

October
2021



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**San Dieguito Union High
School District**
710 Encinitas Blvd.
Encinitas, CA 92024

SDUHSD Main Number:
760-753-6491

**Superintendent
Number:**
760-753-6491, x5597

Dear SDUHSD Community:

Happy October everyone! Weather is cooling, leaves are falling and change is in the air! One of the biggest changes is the Board's appointment of a new superintendent: **Dr. Cheryl James-Ward**. Dr. Ward will begin on **November 1, 2021**, and I look forward to this new chapter for our district. Please learn more about Dr. Ward on page 2 of this newsletter and join me in welcoming her to our District in her new role!

So SDUHSD family, this will be my last newsletter to you. These past months have been a wonderful experience getting reconnected with SDUHSD (my home district)! Over the last 6 months we have accomplished so much! **Thank you to everyone who made this all possible.**

Some of the highlights:

- In-person spring graduations for all of our high school graduates (they were amazing by the way!);
- The return of almost 13,000 students to full-time in-person instruction this fall (thank you families for your trust in us!);
- The creation and implementation of a robust safety plan to safely return our students and employees back to our sites (and which helped to bring down our total positive cases from 64 in August, to 10 in October - as of this newsletter);
- The launch of universal (free) meals to our schools (a year ahead of time) to serve our returning students (the Nutritional Services team rocks!);
- Three summer vaccination clinics to ensure that our students, families and community had access to this protective measure and could be vaccinated by the beginning of school this fall (almost 90% of SDUHSD staff is vaccinated!);
- The largest summer program ever to support our students with learning loss, credit recovery and ESY (approximately 500 students served daily) (thank you summer team!);
- Free 7 days a week COVID-19 testing for our school employees and students (bringing surveillance testing opportunities to staff weeks ahead of the state mandated deadline);
- 20 Board meetings, CPI training at school sites, IBB training for labor negotiations, automated contact tracing, and so much more!

None of this would have happened without the dedication of our Board, countless administrators, certificated and classified SDUHSD team members, our parent organizations and foundations, and volunteers who support our students and sites every day.

Thank you SDUHSD Board for welcoming me as the district's interim superintendent and for giving me this opportunity! Stay healthy, stay positive and stay open to new ideas! I'll miss you SDUHSD! Signing off for now!

Lucile Lynch
Interim Superintendent (May - October 2021)
(My pronouns: she/her/hers)

WELCOME!



SDUHSD Superintendent • Dr. Cheryl James-Ward

Dr. Cheryl James-Ward will join us on November 1! She currently serves as the CEO of [e3 Civic High](#) and before that she served as its Chief Engagement & Innovation Officer. E3 Civic high has been recognized as one of the most innovative schools in the nation. Prior to joining e3 Civic High, Dr. Ward was a tenured professor for San Diego State University. While at SDSU, she served as the Founding Director of the online Master of Arts Program in Educational Leadership, led the SDSU Chinese and American Educational Leadership Symposiums, and taught both master's and doctoral level courses. Now, as professor emeritus, Dr. Ward continues to support the doctoral program and chair dissertation committees.

Dr. Ward's other educational experiences include Director of Academic Initiatives for the Long Beach Unified School District with 15,000 students under her leadership. She has served as Principal and Vice Principal for the Long Beach Unified School District, Principal for Capri Elementary in Encinitas, and Dean of Student Discipline as well as Math Teacher for the Los Angeles Unified School District.

Dr. Ward is a renowned researcher in both leadership and 2030 education. She has published numerous articles in leadership and technology journals, including the National Association of Secondary School Principals Leadership Journal, Frontiers in Education Technology, Educational Administration Quarterly, ASCD Principal Leadership, Association of California School Administrators Leadership Journal, Voices in the Middle and Education Technology Review.

Please click on the video below to learn more about Dr. Cheryl James-Ward!



Cheryl Ward/She, her, hers

News from our Student Board Representatives



Amanda Chen

I am so excited and grateful to be able to represent CCA's student body this year and advocate on their behalf while being a trusted and approachable representative!

