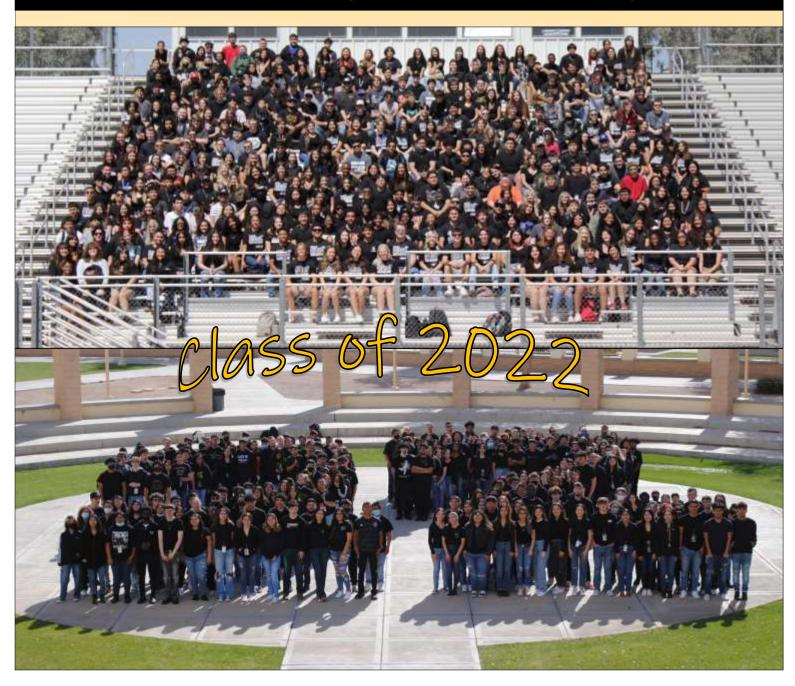


Casa Grande Union High School District • May 2022 •



MAY 2022. VOLUME 9

Casa Grande Union High School District

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

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Melani Edwards Curriculum & Instruction Director

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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

CONNECT WITH US





















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Dr. Anna Battle Superintendent

FROM SUPERI NTENDENT DR. ANNA BATTLE

May 2022

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.



<u>5 Qualities of an Exceptional Teacher</u>
(alignstaffing.com)



Jackie Stilwell
Discipline Secretary

Staff Member of the Month: Jackie Stilwell

Jackie Stilwell has been a valued employee of the district for a total of 20 years. She goes above and beyond her perspective role with poise, professionalism, and sincere care and compassion for others in the workplace. She is essential to the daily functions of both the discipline recording and supporting all functions needed for administrators, staff, families, and students. The responsibilities Jackie has at Vista Grande provide parents, students, and teachers with valuable information about students. Her timely dedication provides confidence in others that the school is managed well, and appropriate documentation is evident of such. As the district student handbook was revised this year, I was able to observe quality characteristics of Jackie. She is an exceptional listener, empathetic, knows what families need, and is willing to give her all in all she does. Jackie is considered by her administration as an unsung hero at Vista Grande. Today, we sing her praises. Congratulations, Jackie Stilwell.

Sincerely, Dr. Anna Battle



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

CGUHSD END OF YEAR AWARD WINNERS FY 2021/22

PARENT OF THE YEAR CGUHS: Patsy Burruel VGHS: Jennifer Graffius

CGOA: Kevin Blixt

ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR

Vance Danzy (VGHS)

TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Aaron Takhar (CGUHS)

STAFF MEMBER OF THE YEAR

Linda Cassidy (CGUHS)

MATH TEACHER WITH MOST STUDENT GROWTH

CGUHS: Tracy Hawkins VGHS: Krystal Villegas

ELA TEACHER WITH MOST STUDENT GROWTH

CGUHS: Melody Aldrich VGHS: Nancy

SCIENCE TEACHER WITH MOST STUDENT GROWTH Danyle McDonald

CGUHS: Calalang

VGHS: Melvin Inplose

STUDENTS WITH HIGHEST GROWTH (CGUHS)

Fatima Andrade

Enrique Bejarano Murrieta

Brycec Berkley Lilly Calderon Andrew Cuevas

Christian Diveley Jesus Gonzales

Jesus Lara Gastelum

Anthony Molina Andrew Reyes Abel Rodriguez

Eduardo Rodriguez Nataly Rodriguez

STUDENTS WITH HIGHEST GROWTH (VGHS)

Analysia Antone

David Cardona Lizarraga

Emiliano Carreon

Liliana Cruz

Joel Huber

Destini Mari

Aceton McGuire

David Perez

Esyah Reyes

Reyna Rodriguez

Stefanie Trantham

MOST IMPROVED STUDENT (GGOA)

Enrique Arredondo Nernandez

Parent of the Year

- (1) CGUHS: Patsy Burruel
- (2) VGHS: Jennifer Graffius
- (3) CGOA: Kevin Blixt

Administrator of the Year

(4) Vance Danzy (VGHS)

Teacher of the Year

(5) Aaron Takhar (CGUHS)

Staff Member of the Year

(6) Linda Cassidy (CGUHS)

Retirement

- (7)Linda Cassidy
- (8) David Speers

Math Teacher with Most Student Growth

- (9) CGUHS: Tracy Hawkins
- (10) VGHS: Krystal Villegas

ELA Teacher with Most Student Growth

CGUHS: Melody Aldrich (not pictured)

