

Weekly Board Report 9 September 2016

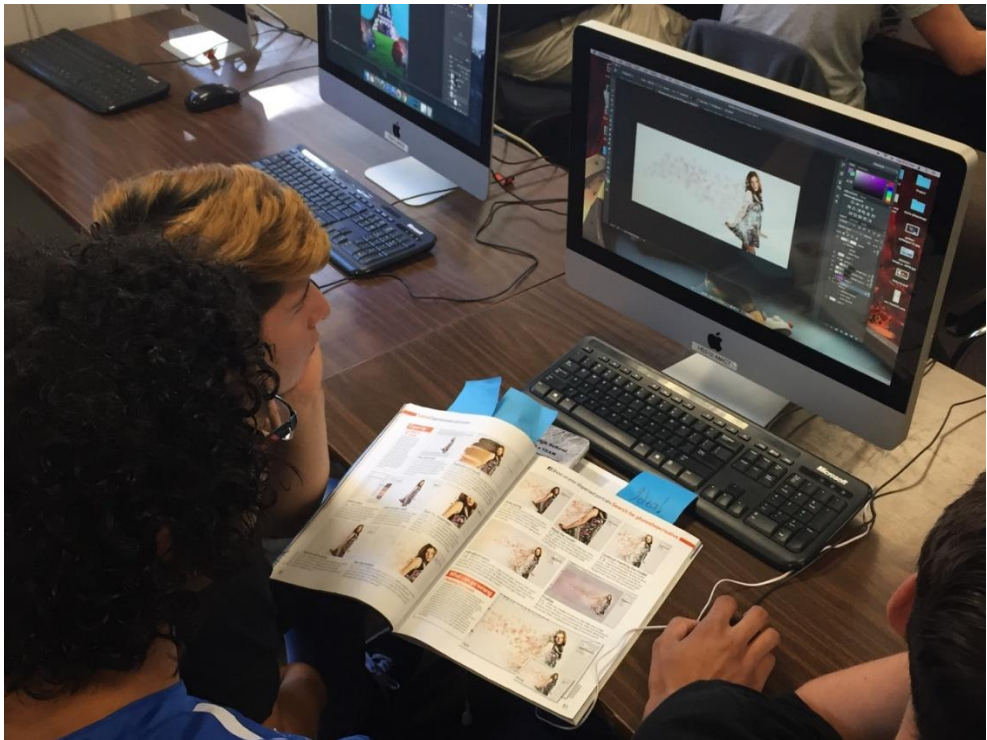
Free and reduced numbers: Camp Verde Unified School District; Free 1039; Reduced 126. Current numbers at Elementary free 477; reduced 53: Middle School free 257; reduced 25; High School free 254; reduced 47: Accommodations School free 26; reduced 0: South Verde High School free 25; reduced 1. The percentages for each school: Elementary – 76.15%; Middle School – 72.87%; Camp Verde High School 62.32%; Accommodation School 83.87%. Camp Verde School district percentage of Free/Reduced – 70.7%. South Verde High School 76.47%. Camp Verde School district percentage of Free/Reduced – 71.43%. Excluding Elementary, all of our numbers for free and reduced are up this year. We are still receiving applications, so am sure these numbers will continue to change. As a district our overall percentage of students on Free and Reduced has increased.

The purpose of this Verde Valley Leadership Forum was for community members to discuss the role of post-secondary education in the Verde Valley. The center of the discussion was Yavapai College and how they interact with local high schools and universities to provide a continual path for student success. Discussions were heated as there were varying opinions as to how Yavapai College serves the Verde Valley. This has been a long argued debate as the Verde Valley seems to be secondary to Prescott in terms of programs offered. Friday evening was interesting. It was a formal dinner setting where participants got to know each other prior to being grouped. Yavapai College provided student made wine which made attendance awkward for Mr. Tankesley and his students. He was a little confused as to why the forum would invite students to such a gathering. Saturday was from 7 to 5:30 pm and filled with rich discussion sessions allowing the community to identify how post-secondary education serves students and community members in the Verde Valley. Later sessions included developing solutions to their identified concerns. It was a great opportunity for our students. They were able to meet participants such as the president of Yavapai College, and NAU, school superintendents, principals, the mayor of Sedona, key city officials and business owners.