- ASB Executive President
- CCA UNITE Co-President
- Women in STEM Founder
- Active Peer Tutor

Looking forward to a great year!



Olivia Pacheco

I am so honored and ecstatic to advocate for La Costa Canyon students!

- Chair, City of Encinitas Youth Commission
- President, Key Club & Maverick Brigade
- ASB for 2 years
- Peer Tutor
- Study Buddy

I am so excited to represent the Mavericks!



Zach Joelson

I am so happy to have the opportunity to represent my school and the district. I love being able to be an advocate for my classmates and stand up for our voices to be heard!



Payton Parker

I am so grateful to be in a position that allows me to be an advocate for my peers. I can be their supporter & friend, someone they can trust & talk to openly about their concerns.

- ASB 4 years
- Varsity Tennis Captain
- STEM Girls President
- NHS Member
- Helen Woodward Volunteer



Ethan Hines

I grew up in Philadelphia area moved in August 2020.

I am excited to represent Sunset positively as a school board representative.

After high school, I would like to backpack through Europe.



Click the video below to see the Student Board Representative updates at the last Board Meeting





STUDENTS CORNER

Submit items for inclusion to: Miquel.Jacobs@sduhsd.net



[SDUHSD
College Event
Calendar](#)

[Internships
&
Apprenticeships](#)

[SDUHSD
College &
Career
Information](#)

[SDUHSD
Resources for
Students with
Disabilities](#)

October

12 @ 6 pm: SDUHSD Military Service Academy [Presentation](#) (English • Spanish)

12 @ 6:30 pm: “[Out-of-State Public & Private Universities Application Workshop](#),” [College Webinar](#)
(Greg Kaplan College application series)

15: Last day for AP Exam [Registration](#)
First Quarter Ends

23 - 31: [Red Ribbon Week](#) (alcohol, tobacco and drug prevention week!)

26 @ 6:30 pm: “[UC/Cal State Application Workshop](#),” [College Webinar](#).

29 @ 5pm: Applications due for a **U.S. Service Academy**. Visit our new [SDUHSD website](#) for students who may be interested in U.S. Military Academy (West Point), U.S. Naval Academy, U.S. Air Force Academy, U.S. Coast Guard, and U.S. Merchant Marine Academy.



November

1: Dr. Ward begins as our new superintendent!

9 @ 6:30 pm: “[Merit Scholarship & Financial Aid Workshop](#),” [College Webinar](#).

22 - 26: Fall Break (Have a good one!)

December

17: Application Deadline for [Youth Leadership Forum](#) (YLF) for Students with Disabilities
(Free 6-day self-advocacy and leadership event for sophomores, juniors and seniors)
Application: [English](#) • [Spanish](#) • [Videos](#)

24 - 31: Winter Break (Enjoy!)

News from the California Department of Education:

[CA Green Ribbons program:](#) Applications due on November 12 to honor excellence in whole-school sustainability while spotlighting replicable best practices.

[Directing Change California](#) is hosting a film contest with 6 submission categories: Suicide Prevention, Mental Health Awareness, Animated Short, Walk in our Shoes, Hope and Justice, Through the Lens of Culture. Submissions due March 1, 2022.

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS



Principal:
Brett Killeen

CANYON CREST ACADEMY (CCA)

CCA students have completed their 1st quarter and we're off to a great start for quarter 2. [Fall sports](#) are preparing for CIF play-offs, and winter student-athletes are getting cleared for a new season. Our Envision Theater Conservatory is about to open for [Hamlet and Chicago](#). It is Spirit Week, and ASB is hosting our 1st-ever outdoor Pep Rally, and our [Homecoming dance](#) is the same night in our main quad. [PALs](#) are planning and recruiting for our 9th and 10th grade Community Days. Follow it all [Here](#) or check our [Daily Bulletin](#)! **Go, Ravens!**



Principal:
Adam Camacho

SAN DIEGUITO HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMY (SDA)

