremely kind classmate. She is always cheering on fellow designers in class and is a go-to student for many of her classmates looking for peer help. Maricela is a problem solver, and there is no problem that she isn't able to solve with her creative imagination and perseverance." Maricela's parent is Ms. Sabrina Valenzuela of Arizona City, Arizona.




CONGRATULATIONS!

HOSA STATE LEADERSHIP COMPETITION QUALIFIERS



EPIDEMIOLOGY CADENCE KAHN
PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE REANNE ALLADO LILLY JONES DELLA LAIRMORE STEPHANIE PEREZ-ZOLORZANO SIMON PELFREY DEMI RODRIGUEZ
PHARMACY SCIENCE ALYSSA FORISH
HEALTH CAREER PHOTOGRAPHY VALIA KALIOZAKIS

HOSA State Leadership Conference Qualifiers

Congratulations to the following Biotech students for passing the HOSA State Leadership Conference online tests and moving towards the state competition, March 30-April 1, at the Westin La Paloma Resort & Spa in Tucson, Arizona: [Epidemiology] Cadence Kahn; [Parliamentary Procedure] Reanne Allado, Lily Jones, Della Lairmore, Simon Pelfrey, Stephanie Perez-Zolorzano, and Demi Rodriguez; [Pharmacy Science] Alyssa Forish; and [Health Career Photography] Valia Kaliozakis. The HOSA State Leadership Conference provides Arizona HOSA students the opportunity to use the skills they've learned in their Career & Technical Education (CTE) courses and apply them to a competitive events program. The conference brings together over 1,500 students from across the state for leadership development, networking, and opportunities for growth. The Cougars are advised by Noel Que, Bioscience/ Science Teacher. Visit their webpage at www.cguhsd.org/cgAzHOSACGUHSChapter.aspx.



Reid Named DECA State Officer Candidate

Congratulations to CGUHS [DECA](#) Chapter President, Lily Reid. On Thursday, February 3, she was notified that she has been approved as an official Arizona DECA State Officer Candidate. The process included a Marketing/ DECA knowledge exam and two-panel interview with officials from Arizona DECA and Arizona Department of Education, as well as corporate sponsors of Arizona DECA. Lily now begins the process of organizing a campaign to present at the state conference at the end of February. CGUHS DECA Chapter is advised by David Carter, CTE/Marketing Teacher.



UPDATE!!! PAGE 9

Lily Reid was elected to a position on the 2022/23 Arizona DECA State Officer Team and qualified to attend the DECA International Career Development Conference in Atlanta, Georgia.



DECA State Career Development Conference

[Casa Grande Union High School \(CGUHS\) DECA](#) had an outstanding showing at the 2022 Arizona DECA State Career Development Conference during the weekend of February 25-27. CGUHS DECA Chapter is advised by David Carter, CTE/Marketing Teacher.



CGUHS DECA Chapter Awards

Arizona DECA Community Service Award

Silver Level (200+ points)
Recognition of overall contribution to society through community service

Century Club Membership Award

100+ members (217 members)
Largest DECA Chapter in State, 2nd year in a row

Affiliation Membership Award

Returning Affiliation Chapter Award
100% of Marketing Students are DECA Members

Diamond Society Award

Gold Level
For contributions to support the Arizona DECA Scholarship program

Chapter Membership Campaign

Thrive Level
For conducting membership campaign to increase membership
*Chapter awarded three (3) allocations for the Leadership Development Academy at the DECA International Career Development Conference in Atlanta, Georgia

Individual Awards

Andres Ybarra

Finalist: Principles of Finance
5TH PLACE OVERALL IN STATE
*Qualified to compete at the DECA International Career Development Conference in Atlanta, Georgia

Lily Reid

Elected to a position on the 2022/23 Arizona DECA State Officer Team
*Qualified to attend the DECA International Career Development Conference in Atlanta, Georgia

Mia Muruato

Top 10% Score
Marketing Comprehension Exam





FFA State Career Development Conference

During the weekend of February 25-26, approximately 1,503 Arizona Future Farmers of America (FFA) members attended the Arizona FFA State Spring Conference competing in twenty-three (23) different career development events. Six (6) of the ten (10) teams from the [Casa Grande Union High School \(CGUHS\) FFA](#) placed in the Top 10 and ten (10) members placed in the Top 10 of their Career Development Event (CDE) contest areas. The CGUHS FFA is advised by Casey Farnsworth, CTE Teacher.