Mr. Tankesley was able to have some valuable discussions with one of our high school students about his plans for the future. Mr. Tankesley am concerned that as a junior in high school, he does not know the path take for college. His concern stems from his lack of confidence in the high school counselor and lack of accessible information available to the students. One discussion that the students expressed interest in was a program where the school promotes a path for college beginning in the 7th grade following them through high school. Currently Mingus receives a grant through NAU for this purpose. (Currently being addressed at Camp Verde High School).

Mr. Tankesley's was able to gather some data on how the community views education in the Verde Valley and also make connections to individuals that would provide many opportunities for community involvement. It was interesting to find out that the community is not very knowledgeable about what we do in our schools. Again another item on our strategic planning list of important topics to improve on to help progress our district.

Here are a few pictures of Camp Verde High School intermediate digital media students collaborating with an advanced student on a challenging graphic design project.





So nice to see this group working hard, networking with local businesses, and then creating new things for those businesses. Mr. Douvikas believes they recently created the new menu for Moscato Ristorante Italiano on Main Street.

Mr. Douvikas recently was able to speak with the United States Army recruiters about possibly adding Junior ROTC to our course selection for the 2017-18. They were very excited and promised to get back to me very soon. Mr. Douvikas cannot tell you all how much he feels this program would benefit our students. Giving them a glimpse of what a possible career in the military would look like and showing the discipline necessary to succeed would be truly invaluable.

Our first Blood Drive of the year will be Wednesday, September 14th. Please stop by or sign up in the office to participate in this very important event.

Camp Verde High School will be having a Native American Assembly in the auditorium on Monday, September 19th @ 10:30 AM in conjunction with JOM. Please be sure and swing by if you available to watch this exciting 45 minute presentation.

Camp Verde High School had at least one student who will be attending the Verde Valley Forum this weekend. We are hopeful the students who attend will be available to present back to the board on their experience.

Camp Verde High School is currently working on how best to incorporate the Native American Language, Culture, and History class for the second semester. We have the support of the Yavapai-Apache nation on this course. We are currently working with Mingus High School to see how they incorporate this class into their schedule. More on this course to come soon.

This is senior Aaron Tracy in class today preparing a crust for a pecan pie. The finish product was amazing!



Pictures of Jadie Edwards, a sophomore, preparing a crust for her pecan pie. The bottom picture is her unbaked pie, just before going into the oven.



Big news at Camp Verde Middle School this week as “Students of the Month” were named. For 6th grade: Layla Herrera; 7th grade: Dominic Rezzonico; 8th grade: Carlos DeLaCruz; Athlete: Waylon Wright. Congratulations!!! To all the students for a job well done!

Mr. Howe would also like to congratulate Bob Thomas for being chosen “Employee of the Month” for the Middle School. Bob is one of our custodians and he does a fantastic job of keeping the place clean. In fact, he has been the only custodian at the Middle School for about 5 weeks. Keep up the great work Bob!!



Middle School Student council is preparing things for its annual Support Services “Appreciation Brunch” which is coming up soon.

The High School FFA came down to the Middle School on Wednesday and put on a “Young Aggie” boot camp for the students. 6th-8th graders learned about plants, animals, concrete projects, food, Science, and played fun games. Thanks again High School for this opportunity for our students!

The middle school football team played a hard game against Cottonwood on Tuesday and lost by a big margin. The great thing to see from our kids was their attitude of never give up and their positive sportsmanship. Way to go boys! Next week they travel to Williams.