Hello quarter 2! SDA wrapped up a very successful 1st quarter with an amazing Homecoming Week. We hosted 1200 SDA students at last Friday's 2021 HOCO outdoor dance in our beautiful Math & Science quad. You're invited: Our Theater Department opens [CLUE](#) this week. We are also looking forward to this Friday's Student Forum. These forums provide our site with direct student feedback regarding concerns and celebrations. The SDA Band invites you to the Halloween Concert at the outdoor PAC stage on Oct. 28 (6:30pm). Lastly, our ASB & the San Diego Blood Bank invite you to support SDA's annual blood drive on Nov. 2 (8am-1:30pm) on campus. [Sign up here](#). **85 YEARS IN THE MAKING... GO MUSTANGS!**



Principal:
Reno Medina

LA COSTA CANYON HIGH SCHOOL (LCC)

Last week - Homecoming Week - was a huge success! Thank you to Ms. Solomon and ASB for putting together wonderful activities and spirit days, in addition to a fun and well-attended dance on Saturday night with a Wild, Wild West theme. A huge shout-out to our Nutrition Services crew for surprising our students with hot dogs and Pick Up Sticks. We also held our annual IB Family Dinner with our IB Diploma Candidates and staff. *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* is on the bill for the arts next week along with *Comedy Sportz*. Lastly, a shout-out to our Maverick football program for hosting a dinner honoring our teachers, and embodying One Maverick Way. **Go Mavs!**



Principal:
Rob Coppo

TORREY PINES HIGH SCHOOL (TPHS)

Our **Torrey Pines Falcons** just had their first HOCO in two years, and it was a big success! Our [Fall sports](#) teams are looking forward to an exciting playoff season, and our VPA program hosted a Dance performance and a live Music program concert in our gorgeous PAC! Our second episode of our news show, *Falcon Vision*, will air during SC time on 10/127, followed by classroom SEL activities created by our SEL parent/teacher committee. Speaking of SEL, we just hosted four Challenge Day sessions to help our students break down barriers and get connected. **We are TP!**



SUNSET HIGH SCHOOL (Principal: Rick Ayala)

The 2021-2022 school year at Sunset is off to a great start. Students and staff are happy to be back on campus for in-person instruction, and we continue to enroll new students who are looking to take advantage of our smaller learning environment and independent-pacing format. Student progress reports were sent to all parents last month and that was followed with "Parent Conference Week" from 4 through October 8. All parents had the opportunity to meet with their student's advisor for an update on their progress. "Red Ribbon Week" will be next week and we will have activities on campus that promote healthy living and decision-making. Halloween is always a fun time at Sunset. All students and staff members are encouraged to dress up on October 29, and we will have a costume contest and a pumpkin-carving contest that day. If you are interested in exploring Sunset as an option for your student, feel free to contact us to set up an information meeting. **Sunset rocks!**

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

Grades 7 & 8



Principal:
Vicki Kim

Carmel Valley Middle School

CVMS looks forward to kicking off our annual Red Ribbon Week where we invite our students to pledge to stay drug-free! We will kick off the week with Crazy Red Day this Friday and continue with [fun activities throughout next week](#)! We have also initiated the process of finding student leaders to serve on our No Place for Hate Committee, and we look forward to seeing next steps of this important work being led by our student leaders. Finally, we are excited about our upcoming Family Fun Night, where CVMS families can come together to celebrate our Bobcat community! Go Bobcats!! Grrrrrr!



Principal:
Cara Dolnik

Diegueño Middle School

DNO celebrates Red Ribbon Week October 25-29 sponsored by PTSA & ASB. Students look forward to assemblies, dress up days, activities, and learning opportunities involving our community first responders including CHP, Sheriff, and Fire Department personnel. Each day includes a dress up day finishing with Halloween Costume Contest on Friday and a Pumpkin Decorating contest!

Each week we recognize students through our Cougar Pride recognitions program. (Follow us on Facebook [Diegueno Middle School](#).)



