

# PAGE UNIFIED PUSD SCHOOL DISTRICT

Monthly Newsletter June 2021

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[www.pageud.org](http://www.pageud.org)

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# CELEBRATE!

My, what a year that was!

In addition to our usual amount of assignments and tests, we also had to learn how to use Zoom, Google Classroom, hot spots, and other new, unfamiliar technologies. We had to learn how to virtually share assignments with our teachers, and how to virtually collaborate with our classmates. It was a lot to learn, a lot to take in, and it came with a very steep learning curve. All that additional computer and information technology knowledge was the equivalent of a 3-credit college course. At least.

In addition to all that, many of us lost loved ones to Covid-19, and/or we had classmates, teachers and friends who did. It was a lot of extra stress and strain.

But we persevered. We endured. And thanks to the additional computer and information technology knowledge we acquired in the first semester, many of our teachers reported accelerated learning from their students in the second semester.

At the Page Unified School District enough Covid-19 metrics moved to

green in the early part of the year and many of our students returned to in-person learning on February 16th. Winter sports happened. And spring sports. We held the Spring Musical and it was a hit! We were able to hold award ceremonies to recognize our amazing AVID students, CTE completers, scholarship winners and student athletes.

By the end of the school year, our amazing, resilient students had accomplished a lot and we as a school district had a lot to be proud of and celebrate. And those golden days of spring semester stood out all the more sharply against the gray days of the first semester.

Congratulations to our amazing students, teachers and staff.

You went through a lot, and you did it with style!

In this issue of the District Newsletter, we will look back on the 2020-21 school year and remember and celebrate the many achievements and accomplishments of our teachers, students and staff.

## 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.

# BOARD CORNER

We want our community, students, teachers and stakeholders to know our School Board Members better. With that in mind, we have asked our board members a few questions in an effort to get to know them a little better.

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**Robert Candelaria**  
**Board President**

**If you could live anywhere, where would it be?**

Have been around 'half' the earth, loved the Pacific Ocean and the place my wife and I lived when first married (Belmont Shores -across from the beach), Loved the mountains where we lived for 3 years (Durango), and Love Page. Love to be near grandkids.

**If you won a free vacation to anywhere in the world, where would you go?**

Australia and New Zealand. Was on the way there but never made it because of our shipwreck.

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**Sandra Kidman**  
**Board Member**

**If you choose the services of one of the following to visit your house once a week and do their thing for you, would you choose a chef, housekeeper, yard worker, massage therapist? And why?**

I would love to have a housekeeper! As the mother of 6 and being a business owner, I would love to have a housekeeper. Coming home to a house that is organized and clean (and you did not have to do it yourself) is a gift! Not having to take care of some of the mundane daily tasks would free up time and allow me to do some of my wish list items and projects that get put on the bottom of my list, because there never seems to be enough time in the day to do all the things I wish to do.

**If money was no object, what would you do all day?**

If money was no object, I would spend it to fix up our school district and restore the Cultural Arts Building (CAB) and the swimming pool! It would be absolutely wonderful if we could return the CAB to a state of the art facility where our students can perform arts and music without monetary restraints. The pool would be a great place to swim, gather and socialize, and provide great fun for children and grown ups alike. I remember enjoying the pool with my older kids years ago, and wish my younger kids would have the same opportunity to learn to swim and have fun at the pool. After that was done, I would systematically go through all the departments and make sure everyone has state of the art equipment to teach all their classes, e.g. computers for Graphic & Design class, instruments for Band & Orchestra, etc. Wouldn't it be amazing to have unlimited resources?



**Dee McKinney**  
**Board Member**

**What is your favorite, or the most-influential book you've read?**

The most influential book I've read was "Becoming", by Michele Obama. Becoming tells the life and journey from Michelle's childhood, growing up in south side of Chicago to becoming the First Lady of the United States. Becoming has an in depth personal reflection of a woman who has emerged triumphant despite many challenges. Obama reveals the levels of racial segregation and disparities between Chicago's downtown and its south side. Through her experience as a young girl brought up in an era where color or racial discrimination was at a high level. Obama brings into light the impact of racial discrimination. She not only describes the theme of racial is vital in overcoming such challenges. Obama uses her story to describe the role of parenting and family. Parental guidance plays a vital role in the growth and development of a child by engaging in their children's lives by providing support, love and guidance. There is no doubt that privilege, connections and parental sacrifices increase a child's opportunity in accessing quality education.