Wednesday the middle school volleyball team played Pine. The B team won easily in two games. The A team fought hard for 3 games but lost their match. Next Tuesday they travel to Mayer.

Parent/teacher conferences were a big success Thursday and Friday. Starting next Monday, any 6th grade student that didn't have a “D” or “F” on their progress report, gets to go home at 2:50 on the Elementary bus run for 4 ½ weeks. The students that did, will stay for remediation until 3:45. This will enable the teachers to work with smaller groups of students that are struggling, plus it provided an incentive for students to work hard. We are able to do this

because the 6th grade falls under the elementary as far as required seat time. By the way, 7th and 8th grade students have the most required seat time by law of any grades in the District.

This Sunday is the 15th anniversary of 9/11. On Monday, the Middle School is having a ceremony at the Flag pole to honor those victims. None of our students were born yet, but Mr. Howe knows exactly what he was doing on that horrific morning. Do you? As Alan Jackson wrote in his country song, "Where were you when the world stopped turning....?" God Bless America!

On Saturday, September 10, 2016, the elementary school's Cyber Cowboy's cadets, collaborators and team members will go to "college" at Arizona State University. These robotics students will attend the First Lego League 2016 Competition Kick-Off Event at the Ira Fulton School of Engineering on the A.S.U. campus.

Robotics students will attend this conference-style event where they will participate in robot computer programming courses and an array of youth engineering adventures that will prepare them for the up-coming competition in December of 2016.

In addition, robotics students will have lunch in the A.S.U. food court where they can rub elbows and hang out amongst college students.

This event is not only a great robotics work shop, but also gives these students a flavor of what engineering college life would be like at A.S.U.

The students love it and look forward to the field trip with great anticipation. (Pictures to come next week!)

There are several new Friday programs in the planning stage at the elementary school. Rebecca McIlvaine, elementary school counselor, is working with Spectrum to get counseling groups set up as a choice for Friday programs. These potential programs include art therapy, anger management, character building, friendship, and active choices. There are many pieces to this puzzle that need to fall into place, but if all goes according to plan, we should be able to offer these services to students who need counseling and whose parents/guardians have a hard time making it to Spectrum on Saturdays.

Teachers at the elementary school participated in PD on Friday with Reading Horizons as the topic for training. RH is a phonics-based reading program intended to supplement our Reading Streets text books in grade K-2. In addition, it can be used as an intervention tool in grade 3-5 for those students who are struggling with reading. Here is a blurb from their literature:

Our Method

Reading Horizons methodology makes reading instruction more enjoyable and effective for students and teachers alike—by making it both simple and engaging. By teaching the core framework of the Reading Horizons methodology—the 42 Sounds of the Alphabet, 5 Phonetic Skills, and 2 Decoding Skills—students are empowered with skills that allow them to prove they are reading, spelling, and pronouncing the majority of the words in the English language with accuracy. Because each skill is introduced using multi-sensory teaching techniques, students are able to make new connections in their

brain that help them quickly grasp each concept—keeping them engaged and motivated throughout the process.

42 Sounds of the Alphabet

1. Bb Ff Dd Gg – Aa
2. Hh Jj Ll Mm – Ee
3. Nn Pp Rr Ss – Oo
4. Tt Vv Ww Xx Yy – Uu
5. Zz Qq Cc Kk – Ii

The alphabet is introduced in letter sets consisting of four consonants and one vowel. Each letter sound is introduced individually, and students learn the name, sound, and formation simultaneously. Letters that commonly cause student confusion if introduced too closely are deliberately separated. Immediate application of each letter set helps solidify understanding. Once the 26 letters are learned, additional sounds of the alphabet are taught, including blends, digraphs, diphthongs, and special vowel sounds.

Five Phonetic Skills

The Five Phonetic Skills allow students to identify the five common patterns of English words and prove the vowel sound in a word. Proving words using the Five Phonetic Skills is an indispensable tool used to **decode, pronounce, and spell** new words. These skills are gradually internalized and become automatic, resulting in greater reading speed and fluency.