Principal:
Justin Conn

Earl Warren Middle School

EWMS has a number of exciting events coming up over the next few weeks. Next week is Spirit Week, and we will have our first dance on 10/28, which will be Halloween-themed. The following week will be our PTSA-sponsored Red Ribbon Week, which will end with an extended lunch period and a BMX show! November 12th will be our Spirit Day, which will include a DJ at lunch, games, and additional food options. Exciting times! Follow us on Instagram [@earlwarrenms](#)



Principal:
Katie Friedrichs

Oak Crest Middle School

OCMS celebrated [Wellness Week](#) with lunchtime activities including therapy dogs on campus! The Waves also have their first [Red Ribbon/Spirit Week](#) and [Fall Carnival/Dance](#) at the end of October. OC Teachers participated in professional development supporting building SEL in the classrooms and continue to support our students academically and social-emotionally everyday. Thank you to our whole community for the support and dedication to our Waves! [Follow it all here!](#) (Instagram: [@OCMSWAVES](#))



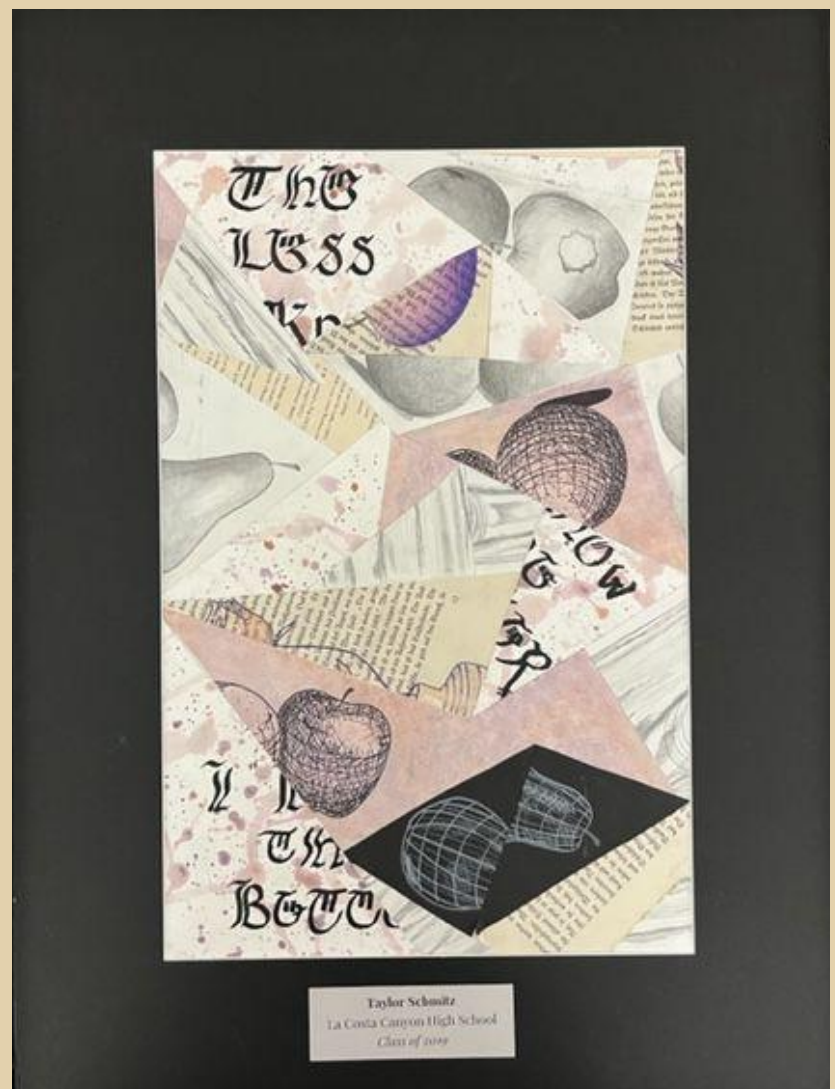
Pacific Trails Middle School

Principal: Mary Anne Nuskin

PTMS launched our first joint ASB/PTSA Fundraiser this year (no outside organization) which became a HUGE success bringing in \$60,000 that was evenly split between ASB and the PTSA making every dollar donated going right back to our students and programs. Top Winning Homerooms received a donut party and all students will enjoy a lunchtime DJ and ice cream celebration. Digital Citizenship Day on October 18th had all classes teaching a different lesson from Common Sense Media to show students how to use technology safely and appropriately. To support ongoing efforts for student wellness, several teachers are hosting Homeroom Wellness Activities including Meditation, Yoga/Stretching, and Color Me Calm. The first dance for our Wolves is Thursday, October 21st.

