

## Weekly Board Report 29 January 2016

The overall enrollment of Camp Verde Unified School District is 1530 as compared 1496 one year ago. Current enrollment vs. same time last year: Elementary 724 vs. 741; Middle School 342 vs. 323; High School 434 vs. 407; Accommodations School 30 vs. 25. South Verde Magnet School 77 vs. 94.

I had a great week this week spending 3 days with 60 + other teachers and administrators going through the Capturing Kids Hearts training. It was a very positive event. The highlight for me was when Mr. Howe along with four of his teachers brought 6 of our middle school kids to our training to share what CKH's has done for them in their lives. There was not a dry eye in the room as the kids shared the amazing benefits and struggles overcome at our middle school. They were honest and shared how there are still issues, but so many fewer issues than before CKH. I had many many principals come up to me and asked how they could convince their superintendent to approve bringing this into their district. A neat side note, there was about 11 from Cottonwood/Oak Creek in attendance. They hope this is approved for their district and they are able to have their teachers trained and move forward with CKH. A great showcase for our kids!

On a personal note...I became a grandfather for the 5<sup>th</sup> time on Wednesday evening. My daughter welcomed Andrew Burkhart into the world. He weighed 8 lbs 2 ounces and was 20.5 inches long. Mom and baby are both doing great.

I wanted to take some time and explain the difference between impact aid monies and Title VII monies. A large portion of district funding comes from property taxes. Impact Aid money is received by a district because that district has properties within its boundaries that do not pay property taxes, or pay reduced amounts. Tribal land falls within this definition. The money is to compensate the district for property tax revenues it would normally receive from these properties. The calculation of the money received is based on detailed documentation showing how many students live on tax exempt land, how many students' parents work on tax exempt land, how many Sped students live on tax exempt lands, etc. Money received from property taxes goes to the general fund of the district, as well, Impact Aid money goes to the general fund of the district. The point is: Just as property tax money goes toward the educational expenses of all students, Impact Aid money, because it is in lieu of property taxes, goes toward the educational expenses of all students. Title VII funds, however, are funds used for "Indian Education" (the term used by the Federal Government). The application process is similar in that it counts the Native American population in a district and allocates money accordingly, but these funds are used directly on the needs of the Native American students.

Camp Verde High School has had a busy week. The students council is finishing the collection of TOOTHPASTE, TOOTH BRUSHES, DEODORANT, BATH SOAP, SHAMPOO, CONDITIONER, KIDS BODY WASH, TOILET PAPER, CHILDREN'S SOCKS, NEW BLANKETS, LAUNDRY SOAP, CHAP STICK, LOTION, ETC. this week for the Hope Cottage challenge. It is part of the state Student Council conference they will attend in Flagstaff next week. The winning class with the most items collected wins a pizza party from the student council. They will donate the items on Thursday, Feb. 4th during the opening session. The next major community service project is the collection of denim jeans to help Chandler Plante and his projects.

The fire science class performed a repelling practicum as part of their state fire fighter certification. They repelled off of the waterfall area in Copper Canyon under supervision of teacher, Steve Darby and some Camp Verde Fire Department employees. The fire science class will compete in the Region 4 SkillsUSA skill contest this Friday in Snowflake, AZ. Also, the cabinet making class will have two teams compete in

the Region 4 SkillsUSA cabinet making contest in Snowflake. Mr. Harper will be with his students at the cabinet making contest.

Mr. Lewis took 10 students to the Yavapai Math Challenge contest on Jan. 28th. We had two students place in the top four. They were Logan Pratt 4th in the level 2 contest and Eliot Chapman 4th in the level 1 contest for all of Yavapai County. Great job to the students, Mr. Lewis and the math department for an outstanding showing at this event. Please see attached picture of the winners.

Winter sports are wrapping up the season and preparing for regional and state competition in early February. Wrestling is off this week but will return to action on Feb. 6th for the Division IV Sectional tournament at Younker HS. The basketball team will be home on Friday, Feb 5th. for senior night as they take on Chino Valley. On Feb. 4 - 5 CVHS will hold it Spring Parent-Teacher Conferences from 4 - 7pm on the 4th and from 8am to 12pm on the 5th.

TEAM Digital has wrapped up the filming for the middle school's CKH nomination video. Final edits are being completed at this moment and the video will be uploaded to our YouTube channel this afternoon. Please click on the link below and watch a video regarding Capturing Kids Hearts at our middle school. Another neat aspect of this video it was done by our high school kids filming our middle school kids and staff.