1. sūn^{*} 2. hān^{d*} 3. gō[̄] 4. smile[↓] 5. traīn[̄]

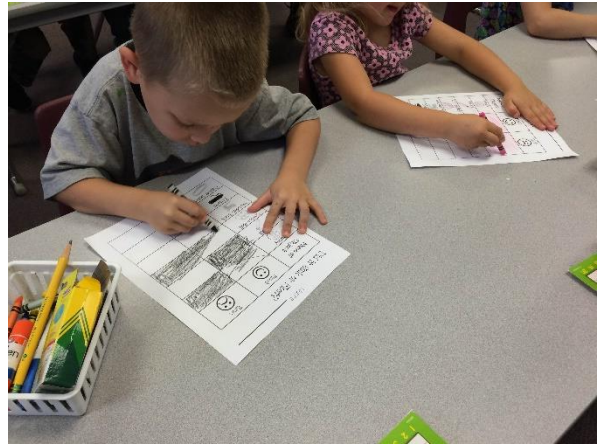
Two Decoding Skills

A student's ability to read long words fluently depends on his or her ability to break words into syllables. The Two Decoding Skills help students know which specific letters and sounds should be split apart in order to properly pronounce each word. Once students use the Two Decoding Skills to split multi-syllabic words into the correct syllables, students then apply the Five Phonetic Skills to determine the correct sound of each syllable. This process empowers students with skills for reading words of any length.

Skill 1: prō|grām Skill 2: sū|ject

Skill 1: **program** Skill 2: **subject**

Mrs. Godfrey's kindergarten students participated in a "sink or float" activity in science this week. Students had to predict whether a given object would sink or float in water. They then conducted their experiment, made observations, and recorded their findings. This was a great way to spark the student's interest in the scientific world and to prove that --even kindergarteners can study the scientific method!



Elementary School—Upcoming Important Dates

- September 10th – Robotics Team to Ira Fulton School of Engineering @ A.S.U.
- September 12-15 – Parent-Teacher conferences
- September 15th – Parent's night for gifted students
- September 27th – School Picture Day

In the first five weeks of school 65 IEP meetings have been held.

As of 9/3/16, 227 special education students are enrolled in school.

SCHOOL	As of 9/8/16	+ Gain or - Loss	As of 8/11/16
Preschool	19	+2	17
Elementary School	91	-2	93
Middle School	42	0	42
Accommodation School	4	+1	3
High School	65	+2	63
South Verde High School	6	0	6
TOTALS	227	+3	224

504 Students

SCHOOL	As of 9/8/16	+ Gain or - Loss	As of 8/11/16
Preschool	0	0	0
Elementary School	4	+2	2
Middle School	5	0	5
Accommodation School	1	0	1
High School	9	0	9
South Verde High School	1	0	1
TOTALS	20	+2	0

Gifted (High School students may choose to attend AP classes.)

SCHOOL	As of 9/8/16	+ Gain or - Loss	As of 8/11/16
Elementary School	27	+3	24
Middle School	24	+4	20
Accommodation School	0	0	0
<i>(High School)</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>+2</i>	<i>19</i>
South Verde High School	0	0	0
TOTAL IN PROGRAM	51	+9	44

Mrs. Jackson and her team led creative and interactive lessons on this week's theme "All about me!" The children brought their favorite toys and did "show and tell" presentations. They enjoyed making and eating their green slime made from vanilla pudding with green food coloring to reinforce the color of the week. Next week is "Minion Week" and the student will finish their "All about me!" books and will learn about friendship.

The next meeting of the support group for parents of children with Autism will be Tuesday 9/13/16 from 7:00-8:00 pm at the Camp Verde town library. September's meeting will feature Lori Ritter, CVUSD's OT, who will be providing information on sensory and fine motor needs.