Student Artwork

The walls of the District Office were recently improved by beautiful works of some of our talented students. Please enjoy!



Student Artwork

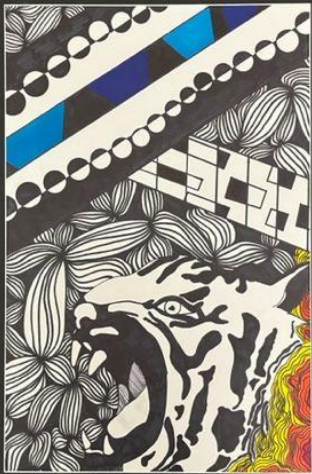
The walls of the District Office were recently improved by beautiful works of some of our talented students. Please enjoy!



Taylor Schmitz
La Costa Canyon High School
Class of 2021



Berckel Denslow
La Costa Canyon High School
Class of 2021



Jensen Miller
La Costa Canyon High School
10th Grade



Rachel Cohen
Pacific Trails Middle School
7th Grade



Kanna Le
Pacific Trails Middle School
8th Grade



Ava Phan
La Costa Canyon High School
10th Grade



Alicia Lai
Crest Canyon Academy
10th Grade



Rebecca Kim
Crest Canyon Academy
10th Grade

Student Artwork

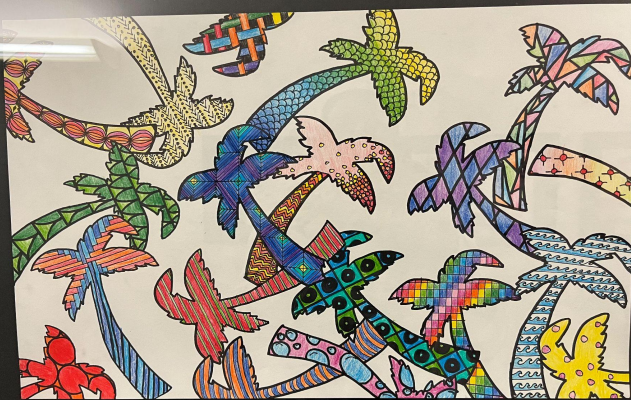
The walls of the District Office were recently improved by beautiful works of some of our talented students. Please enjoy!



Marion Sevel
Pacific Trails Middle School
7th Grade



Arnulfo Carrillo
La Costa Canyon High School
Class of 2019



Danielle Herndl
Pacific Trails Middle School
7th Grade



Rachel Cohen
Pacific Trails Middle School
7th Grade

Thank
you
artists! 

Thank you too to Bryan Marcus and Andie Pizana for your help to make this possible!



Red Ribbon Week



Red Ribbon Week (October 23 - 31) is a week to help educate our community about ways to prevent addiction and to help stop the use of alcohol, drugs and tobacco in honor of DEA agent Enrique “Kiki” Camarena. **Choose to be healthy everyone!**



Over-the-Counter Medicines DrugFacts



Fentanyl DrugFacts



Heroin DrugFacts



Inhalants DrugFacts



Methamphetamine DrugFacts



Prescription Opioids DrugFacts

What San Dieguito students are doing to help?

Our high school students tutor and mentor local elementary school students through the Study Buddy program, a collaborative of the San Dieguito Alliance, SDUHSD and local elementary school districts. (Interested? Click [here](#) to learn more!) They also serve as Teen Presenters to share their stories and choices to be drug free!

[Things Parents should know](#)

[Alcohol and Teens](#)

[Alcohol and Drug Stats](#)

[Marijuana and Teens](#)

[Treatment and Recovery](#)

Resources are for informational purposes only and do not constitute an endorsement by SDUHSD.

