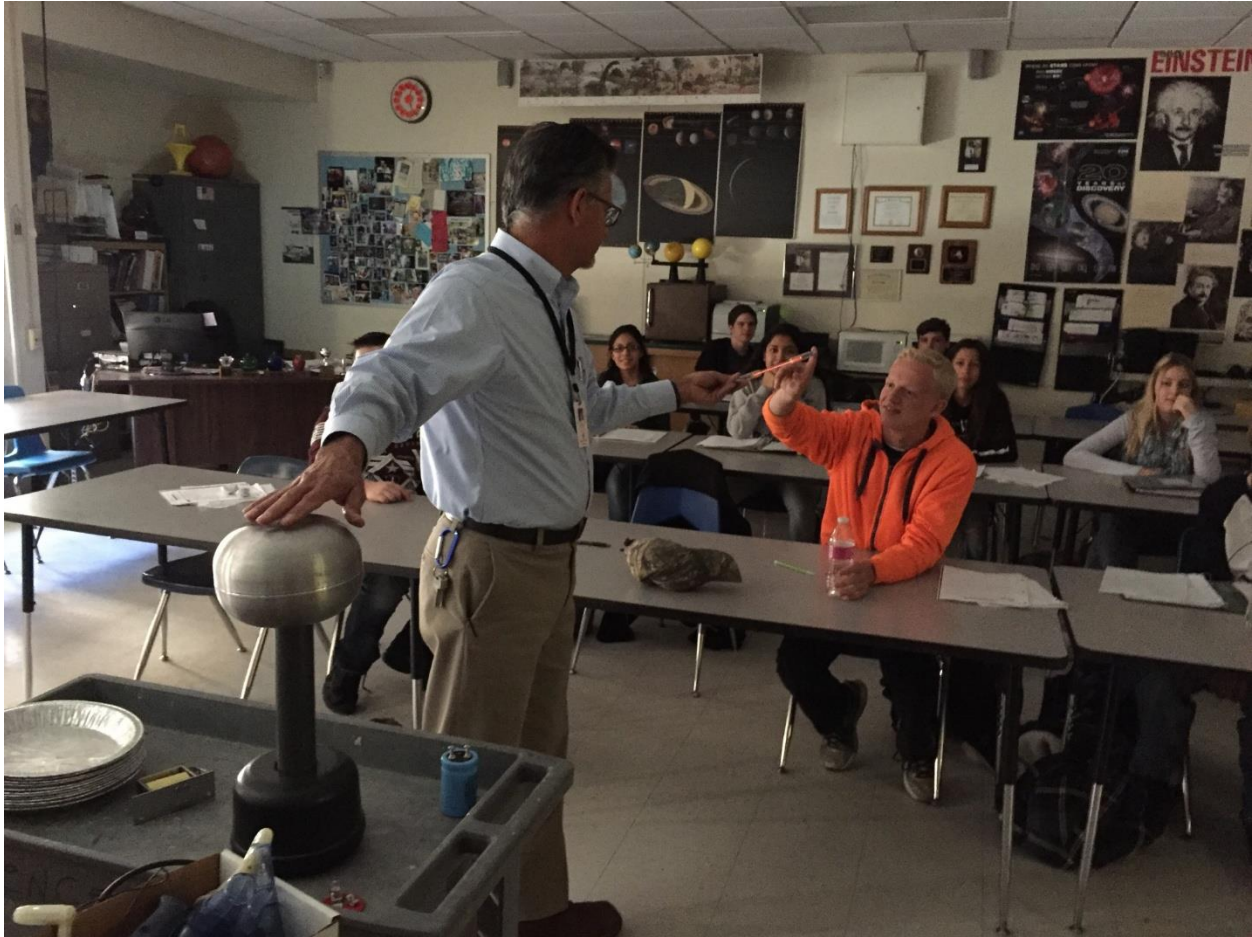


Weekly Board Report 9 December 2016

Fun, fun in Mr. Malloy's science class. Today static electricity is the topic of discussion...