Michelle's story reminded me of my early years in 1950s growing up in Bellmont, Arizona and was bussed into Flagstaff, Arizona to attend South Beaver Elementary School that was located next to Arizona State College and currently, Northern Arizona University. I noticed all the students were Brown skinned and there were no White skin students, they all attended Emerson and Marshal Elementary School. This was a segregated school, where all the White kids were attending schools north of the railroad track and others with different color skins were placed the south side of the tracks. I saw the "signs" and social injustice. Like Michelle I asked myself "Am I not good enough". With family support I obtained a BS in Elementary Education, M.Ed. Early Childhood Education and Educational Leadership, at NAU just across the same location, where I first experienced it felt like growing up as a Native American kid in this environment of discrimination and social Injustice.

**If you could live anywhere, where would it be?**

I retired eight years ago and moved to Page, AZ to be close to my grandchildren. With the closure of Navajo Generation Plant the family was transferred to Phoenix three years ago. But, my husband and I will continue to stay in Page to spend our golden years.

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**Charles Weiss**  
**Board Member**

**What is your favorite or the most influential book you've read?**

A Table in the Presence

**If you won a free vacation to anywhere in the world, where would you go?**

Hawaii

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**Des Fowler**  
**Board Member**

**If you could choose any band to see in concert, who would it be?**

Bon Jovi

**What is your favorite family tradition?**

Our annual camping trip in the mountains.



# Sage & Sand Virtual Academy Celebrates First Graduating Class!

History was made this year, when Sage & Sand Virtual Academy held its inaugural graduation ceremony this year.

Congratulations to its first graduates: Caitlin Baughman, Dwight Begay, Triniti Donoho, Lacey Espinoza, Isabelle Hawker, Edward Meija, Ryann Park, Leann Ruiz and Matthew Tacheene.





# Manson Mesa High School Graduation

Manson Mesa High School held its commencement ceremony on May 16, graduating two students. Congratulations to Abrielle Shorthair and Nathaniel Tate.



**Abrielle Shorthair and Dr. Trina Hubbell.**



**Nathaniel Tate and Dr. Trina Hubbell.**



**Joanna Adakai, Spencer Kimball, Olivia Benally, Abrielle Shorthair, Nathaniel Tate, Kori Fitch, Chastina Jutras and Jeremy Poole after the commencement ceremony.**



