

## Weekly Board Report 22 April 2016

The overall enrollment of Camp Verde Unified School District is 1528 as compared 1502 one year ago. Current enrollment vs. same time last year: Elementary 734 vs. 758; Middle School 352 vs. 319; High School 410 vs. 402; Accommodations School 32 vs. 23. South Verde Magnet School 63 vs. 101.

As the financial future of education in Arizona anticipates the Prop 123 verdict one thing has been clarified. We will be doing a 15-16 budget revision to be presented to the Board at the May 10<sup>th</sup> meeting, as has been the procedure in prior years. This will be a 'final' revision less any Prop 123 considerations. We have been informed that should Prop 123 pass we will have until June 30<sup>th</sup> to do a second 'final' revision including Prop 123 changes.

At this point Current Year Funding continues to move forward in the face of strong opposition. There is talk of money being set aside next year to help critically affected school districts during this transition time. We do not anticipate being negatively affected by Current Year Funding.

Most of the contracts have been distributed to returning certificated staff. Contract amounts were without Prop 123 considerations. Should Prop 123 pass there is a clause in the contracts allowing possible increases.

Camp Verde High School athletes are finishing their final week of competition before the state tournaments and meets. The track team has several students ranked in the top 10 in their respective events. This allows them to prequalify for the state meet May 6-7. The golf team is gearing up for the regional meet next weekend and have a few already qualified for the state tournament. The softball team is currently ranked in the top four in the state and will receive a first round bye in the state tournament next week. The baseball team is also in the top 4 with an important game Friday against Sedona. They will receive a first round bye if they stay in the top four of the state in their division. Both softball and baseball will hold their senior night presentation on Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 3:30 pm when they take on Sedona

Camp Verde High School staff held the annual CVHS Expo and Art Fair on Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. It was an exciting event and fun evening. The choir and drama students performed, the audio recording students performed several songs they wrote and composed, the English department had students read poetry/short stories and gave some senior portfolio presentation, several students gave chemistry demonstrations and science experiments, the CTE programs had students performing tasks they had been taught, the history department had their magazine projects on display and several clubs and sports had informational tables set up. The art fair was a big hit. Over 300 pieces of art work, metal art, and woodworking items were judged and on display. CVHS provided the top three in each event area prizes. First place received \$25. Second place received \$15 and third place received \$10. We had 13 categories. Alyssa Galls won the Best of Show and received \$100 in cash for her pastel artwork. The expo received several compliments and positive comments about our students and staff. The VACTE school board members, staff and Superintendent attended the event. Please see attached pictures.

CVHS finish the last of the state testing with completing the End of Program Exit test for all CVHS CTE programs. The AP English students will be taking their test in the next few weeks. Prom 2016 will be held on Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at the town gym starting at 8:30 pm and ending at midnight. The students are winding down the year with several events and activities. The FFA is getting ready for the Verde Valley Fair next week and the spring sports are gearing up for the state playoffs. The Digital Media students in Ms. Scott's advance class won 3<sup>rd</sup> place and received \$100 in the MatForce anti-drug video contest this past week. Great job to the students and Ms. Scott. The drama/choir program and Mrs. Worden produced an excellent musical called "Bye Bye Birde". The first performance was on Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup> in the

theater. They did an outstanding job. You can still catch the musical. It starts at 7:00 pm in the theater on April 22, April 29 and April 30. Admission price helps pay for the cost of the production and to help with next years fine arts events. Please see photos.





On Friday, April 22nd, Mr. Weir and Ms. Scott attended an Entrepreneurship and Innovation meeting with representatives from ASU, Camp Verde Business owners and the Town of Camp Verde. This was the second meeting in the entrepreneur program. The meeting was very informative and the plan for a Friday entrepreneur program for next school year for CVHS and SVHS students was developed. The group has set up the ground work and layout for the program which will start this summer and go throughout the 16-17 school year. It will involve up to 15 students who will learn to organize and manage a small business, marketing the products and services produced by CVHS and SVHS students through the CTE programs at CVHS and art program at SVHS. The students will learn business related curriculum from ASU and internships with local business owners. We are excited about the program and more information will be provided as the program takes off in the next few weeks.