Club Pictures and Senior Cap and Gown measuring will be on Wednesday, December 14th.

Our District Holiday Fine Arts Concert will be Thursday, December 15th @ 6:30 PM in the MUC.

We are on track to give the ACT to all of our 11th graders and 12th graders who chose to take it on February 28th, 2017. We are really excited to offer this test and even more excited to see how well they do.

Final exams will be Wednesday, December 21st and Thursday, December 22nd. Those days will also be ½ days for students.

Mr. Douvikas was very fortunate to be able to accompany Mrs. Anderson's class to Prescott this past week. We visited Target, Kohl's, and Wal-Mart. Students had a list of items that they had to comparison price at each of the stores. They also were given \$15 and they had to buy a "toys for tots" item within that price. He was amazed at how well they knew money. Many of them stretched their dollars well and were able to get 3 or 4 toys without going over \$15.

We stopped at Chili's for lunch to eat. The students learned how to calculate how much of a tip to leave in class before the trip. Here they were able to put that into practice and they did a wonderful job of calculating correctly. Overall it was a rewarding and very beneficial day.



Camp Verde Middle School would like to congratulate its Employee of the Month for December, Counselor, Mrs. Sara Boland. Sara is an amazing person. She is always there for the staff and students. Mrs. Boland is a team player and does whatever she can to make things better. We are glad you are with us. Congratulations Sara!!

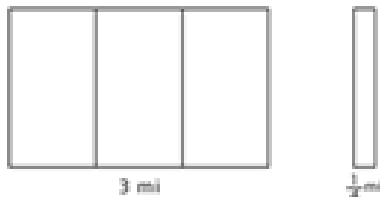
This week in Mr. Pelfrey's 6th grade Science, they are looking at real cells through a compound light microscope. They are looking at a number of different plant and animal cells, which were thankfully purchased by the Student Council last year. Rather than using a number of different microscopes, since time is of the essence, Mr. Pelfrey is using a microscope with a digital camera attachment that shows through the computer and the projector for all to see the same cells at once. They are also beginning to work on a timeline regarding the cell theory and the scientists that made significant contributions to the understanding of cells and the use of microscopes.

Mrs. Gillman's 6th grade Language Arts students are continuing their study on compare and contrast. They read a story this week called The All-American Slurp that compares and contrasts two different cultures. The students found this very interesting. With only 8 days left for AR, they are going strong with reading and testing. The students enjoy watching the "Dive Into Reading" AR board and congratulate their friends when they reach 100%.



In Mr. Hansen's 6th grade Math, they recently finished a review of multiplication with fractions using models and the algorithm for solving them without models. This week they worked on doing the same with the division of fractions, both modeling and writing equations to match. Here is an example:

A group of students is running a 3 mile relay race. Each student can run $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile.



How many students will they need to complete the race?

Mr. Tankesley's 7th grade Science students are exploring the rock cycle. They learned how igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rock structures form.

Mr. Wilson's 7th grade Social Studies just completed the Prologue to Civil War and will be beginning the Civil War Unit. One of the projects in this unit will be a poster project and presentation about a Civil War person, event or issue.

In Mrs. Aitkin's 7th grade Language Arts classes, they are reading a book about Greek Gods. Students volunteer to dress up and act out scenes in the book. Everyone has a good time and there's also some hilarious moments.



