

PUSD

PAGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Monthly Newsletter November 2022

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ON THE COVER
Autumn Yazzie at the Page Golf Course.

Vision

A community of learners who direct our collective actions and resources toward the unique learning needs of every child in order for all students to become college and career ready and successful in a global society.

Motto

Collectively Committed to Every Student, Every Day, Every Minute.



Mission

Our schools are passionate about the learning-for-all mission and understand that every student matters. We are responsible and accountable for the education of every student that walks through our doors every day.



Oct. 12, 2022

Notes from Regular Board Meeting: October 11, 2022

Page Unified School Board members convened for its Regular Board Meeting, October 11, 2022. Board President, Desiree Fowler, and Board Members Sandra Kidman and Charles Weiss were present. Superintendent Dr. Bryce Anderson was also present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by PUSD students Luke Clutter and Bryn Andersen.

During the meeting, Supt. Anderson recognized PUSD's Employees of the Month. The Certified Employee of the Month was Shelby Jensen. The Classified Employee of the Month was Thomas Hall.

The Governing Board recognized and approved donations given to the school board.

Desiree Fowler and Charles Weiss each gave board reports.

During the Consent Agenda portion of the meeting, the Board approved the Local Wellness Policy, and approved out of state travel for AVID conference to Orlando, Florida.

Extended leave for an employee was approved by the Board.

In light of new Arizona legislation policy advisories were approved by the Board.

Contact information was updated within regulation ACAA-R.

The Board approved the Annual Financial Report for 2021-22.

GOVERNING BOARD

Desiree Fowler
President

Sandra Kidman
Clerk

Charles Weiss
Member

Mike Mangum
Member

Superintendent
Dr. Bryce C. Anderson

Page Unified School District
500 South Navajo Dr. Page, AZ 86040

Panthers Football Team Brings Home NAIC Championship



With a full moon rising, it was a perfect night for a pack of Panthers to go hunting for their second championship in two years.

The undefeated Page Middle School Panthers (9-0) hosted the undefeated Ganado Hornets (5-0) in what promised to be an exciting game in the Battle of the Unbeaten.

But, the contest wasn't even close. The Panthers easily defeated the Hornets 32-0 and were crowned NAIC champions for the second year in a row.

Panthers head coach Jonathon Prather credits the championship, and the successful season, on his defensive front five and the three running backs.

"Our defensive front five are the strength of this team," said Coach Prather after Saturday's victory. "They brought constant heat and pressure on the Ganado quarterback and kept Ganado's offense on its heels all night. We knew what we were going into and we shut it down."

Game notes for the defense read: sack, tackle for loss, forced fumble, hurried pass. The front five are Kelton Yazzie, Mason Yazzie, Joel Dozier, Jaiden Jordan and Renato Littleman. Littleman set a school record for sacks and tackles for loss (total) in a season with 53. Kelton Yazzie had 41 and TFLs this season.

On the offensive side, running backs Jaiden Jordan, Braylen Rupp and Renato Littleman gained yardage in 15,

25 and 45 yard chunks, something they have done all season. The three talented runningbacks also got a lot of help from their offensive linemen and receivers who are excellent seal blockers, who grease the gaps, widen the creases and make it easy for the runningbacks to break into the secondary and take it to the house.

Ethan Curley, Matheu Perry, Marxin Tsinnie, Daniel Wall, Joel Dozier, Castor Whitehair, Truex Williams, Mason Yazzie all rotated on the offensive line this season.

"They have to most important jobs on the field," said Coach Prather. "Coach Cody Chischilly instills this in them."

The Panthers started the game on offense and wasted no time getting things started. On the game's opening drive, Braylen Rupp scored the game's first touchdown running 45 yards on left side jet sweep.

The Panther's defense forced the Hornets to punt on its first possession. Rupp scored again on the second play of the drive, this time scampering 20 yards for the touchdown. Quarterback Kellen Cummings ran it in on a two-point conversion, making the score 14-0 with seven minutes off the clock.

The Panthers dominant defense held the Hornets offense

Science in Motion



As part of its curriculum, Page High School's Investigative Science class built marble towers using only paper and tape then invited a group of Desert View fifth graders over to test them.

Designing, building and testing the marble towers was part of a unit examining Newton's First Law of Motion, which states, an object at rest remains at rest, and an object in motion remains in motion at constant speed and in a straight line unless acted on by an unbalanced force.

This is the first year Page High School has had an Investigative Science class. The class is taught by Julianne Hatt, and is for ninth graders only.

"It's kind of like earth and space science, and physics had a baby," said Ms. Hatt. "This class is meant to be the fun side of science. We want our students to remember that they like science."