(11) VGHS: Nancy Bennett

Science Teacher with Most Student Growth (12) CGUHS: Elena Calalang

(13) VGHS: Melvin Inojosa



























Students with Highest Growth (CGUHS) Fatima Andrade (not in attendance)

Enrique Bejaranò Murrieta (not in attendance) Brycec Berkley (not in attendance)

(1) Lilly Calderon

Andrew Cuevas (not in attendance) Christian Diveley (not in attendance) Jesus Gonzales (not in attendance) Jesus Lara Gastelum (not in attendance) Anthony Molina (not in attendance)

(2) Andrew Reyes

Abel Rodriguez (not in attendance) Eduardo Rodriguez (not in attendánce)

(3) Nataly Rodriguez

Most Improved Student (CGOA) (4) Enrique Arredondo Hernandez

Students with Highest Growth (VGHS)

Analysia Antone (not in attendance) 5) David Cardona Lizarraga

(6) Emiliano Carreon

(7) Liliana Cruz (8) Joel Huber Destini Martinez (not in attendance)

(9) Danyle McDonald

(10) Aceton McGuire (11) David Perez Esyah Reyes (not in attendance)

(12) Réyna Ródriguez

(13) Stefanie Trantham





























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 Vison, 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.



RESILENCE

Adaptable to change

Self-Respecting and having self-worth

Emotional Intelligence to foster long-term relationship

ACCOUNTABILITY

Follows through on commitments and responsibilities

Acts intentionally to achieve personal

the future

Reflects on progress with a focus on

INNOVATION

Inspires to improve through research and inquiry

Thinks and acts with the future in mind

Welcomes and encourages creative transformation

INTEGRITY

Displays an ethical mindset

Behaves with honesty, respect, and responsibility

Seeks to trust and to be trustworthy

Chooses thoughts and actions based on values rather than personal gain

CRITICAL THINKING

Curious and inquisitive nature

Creative-Solution seeker

Problem-Solving skills

COLLABORATION

Learns from, contributes to, and demonstrates flexibility while working productively

Seeks out input from diverse stakeholders

Demonstrates the ability to communicate effectively and respectfully with diverse téams

CULTURAL LITERACY

Respects differences in others

Appreciates a variety of cultures

Celebrates the creative expression and uniqueness of others



Casa Grande Union High School



Congratulations!

Vista Grande High School



Congratulations!



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

Victoria Greer CGUHS

Victoria Greer of Casa Grande Union High School (CGUHS) was recognized Tuesday, May 3, 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. Victoria was recognized for her accomplishments and activities: Honor Roll (2-Yr/CGUHS and 1-Yr/CAC), Academic Achievement (1-Yr), Pinal County Fair (3rd Place/Pig Market and 5th Place/Pig Showmanship), National Honor Society Award, National Technical Honor Society Award, Greenhand Award, Student Council (4-Yr/Sophomore Class Treasurer, Junior Class Senator, Student Body Treasurer), Key Club (4-Yr/Senior Year Co-Secretary), FFA (2-Yr), Link Crew (2-Yr), National Honor Society (2-Yr), HOSA (2-Yr/ Veterinary Assistance Class Student Representative and HOSA Class Secretary), Basketball (1-Yr), Cougar Buddies (1-Yr/ Vice President), and National Technical Honor Society (1-Yr). She has volunteered with Food Bank, Karen Ghio, and Pinal County Animal Care & Control. Victoria has certifications in



[L-R] Dr. Anna Battle (Superintendent), Victoria Greer (Rotary Student of the Month), and Rebecca Spallinger (Assistant Principal)

OSHA, CPR, and Food Handling. She currently works for Texas Roadhouse and is on track to work in the field of Veterinary Medicine. In addition to CGUHS, Victoria's education includes Central Arizona Valley Institute of Technology (CAVIT/ Veterinary Assistant Program), Central Arizona College (CAC), and Pima Community College (PCC) in their Veterinary Assistant programs.





[L-R] Dr. Anna Battle (Superintendent), Maria Del Carmen Macias-Saucedo (Rotary Student of the Month), and Vance Danzy (Principal)



Maria Del Carmen Macias-Saucedo VGHS

Maria Del Carmen Macias-Saucedo of Vista Grande High School (VGHS) was recognized Tuesday, May 3, 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. Maria was recognized for her accomplishments and activities: Student Council, National Honor Society (3-Yr), S.A.A.C., Link Crew, Track & Field (Most Improved Player Award), and Vista Grande Academic Achievement Award (4-Yr). She enjoys art, rollerskating, and swimming. After high school, Maria plans to attend Arizona State University (ASU). One of her life goals is to give back to her parents who started their family with barely anything. She believes they deserve more for their hard work and obstacles they went through from a very young age. Maria's parents are Joaquin & Guillermina Macias.



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.cguhsd.org/CTE.aspx.

Tripp Breitkreitz CGUHS

Career & Technical Education (CTE) Student of the Month Tripp Breitkreitz of Casa Grande Union High School (CGUHS) was recognized Tuesday, May 3, as one of the Casa Grande Union High School District's Career & Technical Education (CTE) Students of the Month at the district's Governing Board meeting. Tripp was nominated by his CTE Automotive Technologies Teacher, George Courtney, who had this to say, "Tripp Breitkreitz has been a pleasure to have in my program over the last four years. Tripp is a self-starter who doesn't hesitate to step up to get things done in the shop. He has achieved so much as a Jr. Dragster Racing Champion and Auto-Tech Student. In the history of the program, he has attained the most industry certifications and is well on his way to a bright career in the Automotive Industry. I am grateful to have a great young man like this representing our Automotive Program." Tripp's parent is Amy Breitkreitz-Powel of Casa Grande, Arizona.