# Page High School Commencement 2021





# Page High School Commencement 2021

## Page High School Valedictorians 2021

Salutatorian



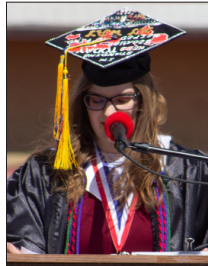
Parris Adams



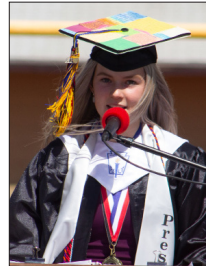
Neve Redhair



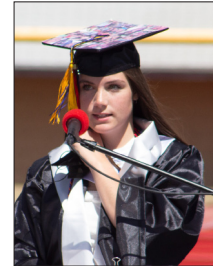
Jonah Holiday



Emily Kidman



Brianna Motko



Tatum Reynolds



Enzi Norton



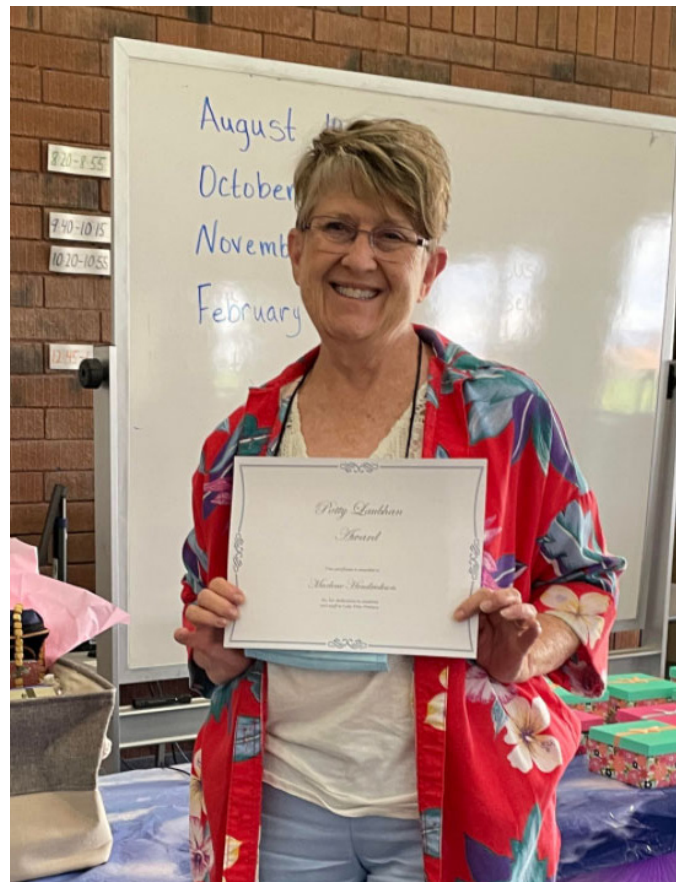


# *Congratulations!*

Maddy Crane

Marlene Hendrickson

## PATTY LAUBHAN AWARD



The Patty Laubhan Award is presented at the end of each school year to a teacher that is chosen by staff for "Dedication to students and staff at Lake View Primary". This award is a tribute to Patty Laubhan. She was an amazing teacher that many had the privilege to work with. Patty was an individual that would make sure that every student or child was well taken care of, no matter what it was. She was always willing to go out of her way for every staff member in our school on holidays or any day. There was a gift in our mailboxes to bring us a smile or make our day. You would always see a smile on her face no matter what kind of day she was having. She always make it a point to bring out the positive in everything. Patty was a person that everybody looked up to. She was a person that always put everyone first and herself last. Teaching was her life and her passion. Even when she became ill, she worked up until she could not work any longer.



Recognition of the  
Accomplishments,  
Awards and Scholarships  
Earned by the Page High  
School Sand Devils Class  
of 2021.



# SCHOLARSHIPS & DISTINCTIONS



The Page High School Class of 2021 graduated 135 students, with 90 percent of its class graduating. The Class of 2021 was awarded more than \$2.6 million in scholarships.

## Class of '21 Top 10 percent

Layton Adams, Parris Adams, Tamalee Fred, Jonah Holiday, Javan Jake, Emily Kidman, Esperanza Manning, Rex Martin, Alexis Meade, Brianna Motko, Gavin Nockideneh, Enzi Norton, Neve Redhair, Tatum Reynolds, Mekenzie Shelvay, Tenley Truman, Michael Wilmes, Emma Yazzie.

## Class of '21 Academic Lettering

Layton Adams, Parris Adams, Nicole Aquila, Brennon Atene, Ashley Austin, Mikayla Clark, Kristen Claw, Sharmayne Crank, Karnell Footracer, Mariessa Fowler, Tamalee Fred, NishShoni Gerena, Jonah Holiday, Janah Jake, Emily Kidman, Liadan Knapp, Chastity Lefthand, Kiana Littleman, Abrianna Maize, Esperanza Manning, Rex Martin, Alexis Meade, Brianna Motko, Gavin Nockideneh, Enzi Norton, Neve Redhair, Tatum Reynolds, Jaren Robinson, Jeremiah Sampson, Lovato Sandoval, Mekenzie Shelvay, Tenley Truman, Michael Wilmes, Emma Yazzie.

## CTE Completers

Career Technical Education (CTE) provides students of all ages with the academic and technical skills, knowledge and training necessary to succeed in future careers and to become lifelong learners. CTE prepares these learners for the world of work by introducing them to workplace competencies, and makes academic content accessible to students by providing it in a hands-on context. Page High School's CTE programs combine in-class curriculum with hands-on training.