One of the class's big goals is to get away from rote regurgitation of facts and move to a zone where students see the laws of physics in action, using hands on experiments with all the trial and error that come with it.

Ms. Hatt says the hands-on approach to science is a lot more engaging for many of her students, and it includes a lot more "ah-ha!" moments than textbook-only classes.

"In the experiments, we get to see the physics principals in action and better understand what is causing them," said Ms. Hatt. "When one of the groups tested their marble tower, the marble would hit a pile of tape and that slowed it down. What they're seeing is friction."

But removing the tape made that section of the tower



weaker and less stable. The students could live with it the way it was or remove the tape and rebuild that section of the tower using different methods.

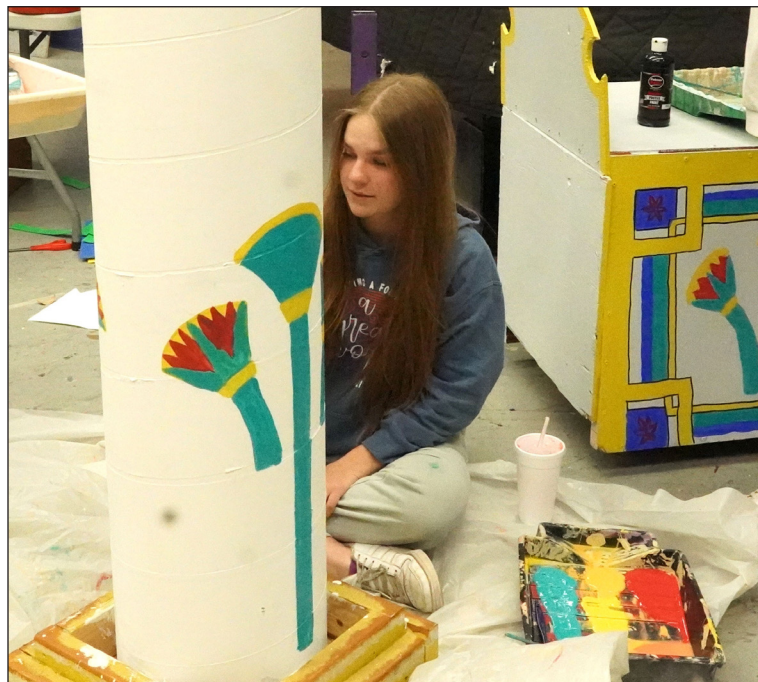
"I like to let the students figure it out first," said Ms. Hatt.

In addition to learning the laws of physics, the students also learn that conducting science in the real world is full of unanticipated obstacles. And finding unexpected solutions.

Finding solutions to unanticipated problems lies at the heart of science, said Ms. Hatt. "Science is about figuring out how something works, and that's what makes it fun."

MEET ACTRESS

Sara Kidman



For Sara Kidman, the stage of the Cultural Arts Building is as familiar as the living room, kitchen or bedroom of her own home. Kidman has been acting in Page's high school musicals since she was in fourth grade. Kidman, the daughter of Steven and Sandra Kidman, is now a junior at Page High School.

In this year's production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" Kidman will play Narrator One, a role she's very much looking forward to playing.

"I'm very excited for this role because I will be on stage singing and dancing the entire time," she said.

In recent years, Kidman has played the role of Gretel in "The Sound of Music" (2016), and Mrs. Potts in "Beauty and the Beast" (2022).

"Personally I don't enjoy acting very much, but I do love to dance, sing, and learn choreography," Kidman said. "I don't do a big personality shift when I play a character. For instance, when I played Mrs. Potts I didn't shift into playing a kind, old lady. I was basically Sara, not Mrs. Potts."

Whether its dancers performing their moves with sharper, crisper motions, or actors delivering their lines with greater confidence, Kidman enjoys witnessing her fellow actors, the play and all its elements improve day by day, week by week.

"I like seeing how much easier it gets once we've done it so many times," she said. "Once you've reached a point where an element is good, you can focus on other things, such as making it more energized."

There comes a point in the rehearsals where the singing, the dancing, and the line delivery start to gel, and the cast—who are comfortable with the performance—can let their own personalities shine through, and the production itself begins to manifest its own personality, its own nuance and flavor.

"There are some scenes that we have more fun with," Kidman said. "The energy is higher, and the scene turns out better. I like watching that development."

After eight years acting, dancing and singing in front of a large audience, Kidman rarely gets butterflies or feels nervous during a performance.

"It still happens a little," she said. "When I'm singing a new number in front of people for the very first time, like when I sing in front of cast members for the first time, it's kind of scary. But once we perform for real in front of an audience,

Boys Take 1st, Girls Take 2nd at 3A North Cross-Country Meet



Page hosted the 3A North Region Meet yesterday. Page boys took first place, and Page girls took second place.