[L-R] Dr. Anna Battle (Superintendent), Tripp Breitkreitz (CTE Student of the Month), and Lisa Miller (CTE Director)







[L-R] Dr. Anna Battle (Superintendent), Trinity Martinez (CTE Student of the Month), and Lisa Miller (CTE Director)

Trinity Martinez VGHS

Career & Technical Education (CTE) Student of the Month Trinity Martinez of Vista Grande High School (VGHS) was recognized Tuesday, May 3, as one of the Casa Grande Union High School District's Career & Technical Education (CTE) Students of the Month at the district's Governing Board meeting. Trinity was nominated by her CTE Education Professions Teacher, Christi Saucedo, who had this to say, "Trinity Martinez has been a shining example to her classmates in Education Professions. She is one of the first students to show up every day with a smile on her face. Trinity encompasses the skills of organization, compassion, dedication, and patience making her a perfect candidate for any role in education she chooses to pursue. Currently, Trinity is considering becoming a Kindergarten Teacher after she graduates. I have thoroughly enjoyed the energy Trinity brings each day to our small group and how she demonstrates how to be an exceptional student while training to be a remarkable teacher. Vista Grande is so lucky to call her a Spartan." Trinity's parents are Ramon and Crystle Martinez of Coolidge, Arizona.

Engineering/Near Space Research Team







The students sought to create a profile of the ozone layer. To gather data, the students included three ultraviolet light sensors, an O2 sensor, and an O3 sensor. The payload also contained sensors for detecting internal and external temperature, humidity, and pressure. The sensors were controlled by an Arduino Mega controller and powered by a custom-designed and student-built power distribution board. Power was supplied by a 7.2-volt lithium-ion battery pack. In addition to the sensors, the payload was equipped with a digital camera running on a separate power supply and set to take a still photo every 60 seconds for the duration of the flight.



On Friday evening, the CGUHS students, along with teams of students from Arizona State University, The University of Arizona, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Phoenix College, Pima College, Dine College, and Central Arizona College, briefed each other on their payload construction and science mission. Saturday morning, all schools traveled by convoy to the planned launch site at I-8 and Freeman Road. There, the two balloons were inflated and payloads were attached to their designated balloon. CGUHS freshman Aidan Schairer was volunteered to be on the team of three students that inflated the balloon that was to carry our payload aloft, designated the ANSR-137/Ascend-43 balloon flight. (...continued next page)







(...continued) The balloon was released and, after the launch of the ANSR-138/Ascend-44 balloon flight, they proceeded by convoy to the tentative recovery area. Each balloon was equipped with three transponders broadcasting a signal that allowed the balloons to be tracked. Computer models updated us on the current location and predicted destination of the balloons. Contact was maintained between vehicles by HAM radio.

The CGUHS balloon reached an altitude of 88,000 feet before bursting. Their Fall 2021 payload had reached an altitude of 107,000 feet, but high winds higher in the atmosphere dictated that the balloons be inflated to 130% capacity for this launch, causing the balloon to burst earlier, and thus not go as high. The mechanics of this had all been explained to the students prior to launch. They recovered their payloads a few miles south of the casino in Maricopa, in a farmer's field.

When the CGUHS students opened their payload to remove the microSD cards from the data logger, they discovered that there was no power to any of the devices. Upon reviewing the data, the students found that they had only approximately 30 seconds of data and no photographs. The project then switched from a science experiment to a forensics problem in order to determine the nature of the failure mode(s). The students are now going through a root cause analysis exercise to determine the faults and to put steps in place to avoid the failure mode(s) on future missions.

The students will present their analysis and the results of both the Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 flights (...continued next page)











(...continued) at the ARIZONA/NASA Statewide Symposium in Tucson later in April. In addition to the colleges and universities that participated in the High-Altitude Balloon payload project, there will be more than 120 undergraduate and graduate students from around the State of Arizona presenting the results of their NASA Space Grant research projects.

The CGUHS Near Space Research Team is Neal Allado, Merick Carlisi, Angel Gonzalez, Sophia Jorda, Jonathan Lawson, Danika Liebhart, Elijah Ramirez, Elias Razo, and Aidan Schairer. The team was chaperoned by Annamae Jorda, CGUHS Science Teacher.

CGUHS is an Affiliate Partner with the Arizona Space Grant Consortium and participates in ASCEND (Aerospace STEM Challenges to Educate New Discoverers) projects managed through The University of Arizona. The CGUHS Engineering team was funded for this project entirely by the National Space Grant Foundation.

The Cougars are taught/advised by John Morris, CTE Engineering and Mathematics Teacher. Visit the Engineering classroom webpage at www.cguhsd.org/cgEngineering.aspx.



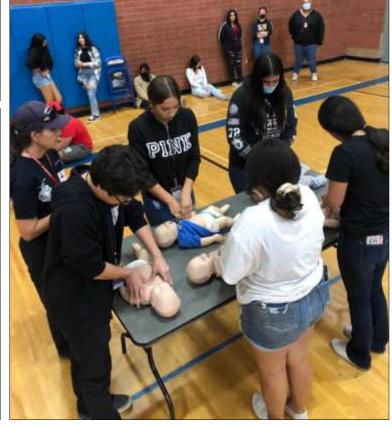






ECE Students CPR/AED Training

Casa Grande Union High School (CGUHS) Career & Technical Education (CTE) <u>Early Childhood Education (ECE)</u> students took part in the American Heart Association CPR/AED Training at CGUHS in April. The instructors were Mrs. Beth Craig, CGUHS Social Studies Teacher, and Mrs. Martha Bender, Casa Grande Fire Department. The Spartans are taught by Cathie White, CTE Early Childhood Education Teacher.