This year's recipients of the CTE Educators Rising Awards are: Kylen Rivers, Marah Little, Nicole Aquilla and Liadan Knapp.

This year's CTE completers are: Parris Adams, Layton Adams, Kevin Anderson, Nichole Aquilla, Brennon Atene, Ashlee Austin, Chandler Babbitt, Neris Baquedan, Joel Beard, Nadya Begay, Torrance Begay, Dwight Begay, Nizhoni Begay, Christina Begay, Daven Billy, Amber Blacksmith, Jaykob Charlie, Trinity Chee, Mikayla Clark, Kristen Claw, Myron Clitso, Trevor Clitso, Marcus Coulson, Tristan Crank, Sharmayne Crank, Kitana Day, Devon Delmar, Tavis Dunigan, Sage Elshire, Karnell Footracer, Chandler Fowler, Malcom Fowler, Grace Gamez, NishShoni Gerena, Mariah Gordy, Colby Gorman, Arabell Grimshaw, Barbosa Guterrez, Isabelle Hawker, Jadin Henry, Hadae Herndandez, Trent Holiday, Jonah Holiday, Zack Inunza, Javan Jake, Kiera Johnson, Jaylynn Jordan, Colton Joseph, Angela June, Keshana Kee, Pearlita Keeswood, Francine Keyonnie, Emily Kidman, Kiaden Knapp, Mariah Lee, Chasity Lefthand, Kimberly Lewis, Marah Little, Kiana Littleman, Kya Lively, Taylor Lyons-Lovett, Adriana Maize, Haily Manni, Sheldon Manymules, Rex Martin, Christopher Mauger, Mekhi Merritt, Molique Miller, Pruyce Miller, Brianna Motko, Bradley Nelson, Stephen Nez, Tommy Nez, Jayden Nezy, Gavin Nockideneh, Enzi Norton, Seth Olson, Hailey Pahi, Jaiden Parson, Kenneth Pickel, Neve Redhair, Arianna Redshirt, Konner Reed, Kayden Regis-Prince, Tatum Reynolds, Kylen Rivers, Jaren Robinson, Westley Robinson, LeeAnn Ruiz, Jeremiah Sampson, Lovato Sandoval, Dustin Sargent, Diana Secody, McKenzie Shelvay, Ethan Simpson, Taylor Singer, James Slavens, Chad Sloan, Anthony Smith, Lindsay Smith, Calla Smith, Robert Smith, Coulter Talbot, Ethan Tate, Javier Tohonnie, Tenley Truman, Adelle Tsinnijinnie, Nikolene Tsinnijinnie, Michael Tsosie, Ikaika Uejo, Amacio Valenzuela, Trevor Walker, Shawn Whitethorne, Parker Williams, Michael Wilmes, Tyran Wilson, Dustin Yazzie, Emma Yazzie, Shealee Yazzie, Aidan Yazzie, Kyle Yazzie and Tanisha Zee.



Colton Joseph receives an ASE Certification in Auto Tech from CTE Director, Chuck Sharp.



# CHAMPIONSHIPS



## Sand Devils Basketball Takes State



For the first time in Page High School history, the Sand Devils boys varsity basketball team came home with the state championship trophy. In doing so, Head Coach Justin Smith became one of the only coaches in Arizona to win both a boys and girls state championship. The Sand Devils finished the season with a very impressive 14-4 overall record.

The Sand Devils garnered several awards along the way. Justin Smith: Coach of the Year. Stuart Sandall: Region Player of the Year. Robert Smith: Defensive Player of the Year. Jonah Holiday: All Region 1st Team. Orlandon Yazzie, Dahntay Dugi: All Region 2nd Team.

Way to go guys!