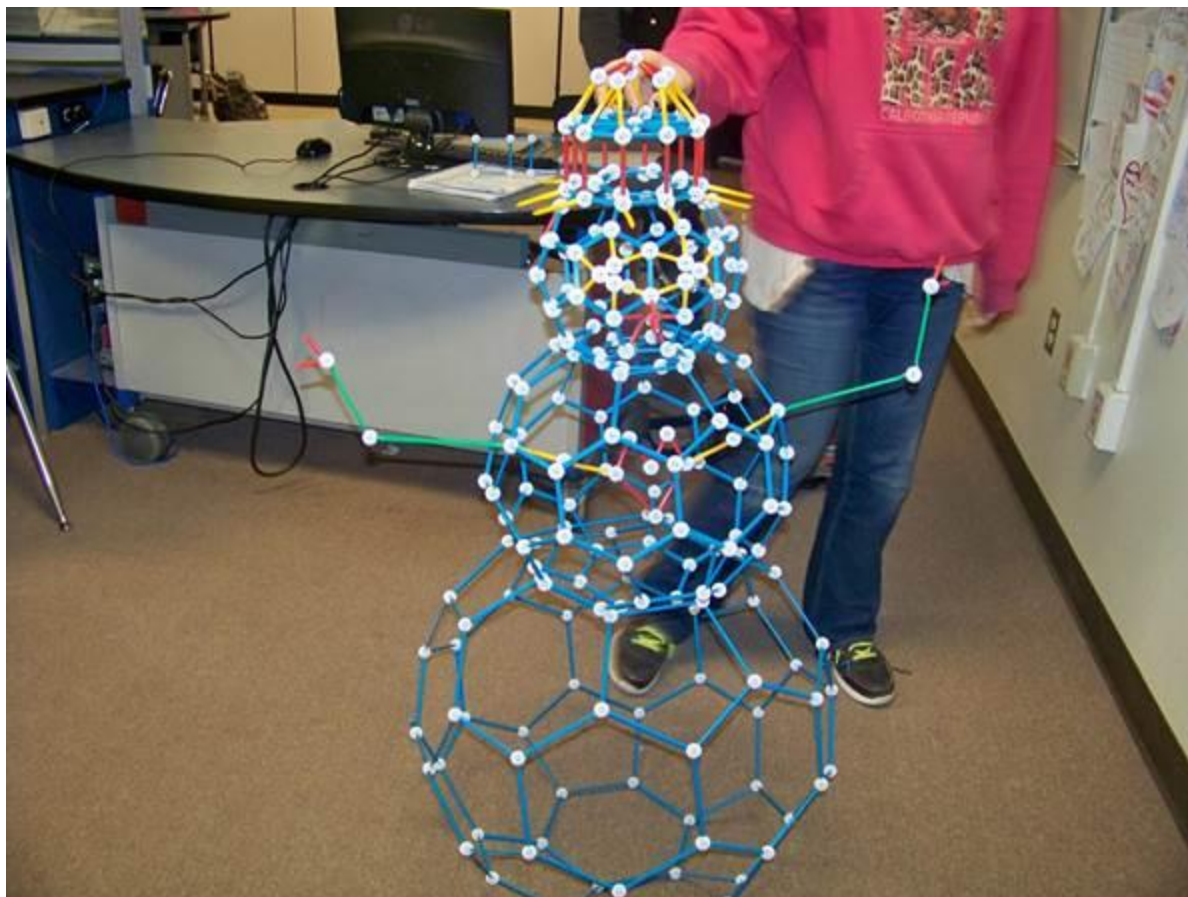
Ms. DiBartolomeo's 8th grade Social Studies students have been learning about World War II and about the propaganda used throughout the war. Students have been learning about the different goals and techniques used to create an effective propaganda poster. The students will complete their own propaganda poster at the end of this week and those will then be put on display in the classroom for all to see. Attached are some of the posters that students have created for this unit from previous years as examples for the students.

Mrs. Koeppe's 8th grade Science students have been learning the parts of a flower. In the pictures below, she used students to be parts of a "human flower" to help students remember where and what each part is.





The Tech Lab classes have really been productive this week. Seventh graders Casey Corder and Emmitt Smith broke the quarter mile speed for Car Builder by having their car go 130 mph. The previous record set last year was 129. The 8th graders have been working with Zometool and one group built a DNA molecule that Mrs. Koepp is displaying in her Science classroom. Kelly Skarupinski and Mary Brogdon created a snowman in recognition of the holiday season.