FFA Earns National Chapter Program Gold Ranking

The Casa Grande Union High School (CGUHS) FFA Chapter was awarded the Gold ranking of the Superior & National Chapter Program for the fourth year in a row. Two of those years, the chapter has been named Arizona's Chapter of the Year. This summer, at the State Leadership Conference, the eight chapters who received Gold will compete for the title, Chapter of the Year. It is their hope to be selected again as the number one chapter in Arizona. This is a year-long process which starts with a dedicated officer team and amazing members who have planned and carried out 15 activities that focus on growing leaders, building communities, and strengthening agriculture within the chapter members and community. A 23-page application is submitted to the Arizona FFA which describes and goes into great detail the activities carried out throughout the year. Applications are judged and Gold Chapters are then able to compete on the national level. CGUHS was privileged to have been a 2020 National Finalist and hope to be able to do so again. The Cougars are advised by Casey Farnsworth, CTE Agriscience Teacher.



Robotics: 3D Printed Roses

The VGHS <u>Automation & Robotics Class</u> and <u>Robotics Tech & Innovations</u> <u>Club</u> created and sold 3D printed roses during the month of May in celebration of Mother's Day. Students were able to purchase them before and after school for \$3 dollars each. Thank you for your support. The Spartans are taught and advised by Ramon Estrada Vega, CTE Automation & Robotics/World Languages Teacher.



AzHOSA CGUHS Chapter Earns Bronze Chapter Award

Chapter Awards are given to chapters that complete certain activities throughout the year. Some tasks include attending Arizona HOSA events, creating community service projects, and donating a percentage of funds earned during fundraising events. This year, the AzHOSA CGUHS Chapter earned the Bronze Chapter Award after a two-year dormancy on some in-person activities to avoid the risk of COVID-19 infection. The Cougars are advised by Noel Que, CTE Bioscience/Science Teacher.



Arizona Technical Skills Assessment Certificate

CGUHS <u>Biotechnology Science III</u> students passed the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Technical Skills Assessment (TSA) in April 2022: Reid Barnes, Alyssa Forish, Cadence Kahn, Cruz Martinez, Ethan Miles, and Valia Kaliotzakis. This assessment is based on industry-validated technical standards in the field of Bioscience and endorsed by the Arizona Career and Technical Education Quality Commission. The assessment process measures attainment of technical knowledge and skills as required in the workplace. Students who meet the scoring benchmark receive a certificate along with a transcript of skills. The student's certificate and transcript can be presented to employers in showcasing their skills. Biotechnology Science is taught by Noel Que.





Robotics Team Earns \$500 Award

The Vista Grande High School Robotics Team, consisting of students from Automation & Robotics Class and Robotics Tech & Innovations Club, took part in the D-Backs and Honeywell #Futureshapers Robotic Competition on Saturday, April 30, at Chase Field Stadium in Phoenix, Arizona. The competition gave the students an opportunity to work as a team and practice workforce applications and standards. The goal was to design a robot from scratch that could throw a MLB regulation baseball the standard distance from a pitcher's mound to home plate (6' 60"). The Spartans designed and built a ballista machine to pitch the baseball and complete the requirements. Their diligence resulted in a \$500 award to the robotic team. Participants are excited and already working for the next year's competition. The Spartans are taught and advised by Ramon Estrada-Vega, CTE Automation & Robotics/World Languages Teacher.







SkillsUSA State Championships: Construction

Casa Grande Union High School (CGUHS) Career & Technical Education (CTE) Construction had fifteen (15) competitors and two (2) sandwich makers attend the Arizona SkillsUSA State Championships at the Phoenix Convention Center, April 19-20. Competing in seven (7) different trades or action skills events, the students represented Casa Grande Union with pride and excellence in their efforts. Lane Medd earned 2nd Place (Carpentry) and a job offer. Nathan Steen earned 3rd Place (Plumbing). The other competitors are waiting for their final scores. Aside from the medals, the students made memories and have stories to tell about that one time at a SkillsUSA competition. Attendees included Tripp Breikreitz, Colt Byers, Adrien Figueroa, Hannah Hartman, Thomas Hartman, Lane Medd, Caleb Montoya, Danielle Murrieta, Paige Perry, Sergio Pinon, Ryan Riccomini, Jose Rodriguez, Juan Solorzano Garcia, Nathan Steen, Maximus Wagner, Nick Wagner, & Kevin White. The Cougars are advised by Mike Wagner, CTE Construction Teacher.





SkillsUSA State Championships: Graphic Design

Vista Grande High School (VGHS) Career & Technical Education (CTE) Graphic Design students placed 2nd and 3rd Place in the SkillsUSA State Championships at the Phoenix Convention Center, April 19-20. Their competition Promotional Bulletin Board Display had a THICK packet of requirements and, faced with such, they produced amazing, quality work. The Spartans are taught by Mercedes Clemons, Graphic Design/Visual Arts Teacher.