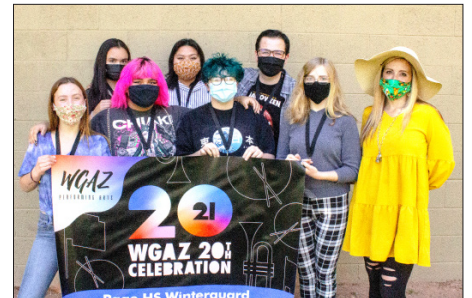
## Lady Sand Devils Win 3rd Championship in 4 Years



For the third time in four years, the Lady Sand Devils brought home the state championship trophy after defeating the Snowflake Lobos 36-32 in the championship.

The victory capped what has been a superlative 15-0 season for Page. This year's championship marked the fifth straight visit to the state championship game. Ryan Whitehorse has served as head coach of the Sand Devils all five seasons. Three of this year's seniors - Torrance Begay, Neve Redhair and Nadya Begay - have played at the varsity level all four years, taking part in three state titles and a state championship runner-up. Along the way, the team garnered numerous accolades. Ryan Whitehorse: Coach of the Year. Miquedah Taliman: Region Player of the Year. Torrance Begay: Region Offensive Player of the Year. Neve Redhair: Region Defensive Player of the Year. Emma Yazzie, Nadya Begay: 1st Team All-Region. Diana Secody, Arianna Jenkins: 2nd Team All-Region. Way to go girls!

## Winterguard Brings Home 3 Superiors



Page High School's Winterguard team brought home three big awards from this year's state competition. The team was awarded a Superior – the Winterguard equivalent of taking a state championship – and two of its members were also awarded Superiors for their individual performances. Arabell and Anna Grimshaw, who are sisters, each earned Superiors in the Solo and Small Group category.

"I always push them to do harder elements," said Winterguard Coach Crystal Codner, "even if we don't end up using them, and this year we ended up using several of those more difficult elements. It was fun to watch them get it."

# Congratulations!

## AVID



Jaiden Parson, Abrian Maize, Jose Gutierrez-Barbosa, Trent Holiday, Jaren Robinson, Brennon Attenne, Sharmayne Crank, Nicole Aquila, Mariessa Fowler, Kristen Claw and Dustin Sargent.

The Avid Program provides scaffolded support that educators and students need to encourage college and career readiness and success. Teachers are inherently passionate about education. AVID helps teachers shift from delivering content to facilitating learning, resulting in an inquiry-based, student-centric classroom. These elements are at the core of our approach to closing the opportunity gap. With AVID, school leaders have the flexibility to start small and can deepen AVID's impact on their campus over time.

By teaching and reinforcing academic behaviors and higher-level thinking at a young age, AVID Elementary teachers create a ripple effect in later grades. Elementary students develop the academic habits they will need to be successful in middle school, high school, and college, in an age-appropriate and challenging way. Children learn about organization, study skills, communication, and self-advocacy.

Our nation's schools are full of students who possess a desire to go to college and the willingness to work hard, but many of them do not truly have the opportunity to be college-ready. These are often the students who will be the first in their families to attend college and are from groups traditionally underrepresented in higher education. AVID Secondary equips teachers and schools with what they need to help these students succeed on a

### Steven F. Ward Scholarship

Neve Redhair  
Jonah Holiday  
Tatum Reynolds  
Michael Wilmes  
NishShoni Gerena

### NGS Academic & Vocational Scholarships

Trent Holiday  
Jonah Holiday  
Rex Martin  
Tatum Reynolds  
Robert Smith  
Michael Wilmes

### Canyon Club of Page Scholarship

NishShoni Gerena  
Michael Wilmes

### Dixie Lower Antelope Canyon Tours Scholarship

Mariessa Fowler  
Arabell Grimshaw  
Trent Holiday  
Emily Kidman  
Neve Redhair  
Tatum Reynolds  
Robert Smith  
Michael Wilmes  
Brennon Atene

### Lake Powell Balloon Regatta Schorships

NishShoni Gerena  
Dustin Yazzie  
Arianna Redshirt

### Chief Manuelito Candidates

Jonah Holiday  
Neve Redhair  
Gavin Nockideneh  
Enzi Norton  
Ikaika Uejo  
Rex Martin

### US Military Enlistees

Bryan Tsosie - US Marines  
Enzi Norton - US Marines  
Nicholas Elliston - US Navy  
Jeremiah Sampson - US Navy  
Amacio Valenzuela - US Navy  
Tamalee Fred- US Coast Guard

