

Weekly Board Report 1 April 2016

The overall enrollment of Camp Verde Unified School District is 1534 as compared 1500 one year ago. Current enrollment vs. same time last year: Elementary 730 vs. 750; Middle School 351 vs. 323; High School 421 vs. 404; Accommodations School 32 vs. 23. South Verde Magnet School 70 vs. 100.

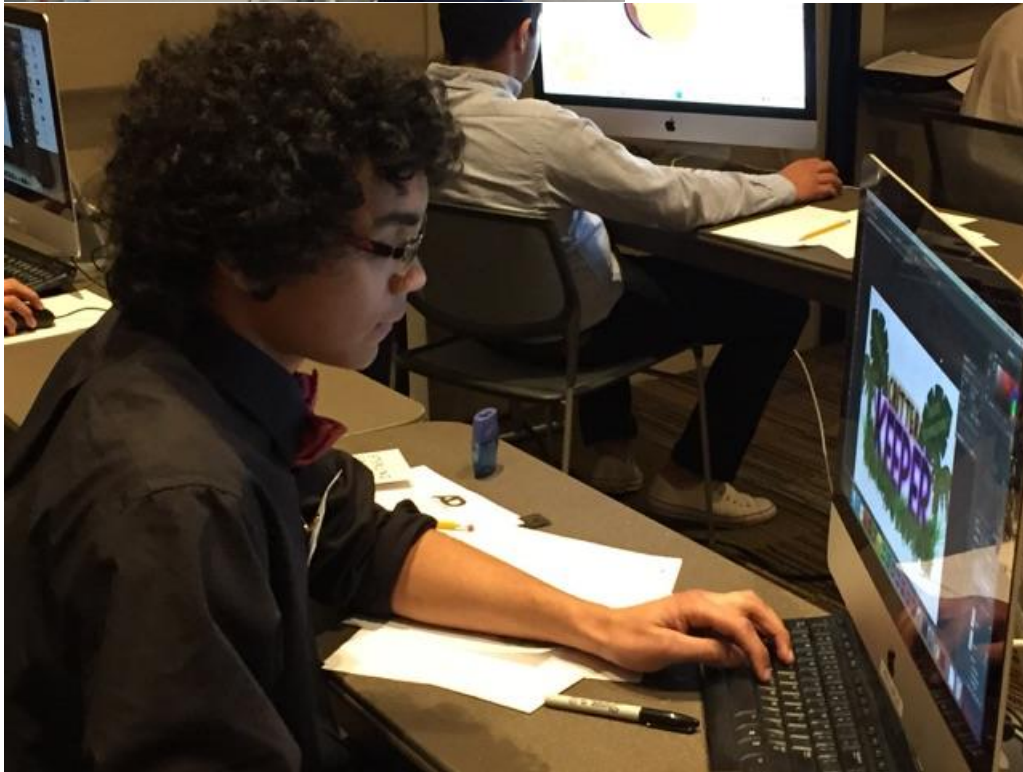
Camp Verde High School completed the AZMerit test for mathematics, writing, and reading on March 29 & 30. All 9th, 10th and 11th grade students were required to take the test in the subject area they are currently taking. The students who are absent have and will take the test over the next five school days. Testing is the word of the week at CVHS with AZMerit and the Yavapai College Dual Enrollment placement testing. The counseling department transported over 55 10th and 11th grade students to Clarkdale to take the reading, writing and mathematics placement test. The students toured the YC Clarkdale campus, attended an orientation meeting and participated in the placement testing. The students had to bring in permission slips and their required document for the testing. This will place the students in the dual enrollment course for next school year if they pass.

The SkillsUSA students attended the State SkillsUSA contest at the Phoenix Convention Center. Mrs. Scott, Mr. Harper, Mr. Darby and Mrs. King took 13 students to the contest. The students took a skills test, had to have an updated resume and performed the hands on skills for their related CTE program. This year the fire science program had three students entered and placed 2nd, 3rd and 4th. This is the highest CVHS has ever placed at the state level. The state champion was from NAVIT (White Mountains). Mr. Darby and his crew are doing an outstanding job preparing our students for a career in fire science. We are waiting on results from the other contest at this time. The Cabinet Making contest had two participants which worked from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm reading blue prints, cutting material and constructing a working cabinet with doors, hinges and design. The culinary arts had three students entered. They were in different contests ranging from food preparation to pastries and desserts. The digital media had two students participate in the advertisement and design contest. The students had to develop marketing media for a given business and present the sale items to the judging panel. All of our students and the teachers received praise from the judges and the staff organizing the contest. The students and staff represented CVHS in an outstanding way. Below are some of the pictures from the SkillsUSA contest.

Upcoming events at CVHS:

SciFest 2016 at CVHS gym and parking lot will be held on April 7th from 10:00 am to 2:30 pm. We will have several local and state wide businesses show the elementary, middle and high school students the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) ideas and concepts. Darren Gagnon has been the school representative working with the Town of Camp Verde and the businesses. The students in the CVHS upper level science classes will help the business and have their own booth set up for the students to view.

Student Council will hold the final blood drive on Tuesday, April 5th from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. If you are interested in donating please call 567-8041 to sign up. Help the CVHS Student Council meet their goal and win the state award for donations. They have over 53 people signed up at this time. National Honor Society Inductions are in the CVHS Courtyard on April 5th at 6:30 pm. We are inducting 20 students into NHS this year. On April 7th, the Yavapai-Apache Nation is honor the Native American students who have received awards for perfect attendance, honor roll and increasing their GPA during the tribal council meeting.