Resources:

National Institute on Drug Abuse

[Drug Facts](#)

[Vaping](#)

[Naturally High](#)

[San Dieguito Alliance for Drug Free Youth](#)

Stanford Medicine

[Tobacco Prevention Toolkit](#)

[E-Cigs/Vapes & Pod-Based](#)

[Vaping & Covid-19](#)

Want to quit vaping?

California Smoker's Helpline 844-866-8273

[Nobutts.org](#)

[teen.smokefree.gov](#)

District Information

Most questions can be answered by your school's teachers and administrators so please start there to get a quick answer. In case they are not able to help, below are answers to frequently asked questions.

We also have a searchable [A - Z Index](#) at the top of our SDUHSD [website](#) for assistance.

Career Technical Education (CTE)

The [SDUHSD CTE](#) program offers 37 CTE courses, 17 pathways, 9 sectors and 32 UC approved courses. An additional 26 CTE courses across 4 high school campuses articulate with local community colleges where students have the opportunity to earn both high school and college credit for their CTE courses.

[Career Pathway Plan Documents](#)

School site pathways:

Canyon Crest Academy • [CCA](#)

La Costa Canyon High School • [LCC](#)

San Dieguito High School Academy • [SDA](#)

Torrey Pines High School • [TPHS](#)

Google Meet • Translation!

Google Meet can now natively translate captions into 4 different languages: French, German, Portuguese (Brazil), and Spanish (Mexico). Learn more! [Change caption to a different language](#)

District Vaccination Rate:

Almost 90% of our District employees are vaccinated!

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

The District or an employee may on occasion get asked to share information about a situation or circumstances at a school site. If it involves a particular student or student matter, information generally cannot be shared with a third party.

For example, FERPA is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records.

For more information about FERPA, please click [here](#).

SDUHSD needs you! Apply today at [Edjoin.org](#)

We can tell you from personal experience it's a **great** team to work with! Working for a school district is never dull and if you're looking for job stability, a place filled with team spirit, and steady work, SDUHSD is where you need to be!

**NOW
HIRING**

APPLY TODAY!



Trustee Area 1
**Maureen "Mo"
Muir**
Board President



Trustee Area 2
Katrina Young
Board Clerk



Trustee Area 3
Melisse Mossy
Board Vice
President



Trustee Area 4
Mike Allman
Board Member

Trustee Area 5

VACANT

Special
Election

Nov. 2, 2021
(Mail-in ballots)

Please visit the Board [website](#) to learn more about meeting dates, times, the Board's agenda and other Board items.

Videos of past meetings are also posted on the website.

October 6:

Board met to screen applicants for its permanent superintendent search.

October 8:

Board interviewed superintendent candidates.

October 9:

Board interviewed final candidates and selected Dr. Cheryl James-Ward as the sole finalist.

October 14:

4:45 pm Meeting: A school facilities financing authority update was provided.

5 pm Board Meeting - Highlights:

- Student Board members first meeting!
(You did a GREAT job! Thank you!)
- Appointment of Dr. Cheryl James-Ward as the district's new superintendent!
- Principal Adam Camacho's presentation regarding San Dieguito HS Academy (SDA) (Thank you!)
- Ratification of facility use agreement with YMCA and SDUHSD for shared use of Skate Park
- Updates on: School site cameras & facilities, bus survey, Special Education Parent Advisory Committee and more!

2021 BOARD MEETINGS

Remaining
Regular Board meetings:

November 18 @ 3 pm
December 14 @ 5 pm



2022 BOARD MEETINGS

At the November 18, 2021 regular board meeting a draft 2022 meeting schedule will be proposed to the Board for review and public comment.

The schedule (and any changes to the scheduled by the Board) will then be brought back for final review and approval on December 14, 2021.