To our local  
scholarship providers:

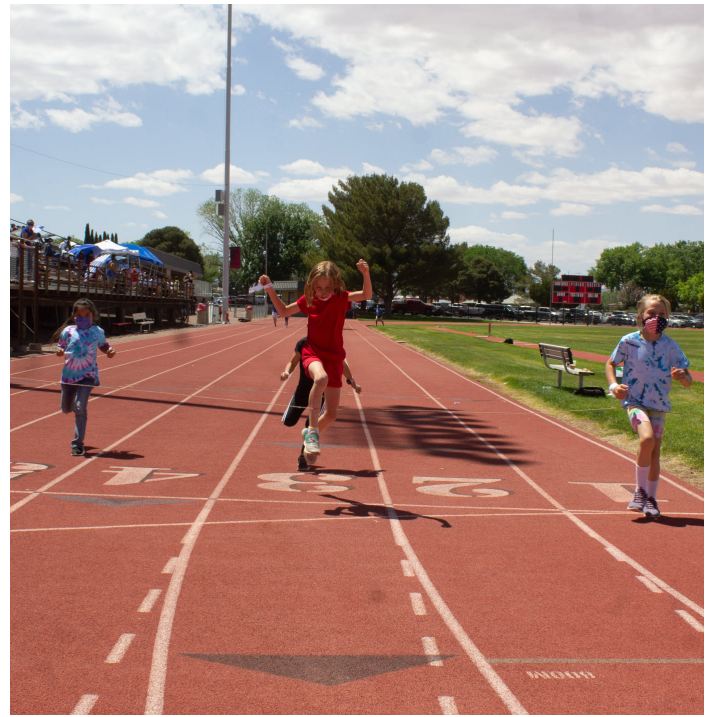




# Lake View and Desert View Track and Field Days







## Desert View Students Break Records at Track and Field Day



A big congratulations to **Max Martin**, who during the Desert View Track and Field Meet, broke the 4th grade high jump record with a leap of 4'3", breaking the previous record of 4'0".

Way to go, Max!

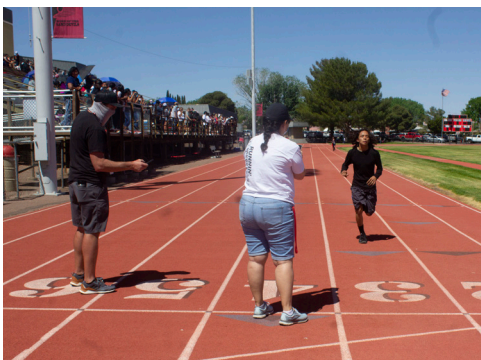


A high jump record was set during Desert View Track and Field Day. The record was set by 5th grader, **Anthony Darko**, which a record-setting jump of 4'5". His classmate, **Zach Smith**, tied the old record of 4'3". The previous record was held by Ryan Warner and Adam Marquis who set, and tied, the record in 1987 and 1993.

Way to go Anthony and Zach!



# Page Middle School Track and Field Day





# EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

**Certified Employee of  
the Month**

**April 2021**

**Classified Employee of  
the Month**

**April 2021**

**Certified Employee of  
the Month**

**May 2021**

**Classified Employee of  
the Month**

**May 2021**



**Wendy Gilbert**



**Olivia Benally**



**Ben Dalton**



**Sharon Draper**





# Announcements

## PAGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT SPRING REGISTRATION BLITZ

Save the  
Date!

### MAIN EVENT

June 16th | 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Page High School, CAB Courtyard

Additional Registration Events will be held at Navajo Nation Chapter Houses  
**Kaibeto | Bodaway Gap | LeChee | Coppermine | Inscription House**  
Dates to be determined.



Event will include barbecue and raffle!

All schools will have booths available for information, as well as CTE, athletics, and other programs.  
Staff will be available to answer questions and provide assistance.  
PowerSchool assistance for parents.

**We will post the dates of the Chapter House  
registration events on our Facebook page  
when they're confirmed.**