



FUSD Newsletter

Issue #33
May 2016

Congratulations to the Graduating Class of 2016!

As we congratulate the Graduating Class of 2016 FUSD would like to introduce you to twelve students from our three high schools through their stories and quotes as they are ready to begin their next journey after graduation in May. This is a small representation of the over 500 amazing graduates this year.

Flagstaff High School

Yisha Ng participated on the FHS swimming and diving teams throughout high school and most recently became a star of the Speech and Debate team earning a place in the Tournament of Champions national competition this year. She has also been an active member of CHICCS (Characters Helping Initiate Change through Community Service) and works with the Taylor House helping with fundraising. Yisha was also a member of the choir, plays violin and is a Black Belt in the Martial Art of Karate. She was awarded the Flinn Scholarship and is looking forward to continuing her education with a major in Aerospace Engineering. Yisha became

interested in the field through her experiences growing up in Flagstaff, learning about Dark Skies and enjoying the Flagstaff Festival of Science speakers. All of this fueled her passion for space and love of math and science. Though social studies were not her favorite classes she says that Ms. Stearns was her most influential teacher because of her enthusiasm and genuine care for her students. She is proud to have attended FHS because of the great sense of community and caring teachers. Yisha stated "I've been incredibly lucky in the fact that I have so much support from my family, friends, and teachers, and I'm really grateful for that. The communities I've been a part of at Flag High have really shaped my high school experience for the better, and have taught me the value of high school outside of academics. By virtue of being a public school, FHS has a hugely diverse population of students, and it's important to take advantage of that, not only in valuing inclusiveness and understanding different world views, but also in learning from others' experiences.

In these four years, it's easy to get sucked into a routine of

school, homework, tests, sports, extracurriculars, sleep. But if there's one thing that I've learned from high school, it's to be a part of something bigger than yourself. To care about more than having a well-rounded resume or good grades. To make an impact, even if it's only affecting one person. And that's what I really hope I've been able to do these past four years, and what I hope to keep doing going into college and the rest of my life."



Please remember to look for school specific flyers through the Peachjar button on your school's homepage.

May	
Snow Day Make Up day not used– all FUSD schools will be closed	9
Extra Elementary School Early Release Day	19
Last Day of School	26
SHS Graduation	26
CHS and FHS Graduations	27
July	
4th of July Parade	4
Killip and Leupp Elementary only— First Day of School	20
August	
First Day of School (except Killip and Leupp Elementary Schools)	11

Graduating Seniors Continued

Monty Grant reflects on his high school lasts before looking forward to his next adventure. He was an active member of the student council and stated that “Every day of my senior year was a highlight because I was able to make things better and just take it all in and just be a senior. I don’t want to leave high school saying that I could’ve done better and made the school better because every day I try my best to make this school better.” As Monty reflects on the last soccer game, homecoming football game, homecoming, pep rally and the NYC/DC trip, he is looking forward to attending Howard University in the fall and plans to double major in political science and pre-law. He asks for your vote as he hopes to run for president in 2036.



Benjamin A. Shantz’s favorite part of high school was the sense of community. “I always felt that you could find a group of people at FHS who share the same interests.” He was involved in Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses because he enjoys creating things and putting items together to make an end goal possible which is why he took woodworking for all four years and competed in the state competitions taking second and fourth place in the past two years and is waiting for the results of this year’s competition. Benjamin reports that “The FHS experience has been like no other and the abilities I have learned have been thanks to the CTE program. I plan on going to college to get my degree in business management and

hope to start my own business. I also plan to become a certified skydiver and last but not least I am going to be studying abroad in Europe.”



Lauren McCartney has been very involved in the Photography CTE program at FHS. Photography has helped her get into the Photographer’s Forum and her work will be published in the next Best of High School and College Photography Book. She earned first place at the CTE Skills Regional Competition and says that the Photography program has expanded her outlook on careers and focused her future goals. Lauren is also the Social Chair for the FHS Student Council and is a member of the National Honors Society. She is planning to attend NAU in the fall on the Lumberjack Scholarship and will be studying photography, marketing and advertising. Lauren would like to “thank Flagstaff High School and CTE for this high school experience. For some people high school is something that they just want to get through but I’ve really enjoyed my time here.”