2nd Place Team

Karol Delgado (JR) Jocelyn Sanchez (JR) Allen Sloan (JR)

3rd Place Team

Luz Natalia Linares (SO) Ivy Sotelo (JR) Maricela Valenzuela (JR)



Marine Corps JROTC

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



Marksmanship Team

Vista Grande High School (VGHS) Marine Corps JROTC Marksmanship Team traveled to Peoria, Arizona, on Saturday, April 2, to participate in the First Annual Arizona National Rifle Association 3-Position Sporter Marksmanship Air Rifle Competition. Team members (left to right) Zachary Carlin, Erin Swift, Ryan McDonald, Joel Huber, Joshua Haro, Alexzander Neal, Jordan Hernandez, Jade Blakeman, Master Sergeant Jorge Rico (instructor) were up against 10 teams. Teams competing were from all over the state and California. Though many teams and their members were far more experienced than the Vista Grande group of new shooters, this could not be surmised based on how well they performed. The team's performance was nothing short of outstanding as they took third place overall.





Color Guard Earns 1st Place

On Saturday, March 5, Vista Grande High School (VGHS) Marine Corps JROTC cadets traveled to Kofa High School in Yuma, Arizona, to compete in the Color Guard Competition. From left to right: Marguerite Kerr, Shelby Fulks, Sarah Foerster, and Erin Swift executed the drill card flawlessly to best cadets and teams from California, Nevada, and Arizona. During this competition, Spartan pride, excellence, and dedication shone brightly as the cadets came out on top to win first place.

Challenger PCP Air Rifle Win

In addition to the competition in Peoria, Arizona, on April 2, Vista Grande High School (VGHS) Marine Corps JROTC cadets and others were given an opportunity to win a new, competition air rifle. Ryan McDonald, a first-year cadet in the VGHS Marine Corps JROTC program, won the coveted Challenger PCP air rifle. Ryan considers himself lucky to have won such an excellent marksmanship air rifle. He vows to practice with it often and hone his skills as a marksman. Cadet McDonald is seen in the photo holding his new air rifle while posed next to the event's coordinator, Mr. Dan Palmer. The coordinator is a military and law enforcement veteran who strives to provide college and career opportunities for students in Arizona through the marksmanship sport. From the looks of it, he is off to an excellent start. The rifle Cadet McDonald won is valued at over \$900.









Academic Award Ceremony

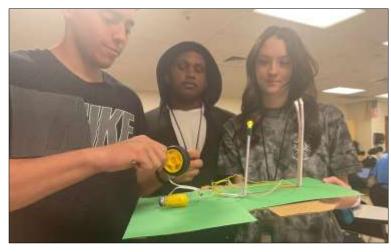
CGUHS hosted their Academic Award Ceremonies on Tuesday, April 26. Freshmen, Sophomores, and Juniors were recognized during a morning ceremony while Seniors received recognition at their own ceremony in the evening. Students who earned a 3.5 or higher GPA for the first time received a scholastic chenille letter while all second+ recipients received an academic bar. Additionally, Seniors with a 3.5 or higher GPA received the President's Academic Excellence Award signed by President Joe Biden. Department awards were also given to students nominated by their teachers for displaying exemplary academic achievement. Valedictorian Hunter Scholes and Salutatorian Clara Mungia Rivas were recognized during the Senior event and awarded with beautiful glass trophies for their outstanding accomplishments.













Physical Science Class Creates Energy Projects

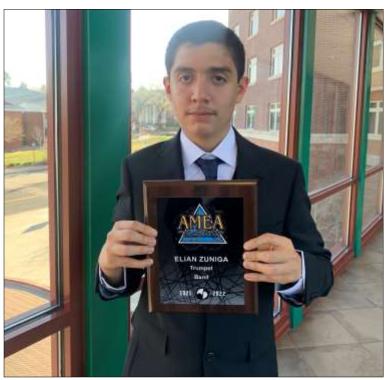
During the week of May 2-6, the VGHS Physical Science Class, consisting of Juniors, actively engaged and created a meaningful project through Project-Based Learning. In the classroom, students used their creativity and imagination to plan, craft, create, and engage a sample of activity on the topic of energy. Cristy Malonzo, Physical Science Teacher, expressed her pride in these young individuals, "This activity was a catalyst of transforming science, helping to improve student learning. This type of learning is an instructional framework that develops the skills of learners to work with groups and answer reflective questions that would apply in their real life. Seeing them contribute and share their ideas and participate in this kind of learning was a happy feeling. I wanted them to get engaged and be problem solvers, which they successfully accomplished. I witnessed critical thinking, creativity, imagination, and collaboration among the students. I am so proud of them!"





AzSCI Testing

Arizona Science (AzSCI) testing took place on Tuesday, April 12. To show their support and how much they believe in their students, VGHS's Principal Vance Danzy, Assistant Principals Miguel Marrero & Jared Walther, and Science Department teachers wore special "testing" shirts. It was their hope to boost the confidence of the students. "May the High Score Be With Us, Vista!"