The event was held on the grounds of Lake View Primary. The race route began on Lake View's north playground and from there went north to Potato Hill, and looped back to Lake View to finish.

Page boys had six runners finish in the top ten. Symond Martin, who is the top ranked freshman in Arizona, finished highest for the Runnin' Devils in fourth place. Davis Quentin placed fifth, Tanner Dugi place sixth, Gavyn Begay placed seventh, Maximus Reid placed ninth and Elijah Reed placed tenth. Ty Lefthand placed 49th.

In the girls' race, Page's Jade Reid placed second. Alyssa Harris placed fifth, Sofia Cambridge placed ninth, Lelaura Yazzie placed eleventh and Isabella Manning placed sixteenth.



Mr. Hastiin Naat'áanii, Miss Hastiin Naat'áanii Crowned at UNITY Pageant

Bryce Williams was crowned Mr. Hastiin Naat'áanii, and Sunnece Kewanyama was crowned Miss Hastiin Naat'áanii at the UNITY Pageant, which was held last week in Page High Schools' Cultural Arts Building.

Kewanyama says being chosen as Miss Hastiin Naat'áanii is a big honor, and something she plans to take very seriously. For her traditional talent, she performed the Hopi Corn Dance. For her non-traditional talent, she performed a colorguard dance. Kewanyama, a junior, has been in colorguard since seventh grade. She wants to continue doing colorguard in the Marine Corps after she graduates.

Williams says representing the school district and community as Mr. Hastiin Naat'áanii is something he is ready for.

"I'm excited for this role," he said. "A big part of what I'll be doing is ensuring that my culture keeps going forward and to help others have a better understanding about it."

In their new roles, Williams and Kewanyama will serve as indigenous representatives for the students, teachers and staff of PUSD and the broader community.

The UNITY Pageant is one of several events and programs organized by PUSD's Indian Education Office to promote and shape the next generation of Navajo leaders.

"For of lot of the students, this was their first time on a stage in front of people. It takes a lot of courage to present yourself, your talents and conduct and carry yourself," said Carlos Begay,



See UNITY pg. 16

Photos from Choir Concert

The Page High School Concert Choir went to the Fall High School Choir Festival last week where they earned a rating of “excellent with distinction” which qualifies them to perform at the state festival in March. Way to go, Concert Choir!



Photos from Orchestra Concert



SEPTEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Bryn Anderson
Lake View Primary



Luke Clutter
Desert View Intermediate



Evangeline M. Manning
Page Middle School



Kaydence Tsinigine
Page High School

SEPTEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Lianel Benally
Manson Mesa High School



Alizayah Joe
Sage & Sand Virtual Academy



Jensen Barnum
Page Preschool

EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

Certified Employee of the Month
September 2022

Classified Employee of the Month
September 2022



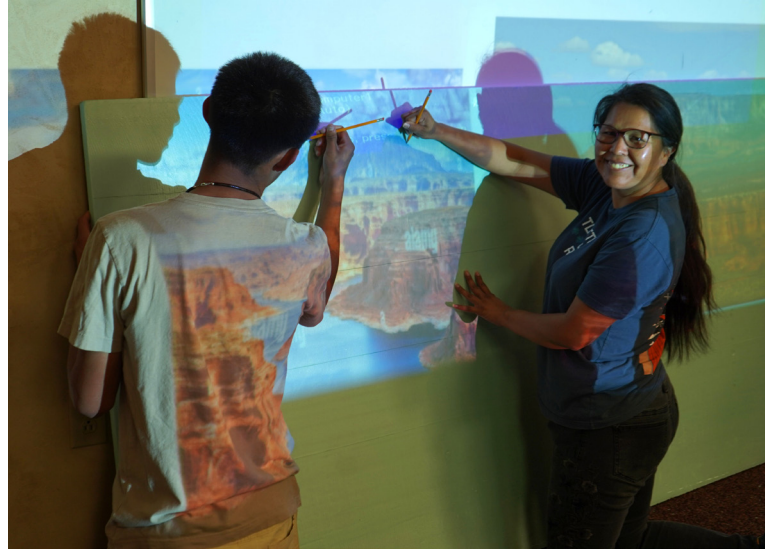
Shelby Jensen



Thomas Hall



PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT





Announcements

PHS MUSICAL THEATER Presents



Lyrics by Tim Rice Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber

to a three and out on its next possession, and returned the punt to the Panther's 37-yard line. To runs later, Jaiden Jordan reached the endzone on a 15 yard run. The ensuing PAT was no good. The Panthers led 20-0 in the opening minutes of the second quarter.

Ganado's next possession ended when Panthers cornerback, Nyall Prather, intercepted a pass near mid-field. Jaiden Jordan advanced the ball to the 8 yard line. On the next play, Renato Littleman carried the ball into the endzone for the Panthers' fourth score of the game.