Dylan Davis is the Arizona State Welding Champion. He has been involved in the award winning CTE program though out

his high school years and has spent most of his time in the welding shop outside of classes because he says it is “a good past time and I have the skills to get a job right out of high school.” When he graduates in May he plans to attend “CCC 2 NAU” to get a degree in mechanical engineering and eventually become a welding engineer. Dylan stated that “being in the CTE Welding Program has put me ahead and has given me skills to succeed in getting a job out of high school.”



Coconino High School

Katherine Graves enjoyed the CHS environment and has a strong sense of pride in the community feeling at the school. She feels that the “teachers care so much about the school and students” and particularly enjoyed classes taught by Mr. Tessmer, Ms. Hamilton, Ms. Sapio and Ms. Heilman who she says inspired her to like English. Katherine was a section leader and then drum major, was a member of the Student Council in her sophomore year, a CIT student as a freshman and sophomore and a member of the National Honors Society for the past two years. She is active in the Big Brother, Big Sister program and works at the Flagstaff Athletic Club. After graduation she plans to attend U of A and will major in chemistry and pre pharmacy, will attend the Blue Chip Leadership Program and plans to audition for the ensemble. Katherine is “immensely grateful for my time at CHS because it has made me who I am. The

Graduating Seniors Continued

welcoming environment, fantastic teachers, and dedicated administration have made my time here better than I could have imagined. I am excited as I look toward the future because I know that CHS has prepared me for the best. Thank you to all who have made my high school experience so wonderful!"



Abigail Shepherd enjoyed all four years at CHS and is grateful for all of the opportunities. She is particularly grateful to Mr. Friend whose accounting classes she enjoyed and his encouragement is what inspired her to attend the Coconino Association for Vocations, Industry and Technology (CAVIAT) program for business management. After three more CCC courses Abigail will have her Associates Degree and will then transfer to NAU to finish her business management degree. She is a volunteer with the Lions Club and Arizona Game and Fish helping with events and fundraising. Upon reflection Abigail states "Coconino has allowed me to grow as an individual. I want to say thank you to everyone who has helped me along my four-year journey. I would not be headed in the direction I am without the amazing staff."



Wyatt Bain enjoyed his automotive and engineering elective classes the most. "I loved the freedom to choose what I want to do and the teachers were outstanding." He attended the Autos Club throughout high school and was President for two of the years. He also partici-

pated in the CTE Skills competition and was able to show the knowledge he gained in the automotive field. After graduation he plans to attend NAU and study computer science. He is "excited to see where life takes me from here."



Tristen Eddie's best memory of high school was participating in the Physics Six Flags trip both junior and senior year while taking Advanced Placement Physics I and II. While taking a full schedule of AP classes she also participated in volleyball, student government, is a member of the Native American Club and volunteers weekly at Flagstaff Medical Center. After graduation Tristen plans on earning her Nursing Assistant Certification over the summer and will continue on to Dartmouth in the fall. She is "excited to begin a new chapter of my life and continue growing as a person."



Summit High School

Leona Slim has been at Summit since eighth grade and likes being able to work at her own pace and is proud of being able to stay on track. She has had great relationships with the teachers and is grateful that they take a personal interest in the students. In addition to attending Summit High School and the Teenage Parent Program (TAPP) Leona attends the CAVIAT Fashion Design and Merchandising Program at CCC. After graduation, and giving the Commencement Speech, she will continue

her CAVIAT program for one more year and continue to earn credits in business and marketing. Leona is "thankful for graduating from Summit High School and them giving me the opportunity to be with my daughter and follow my dreams."



Carlos Powell Jr. is very happy about graduating this year. He is proud to be graduating from Summit High School and stated that the recent accreditation of the school is a wonderful thing. He liked the teachers, especially P.E. and the bike mechanic program and he currently works at Brix. After graduation Carlos plans to attend CCC to get his general AA degree while deciding what he wants to do.



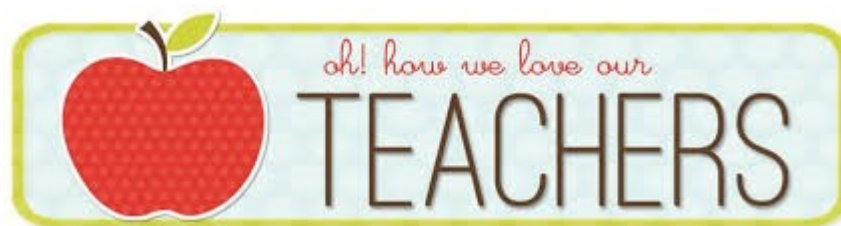
Keri Wilson appreciated the one on one interaction with the teachers at Summit High School. She has always liked math and science and earned her Certified Nursing Assistant Certification through the CAVIAT program this past fall. After graduation she will attend CCC to finish the nursing program and hopes to complete the degree in one and one half years. Keri's advice is to "wake up, get ready, go to school, build your future and strive forward, look back later."