Mrs. Worden's 7th/8th Choir is rehearsing to perform for the District Holiday Music Celebration on Thursday, Dec 15th (which we are SO excited about), and they'll be traveling to the state capitol on Wed., Dec 14th to perform at the State Capitol's Holiday Concert Series. The last few weeks, they've been learning about how our voice & our diaphragm muscles work, the ins & outs of part-singing, and have been working on sign-language and choreography for a couple of the pieces they'll be performing during the holiday season.

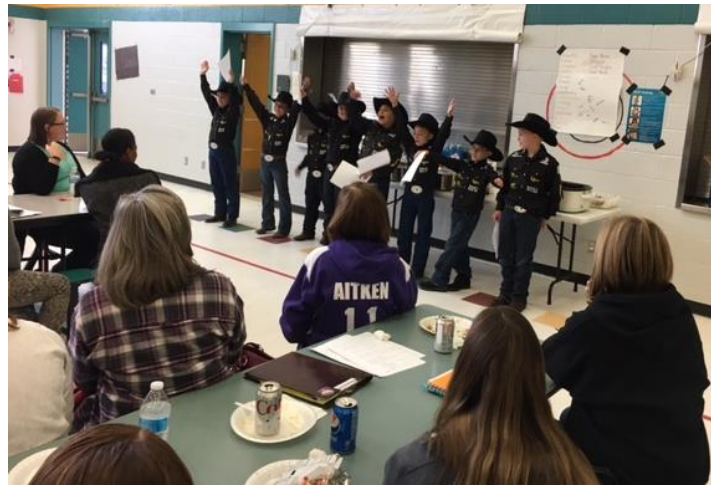
The Middle School Spelling Bee was held on Thursday. This year's winner was 8th grader Daniela Vega. A few 5th grade students came over to participate as well. Here is a picture of all the nervous contestants.



Next week, the Cowboys finish out 2016 with the Boys basketball teams home on Tuesday against Beaver Creek and the Girls teams home on Thursday against Clarkdale. Games are at 4 & 5. Come on out and support the student athletes. GO COWBOYS!!!

CYBER COWBOYS IN THE NEWS, IN COMPETITIONS, AND AT PLAY

It's been a busy few weeks for the elementary school's robotics team, the Cyber Cowboys. During last week's professional development for staff, the Cyber Cowboys came decked out in their competition gear to practice their presentation that they would be doing at the upcoming *First Lego League Animal Allies Competition* in Flagstaff. The presentation focused on manure and how we as a community can create a place for manure to be shared and utilized for projects in our town. It was a hilarious and creative presentation, with students taking turns sharing the insights they had for their plan. *Below are photos of the students presenting to the staff.*



Meanwhile, competition day came last Saturday and our Cyber Cowboys traveled to Flagstaff to compete against 29 other teams, mainly consisting of middle school students. In competitions, it is normal for each team to choose their two best robotics programmers/operators to participate in the actual competition portion of the event, acting as representatives for the whole team. Coach Peggy Dickey chose to manage the team differently, wanting to give all team members a chance to compete. This allows our young robotics enthusiasts to gain experience for future competitions and is a great way to build solid teamwork and support among our students. Even with these factors, our Cyber Cowboys came in 18th, beating 11 other teams of middle school students! A big congratulations goes out to our future robotics engineers!!!

In other news, Bill Helm wrote a great story on our Cyber Cowboys that appeared in the Camp Verde Bugle recently. Below is the article along with photos that appeared in the paper.