<https://youtu.be/Z7GUtR8x8mQ>

Mr. Weir met with Kathy Hellman from the town library yesterday. She has charged us with a tremendous community opportunity. He is putting together a select collaborative group of the graphic design students to design permanent artwork for the end caps of all of the book shelves. This really is a professional level project. We will start from scratch and work through the entire design process, including working directly with the architect, Joel Westervelt, as well as the professional print company they have selected for this specialty work.

The high school just completed artwork for a local business that is changing their franchise company. This work includes their VERY large sign out at the fast food junction, a new logo, color palette, and all collateral (letterhead, business cards, rack cards, pamphlets, etc.) Again, this is another professional job that I am exceptionally proud to be part of. The business owner is paying the designers on the project as well as contributing to our tax credit account!



Camp Verde Middle School had a busy week. Our 8th grade science students investigated their own (and their parents') characteristics with the 'Human Traits Lab'. They will log the information and graph the percentages of dominant and recessive traits expressed in their class and grade level! They will discuss and make inferences regarding the collected data. Mrs. Aitken and Mrs. Wright are teaching about bias and unbiased views in both 7<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts and Math. The cross curricular learning has enhanced this standard so much. Understanding bias and context clues in reading, promotes analysis when annotating given passages. Students learn perspective, tone and motive for both reading and writing. In Math the students are expected to analyze graphs, populations, and samples in order to determine bias and inaccuracies. The students were able to grasp the ideas with depth, which is very difficult to do. They were able to use academic vocabulary to explain their answer when given a bias or unbiased scenario and determine validity. They are now using this knowledge and transferring it to interpreting graphs, sources and accuracy of non-fiction information. In Language Arts they examined a biased set of test questions to understand how important this idea is when it comes to national standardized tests. It is all very exciting! They are learning so much!

This weekend, the 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade basketball teams have their end of the season league tournaments. The boys travel to Clarkdale and the girls travel to Big Park. The wrestling team is taking 5 wrestlers to the State tournament in Tucson as well this weekend. Good Luck to all the athletes. Mr. Howe knows the kids will represent Camp Verde well. Softball tryouts start Monday of next week. We are still looking for a baseball coach. Soccer and track will follow in a few weeks.

Camp Verde Middle School once again knocks it out of the park!!! On Wednesday the 27<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Howe, Robin and Brian Tankesley, Abbie Monroe, Jessica Smith, and Donnie Shanks took six of their students to speak at the Capturing Kids' Hearts training that Dr. Goodwin attended in Phoenix. The Flippen Group requested that we bring our kids to the conference and they also covered the nice lunch at the Olive Garden. Izzy Crofutt, Melinda Brady, Nathaniel Knobbe, Joey Zepeda, Kyria Roa, and Kylie Teague spoke to 65 administrators and teachers about the difference that Capturing Kids' Hearts and Teen Leadership have had on them as well as their school. Mr. Howe believes the kids impacted many people at the conference as there were a lot of tears in the audience as the students spoke, along with Mr. Shanks

and Mr. Howe (I saw it first-hand that these kids had a huge impact on those attending the conference). There will be a video of the event on the Middle School's website shortly.



Speaking of videos, Mr. Howe wants to give a big public shout out to Ms. Scott's high school media class Team Digital for the video that they put together of the Middle School about CKH and their National Showcase School Nomination. We could not have done the video without them. The video is totally awesome and I appreciate it immensely!!! You guys ROCK!!!! The link to this video is included in this week's board report. It will be on the Middle School's site as well.

The 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes at the elementary school have recently hosted Mrs. Boland and several 6<sup>th</sup> grade students as an unofficial cross-campus support program. The 6<sup>th</sup> grade students visited the 5<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms to speak to the students about what to expect once they transition to Camp Verde Middle School. Students shared stories about how the 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers helped them to prepare for the rigor of

middle school, changes in the structure of their learning day, and social issues that they may face. The 6<sup>th</sup> graders answered students' questions and offered their best advice for a smooth transition into middle school.

Later in the year, the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will attend an orientation presentation and visit the middle school. In addition, the 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers will be setting the stage for the increased homework load and responsibilities of middle school by implementing their *40 Days of Focus* program.

First-grade teacher, Mrs. Rodriguez, invited the Yavapai-Apache Cultural Center to perform and educate the 1st graders about their history, culture and traditions as a part of the social studies unit being covered in class:

*PO 1. Describe the interaction of Native Americans with the Spanish (e.g., arrival of Columbus, settlement of St. Augustine, exploration of the Southwest, exchange of ideas, culture and goods).*

The teachers and students from the Yavapai-Apache Nation visited the 1<sup>st</sup> graders on Monday, January 25<sup>th</sup> in the Philip E. England Performing Arts Center. The students sang songs in Yavapai and Apache, with the teachers noting the difference between the two languages. Several dancers and singers performed a war dance and a bird dance.