Congratulations to the 2016 Teacher of the Year

Last month Coconino County Superintendent of Schools Risha VanderWey and her office held the Fourth Annual Coconino County Teacher of the Year event. **Coconino High School's Brian Locke (Automotive teacher) is the 2016 Coconino Teacher of the Year!** Mr. Locke has brought amazing opportunities to his students at CHS which include receiving certification from the National Automotive Technician Education Foundation (NATEF). Coconino High School is one of seven schools in Arizona to hold this honor. With this certification the students in Mr. Locke's class can leave high school with an industry standard certification and is on par with having some technical school training which translates for them, not starting at the bottom if they choose automotive technician as a

career. These programs meet industry-developed standards that result in students ready to enter the workforce or to continue their education. In addition, the Rodel Foundation recognized the two 2015 Exemplary Teachers – Tisha Cake (Sinagua Middle School) and Jillian Hernandez (Killip Elementary School) and the two 2015 Exemplary Principals Stacie Zanzucchi (Coconino High School) and Frank Garcia (Thomas Elementary School). STEM City recognized Ted Komada who is the 2016 STEM teacher of the year. Congratulations also goes to Evelyn Ramirez (ESL teacher at Sinagua Middle School) who was the Coconino County Teacher of the Year Semi-Finalist. Congratulations to all of the teachers recognized at this event.



FHS Future Business Leaders

This school year Flagstaff High School began a Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Club led by teacher Mariah Krauss who teaches the business courses at the school. This group of enterprising students have hit the ground running. In April five business students represented FHS at the annual Arizona FBLA State Conference and Competition in Tucson. They competed in both individual and team events in marketing, securities & investments, public speaking, interviews, and several other business topics. Along with competitive events, there were several workshops and networking activities that students could participate in. The students were very excited to participate in the conference. Two of the students stated, "I liked that we

were free to choose our workshops, explore, and meet new people." And "We went to a balloon workshop to learn about our own personality, personality traits, and how to work with people of different personalities."

Congratulations to the participants; Alyssa Knowles, Stephan Montoya, Breanna Smith, Nicole Knowles, and Yareli Gomez. Alyssa took home 4th place in the state of Arizona for the "Securities and Investments"

exam and Nicole and Yareli advanced to round two and took home 8th place in the "Sports and Entertainment Management" team competition. All three are eligible to attend the national conference in Atlanta over the summer and compete against students across our nation.

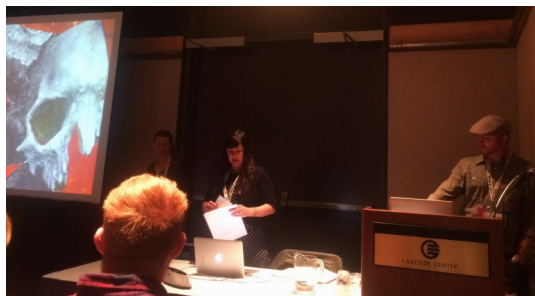


FUSD CTE Teachers Present at National conference

Two high school teachers spoke at the National Arts Educators Association's National Conference recently. Chandra Hemminger (Art teacher at Summit H.S. and Joe Cornett (Digital Photography teacher at Flagstaff H.S.) presented a session was called **"Visualizing Sound"**: Attendees at the session were given the chance to explore innovative opportunities for their students to create visual responses to music. They shared their experiences as teachers working with students in collaborating with the Flag-

staff Symphony Orchestra. The idea of the project is to have students create visual art from the emotions and feelings that they have to music. In this case, their example was from non-lyrical, classical music that the Flagstaff

Symphony Orchestra performed. They packed the house at the conference and even had people flowing out into the hallway.



News Briefs

Marshall Family Fitness Night

In April, Marshall Magnet School held their 2nd Annual Family Fitness Night, it was a great event with a lot of community and family participation. There were over 30 participants showcasing sports, health, fitness and recreation.