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'New crop of engineers'

Friday robotics students at Camp Verde elementary prepare for Lego tournament while learning STEM



Students in Camp Verde Elementary School's Robotics Program spend a recent Friday morning preparing for the Flagstaff regionals of the First Lego League's Animal Allies national robotics competition, scheduled for Dec. 3. (Photo by Bill Helm)

MOST READ



7 days



30 days

Woman reports kidnapping, rape in Camp Verde

Off-duty officer carjacked at gunpoint near Bumble Bee

Cornville man dies in morning accident near Camp Verde

Court Docket: Dec. 4, 2016

Prescott woman arrested after threatening coworkers, store with rifle, knife, torch

Vandals in Verde Lakes

'New crop of engineers'

CAMP VERDE – Not too many people would voluntarily go to their jobs on a non-workday.

Even fewer are likely to go to school when not required.

But at Camp Verde Elementary School, a dozen or so children show up each Friday to learn about science, technology, engineering and math – by playing with robots.

Members of the Cyber Cowboys Robotics Program, the aspiring engineers are classified in one of three categories based on their know-how. Their leader, Robotics Coach/Instructor Peggy Dickey, has her students' sights set on the First Lego League's Animal Allies national robotics competition.



Jake Dickey, a fourth grade student at Camp Verde Elementary School, says he learned how to program, Bluetooth and build robots – and to “work as a team” in the school’s Friday robotics program. (Photo by Bill Helm)

But first, team members are assembling their best design ideas into a final robot to participate in the competition’s regional qualifier in Flagstaff, scheduled for Dec. 3. At the Flagstaff regionals, team members will pick missions in which they can earn the most points.

Cadets – collaborators – team members

The children are classified as either cadets, meaning in training; collaborators, which are seasoned robotic students who can help their classmates; then finally the Cyber Cowboy Team Members.

Cadets Tyler Roth and Hunter Mathews both want to learn Bluetooth programming.

“Also I want to learn how to program my bot and how to use teamwork with friends,” Roth says.

Whether cadet, collaborator or team member, the Friday robotics children at CVES each has the opportunity to participate “by designing, building and computer programming Lego robots to accomplish missions given to them by the First Lego League,” Dickey says.

For fifth-grader Hezakiah Meschede, building and testing the robots to complete missions, “whether it’s a success or we’re close to making it a success, gives me a feeling of success to complete a mission.”

Participating in the First Lego League competition is one of several robotics programs at Camp Verde elementary. Other programs are beginning, intermediate and advanced robotics, Concoct Your Own Creation, Master the Missions, and Battle of the Bots.

Problem-solving

“My goal is to inspire a passion for S.T.E.M. that may lead these students to a successful engineering or technology careers in the future,” Dickey says. “I am trying to do my part in growing a new crop of engineers.”

Though Dickey surely has more robotics knowledge than the children, she encourages them to “try to solve a problem first.”

“I don’t walk up and solve problems for them,” Dickey says.

Which is good for fifth grader Brandon Bullard, one of the unit’s collaborators.

"I've learned that there are hard times in everything, and that you just have to get past it," Bullard says. "Move on and see what's wrong. You have to try, try again and do it right."

Bullard, like the majority of his cohorts, wants to learn how to build and program high tech robots.

"I want to be a robotics engineer," Bullard says.

What they're learning

Fifth grader Jaydon Padilla, says he has learned about robot building and programming, and he wants to learn how to design video games.

Joey Dickey, also in fifth grade, has learned "how to build a stable chassis block, programming and how to do team building projects."

Dickey also says he wants to learn "more java script programming."

On the list of things fourth grader Joshua Gardner has learned in the Friday robotics unit is "social skills."

Looking for sponsors

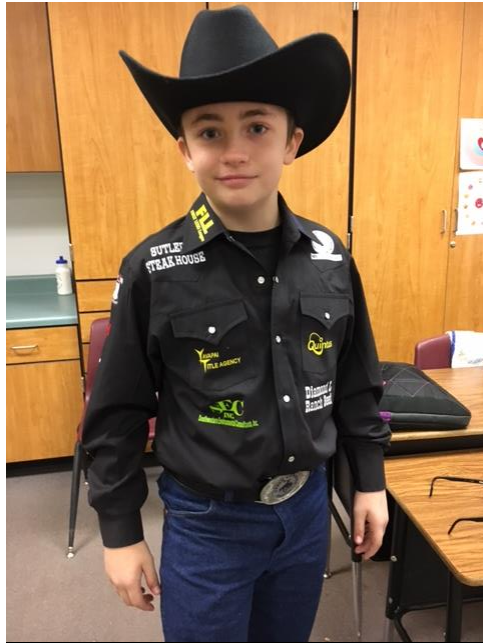
Dickey says she created the school's robotics program because her students asked her. But she's finding that running a new program outside the basics of education needs more than a willing teacher and interested pupils.

