

CGUHSD

Express



Dr. Steve Bebee, Superintendent

Volume 12 | December 2019 | www.cguhsd.org

A note from the Superintendent...



Dear CGUHSD Parents, Community and Staff:

One of our district priorities and goals is to effectively and efficiently communicate with our students, parents and the greater Casa Grande community. To increase our district communications, we are very pleased to announce that we have expanded our social media platforms and are now on both Facebook and Instagram. You can now stay up to date on all the wonderful things happening in our district by following us on Twitter at [CGUHSD@bebee_steve](https://twitter.com/CGUHSD@bebee_steve); on Facebook at [Casa Grande Union High School District](https://www.facebook.com/CasaGrandeUnionHighSchoolDistrict) and on Instagram at [cguhsdistrict](https://www.instagram.com/cguhsdistrict). We are also pleased to announce that we now have that ability to provide free internet hotspots for our students at both Casa Grande Union and Vista Grande who do not have internet access at home. We encourage our parents and students to check with your school and take advantage of this opportunity.

As we conclude our first semester on December 20th, I would like to take the time to wish all our families a very Happy Holiday Season and a very Happy New Year! We look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Tuesday, January 7, 2020

Sincerely,

Steven C. Bebee

Steve Bebee

Mr. Farnsworth receives Governor's Award



Casa Grande Union High School's Agriculture teacher, Mr. Casey Farnsworth, was awarded the 2019 Agricultural Educator of the Year at the Arizona Agribusiness Roundtable held December 2, 2019. The award was presented by Mark Killian, Director of the Arizona Department of Agriculture and Gilbert Davidson, Governor Doug Ducey's Chief Operating Officer. Congratulations Mr. Farnsworth!

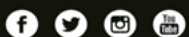
Greatest of the Grande Honors

Congratulations to Mr. David Carter and Mr. Ernie Razo who placed in the Top 3 Teachers in Casa Grande! Mr. Carter teaches Marketing and Culinary and Mr. Razo teaches Math at Casa Grande Union High School, which also placed in the Top 3 Schools in Casa Grande. They were honored at a banquet on December 12th and it was announced that Mr. Carter was voted #1! Great job both of you!



Upcoming Dates of Importance

DECEMBER 19-20	Semester Exams – Half day release @ 12:20 PM
DECEMBER 23-31	Winter Break – No School
JANUARY 1-6	Winter Break – No School
JANUARY 6	Teacher In-Service Day
JANUARY 7	Second Semester begins
JANUARY 20	Martin Luther King Jr. Day – No School



520.316.3360 | www.cguhsd.org





Free Internet Hotspot!



Free Internet Hotspot Checkout

As part of the “Every Student Access” initiative, the CGUHSD, in partnership with Sprint for ConnectED, is pleased to announce the availability of

wireless hotspots for student checkout to those students who lack internet access in the home. The goal of this program is to provide equitable access to the district’s online systems, and educational resources for students while not at school. The program is open to families with at least one student enrolled in a school within the Casa Grande Union High School District and with no household internet access at the time of sign-up!

VG Juniors and Seniors Visit UofA



VGHS juniors and seniors visited the University of Arizona as part of their November college tour month. Students took a guided tour where they learned about the history of the school. They were also advised on various college paths and resources available for students. Both chaperones are UofA alumni

and were able to share their university experience. During college month, they also visited Grand Canyon and Arizona State University.

CG SkillsUSA Students Volunteer

The CGUHS SkillsUSA Construction students assisted the CG Food Bank in sorting boxes and stocking shelves. It was a humbling experience for some who didn't realize the community need for such an event, and all the work that goes into supporting families. SkillsUSA Construction students are advised by Mr. Mike Wagner. Way to lend a hand!



CG MJROTC Earns 1st Place



The CGUHS Marine Corps JROTC Drill Team came out on top at the Buena High School Drill Meet. The students performed very well considering a very early morning departure time. They won

trophies in the following events: 3rd Place – Unarmed Inspection, 1st Place – Unarmed Regulation, 1st Place – Unarmed Exhibition, 3rd Place – Unarmed 4-Person Exhibition, 2nd Place – Armed Inspection, 1st Place – Armed Exhibition, 1st Place – Armed 4-Person Exhibition, 1st Place – Varsity Color Guard, 1st Place – Challenge Color Guard, 1st Place – Drill Down, and 1st Place – Overall. Great job!