Advanced Tool ID - STATE WINNER

1st Place Individual Xavier Sotello
4th Place Individual Justin Jordan
8th Place Individual Blake DeCarlo
Gage Byers

Dairy Evaluation - 2nd Place Team

1st Place Individual Riata Boyle
5th Place Individual Canyon Teel
9th Place Individual Aspen Teel
10th Place Individual Ayanna Corralejo

Agronomy - 4th Place Team

6th Place Individual Hannah Hartman
Reid Barnes
Chloe Lyons
Victor Inzunza

Meats Evaluation - 4th Place Team

Aubrie Keeling
Tanner Lopez
Cade Riggs
Ian Wilkie

Agriculture Mechanics -7th Place Team

1st Place Individual Justin Jordan
5th Place Individual Waylon Holt
Blake DeCarlo
Gage Byers

Food Science - 9th Place Team

Kaylynn Jordan
Alexis O'Neal
Brooklynn Lopez
Jacob Heward

Livestock Evaluation Team

Thomas Hartman
Mia Archer
Claire Murrieta
Wyatt Murrieta

Wildlife Team

Danielle Murrieta
Bella Yon
Diana Garcia
Diego Lopez

Aquaculture Team

Alma Atrian
Zachary Hancock
Isaiah Corralejo
Treston Cardita

Horse Evaluation Team

Emily Vacca
Chloe Estes
Taylor Curtis
Tabitha Wright



FFA Dean Merrell Field Day

On Wednesday, February 2, the [Casa Grande FFA](#) agriculture students from CGUHS attended the South Central Region Dean Merrell Field Day at Central Arizona College. Thirteen of their teams competed in Career Development events in which all but one placed. Several individuals placed in the top three. These contests allow students to explore many career pathways, critically think, perform hands-on practicums, and test their individual knowledge and skill sets in such areas. They all did an outstanding job of carrying out the traditions of success strived for within the Casa Grande FFA. The Arizona FFA state contest is less than four weeks away. One team, in each of these contest areas, will represent the chapter at the AZFFA State Spring Conference. The CGUHS FFA is advised by Casey Farnsworth, CTE Teacher.

- Ag Mechanics: 1st Place & 2nd Place
- Welding: 1st & 2nd Place
- Dairy Judging: 1st & 2nd Place
- Meats Evaluation: 1st Place
- Food Science: 2nd Place
- Aquaculture: 2nd Place
- Agronomy: 2nd Place
- Livestock Judging: 2nd Place
- Horse Evaluation: 3rd Place

Ag Mechanics (Team A) 1st Place

Justin Jordan
-1st Place Individual & 2nd Place Individual Welding
Easton Salinas
-3rd Place Individual
Sergio Pinon
-2nd Place Individual
Gage Byers

Ag Mechanics (Team B) 2nd Place

Waylon Holt
Colt Byers
Casey DeCarlo
-1st Place Individual Welding
Treston Cardita

Dairy Judging (Team A) 1st Place

Canyon Teel
Riata Boyle
Chloe Lyons
Ayanna Corralejo

Dairy Judging (Team B) 2nd Place

Lane Medd
Cohen Decker
-2nd Place Individual
Serenity Boschert
Vanessa Perez

Horse Evaluation

Chloe Estes
-2nd Place Individual
Emily Vacca
Taylor Curtis
Savannah McLaughlin

Livestock Judging (Team A) 2nd Place

Aspen Teel
Mia Archer
Wyatt Murrieta
-2nd Place Individual
Olivia Keeling

Livestock Judging (Team B)

Peyton Elliot
Claire Murrieta
Tanner Larkin
Thomas Hartman

Livestock Judging (Team C)

Avery Weddle
Tabitha Wright

Agronomy (2nd Place)

Reid Barnes
Hannah Hartman
Ethan Mitchell
Victor Inzuna

Food Science (2nd Place)

Brooklynn Lopez
Alexis O'Neal
Jacob Heward
Kaylynn Jordan

Aquaculture (2nd Place)

Rannyn Shuman
Alma Atrian
Zach Hancock
Isaiah Corralejo

Meats Evaluation (1st Place)

Ian Wilkie
Aubrie Keeling
-3rd Place Individual
Tanner Lopez
-1st Place Individual
Cade Riggs

Wildlife

Danielle Murrieta
Diana Garcia
Bella Yon
Hailey Stephens



Marine Corps JROTC

The [Vista Grande High School Marine Corps JROTC](#) is instructed by Dr. Tyrone Hall, CWO-3 (ret), and MSgt Jorge Rico. The [Casa Grande Union High School Marine Corps JROTC](#) is instructed by Maj Rob Sherwood (Senior Marine Instructor) and GySgt Jesus Flores (Marine Instructor).