"Since the program started, the demand for robotics has exploded," Dickey says. "However, there is no money in the school budget to purchase more robots or to pay for competition and tournament-related expenses. Students have to raise the money for these expenses through business sponsorships and tax credit donations from the public."

The school's robotics program is looking for sponsors and public support to fund its First Lego League competition shirts, as well as 10 new robots for its Battle of the Bots tournament.

Anyone interested in helping support CVES robotics can contact Peggy Dickey at pdickey@campverdeschools.org.

Finally, this report wouldn't be complete without showing off the competition gear our students sported. Coach Dickey did a fantastic job of recognizing our team's sponsors, while keeping with the cowboy theme. (Keep in mind, our students present to potential sponsors and raise the money they need for this costly competition! They wanted to make sure those sponsors were recognized for their valuable contributions.) The cowboy shirts have sponsor's logos prominently displayed. Matching cowboy hats and belt buckles round out the uniform, with students wearing boots and jeans. Great job, Coach Dickey and Cyber Cowboys team members!!



Special Education

To date 210 IEP meetings have been held at the schools.

As of 12/9/16 229 special education students are enrolled in our schools.

SCHOOL	As of 12/9/16	+ Gain or - Loss	As of 8/11/16
Preschool	24	+7	17
Elementary School	90	-3	93
Middle School	39	-3	42
Accommodation School	4	+1	3
High School	64	+1	63
South Verde High School	8	+2	6
TOTALS	229	+5	224

504 Students

SCHOOL	As of 12/9/16	+ Gain or - Loss	As of 8/11/16
Preschool	0	0	0
Elementary School	5	+3	2
Middle School	6	+1	5
Accommodation School	0	-1	1
High School	9	0	9
South Verde High School	1	0	1
TOTALS	21	+3	18

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

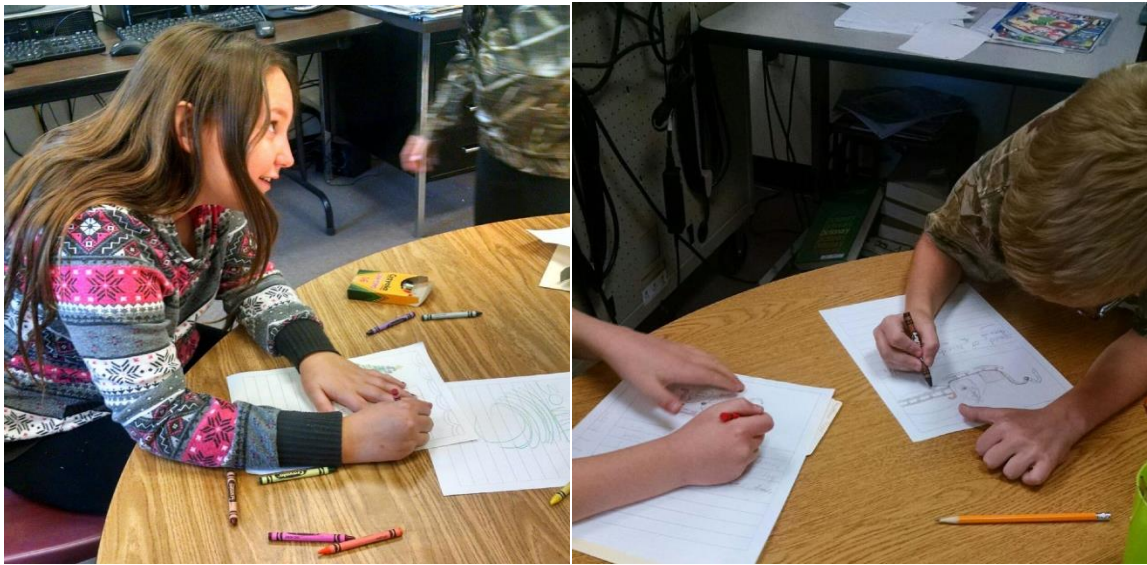
SCHOOL	As of 11/4/16	+ Gain or - Loss	As of 8/11/16
Elementary School	32	+8	24
Middle School	24	+4	20