CG Agriculture Students Provide Meals

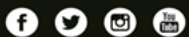


The CGUHS Agriculture students did a phenomenal job during Thanksgiving week. With the assistance of CG DECA, who helped bring in food items, and CG Culinary students, who baked fresh pumpkin pies, they were

able to meet their goal and provide 20 families in need across Pinal County with a complete Thanksgiving meal including one of their fresh turkeys. Special thanks to everyone for their support in the project and the opportunity to serve each year!

VG Freshman Class Gives Back

On November 26, the Vista Grande High School Freshman Class, accompanied by their sponsor, Ms. Kortsen, purchased gifts for Christmas Angels. Way to give back Spartans!!





CTE Students of the Month



Renee Chaffee is a Casa Grande Union High School student and granddaughter of Yvette Stewart. Renee was nominated by her Engineering teacher, Mr. John Morris, who stated that she is a diamond in the rough and possesses all the qualities needed to become a strong leader and a great engineer. Renee is project manager for Project Flower Child, a project that combines our engineering and biotechnology classes to design, build, and test a hybrid airship to conduct high altitude scientific research. As the project manager, Renee oversees operations, communications, engineering, finance, science, and legal departments. Once Flower Child is ready to take flight, she will also fill the role of flight director. In class she has my complete confidence. She is someone other students know they can rely on for her knowledge and guidance.



Merlin D'souza is a Casa Grande Union High School student and daughter of Moses and Teodolina D'souza. Merlin was nominated by her Biosciences teacher, Mr. Noel Que, who stated that she is a positive and encouraging person who sees the good in everything no matter what the situation. Merlin is an encouraging person who always pushes her peers to do the best they can on the tasks at hand, be it academics or clubs. As an officer of the AzHOSA CGUHS Chapter, she shows commitment as she consistently advocates in every presentation and conference. Merlin keeps herself busy completing academic requirements and applying critical thinking skills in every lab. She always has an excellent attitude that her peers admire.

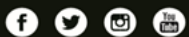
Rotary Students of the Month



Brionna Eager is a student at Casa Grande Union High School and the daughter of Kim Eager and C.J. Diaz. Her activities and accomplishments include: Senior Class President, Junior Class Vice-President, Key Club, FCCLA, Girl's State and Superintendent's Challenge. Other personal activities and accomplishments include, 4-H Historian and current Vice-President, nursery coordinator at Trinity Lutheran Church, volunteer at Hospice Family Care, Veteran's Memorial Foundation, Ride for the Warrior, wedding events, and parade booths. Her life and career goals are to make a difference in the world and people's lives through volunteer work, public service and one day, a career that leads to public service in the government and to enlist in the military to serve her country.



Frank Sotelo-Valenzuela is a student at Vista Grande High School and son of Francisco Hugo Sotelo and Flor Valenzuela. His activities and accomplishments include: President of Robotics, member of National Honor Society and Spartan Athletic Advisory Committee, and 1st place winner of the Sunrise Oratorical Contest. His personal activities and accomplishments include even more robotics, music, video game development and Latino Outdoors volunteer. His career goals are to graduate from ASU with a major in Digital Culture with a focus in art in order to become a freelance artist and independent game developer.





Making It Happen

Employee of the Month & Golden Ticket Program



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

December 2019 Employees of the Month

Ray Mark Cariquez	Math Teacher	CGUHS
Gabriela Sanchez	CTE Paraprofessional	VGHS
Rita Whisenhunt	CTE Paraprofessional	CGUHS
David Raya	Grounds	VGHS
Jared Walther	Social Studies Teacher	VGHS
DeAnna Addison	ESS Teacher	VGHS
Kim Rains	CTE Teacher	VGHS
Kelly Blunk	School Psychologist	CGUHS
Andrea Teran	Assistant Principal	CGUHS/VGHS
Jose Munoz	Math Teacher	CGUHS

Below are the Lucky Winners chosen from the 56 Golden Ticket recipients:

Liz Scofield	CGUHS
Christine Collins	CGUHS/VGHS
Kurt Kieser	CGUHS
Rosa Celaya de Andrade	CGUHS