Zuniga Takes Part In All-State Music Festival

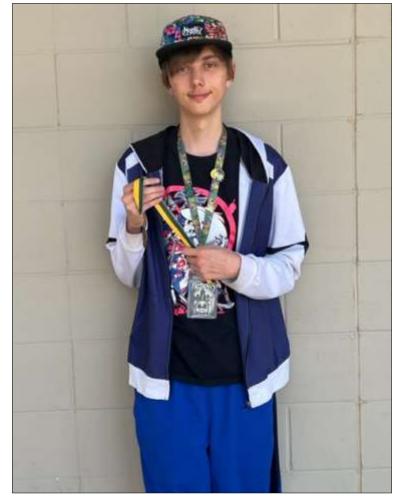
During the second weekend of April, CGUHS's Elian Zuniga (SR) took part in the AMEA (Arizona Music Educators Association) All-State Music Festival at Northern Arizona University (NAU). Elian spent three days rehearsing and performing the trumpet with the best in the state. Selection to the elite event involved an audition and top placement amongst other music students in Arizona. The CGUHS Band Program is instructed by Martin Hebda, Fine Arts Teacher.











CAC Math Contest: Tracy Earns "Mathlete of the Year"

Casa Grande Union High School (CGUHS) mathematics students and teachers took part in the 46th Annual CAC (Central Arizona College) Math Contest in April. Earning awards were:

Level 2 (Algebra II/Geometry)

1st Place Grant Grottenhaler 2nd Place Alexandrea Quillin

Level 3 (Algebra III/Trigonometry/Precalculus)

2nd Place Alora Lineham 3rd Place Rachel Miller

Open Competition (All Levels Combined)

1st Place (Mathlete of the Year) Kaleigh Tracy 2nd Place Jasmin Duran 3rd Place Danika Morrow

The Cougars are taught by Darl Edington, Tracy Hawkins, Erik Olsen, and Ernesto Razo. Visit their webpage at www.cguhsd.org/cgMath.aspx.





Seniors Learn CPR Techniques

<u>VGHS seniors</u> learned cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) techniques in April from Mrs. Martha Bender, an instructor from the Casa Grande Fire Department. Over 260 seniors learned about this lifesaving procedure. Each student was able to practice chest compressions on CPR mannequins.



Marching Band Student Leadership

The Vista Grande High School (VGHS) Fall 2022 Marching Band Student Leadership Team was selected in April: [Drum Major] Alecia Sanchez; [Saxophone & Interim Drum Major] Arianna Ronquillo; [Clarinet Captains] Justine Diaz and Gabrielle Quintanar; [Piccolo Captains] Tasha Obsorne and David Perez; [Brass Captain] Darrien Ruiz-Dubay; [Color Guard Captain] Alina Barajas; [Battery Captains] Braeden Kleinhanzl and Reyna Rodriguez; and [Front Ensemble Captains] Ember Chambers and Brandon Gayosso. The Spartans are taught by Adan Florez, Fine Arts Teacher.



AP Psychology Guest Speaker

On Friday, May 6, County Attorney Kent Volkmer spoke to the VGHS AP Psychology Class about drug addiction, mandatory sentencing, comparing crime sentencing, recidivism rates, and many other topics relating to crime. The students were able to ask questions and get a deeper understanding of how the criminal justice system works. The Spartans are taught by Nathan Scheeler, Social Studies Teacher.







Senior Sunset Barbecue

On Wednesday, May 4, the <u>CGUHS Senior Class</u> held a Senior Sunset Barbecue. The class served hamburgers & hot dogs and played lots of games such as Corn Hole, Spike Ball, 9 Square, and UNO. It was a beautiful evening and the seniors enjoyed spending time with their friends one last time before the craziness of finals and graduation. The evening ended with an emotional candlelight vigil for senior, Danielle Murrietta, who was tragically killed a couple of weeks ago. The Senior Class is sponsored by Stacy Brady, Science Teacher.



National Honor Society Food Drive

The <u>CGUHS National Honor Society</u> (NHS) organized a Food Drive for the Maricopa Food Bank that burned down earlier this year. The group donated a trunk load of approximately 700 cans on Friday, May 6. The Maricopa Food Bank indicates that the donated canned foods will help them feed the 1,000-1,200 families they assist. Pictured is Clara Munguia Rivas (President) and Lilly Medrano (Vice President) who helped load up the car. NHS is sponsored by Kim Batina, Social Studies Teacher.





Student Council Sponsors Teacher Luncheon

On Friday, May 6, during Teacher Appreciation Week, the <u>CGUHS Student Council</u> sponsored a Teacher Luncheon in honor of their teachers. The menu included Barro's Pizza, homemade desserts, and water. Thank you to all the teachers who work hard every day for their students. The Student Council is sponsored by Stacy Brady, Science Teacher.







Key Club End of Year Awards

Casa Grande Union High School (CGUHS) seniors who reached 30 hours or more of volunteer service in their community received their cords and pins for graduation. Sarah Scott received an award for Outstanding Senior in Key Club. The award was presented to her by Paul Beatty, Kiwanis Club of Casa Grande. Key Club is advised by Linda Cassidy, RN.





Citywide Cleanup

Casa Grande Union High School (CGUHS), spearheaded by Key Club, participated in the Citywide Cleanup on Saturday, April 9. Forty (40) students came out to help clean the mile from McCartney to Pinal. Students collected over ten (10) bags of trash. Breakfast was served at the Recreation Center for all participants. Everyone had a fun time while giving back to their community. Key Club is advised by Linda Cassidy, RN.





Campus Cleanup

Thirty-Five (35) Vista Grande High School (VGHS) Key Club and Student Council members cleaned up the streets around the school for two (2) hours on the morning of Saturday, April 9. Thank you to all the students for taking pride in their community and representing VGHS. Key Club is advised by Mia Khan, School Counselor, and Student Council by Nathan Scheeler, Social Studies Teacher.