Accommodation School	0	0	0
(High School	21	+2	19)
South Verde High School	0	0	0
TOTAL IN PROGRAM	51	+7	44

Preschool

Gifted

The elementary gifted classes have ventured a bit off the beaten path this week. At developmentally appropriate levels, students are creating Christmas stories with illustrations. Each sentence starter weaves its way into the whole of the story and will be enclosed with illustrated covers. This has been a fun way to explore some creative ideas listening to Christmas carols, writing, and drawing. The hope is the students will each leave for break with a beautiful Christmas keepsake framing their excellent reading and writing skills.





Parents of Home Schooled Students

Parents of home schooled students are invited to a meeting on Friday 12/16/16 at 9:00 AM to discuss the special education referral process and the types of special education services that

are available. The meeting will be held in the Student Services conference room and is expected to last approximately 30 minutes. A notice about the meeting has been placed in the 12/9/16 edition of the Verde Independent.

CHILD FIND

Last Friday 12/2/16 the Preschool Child Find Team of Jenni Wheeler, Dr. Sami Worssam, and Toni Kohlbeck-SLP, screened a record 8 preschoolers for possible disabilities. The word is getting out that early intervention services are critical to help children with delays develop to their potential.

The next date for Preschool Child Find screenings for preschool aged children (ages 3-5 but not eligible for Kindergarten) will take place **Friday 1/20/17 from 9:00 am to noon**. Child Find screenings are held in the preschool classroom at the Elementary School. Screenings are conducted by Jenni Jackson-Preschool Teacher, Dr. Worssam-School Psychologist, and Ms. Kohlbeck-Speech-Language Pathologist.

To schedule an appointment for a preschool aged child to be screened, please call Mrs. Jackson at 928-203-2682. The remaining dates for preschool Child Find screenings are: 1/20/17, 3/3/17, 4/21/17, and 6/16/17.

Early Childhood Parent Resource

First Things First is a State initiative to help families and schools get children ready for school. The Birth to Five Helpline is FREE to anyone with questions about children ages five and under. Staffed by Southwest Human Development, their expert child development specialists are there to help.

1-877-705-KIDS (5437)

Wireless Network Upgrade

We are still waiting on an updated proposal from the vendor. He is scheduled to come in on the 6th of December to look at another long overdue project. We will get more info then if available.

South Verde Content Filter

The WatchGuard content filter is on hand. A+ resolved their issues. We are now dealing with a DHCP problem. We have temporarily routed South Verde through the Lightspeed system to get them filtered while we work out this issue. **Estimated in-service date is 1 January 2017.**

Heat issues in the MUCC Server Room

Temperature sensor is on hand. We will install during Christmas Break. **Estimated completion date 28 December 2016**

Server Upgrade

It is time to consider replacing our servers. This year we would like to replace at least one with a blade style server. **This project is still in the planning stages.**

Radio Base Stations

Purchase order has been sent to the vendor. **Estimated in-service date is 15 December 2016.**

Intern Work

The RADIUS package is fully functional and all of our tests show it to be working properly. We will start putting more users on it after the first of the year then begin the migration away from Camp Verde Wi-Fi. **Estimated completion date 28 December 2016.**