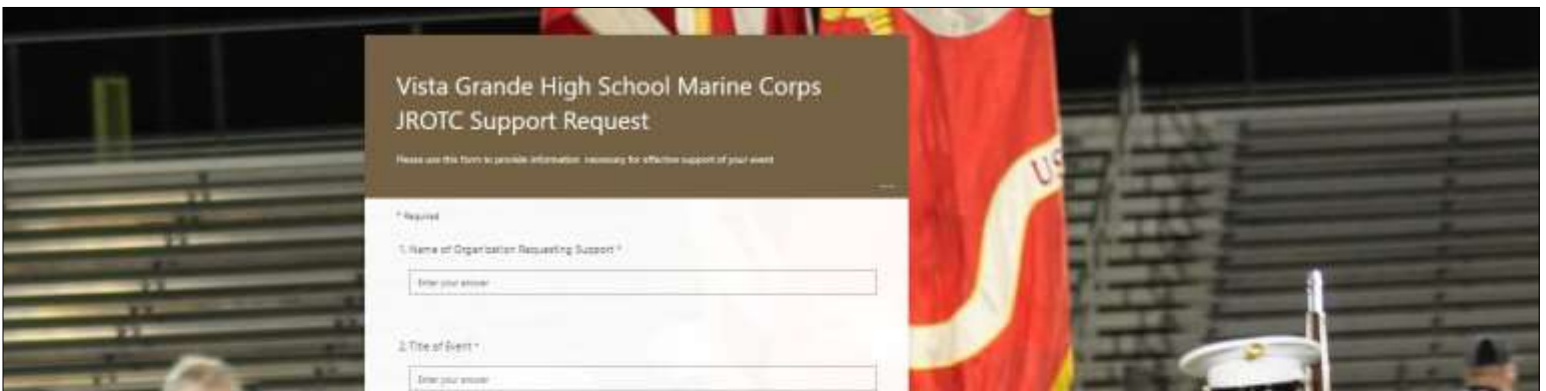
2-285th Assault Helicopter Battalion Army National Guard

Vista Grande High School Marine Corps JROTC cadets were handsomely rewarded with a trip to Papago Park Military Reservation in Phoenix, Arizona, on Tuesday, November 2, for their superior academic performances on first quarter grade reports. The highlight of the trip was their tour of the Utility Helicopter (UH)-60 Blackhawk while interacting with the men and women of the 2-285th Assault Helicopter Battalion. Cadets enjoyed an in-depth presentation on the history of the unit and received a guided tour, with full access, of the helicopter. The helicopter tour appeared to spark special interest in the students as pilots, aviation mechanics, and other support personnel impressed upon cadets the importance of embracing science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). Instructors of the Vista Grande Marine Corps JROTC, Chief Warrant Officer Hall and Master Sergeant Rico, posed with cadets (Back Row: L-R) Ullivieri Zuniga Cruz, Shelby Fulks, Logan Barnhart, Marguerite Kerr, Clayton Miller, Santana Garcia, Joel Huber, and Alexzander Neal (Front Row: L-R) Alexa Regan, Malinah Whatley, Daniel Dunaway, Chantelle Gonzalez, and Aleena Nielson stand in front of the magnificent aircraft.



Senator Mark Kelly Representative: Daniel Toperek Lecture for Military Service Academy Appointments

Daniel Toperek of Senator Mark Kelly’s office lectured Vista Grande High School Marine Corps JROTC Cadets on Thursday, January 27, in the Vista Grande JROTC classroom on military service academy congressional appointments. Mr. Toperek educated students on academics, physical fitness, leadership experience, citizenship, and moral character requirements needed to receive a direct appointment from Senators Mark Kelly, Kyrsten Sinema, or a current congressional representative from Arizona. The appointment cadets are eligible to receive are to the Coast Guard, Naval, Air Force, Merchant Marine, and West Point academies. Students enjoyed the lecture as many did not previously perceive the service academies as a realistic pathway to college and career. Students (L to R) Sarah Foerster, Dylan Porter, Hailey Arp, Dominic Vandever, Daniel Dunaway, Isiah Taylor, Ariyeana Lewis, and Ullivieri Zuniga Cruz were engaged and inspired by this opportunity as they peppered Mr. Toperek with academy life and admission requirement questions.