Student Council Annual Banquet

CGUHS Student Council hosted their annual banquet on Thursday, May 12. This banquet celebrated the accomplishments of the 2021-2022 school year such as Prom, Homecoming, Drive Through Trick Or Treat, numerous pep assemblies, and winning the Outstanding Council of Distinction Award from the Arizona Association of Student Councils. The banquet was catered by Eva's and students brought sides, desserts, and drinks. Students and sponsors received awards and seniors received their cords to wear at graduation. Congratulations, Student Council, on an outstanding year! The Cougars are sponsored by Stacy Brady, Science Teacher.



CGUHS Elite Dance Company

The <u>CGUHS Elite Dance Company</u> earned several awards at the Celebrity Dance Competition the weekend of April 29. They competed in eight (8) dances earning six high gold awards, two gold awards, two 1st Place awards, one 3rd Place award, and one 5th Place award. The Cougars are coached by Kaitlyn Quintana, Fine Arts Teacher.



GSA Club Donates Funds to Maricopa Food Pantry

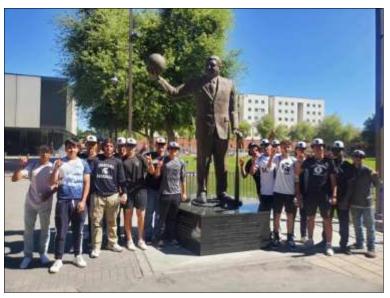
The CGUHS GSA (Genders and Sexualities Alliance, aka Gay/Straight Alliance) Club donated \$400 to support the Maricopa Food Pantry on Thursday, May 19. Pictured is Jim Shoaf (Maricopa Food Pantry CEO) receiving a certificate and donation from Quincy M. (GSA Club Secretary on the left) and Adan Makil (GSA Club Member on the right). The GSA Club started at CGUHS in the fall of 2019 and has primarily been a student support group. GSA wanted a service project, this year, to help others outside the group and school and considered several worthy national organizations. GSA members became aware of the fire that destroyed the food and equipment at the Maricopa Food Pantry. The National Honor Society led a canned food drive that spurred interest among club members to help a local organization that gives so much to our community. The Maricopa Food Pantry operates solely with volunteer staff and by donation and does not receive government funding. They help people in our school district and far beyond, and do not discriminate or turn people away. They welcome donations from the community and help 1,200-1,500 people each week, so the need continues. Reach out if you need more information. Jim Shoaf can also be reached at 520-709-3076. The GSA Club is sponsored by Michelle Bottomley.





Constable Signs with College of the Desert

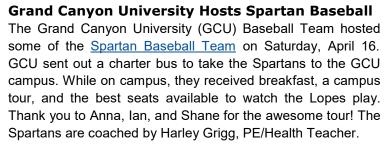
On Wednesday, April 13, Tyrese Constable signed his letter of intent to play football for College of the Desert in Palm Desert, California. During the 2021/22 football season, Tyrese became the first VGHS football player in school history to rush for over 1,000 yards. He accomplished the feat by playing the positions of Wide Receiver, Running Back, and Defensive Back. In college, Tyrese plans to study Kinesiology. Spartan Football is coached by Jon Roberts, PE/Health Teacher.























Football Team Hosts Motivational Speaker

On Wednesday, April 27, the <u>VGHS Football Team</u> hosted Radio Host and Motivational Speaker, Air Force MSgt, Winsome Culley, from Okinawa, Japan. He spoke with students and members of the football team offering them words of wisdom and encouragement. The Spartans are coached by Jon Roberts, PE/Health Teacher.



Track & Field State

The VGHS Track & Field Boys 4x8 Relay Team qualified for the State Championship and competed on Saturday, May 7, at Mesa Community College: Kenny Hernandez (SR), Jordan Verduzco (JR), Eddy Aviles (FR), and Julien Villescaz (FR). Pictured above are the team members who volunteered at the State Championship. The Spartans are coached by Cristina Salcido-Grigg, PE/Health/English Teacher.



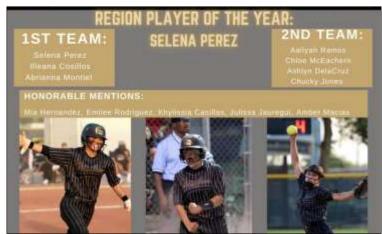
4A Conference All-State Baseball Team

VGHS Senior SS/RHP Emilio Barreras-Rojo was selected to the 4A Conference All-State Baseball Team.



Black Canyon All-Region Baseball Team

VGHS Baseball players named to the Black Canyon All-Region Baseball Team were: [Offensive Player of the Year] Emilio Barreras; [First Team] Nathan Acevedo, Emilio Barreras, and Sebastian Hidrogo; [Second Team] Trent Chavez, Ivan Lara, and Jayson Rael; and [Honorable Mention] Jayden Fahnholz and Josh Haddox. The Spartans are coached by Harley Grigg, PE/Health Teacher.



Black Canyon All-Region Softball Team

VGHS Softball players named to the Black Canyon All-Region Softball Team were: [Region Player of the Year] Selena Perez; [1st Team] Illeana Cosillos, Abrianna Montiel, and Selena Perez; [2nd Team] Ashlyn DelaCruz, Chucky Jones, Chloe McEachern, and Aaliyah Ramos; and [Honorable Mention] Khylissia Casillas, Mia Hernandez, Julissa Jauregui, Amber Macias, and Emilee Rodriguez. The Spartans are coached by Victoria Belloc.