STEM/STEAM nights are Very Popular Events at FUSD Schools

STEM Night at Thomas Elementary filled the gym. Every teacher participated in this popular event and students were engaged with over 20 hands on activities.



DeMiguel Elementary School's kindergarten and first grade students had a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) night all to themselves. The students and their families learned about magnets, air, engineering, had fun with different ways to create art and used kindergarten catapults. Thank you to the teachers for putting on these great events, the families had a lot of fun exploring.



Knoles Elementary OM

Coach Monique Streit and the 4th grade team competed this weekend in the state finals for Odyssey of the Mind. Out of 8 teams they placed 2nd and are invited to Worlds in Ames, Iowa!! Go Knoles Elementary!!



Important Contact Information for Flagstaff Unified School District

Administrative Center Main Number – 527-6000
Curriculum and Instruction Office – 527-6021
Human Resources – 527-6070
Food Service – 527-6090
Bilingual Education – 527-6107
Student Support Services – 527-6160
Transportation – 527-2300



Donuts with Dad

"Donuts with Dad" at Cromer Elementary was a huge success last month. Over 200 dads, grandfathers and students enjoyed time together and were treated to 75 dozen donuts, coffee and juice. This is a great multi-generational event and the dads stated that it was great to spend this time with their children.





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Excellence For All By All

Please visit our Facebook page (Flagstaff Unified School District/Facebook) for all of the latest



FLAGSTAFF UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT Statement of Vision, Mission, Core Beliefs, Motto and Goals

Vision Statement:

Excellence for All by All

Mission Statement:

The mission of FUSD is to provide the best comprehensive educational opportunities for all in a safe, collaborative environment of high standards and expectations.

Core Beliefs:

We believe in the power of expectation; in the impact of high standards; in the value of diversity; and in the six pillars of character.

Motto:

Education at the Top of Arizona

Goals:

- Maintain and Improve Comprehensive Student Opportunities and Services
- Recruit and Retain Highly Qualified, Motivated, and Excelling Staff
- Improve Student Preparedness and Mastery
- Research and Create Desirable and Relevant Educational Opportunities and Services
- Increase Public Engagement and Support for FUSD
- Develop Diversified Partnerships and Revenue Opportunities

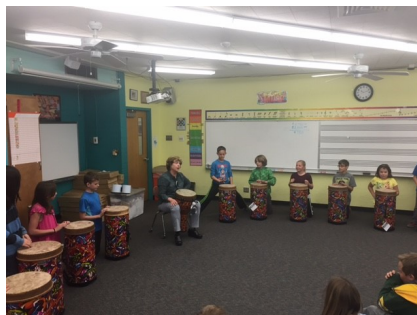



Sechrist Music Students Study Blues and African Drumming

The Sechrist 5th grade students are learning the 12-bar blues on the ukuleles in their music class with teacher Faun Nichols. They have learned about the history of the blues and how the social struggles of the time have impacted music, society and culture today. As a cross curricular project, the students also wrote their own blues lyrics. The students split into small groups, wrote the lyrics in those small groups, then each group performed for the entire class playing the ukuleles (12-bar blues) and their lyrics together. Each 5th grade class will choose their favorite lyrics to represent their thoughts of leaving Sechrist. All 5th graders will sing those lyrics as a "Graduation Song" at the Sechrist Talent Show on the last day of school for the student body and

families while playing our ukuleles. This year the fourth grade music students incorporated African/World drums purchased with the FUSD Foundation grant money into their music classes. Thanks to Jamie Mimran, Sechrist 4th grade teacher, for taking the pictures of the fourth graders with their new drums and of the fifth graders learning to play the ukuleles!

It really takes the entire Sechrist team to make this such an exceptional school!

Camp IWANNAGO is proud to offer Flagstaff's children a safe and enriching environment to spend their summer days. Each day we offer a variety of enjoyable enrichment and physical activities... all with an emphasis on character development.

Who: All Children Ages 5-12
Date: Monday June 6th - Friday July 29th
 6:45 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
 (Closed Monday and Tuesday July 4th-5th)
Where: Marshall Magnet School
 850 North Bonito Street, Flagstaff, AZ 86001

Find Out More at our Open House:
 Saturday, May 28th, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Marshall Magnet School
 Visit our webpage at www.fusd1.org/IWANNAGO or call us at 928-527-6180

Camp IWANNAGO is part of the FACTS and FUSD family!