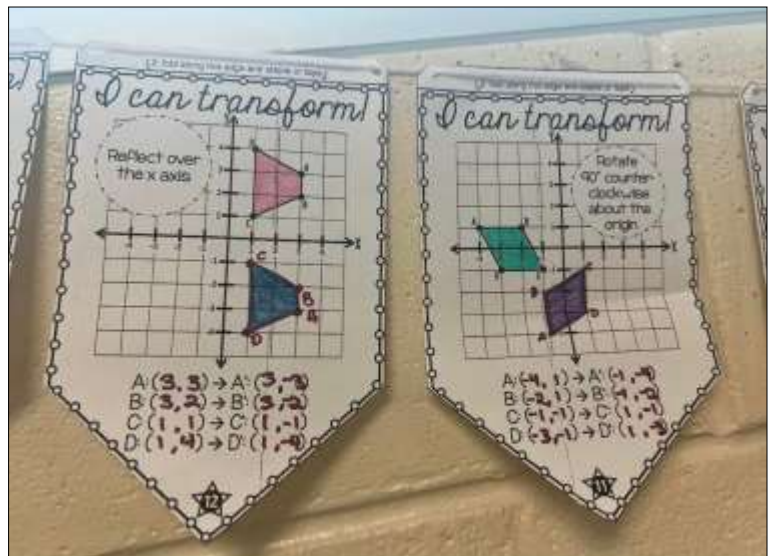
JROTC Support Request

Please use this [online form](#) to provide information necessary for effective support of your event.



Geometry Transformations Activity

VGHS Geometry students worked on Geometry transformations during the week of February 28-March 4. The Spartans are instructed by Ms. Bennielyn Inojosa, Mathematics Teacher. Visit the Mathematics webpage at www.cguhsd.org/vgMath.aspx.





Art Class

VGHS [Art](#) students, taught by Mercedes Clemons, finished their colored pencil unit the third week in February by completing a color study on contemporary sculptures by the artist Jeff Koons.



AP Psychology

[AP Psychology](#) students experimented with perception goggles and tried to play catch while wearing them. One set flips vision upside down and the other set shifts vision by 30 degrees. The experiment showed how we change the way we see, to understand how our senses work even more. The Spartans are taught by Nathan Scheeler, Social Studies Teacher.



Hittin' the Books for Burritos

Ms. Addison's first hour class has shown the most improvement in grades for the first half of third quarter. They celebrated with burritos! The Spartans are taught by Deanna Addison, [ESS](#) Teacher.



CGUHS Theater Department Presents: The Diary of Anne Frank

The [CGUHS Theater Department](#) Presented "The Diary of Anne Frank" during the weekend of February 25-27. It was dramatized by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett, and produced with permission from Dramatists Play Service, Inc. The Cougars are instructed by Donna Telles, Fine Arts Teacher.



ASU • Helios Decision Center for Educational Excellence

VGHS Receives Postsecondary Success Recognition

ASU Helios Decision Center for Educational Excellence, a partnership between Arizona State University (ASU) and the Helios Education Foundation, recently identified Vista Grande High School (VGHS) as a leader in the state in the subject area of Geology. This means that a very high percentage of VGHS's graduates, who go on to an Arizona public university, have performed very well in their 100-level and 200-level courses in the subject area of Geology over the past few years. For more information, visit <https://decisioncenter.asu.edu/Tools/PSFR>.



Percussion Ensemble Earns 1st Place; Color Guard 4th Place

Congratulations to the [Casa Grande Union High School \(CGUHS\) Indoor Percussion Ensemble and Color Guard](#). They finished a busy week by hosting the Casa Grande Winter Invitational on Saturday, February 26. The Percussion Ensemble earned 1st Place and Color Guard earned 4th Place. The Cougars are instructed by Martin Hebda, Fine Arts Teacher.



Student Council State Conference

On Thursday, February 17, [VGHS Student Council](#) members spent the first day of the Student Council State Conference doing a variety of team building activities, learning about how to motivate and inspire others, talking with other Student Councils, getting information from a variety of vendors to help with events, and being inspired by a speaker encouraging them to “Be the Change” they want to see. The overall theme of the conference was “The Sound of Leadership” and Thursday’s spirit theme was “Musicals”, so they dressed as “Teen Beach Movie”. The Spartans were recognized for all their charitable contributions over the past year, with Platinum (top-level) recognition in both the number of service hours (over 200 hours) and dollars donated (close to \$1,000). In addition, Mr. Scheeler was nominated for “Outstanding Advisor of the Year”.



Bilingual Multicultural Club

CGUHS's [Bilingual Multicultural Club](#) had a wonderful time celebrating the love of the season. Students had two heart shaped balloons and played a fast-moving game of "Take a Heart - Give a Heart" which involves making choices to stop on someone's balloon and take their heart or give them an extra heart. The big winners were Jacqueline Tirado and Wyatt Apodaca. Tied for 3rd Place were Jennifer Ahumada and Titouan Puchon. Everyone had a great time celebrating at the February meeting. The Cougars are advised by Jewel Devet, ELD/SEI/English Teacher.