Although there were not many things going on at the Middle School this last week, it was still a very busy week as we did the AzMerit testing. On Monday, all the students did the Writing portion. Tuesday the students took Reading and Math part 1, and on Wednesday took Reading and Math part 2. Thursday, the only students testing were the 8th grade and they took the AIMS Science test, or students that needed to make up a portion of the test that they had missed earlier in the week.

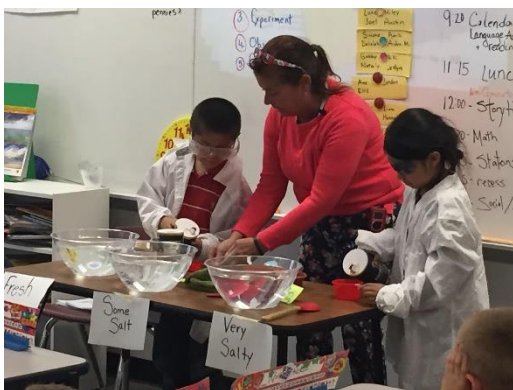
On Thursday afternoon, we held a celebration dance/activity time in the cafeteria and gym. The teachers bought and donated snacks to sell at the event. Students were then able to purchase the snacks. All money raised is being given to the family of Domanic Renik, a 7th grade student at Camp Verde Middle School. The past couple weeks, Domanic has been very ill in Phoenix Children's Hospital. Mr. Howe has heard that he is making good progress as of Thursday. We continue to keep him and his family in our thoughts and prayers.

Next week on April 7th, Camp Verde Middle School is hosting its annual Invitational Track Meet, with 15-20 schools invited.

This week was a busy one at the elementary school. AzMERIT and AIMS science testing ruled over most of our days. Students in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades took AzMERIT writing, ELA (English Language Arts), and math tests, with 4th grade taking an additional AIMS science test.

Sometimes it's fun to crunch the numbers to see the magnitude of the work we do. Each 3rd and 5th grader sat for a total of five test sessions (one writing, two ELA, and two math) for a total of 1,340 tests administered. The 4th graders sat for a total of seven test sessions for a total of 784 tests. Added together, this gives a grand total of 2,124 tests taken. Of course, there are always absences, but given these numbers, it's amazing that we only have 101 test sessions to make up this next week. That gives us a 95% testing rate, even before make-ups! This is due in large part to the teachers who did a fantastic job of encouraging students to be present for testing.

Brenda Ayers recently presented a science lesson on buoyancy to her 1st grade students. The great thing about lessons like this is that they tie in rich vocabulary—density, buoyancy, saline—while teaching steps in the scientific method. Ultimately, it was discovered that a boiled egg will not float in plain water, but will float in salty water. Other objects were tested as well including erasers and small globes. Below are some pictures of the student conducting the experiment while wearing their safety gear (lab coats and eye protection).



5th graders recently used a fun way to review for AzMERIT testing. They were paired up and given pizza boxes. They then designed math games that covered math standards. Once the games were done, a giant game day was held in the elementary gymnasium so students could brush up on their math skills. This type of hands-on learning is great for empowering students to take ownership over their own academic achievement!

South Verde has had a thrilling week with AzMerit testing. The students were exposed to the lovely intricacies of the online testing parameters and did practice tests in English and math. Wednesday and Thursday mornings were devoted to testing: Wednesday was the ELA Writing test and Thursday was part one and two of the ELA Reading test. Prior to beginning the testing extravaganza, the students were instructed on the importance of respecting the confines of the test and also doing one's absolute best as far as persistence and care are concerned. While the tests are not considered "high stakes" at this point, the staff still reiterated the validity of the tests and how it is their moment to shine in the eyes of the State and within themselves. Scores are included on their transcripts; that factor did make an impression with students who are considering higher education after high school.

The first excursion for SVHS's Outdoor Adventures Hiking Club takes place this Friday, April 1, at 12:00 p.m. Luke Hicks will be taking the six eligible students who signed up to The Caves. Posters are spread far and wide throughout the school, illuminating the beauty of the surroundings. Snacks and water will be available. The students have been instructed to dress appropriately, have good shoes, and have a positive mental attitude which will carry them forward on their journey.

Deon Murphy and Marie Zawel have been working together this week to get all the ducks in a row for Prom. South Verde's Prom will take place at the cafeteria on Saturday, April 30, from 8-11:00 p.m. Tickets are only \$5.00 per person. What a deal! Deon - a master at decorating - is uber excited about this year's theme: A Night in Paris. She has the interior design sketched out, and she will be utilizing the talents of Jason Voss, the art teacher, and some of the students in Mr. Voss's classes to help with the decor. Prom is an incredible endeavor and Deon is the perfect person to turn a sketch into a remarkable reality. More details to come!

This past week testing began with AzMERIT. The elementary school and middle school also took the AIMS Science test. The high school will be taking the AIMS Science test in the next two weeks. All testing for AzMERIT and AIMS Science must be completed by April 15. The Department of Education states that results will be available sooner than last year.

South Verde will be completing testing by April 7. There were no issues with the online testing this past week. Teachers in all schools reported that students worked hard on the tests.