

THE LUSD NEWS

Issue 2 - 2011/12



Pennies for Education

Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Lakeport, the Pennies for Education program is benefiting students from six Lakeport Elementary School classrooms this holiday season.

A group of Lakeport Rotary members headed by Anna Girod placed "Pennies for Education" collection cans in businesses throughout the community earlier this year. The contributions are helping to fund projects in Janell Beedle's second-grade class and the kindergarten classes of Teresa Fred, Pam Klier, Noelle McCammond, Judy Gunn and Corinne Nordby.



'Tis the Season

Our Terrace School students, faculty and administrators epitomized the Spirit of Giving with a recent canned food drive, collecting over 1,000 cans in two weeks to help stock the United Christian Parish (UCP) Food Cupboard. The UCP Food Cupboard provides food to individuals and families in need throughout the year.

"I am amazed at the generosity of our staff and students," said Principal Jill Falconer. "Everyone did a great job of bringing in food for those less fortunate than us. We have so much to be thankful for at Terrace School."

With the help of Food Services Director Jackie Courtney, the students sorted and packed the food into boxes. Assistant Principal Patrick Rubey and District Technical Coordinator Michael Auth delivered the boxes to UCP.



Challenge Day at Two Campuses

More than 100 seventh- and eighth-graders and 200 high school students participated in Challenge Day programs that took place at each of the campuses this year.

Terrace School Principal Jill Falconer was pleased to have had 23 adult staff and community volunteers help out with the first Challenge Day held at the middle school. "The presenters, Romeo and Sela, were fantastic and helped the students understand what it means to 'Be the Change' they wish to see in the world. We are hopeful that students have a better understanding of how they wish to be treated by others and how to treat others with respect and consideration."

Clear Lake High School, experiencing the program for the second year, had approximately 100 student participants and 30 adult volunteers on each of two days in early November. Three teachers were among the volunteers. "Challenge Day went very smoothly and was a huge success," according to Assistant Principal Bob Mayer who helped organize the event along with parent June Wilson. Ms. Wilson, a mental health counselor with Lake County's Mental Health Department, assists with the follow-up group, the "Be the Change" club, and provides counseling services to students in need twice a week at the school.

Administrators at both schools are considering return of Challenge Day for the next school year.

WELCOME

New Board Members, Staff Welcomed

Mr. Phil Kirby, Mr. Wally Cox and Ms. Lori Holmes are taking their seats on the LUSD Governing Board following their election in November. Mr. Kirby is an incumbent while Ms. Holmes is new to the board. Mr. Cox was appointed in August to fill the seat vacated by Bob Weiss. The three will be sworn in during the December Board meeting, joining Board President Dennis Darling and Board member Tom Powers.

The District Office recently welcomed Janine Smith to its staff. Janine is the new superintendent's secretary. She most recently worked for the County's Special Districts Department and has experience in the secretarial role for another school district. A warm welcome to Janine and our new Board members!

Energy Conservation = Savings

A review of energy usage throughout the school district is resulting in a change of PG&E rate structures for a few of the school sites and district accounts that could ultimately mean a savings of more than \$11,000 a year.

Maintenance/Operations/Transportation Director Dave Norris met with a PG&E account executive in September to examine costs per year for the school district's 14 accounts. Of those 14, six were eligible for new rate schedules estimated to save the district \$11,625 annually. "Additional savings could be realized if we all do our best to conserve energy when possible," said Norris.

Staff Enjoys Appreciation Event



Employees of LUSD gathered at Lakeside Family Fun Center in October for an evening of bowling and laser tag. In bowling, Angela Benson had high game of 186 while Kris Andre took low score honors and a prize with her game of 51. Bowling teams from school sites and departments challenged each other, enjoying a bit of fun competition.

'SUCCEED' and Boost Your Health

SISC (Self-Insured Schools of California) is encouraging members to take the SUCCEED health assessment and sign up for digital health coaching to help individuals feel better and be healthier. In addition, participants may earn cash awards.

Digital health coaching is an online program presented by SISC. Any family member age 18 or older enrolled in a SISC health plan is eligible to participate. The program is designed to help reduce stress and help members reach their health goals. To sign up for the program and learn more about it, go to www.sishealth.com on the internet.



Food Service Superheroes

In November, Food Services Director Jackie Courtney and her staff donned their superhero costumes and descended on Sacramento for the 59th Annual Conference of The California School Nutrition Association.

Jackie, Angela Benson, Cindy Presley, Mandy Lopez, Kristy Iaccino, Mechelle Finney, and Shelly Dumont joined groups of "School Nutrition Heroes" from throughout California for the Association's yearly presentation of educational sessions and exchange of school nutrition ideas. Courtney said she is very proud of her staff because it was apparent from information shared at the conference that students of LUSD are receiving healthy choices for their meals.

The two-day conference was capped by a President's Party featuring a costume party and contest. The LUSD representatives took second place with their handmade costumes. Congratulations to our School Nutrition Superheroes!

Thank You!

We are grateful to the following individuals, community organizations and businesses for their recent contributions to the district.

- Robyn Stevenson – eight years of dedicated service on the LUSD Governing Board.
- Charlie and John Richardson - use of the Lakeside Family Fun Center for the LUSD staff appreciation event.
- D'Ann Finlay – AVID scholarship.
- Parents/guardians and friends who attended "Take a Parent to Lunch Day."
- Big Valley Rancheria - grant donation to Terrace School.
- Fred and Berdie Guerrero – water for Challenge Day participants.
- Phil Smoley – Bass Bowl organization and fundraising.