Student Council Earns Distinction Award

The CGUHS [Student Council](#) was awarded the 2021/22 Outstanding Council of Distinction Award at the Arizona Association of Student Councils Convention during the weekend of February 17-19. Students had to show evidence of community service, leadership, school spirit, as well as have letters of recommendation and support from their sponsor and principal. This year's Student Council has worked hard to plan events such as the Trick or Treat Drive Thru, pep assemblies, Homecoming, and Powderpuff Football. They have raised money for the Juvenile Diabetes Association and planned and participated in several campus cleanups. The Student Council is advised by Stacy Brady, Science Teacher.



Key Club Hosts Blood Drive

CGUHS's [KEY Club](#) hosted a Blood Drive on Tuesday, February 22. The reason for the drive was that the Blood Bank was in short supply of donors due to COVID-19. The Key Club would like to thank Chick-fil-A, Dunkin Donuts, Cookie Jar, and Starbucks for their generous donations that helped feed donors. Thank you to the ninety (90) people who stepped up to donate their life-saving blood. The Cougars are advised by Linda Cassidy, RN.



Valley Humane Society Volunteer Morning

Thank you to everyone from VGHS who volunteered at The Valley Humane Society on Saturday, February 5: [DECA](#), [Student Council](#), [CGYA SADD](#), and other students. It was wonderful to see everyone helping out.



MORP Dance

VGHS held its "Dancing Through the Decades" dance on Friday, February 11.





CASA GRANDE

UNION HIGH SCHOOL

Contact: Randy Robbins
 Telephone Number: (602) 738-2654
 Email: rrobbins@cguhsd.org
 Website: [Casa Grande Union High School \(cguhsd.org\)](http://Casa Grande Union High School (cguhsd.org))

For Immediate Release (2/28/2022)

HEADLINE: Casa Grande Union High School Recommends Mark Luna as the New Head Football Coach

Casa Grande, AZ- Casa Grande Union High School will recommend [Mark](#) Luna as the new Head Football coach. Randy Robbins, the Casa Grande Union High School Athletic Director, was quoted as saying, "For the past 12 years, Coach Luna was instrumental in the development of youth football in Casa Grande. Many of the athletes from the 4A State Championship team were a part of the youth football program that Mark supports. He is prepared to lead the next chapter of Cougar Football, which will include partnering with parents and student-athletes to build young men of great character." Coach Luna is a Casa Grande Union High School alumnus and former Cougar football player. He played college football and professional football in the Arena Football league. Over the past several years he has served as the Freshman Head Football Coach. Casa Grande Union High School will recommend Mr. Mark Luna to the Governing Board during an upcoming meeting for approval.



Ventura Ranked #1 in State & Nation; Sets School Record

Javier Ventura, VGHS Sophomore, is ranked the #1 soccer goalie in Arizona and nation with 362 'saves' in the 2021/22 season. Javier also set a new school record with 46 'saves' in a single game. The Spartans are coached by CJ Mejia. Visit their webpage at www.cguhsd.org/vgSoccerBoys.aspx.



Boys Soccer All-Region Selections

Congratulations to the VGHS [Boys Soccer](#) student-athletes on being named Black Canyon All-Region Players:

Angel Chaydez	#17	1st Team	Striker	13 Goals	02 Assists
Ramon Quinonez	#14	1st Team	Midfielder	04 Goals	10 Assists
Javier Valero	#18	1st Team	Defender	02 Goals	02 Assists
Dario Rocha	#10	2nd Team	Midfielder	02 Goals	02 Assists
Marlon Quijada	#19	2nd Team	Defender	04 Goals	03 Assists

The Spartans are coached by CJ Mejia and their team motto is, "Talk with your feet. Play with your heart".





5A AIA Girls Basketball Sportsmanship Award

The [CGUHS Girls Basketball Team](#) will be honored with the Arizona Interscholastic Association (AIA) 5A Conference Sportsmanship Award during the first timeout of the 5A State Championship game on Tuesday, March 1, at the Veteran's Memorial Coliseum @ 6 pm. This award is presented annually in each conference to the team that exhibits the highest level of sportsmanship, as voted on by the officials. "This is a special team that knows the value of winning and losing games in the right way," Head Coach Kevin Hubbard said. "I am proud of them and how they play the game. Go Cougs!"