Executive Cabinet Notices & Information



Mark Miller
Deputy Superintendent
Administrative Services

With college application deadlines and subsequent decisions on the horizon, please remember that [SDUHSD's website](#) as well as your site counseling website, contains important college and career information, including these webinars:

UC/CSU APPLICATION & ADMISSIONS

- [PRESENTATION](#) and [RECORDING](#)

"Finding your College Fit"

- [PRESENTATION](#) and [RECORDING](#)
- [Presenter Contact Information](#)

"College Essay Tips"

- [PRESENTATION](#) and [RECORDING](#)

SDUHSD Financial Aid Presentation

- [PRESENTATION](#) and [RECORDING](#)

College Admission & Testing Updates

- [September 2021](#)



Tina Douglas
Associate Superintendent
Business Services

Prop AA/ICOC News:

We have shared information in previous newsletters regarding our facilities projects. Our Independent Citizens Oversight Committee (ICOC) met last week on October 12, 2021. Staff provided an update on the current Prop AA projects, Prop AA projects in planning, as well as Prop AA budget information for the projects. You can find information on the [ICOC website](#).

Annual Data Confirmation

The window to complete this process is currently OPEN. This is a MANDATORY requirement that must be completed electronically for every student, by parents/guardians, using the Aeries Parent Portal.

New this year, we are asking families to complete the Income Survey section. This survey helps to ensure that adequate funding is available to support educational programs that directly benefit your child. Please complete the Income Survey section to ensure your child's school receives the funding it deserves.



Dr. Olga West, Ed.D.
Associate Superintendent
Human Resources

Negotiations:

The District, CSEA, and SDFA have all "sunshined" the articles for negotiations by offering a public hearing at a Board meeting prior to meeting for negotiations.

CSEA and the District began negotiations in September and have future meetings scheduled.

SDFA and the District negotiating teams also participated in training on Interest Based Bargaining. We had an opportunity to establish collaborative relationships, open lines of communication, and learn about the IBB process that will involve sharing our interests, brainstorming options, and utilizing the standards to evaluate those options.



Bryan Marcus
Associate Superintendent
Educational Services

Academic: Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)

SDUHSD is currently partnering with the San Diego County Office of Education to build a shared staff understanding of high quality teaching and learning strategies for all students, and work with schools to continue to develop clear systems to identify struggling students & instructional intervention strategies to meet the unique learning needs.

**SAN DIEGUITO UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES PRESENT**

College Application Strategy Webinar Series

All sessions are virtual and will be recorded.
Click [here](#) or visit the District homepage
on the date of the webinar to access.

Tuesday 10/12/21 @ 6:30pm: "Out-Of-State Public & Private Universities Application Workshop" Learn about strong programs at private and out-of-state universities that may be great fits for scholarships and long-term goals.

Tuesday 10/26/21 @ 6:30pm: "UC/Cal State Application Workshop" Learn about the UC and Cal State application process and how to maximize odds of admission for highly impacted campuses and programs.

Tuesday 11/9/21 @ 6:30pm: "Merit Scholarship & Financial Aid Workshop" Learn how merit scholarships are awarded, resources for outside merit scholarships and how the need-based financial aid process works to make your college goals a reality.

Please visit the SDUHSD [College & Career](#) page to learn more about college and career opportunities and [events](#).

Speaker's services have been donated to support SDUHSD students.



JOIN GREG KAPLAN, A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED COLLEGE ADMISSIONS EXPERT AND THE AUTHOR OF EARNING ADMISSION: REAL STRATEGIES FOR GETTING INTO HIGHLY SELECTIVE COLLEGES, FOR A FOUR-PART WORKSHOP FOR SDUHSD SENIORS AND THEIR FAMILIES TO OFFER GUIDANCE ON HOW TO STAND OUT, EARN ADMISSION AND PAY FOR COLLEGE. GREG IS A GRADUATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA WHARTON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, UC IRVINE SCHOOL OF LAW, WHERE HE RECEIVED A FULL-TUITION SCHOLARSHIP, AND TORREY PINES HIGH SCHOOL.



Get Cleared to Volunteer!

Parent volunteers help make our schools great! San Dieguito Union High School District Nutrition Services is excited to partner with parent volunteers to provide free school meals to students during the 2021-2022 school year.

We provide:

OPPORTUNITIES AT MULTIPLE SCHOOLS
FRIENDLY, FAST-PACED ENVIRONMENT
FOOD SERVICE TRAINING
FOOD HANDLERS CARD
FLEXIBLE SCHEDULE

Parents, please sign up to volunteer today!

760-753-6241, ext. 3425