The big news this week at Camp Verde Middle School and for the District is that Camp Verde Middle School was named a Capturing Kids' Hearts National Showcase School. This year over 600 Capturing Kids' Hearts Schools have been evaluated. On Monday April 18<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Howe got the call from the founder of CKH, Flip Flippen to let him know and congratulate the school for their accomplishment. Mr. Howe recorded the phone conversation and played it over the intercom for the school to hear. Students went crazy when he announced that we were chosen. One of the big things to come with this award is that Camp Verde Middle School gets to pick any school in the state to receive a free training for its staff courtesy of us. We will also get to serve as that schools mentor. This is a huge honor, that the community and district can be proud of! Congratulations CVMS!!! The following is the press release that has been shared with the local papers:



Camp Verde Middle School Named *Capturing Kids' Hearts National Showcase School*<sup>TM</sup>.

Camp Verde Middle School has received the *Capturing Kids' Hearts Showcase Schools*<sup>TM</sup> award for the 2015-2016 school year from the Flippen Group.

Two years ago, Camp Verde Middle School began an initiative to transform the campus into an emotionally safe and relationally connected place for students, staff, and parents to come alive with a love for learning.

After researching programs used by some of the nation's most successful schools, Camp Verde Middle School leaders chose to join hands with the Flippen Group to bring *Capturing Kids' Hearts*® to its campus. Teachers and staff learned processes to increase students' connectedness with both peers and adults on campus. They learned how to create a classroom environment where students are excited to enter and learn every day. As a result of implementing *Capturing Kids' Hearts*, Camp Verde Middle School has enjoyed increased enrollment, a decrease in discipline referrals, and higher achievement scores.

Since 1990, campuses across the country have experienced amazing outcomes with *Capturing Kids' Hearts* tools and processes by creating socio-emotional safety conducive to learning. Flippen Group provides educators the skills they need to change the trajectory of students' lives. Openness replaces defensiveness. Judging and feelings of being judged are replaced with acceptance and real connectedness to the school. "*Discipline problems nearly non-existent,*" and "*Academic achievement constantly improving,*" are common feedback following *Capturing Kids' Hearts* implementation.

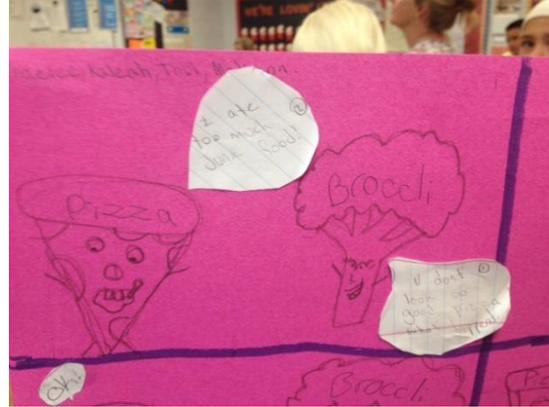
Through the *Showcase Schools* award, Flippen Group recognizes and celebrates campuses that go the extra mile each day, building an environment where students and staff feel safe and connected. Flippen Group believes unsung heroes who produce exemplary outcomes in schools and pave the way for other schools to follow, need and deserve recognition for a job well done.

*Capturing Kids' Hearts* campuses across the country were considered for this award based on the following criteria: 1) nomination based on observation, 2) level of implementation of *Capturing Kids' Hearts* processes by all staff as measured by online surveys, and 3) data demonstrating that *Capturing Kids' Hearts* has made a significant improvement in attendance, discipline, climate/culture, or academics.

A site visit to each nominated campus was conducted to gather additional quantitative and qualitative data, and to interview students, teachers, administrators and parents. A matrix of key measurements was used to gather information during the campus walk-through. Finally, an additional survey was conducted to collect feedback regarding the perceived climate and culture of the campus and its conduciveness to learning. Following the site visit, the selection team reviewed all accumulated data and selected the campuses to receive the *Capturing Kids' Hearts Showcase Schools* award.

Flippen Group is proud to recognize these outstanding individuals who have dedicated themselves to making a difference in the lives of our children. As we identify these remarkable schools, campus leaders, and teachers each year, please join us in celebrating them as some of the most skilled and effective educators in the country!

The staff at Camp Verde Middle School couldn't be more proud!!! Fifth-grade students have been participating in a program this year that brings educators from the Yavapai County Health Department to Title I schools to teach the students about healthy eating habits and exercise. Instructors stress the "My Plate" portions and teach kids about the nutrients they get and need from food. The students learn that there are six vital nutrients—carbohydrates, protein, fat, vitamins, minerals, and water. Our fifth-graders took a pre-test in the first class and will take post-test at the completion of the program. They will also get to make, eat, and take home the recipe for a healthy snack in the last class. The health department instructors come a total of 6 times. On the last visit, our student presented "healthy eating" posters to their teachers.