Scott Signs: CAC Women's Basketball

Congratulations to Jayla Scott who signed to play with the 2022/23 Central Arizona College (CAC) Women's Basketball Team. Jayla made headlines in January when she scored 1,000 career points with the VGHS Spartans. She is only the third Spartan in [Girls Basketball](#) to do so. Since her sophomore season, Jayla averaged 17.9 points per game. The Spartans are coached by Ryan Barrett.



Terrence Mates



Francisco Gonzales

Wrestling State Qualifiers

Congratulations to Terrence Mates (JR) and Francisco Gonzales (FR) who qualified for the Wrestling State Tournament. The tournament was held at Veterans Memorial Coliseum, Thursday-Saturday, February 17-19. The Spartans are coached by Martin Lopez. Visit their webpage at www.cguhsd.org/vgWrestling.aspx.



Cross Country Team Volunteers at Rock for a Cause Realtor Memorial Run

The [VGHS Cross Country Team](#) volunteered at the Rock for a Cause Realtor Memorial Run on Saturday, January 29, at Carr McNatt Park. They cheered and motivated the walkers and runners while helping where they could. This run was organized by volunteers of West & Southeast Realtors of the Valley (WeSERV). The rock-band-themed memorial run is in remembrance of friends and colleagues who lost their battle with cancer. Net proceeds went to the Alliance Cancer Support Center, Casa Grande. The Spartans are coached by Cristina Salcido-Grigg, PE/Health/English Teacher.



Girls Basketball Senior Night

It was Senior Night for the Lady Spartan [Girls Basketball](#) Team on Friday, February 4. Congratulations to all the seniors and their families. The Spartans are coached by Ryan Barrett.



Powderpuff Football Game

The CGUHS Powderpuff Football Game was held on Friday, January 28. The girls from the [Class of 2022](#) and [Class of 2023](#) played against each other, with the winning class receiving the profits from the entry fee.



Baseball Sponsorship Banner

[VGHS Baseball](#) Sponsorship Banners are available! If you're interested in donating to the Spartan Baseball program with a purchase of a banner, [please print this flier and complete it](#). Questions? Contact Coach Harley Grigg at hgrigg@cguhsd.org. Thank you for your support!



Inspiring Excellence Summer Education Academy 2022 Interest Form



This Interest Form will take approximately four (4) minutes to complete. [CLICK HERE >](#)

Summer Education Academy (SEA)

Casa Grande Union High School District (CGUHSD) is offering a [Summer Education Academy \(SEA\)](#) which is intended as an opportunity for students (grades 8-12 during the 2022-2023 school year) to accelerate their learning and to repeat a course for loss of credit and/or grade replacement. All courses will be taught in person using teacher-led instruction and district-approved curriculum.

Grade Levels: 8-12

One Course Per Session

Summer School will be in person at Vista Grande High School (VGHS), 1556 N. Arizola Rd. (520) 876-9400.

All registrations must be completed no later than Saturday, April 30, 2022. Late registrations will not be accepted.

Space is limited. Reserve a spot as soon as possible.

There is a non-refundable fee of \$30 per session.

Please complete the [Interest Form](#) and we will be in contact with you soon.

CGUHSD

2022-23 School Year



Online Registration is Open!



2022/23 Registration

It is with great pleasure we welcome you and your family to the Casa Grande Union High School District!

Our 2022/23 Registration is now open!

To register, visit www.cguhsd.org/doOnlineRegistration.aspx.

Welcome to our district!



CASA GRANDE

UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

NEW
2022/23

INnovative Occupations Virtual Academy

INOVA

INnovative Occupations Virtual Academy (INOVA)
2022/2023 School Year Interest Survey

Parents/Guardians:
Please complete the survey if you are interested in enrolling your child (K-12) at Innovative Occupations Virtual Academy (formerly CGUHSD Online Academy) for the 2022/2023 school year. All submissions will be reviewed and families will be contacted with next steps.

*Required

1. Student First and Last Name *

2. Student ID Number (CGUHSD and IGHS Students Only)

3. Graduation Year (New to CGUHSD Students Only)

4. Last School Attended (New to CGUHSD Students Only)

5. Parents/Guardian First and Last Name *

6. Parents Email *

7. Parents Phone Number *

8. Best Time to Contact

Before 11 AM

11 AM - 4 PM



Interest Survey

[INOVA \(Innovative Occupations Virtual Academy\)](#)

2022/23 School Year

Please complete the survey if you are interested in enrolling your child at INOVA (formerly CGUHSD Online Academy) for the 2022/2023 school year. All submissions will be reviewed and families will be contacted with next steps.

[Interest Survey >](#)

[INOVA Announcement >](#)

[PowerPoint >](#)

Need A Transcript or Education Verification?