The elementary school is working with college students to help them complete class observations and practicums for their respective degrees. Ms. Sarah Westervelt (a former CVUSD student) is working on a bachelor's degree in elementary education and is in the process of completing requirements for classroom observations. Alicia French is working on a master's degree in special education. She spent time with us last semester and is repeating the process this semester. Her focus is to observe and create plans for students with behavioral issues that impact learning.

The elementary school continues to implement and grow the Capturing Kids' Hearts program on our campus. In addition to having 5<sup>th</sup> grade greeters at the door, a Process Champions committee has been working to build relational capacity. We had an activity at our last staff meeting and teachers were grouped in order to start an affirmations circle. The committee is working on a board that will be placed in the teachers' mailroom (next to our social contract) for all staff members to give and receive written affirmations.

In addition, the Process Champions have been brainstorming ideas for modeling CKH practices, encouraging teammates, and developing staff meeting plans that follow the CKH model.

South Verde enrolled another student this week, giving the school a total enrollment of 80 students. One student, a senior who just had a child last month, completed all of her courses on Wednesday. Angel Seumptewa is now South Verde's fifth graduate this year.

The basketball team has had a rough year. Wednesday, the 27<sup>th</sup>, the team took on Bella Vista at home and lost 48-27. Today could be redemption day, though. The team travels to Leupp where, hopefully, a win can be attained. After today, only one game is left on February 4 against Southwestern Academy.

An enthusiastic Army recruiter, Jonathan Johnson, enthralled the students on the 27<sup>th</sup> with his military experiences and knowledge of the armed services. He shed light on numerous aspects of military life and the benefits of choosing a military career, especially in the realm of steady pay, benefits, and the travel which the U.S. government could provide. Multiple questions were asked and two seniors expressed great interest in pursuing a career in the military. Mr. Johnson provided supplemental reading material to all interested students. Although he spends a lot of time at Mingus, where the high school student population is the highest, he expressed how he will be stopping in as much as he can to South Verde, promoting the military and supporting students.

South Verde is actively gearing up students and parents for next week's parent/teacher conferences on Friday, February 5. The conferences will occur from 12:00-3:00 p.m. Gail Wilson has been calling parents, the teachers are speaking about it in class, a notice has been posted on the sign out front, and Deon Murphy typed up a flyer to go home to the parents and to be posted around the school as an additional reminder of the importance of this event. Last semester twelve parents came to the conferences; we are hoping for a much greater turn out this time, particularly since the end of the year is approaching. We all need to ensure success and assess how to best serve these students.

The Special Olympics floor hockey team took a silver medal at the State Games in Flagstaff last weekend. Our team consist of unified partners and athletes. Athletes from Camp Verde High School were: Braydon Barker, William Robison and Austin Kirk. Way to go team.

The Preschool had Biker and Books day. The Americans Motorcycle Club came to show the students their bikes and donated books to every child. The students loved this and had a blast! The Preschool

loves to have visitors! It is great to have people who are willing to share reading and the enjoyment of it with students who are just beginning to read and know the letter sounds.







CVUSD submitted our Impact Aid grant for FY17 this week. A total of 191 Native American students were listed in this grant compared to 208 last year. Not all of our Native American students are eligible to be included in this grant spreadsheet. Forms must be completed for qualifying students which include students that live on the Yavapai Apache reservation and students with parents that work for tribal entities

This week we also submitted the first part of Title VII Indian Education Grant. We had 197 students eligible this year compared to 183 eligible students last year. Part I of the Title VII grant is just the initial count. In late February or March, Part II will open which is the programmatic portion of the grant. CVUSD staff will work with input from the Title VII Parent Committee to choose the objectives and program details for providing additional services to the Native American students with these funds. Currently the funds from this grant are used for a portion of the salaries of the Title VII Liaison/Tutor at the elementary school and the additional Title VII tutor which is on the middle and high school campuses. A small amount of the funds are utilized to provide cultural awareness training for the CVUSD staff.

We have finished with the scope of work design on the Middle School security potential project and are awaiting final costs in writing so we can present that to you. We look forward to a smooth implementation process once we are ready to begin.

Parking lot maintenance is a never ending job so you will see some construction equipment in and out of all 3 schools over the course of the next 60 days. Cooler temperatures allow us to get a better fill and bond when you are crack sealing an asphalt surface.

The track is getting prepared for the students to use by having it leveled and rocks cleared to the best of our ability. The track is a concern every year and we hope one day to get it replaced.

Transportation is gearing up for winter sport tournaments and spring sports to kick off, this is the busiest time of the year for us and the time of year when we travel the most miles for trips. The staff is ready and able to take care of whatever comes their way and student safety is always top priority.