In February, Ms. Grubbs' 5th grade class brainstormed ways they could encourage the Camp Verde community members to keep Camp Verde clean. The students created a slogan – "We have a dream . . . to keep Camp Verde clean." On Thursday this week, 28 students from Ms. Grubbs' 5th grade class walked Main Street from 1-2pm to pick up trash in honor of Earth Day. They also created poster that they distributed to local businesses. These posters were designed to challenge community members to change their littering behaviors. Mrs. Grubbs reported that the clean-up day was a great success and she definitely wants to make this an annual Earth Day outing.



Lynn Bray, our district trainer for Capturing Kids' Hearts, will be visiting the elementary school this coming week. This is a follow-up visit to help us "tune up" our Capturing Kids' Hearts process here at the elementary school. Mrs. Bray will be visiting classrooms, meeting with our process champion team, consulting with school leaders, meeting an ADE representative, and hosting a Q & A session with our staff. We are excited for the chance to see Mrs. Bray again and learn as much as we can from our time together.

Last week our kindergarteners took a field trip to our local library where they learned about the Dewey decimal system and how to find books in different areas. They also learned about the summer reading program offered by the library. The goal of the field trip was to encourage students to visit the library over the summer and keep reading. The students also got to meet and hold Dewey, the bearded dragon



This week, our PTA hosted the elementary school's talent show tryout. There were two days for tryouts due to the large turnout. Our talent show will be held on May 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. in the Phillips England Center for the Performing Arts and will feature class videos, dance numbers, and singing.

The elementary students really enjoyed visiting the high school to attend the SCI-TECH Expo that was recently held there. They visited multiple learning stations for demonstrations and hands-on activities in a wide array of scientific fields including police forensics, physics, prosthetic devices, a man-operated glider, go-pro video of Montezuma's Well, and an entomology exhibit, just to name a few. (A big thanks to the high school for putting this together! The elementary kiddos LOVED it!)

# Getting techy



Camp Verde Elementary School third grader Cassandra Wetzel, right, was one of the district's many students who spent part of her Thursday enjoying the annual SciTech Expo at Camp Verde High School. For a collection of photos from Thursday's festival, see page 3 and also visit [cvbugle.com](http://cvbugle.com). (Photo by Bill Helm)

The first graders in Mrs. Ayers class would like to remind everyone to head on over to Bashas' this weekend where their Earth Day bags will be used. You can pick up a great piece of art while picking up your groceries!



Last Friday, April 15, Judy Tincher, the Program Coordinator for the Arizona Conservation Corps, gave a spirited presentation to the South Verde student body in hopes of rousing interest for the summer program. Chainsaw in hand, Judy spoke enthusiastically about the feeling of accomplishment the work garners toward those who participate. The program includes 300 hours of national service, a \$1,212 education award, first aid/CPR certification, and a \$300 per week living stipend. Two of the current SV students were involved last year and are gearing to go again this summer. At least three other students are interested, as well. The interview process will take place at SV next month.

As of Wednesday, the South Verde Yearbook has been officially uploaded to Entourage. Two students, Isaiah Dawson (sophomore) and Jeremiah Johnson (junior), completed the project just in time. The boys worked diligently on their task. This will be the first Yearbook produced at SV. The staff is very excited about the results; patience will be needed, though, as the books will not arrive until the last day of school.

South Verde received a lovely surprise visit from five students from Ms. Grubb's fifth grade class. These students arrived bearing a colorful poster promoting the importance of responsible cleanup of refuse and sorting recyclable goods. The girls graciously offered to clean around the campus. Interestingly, Luke Hicks had also taken a group of students outside earlier in the day to also clean up the outside of the campus and around the block. Pride in one's school, work space, and community should always be encouraged and fostered.

Gail Wilson has started working on the 2015-2016 Graduation program for SVHS. The page with the graduates' names is complete. Twenty-four students are listed. Currently, twelve graduates are still

completing classes. Students have been feverishly working on math (always a tough subject!), A+ courses, Marie Zawel's and Denise Meyer's English classes, electives, and Yavapai College courses. These students can see the light at the end of the tunnel, though. Here's hoping - again - that their education continues in some form or another.

Several students who have Individual Education Plans (IEP's) are in the musical production *Bye Bye Birdie* being put on by the Camp Verde High School Theater Arts Guild. For many of these students this is the first time they have ever attempted anything like this.

The students are involved in the making of the set and props, the dance routines and in the group settings. The cast and crew of *Bye Bye Birdie* has ten to fifteen students with IEP's involved in it. This is a great endorsement for the staff of Camp Verde Unified School District. These students are involved because of the encouragement they have received from staff to become involved in things outside of the normal learning environment.