Casa Grande Union High School District has partnered with Parchment.com to order and send your transcript and other credentials securely.

- Casa Grande Union High School > [Order Transcripts](#)
- Casa Verde High School > [Order Transcripts](#)
- CGUHSD Online Academy > [Order Transcripts](#)
- Desert Winds Learning Center > [Order Transcripts](#)
- Vista Grande High School > [Order Transcripts](#)

Questions?
 Francis Pitman
 520-316-3360 ext. 1133
fpitman@cguhsd.org

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Get to Know Your High School!

Set your computer homepage to your high school and stay up-to-date on all the activities and news!



Casa Grande Union High School
cghs.cguhsd.org



Vista Grande High School
vghs.cguhsd.org



Arizona Education Tax Credit

Contribute to student programs and activities in our district, and you'll be paid back with a [DOLLAR-FOR-DOLLAR TAX CREDIT](#).



- [COVID-19 Benchmarks & Cases](#)
- [Crisis Hotlines](#)
- [ESSER III](#)
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CGUHSD Online Academy
cgoa.cguhsd.org

Explore the tabs:

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Steps for Determining Close Contact and Quarantine in K-12 Schools



Students in **INDOOR CLASSROOMS** and **STRUCTURED OUTDOOR SETTINGS**

If yes to all of the below, the student is a close contact, regardless of proper mask use. If no to any, move to the next column.

LESS THAN 3 FEET

Was the student within 3 feet of another student with COVID-19?

Has the student been within 3 feet of a student with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period?

If the answers to the questions above are both yes, the student is a close contact, regardless of whether the person was wearing a mask properly.

If yes to all of the below, the student is a close contact. If no to any, then the student is not a close contact.

WITHIN 3-6 FEET

Was the student within 3 to 6 feet of another student with COVID-19?

Has the student been within 3-6 feet of a student with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period?

Were either of the two students wearing masks inconsistently, incorrectly, or not at all?



Students in **NON-CLASSROOM SETTINGS** and adults in **ALL SCHOOL SETTINGS**

If yes to all of the below, the person is a close contact, regardless of proper mask use. If no to any, the person is not a close contact.

LESS THAN 6 FEET

Was the student or adult within 6 feet of someone with COVID-19?

Has the person been within 6 feet of a person with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period?

If the answers to the questions above are both yes, the person is a close contact, regardless of whether the person was wearing a mask properly.



What should the close contact do?

If they are not up to date on vaccines

The close contact needs to **quarantine** for at least 5 days from the date of last close contact.

The close contact should monitor for **symptoms**, **get tested** at least 5 days after the close contact, and wear a **well-fitting mask** around others for 10 days from the date of the last close contact with someone with COVID-19. If they test positive, they should isolate.

Regardless of vaccination status, if a close contact develops symptoms, they should isolate, **get tested** immediately, and continue to isolate if they test positive.

If they are up to date on vaccines

If they have taken the full series of a COVID-19 vaccine and boosters as recommended, they are up to date.

The close contact does not need to **quarantine**.

The close contact should monitor for **symptoms**, **get tested** at least 5 days after the close contact, and wear a **well-fitting mask** around others for 10 days from the date of the last close contact with someone with COVID-19. If they test positive, they should isolate.

Regardless of vaccination status, if a close contact develops **symptoms**, they should **isolate**, **get tested** immediately, and continue to isolate if they test positive.

If they have had COVID-19 within the past 90 days, completed isolation, and recovered (regardless of vaccination status)

The close contact does not need to **quarantine**.

The close contact should monitor for **symptoms**, wear a **well-fitting mask** around others for 10 days, and speak with a healthcare professional about testing recommendations.

Regardless of vaccination status, if a close contact develops symptoms, they should isolate, **get tested** immediately, and continue to isolate if they test positive.

To allow time for students to catch up with the **latest recommendations** and to minimize disruption to in-person learning, schools may consider forgoing quarantine for students ages 12-17 years who completed their **primary vaccine series** but have not yet received **all eligible boosters**.



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

JOIN OUR TEAM!



Apply Today!