Cougar Basketball Skills Camp

Casa Grande Union High School would like to welcome all youth basketball players to our skills camp this summer! This camp will be full of fundamental skills, games and fun. Players may come for two days or just for a day. This event is open is all 5-8 grade boys and girls students.

The Cost is \$15 per day or \$25 for both days. This includes the camp fee and water.

Friday May 27th 2 PM to 4 PM, Saturday May 28th, 11 am to 1 pm.

Casa Grande Union High School Gymnasium 2730 N Trekell Road, Casa Grande, AZ 85122

To register your kids for camp please email Coach Hubbard: khubbard@cguhsd.org

Include player's Name, grade and current school. Please let Coach know what days you plan to attend. All players need to be registered by Monday May 14th 2022.

Payment is due the first day of camp, Cash or check, please write the checks to CGUHS Girls Basketball Club.



Coed Basketball Camp

Casa Grande Union High School (CGUHS) Girls Basketball will host a kid's basketball skills camp on May 27 (2-4 pm) and Saturday, May 28 (11am-1pm). The event is open to 5th-8th grade students. Campers may attend two days or just for a day. High school players will help younger kids build skills and play games during the camp. This is a great chance for kids to be a part of CGUHS Basketball. To register, email Coach Hubbard at khubbard@cguhsd.org. Include your camper's name, grade, current school, and day(s) attending. Register by Monday, May 16. The cost is \$15 per day or \$25 for both days. This includes the camp fee and water. Payment is due the first day of camp, cash or check. Checks are payable to "CGUHS Girls Basketball Club". The Cougars are coached by Kevin Hubbard, Science Teacher.

Summer Camps

For a complete list of summer camps and activities, visit CGUHS at www.cguhsd.org/cgCamps.aspx and VGHS at www.cguhsd.org/vgCamps.aspx.



Spartan Nation Baseball Camp

The <u>Vista Grande High School Spartan Baseball Program</u> will host their 2nd Annual Spartan Nation Summer Baseball Camp, May 31-June 2, 8-10 a.m. The camp is for kids, 1st-6th grades. It will be held at the VGHS baseball fields and includes a camp t-shirt as well as a Gatorade and snack each day. Baseball instruction will be led by the VGHS coaching staff and players. For more information or to register, please fill out and send the <u>Registration & Waiver Form</u> to <u>spartanbase-ballyghs@gmail.com</u>.

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 open!

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

Welcome to our district!





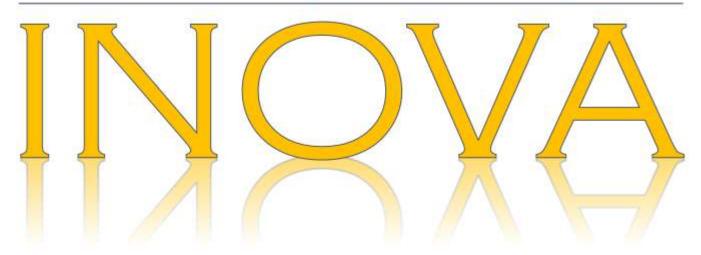


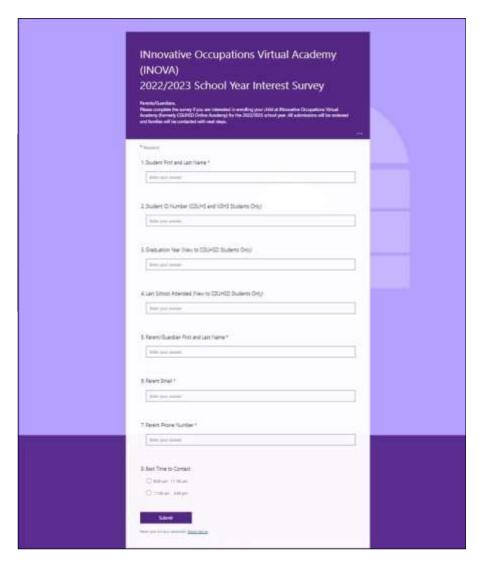


NSPIRING CASA GRANDE UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT



INnovative Occupations Virtual Academy







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



Arizona Education Tax Credit

Contribute to student programs and activities in our district, and you'll be paid back with a <u>DOLLAR-FOR-DOLLAR TAX CREDIT</u>.



- COVID-19 Benchmarks & Cases
- Crisis Hotlines
- ESSER III
- Face Covering/Mask
- Quarantine Information
- <u>Safe Return to In-Person Instruction</u> and Continuity of Services Plan
- Self Test
- <u>Technology Assistance</u>
- Vaccine Clinics

CONNECT WITH US









District CGUHS VGHS

District CGUHS VGHS

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District CGUHS VGHS

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

Explore the tabs:

- About
- Families
- Registration
- Summer Academy
- Departments
- Programs
- Classrooms
- COVID

CGUHSD Online Academy cgoa.cguhsd.org

Explore the tabs:

- About
- Families
- Registration
- Summer Academy
- Departments
- Programs
- Resources
- COVID

Casa Grande Union High School District #82

INSPIRING EXCELLENCE CONSTRUCTION

www.cguhsd.org

2022-2023 Academic Calendar

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	VGHS Graduation
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26	Teacher Check-out
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Approved on 3/2/2021















Join Our Team

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

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



<u>Governing</u> Board



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 CGUHSD Board Room (1st Floor) and LIVE via our <u>YouTube Channel</u>.



President: Jack Henness was a CGUHSD 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 CGUHSD 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. rhlopez@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