Littleman would score again early in the fourth quarter on a 55-yard cruise to the endzone making the score 32 to 0, which would be the game's final score.

The Panthers played three more games this season than their division rivals. As Page prepared to began the season, they had several weekends without scheduled games. In an

effort to keep his team sharp, Coach Prather went out and found three extra games for his team. In addition to the regular line-up, the Panthers also played Blanding, Utah, Kanab, Utah and Williams, Arizona, all of them ranked in the top one of two. Coach Prather purposefully chose tough teams, hoping his players would improve due to the extra challenge.

"We went to them and played on their field in tough environments, but my team really rose to the occasion," said Coach Prather. "I think it really paid off. I'm really proud of what this team has accomplished this year."

Along the way, the Panthers also set the season scoring record.

The Panthers football team is coached by Jonathon Prather, Cody Chischilly and Austin Smithmays.



KIDMAN from pg. 5

by then I've done it so many times it no longer makes me nervous."

For Kidman, acting in the fall musical is a family affair. The musical's directors – Lynda Nolan and Dawnell Robertson – are her aunts. She will also share the stage with five cousins, and two brothers. Sharing time on stage with family members makes the rehearsal experience a lot more enjoyable for Kidman.

"It is fun with family and cousins," Kidman said, "because you're working with people you already know super-well. It makes it easy."

Kidman plans to attend college after she graduates from Page High School, but she hasn't yet decided what college she wants to attend, or what she wants to major in.

Kidman also takes orchestra part time and plays on the girls tennis team in the spring.

UNITY from pg. 7



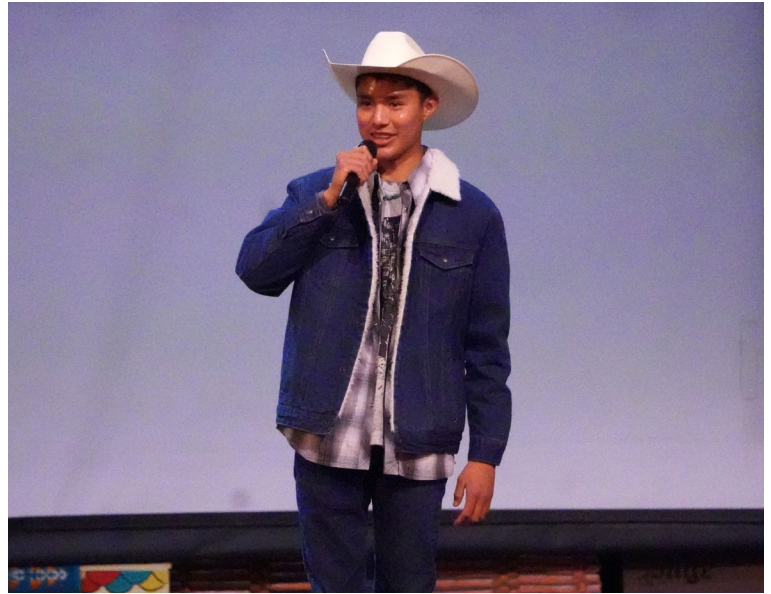
Indian Education Office Coordinator. "It's a great way to build confidence, character and motivation. All of these are key traits that leaders possess. It's good to start developing them while they're young."

This year's pageant included ten contestants. During the competition, contestants had to perform a traditional talent, a non-traditional talent and answer questions from the judges. Contestants performed traditional talents and modern talents.

Between performances from the contestants, the pageant also featured fashion modeling, hoop dancing from Red Heritage dancers, flute playing from Mylo Fowler, speeches from Joyceline Wero, Miss Western Navajo; Robin Holgate, Miss Page Lake Powell Rodeo; and Valentia Clitso, 2022-23 Miss Navajo Nation.

The pageant was Emceed by Carlos Begay. The judges for this year's UNITY Pageant were Valentia Clitso, 2022-23 Miss Navajo Nation; Wauneta Begay, Past Western Navajo; Jessica Dodson, Former Miss Western Navajo; and Gregg Martinez, Coconino Community College Instructor, and Economic Development Director for the City of Page.

This Year's UNITY Pageant was presented by the Navajo Language and Government classes and carried out by the



Navajo Support Group, which includes Dixie's Lower Antelope Canyon Tours, Ken's Tours, Bitahni Boutique, Rimview Terrace, Walk'n Beautiez, LLC, Antelope Slot Canyon Tours and Tse Bighanilini Tours.

In addition to organizing the event and finding presenters and entertainers, the Navajo Support Group also donated monetary support for the pageant, as well as gifts and prizes for the contestants.