To search open job listings or begin a new application, click here > <https://cguhsd.tedk12.com/hire/index.aspx>

- Academic Assistant Principal
- Assistant Baseball Coach
- Business Service Manager
- CGUHSD Summer Learning Certified Teachers
- Clerk/ Title 1 Student Parent Advocate
- Custodian
- Future Certified Position
- Head Varsity Football Coach
- Inspiring Excellence Coaches
- Interventionist
- Math - Subject Matter Expert
- Principal/Headmaster of Innovation and Design
- Public Relations Officer, District
- Receptionist
- Science/STEM - Subject Matter Expert
- Security Officer
- Social Studies - Subject Matter Expert
- Special Education Paraprofessional
- SY 21-22 Volunteer
- SY 22 - Summer Learning Inspiring Excellence Principal
- SY 22-23 Boys PE/Health Teacher
- SY 22-23 CTE Construction Technology Teacher
- SY 22/23 ELA- Special Education Teacher
- SY 22/23 ESS- Special Education Teacher
- SY 22/23 School Improvement/Title I Site Coordinator
- SY22/23 English Teacher
- SY22/23 Mathematics - Algebra Teacher
- SY22/23 Science Teacher
- Title One- Edgenuity Paraprofessional
- Winter - Assistant Boys & Girls Track Coach
- World Language/Electives - Subject Matter Expert

To apply for a specific job, click "Apply" on the right side of that specific listing. You will receive a confirmation number when your application is complete. Your information is then saved, allowing you to return at any time to submit additional applications. Please be sure to remember your username and password for use on future applications.

More Info > www.cguhsd.org/doApplications.aspx

Updated 03/01/2022



[Governing Board](#) Members (L to R): Jack Henness, Joe Lopez, Taylor Kerby, Kelly Herrington, and Chuck Wright. Regular Governing Board Meetings are held the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the District Office in the CGUHS Board Room (1st Floor) and LIVE via our [YouTube Channel](#).

Governing Board



President: Jack Henness was a CGUHS Board Member from 1999-2010. In 2020, he was selected by Pinal County School Superintendent Jill Broussard from a pool of four (4) applicants to fill the seat vacated by Mr. Salcido. He was selected CGUHS Board President in January 2021. jhenness@cguhsd.org



Member: Kelly Herrington has lived in Arizona for over 20 years and in the Casa Grande area for the past five (5) years. She earned a Marketing degree at the University of Arizona. She has two (2) children who are in the Casa Grande school districts and their educational welfare as well as all the other children in the area is of utmost importance to her. Kelly is very involved in our community and wants its continued growth and success. She is a local Realtor and Sales Manager for her brokerage in Casa Grande. She also sits on the Executive Board for WeSERV (West and Southeast Valley) Association of Realtors and was the Pinal Chapter Chairperson for 2020. Charity and giving back to our community are also very important to her. Kelly has been the Co-Chair for the Realtor Memorial Run for the past four (4) years benefiting the Casa Grande Alliance Cancer Support Center and has also been involved in the Realtor Golf Tournament benefiting the Boys and Girls Club. Kelly loves her community and the opportunity to serve for its continued growth and success. kherrington@cguhsd.org



Member: Taylor Kerby is a full-time educator. After graduating from Arizona State University (ASU), Taylor completed dual master's degrees in Education and Religion at Claremont Graduate University. He is currently a doctoral student at Grand Canyon University where he will graduate in 2022. He has served as a mentor teacher and is passionate about enabling educators to improve their pedagogy and connect with students. He lives in Casa Grande with his two daughters. tkerby@cguhsd.org



Pro Temp: Joe Lopez, originally from California, has been an Arizona resident for 18 years. He is an ASE Master Technician and has worked in the automotive repair industry for 43 years as a technician, service manager, successful business owner, and as an instructor. He owned and operated an auto repair shop in San Jose, California, for twenty years, and his business in Casa Grande has been in operation since 2013. He has great dedication to the field of automotive technology, as well as to education and community service. Joe is a member of the Kiwanis Club of Casa Grande and was president of the club for the 2017-2018 term; he was a Kiwanis Club of Willow Glen member (San Jose, CA) for 19 years and was a two-time past president in that club. Joe taught automotive technology at both Central Arizona College and at Casa Grande Union High School. He and his wife, Rachel, have been married for 20 years. Joe enjoys desert landscaping, serving in the community, and helping people. He considers himself to be a life-long learner. rllopez@gmail.com



Member: Chuck Wright is a Casa Grande native, growing up in a farming family in the Greene Reservoir area south of Arizona City. He has three sons, all of whom have graduated from CGUHS. Chuck is an Industrial Designer, specializing in architectural design and has been self-employed in his own business, Pinal Design Group LLC, in Casa Grande for 34 years. Chuck has previously served on this board in 1997-2001, serving two years as president. He is past Chairman of the Greater Casa Grande Chamber of Commerce and chairman of the Arizona City Sanitary District. Chuck also currently serves on the City of Casa Grande's Board of Adjustments. chuck.wright@pinaldesign.com