

PUSD

PAGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Monthly Newsletter May 2023

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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.

Achievement of AVID Students Recognized at Banquet



Page High School recognized and celebrated the achievements of its AVID students at the end of April. The event was held in the CAB. The Avid Program provides scaffolded support that educators and students need to encourage college and career readiness and success. AVID helps teachers shift from delivering content to facilitating learning, resulting in an inquiry-based, student-centric classroom aimed at closing the opportunity gap. Utilizing the tools of 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 path to college and career success.

During the awards ceremony, AVID instructors award

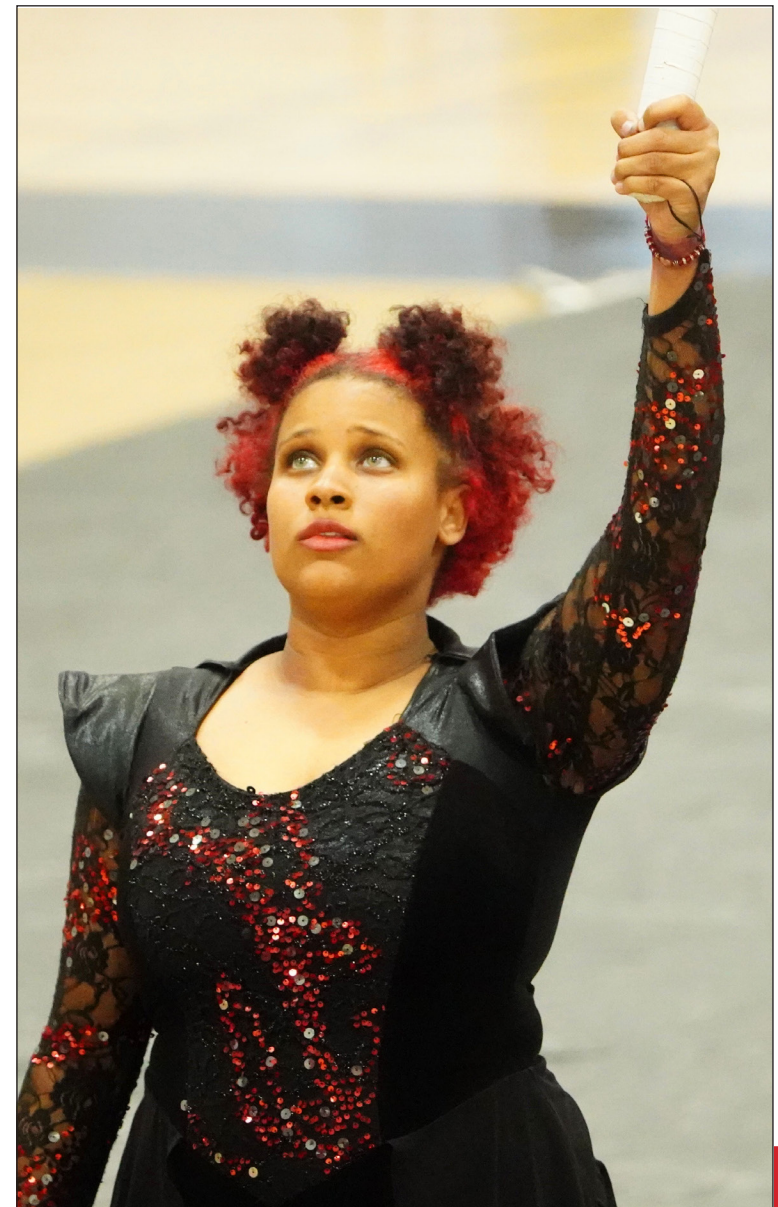
Colorguard Gives Beautiful Final Performance



Page High School's Colorguard gave its final performance of the season last Thursday evening. The performance wasn't for competition, but was given as a "thank you" piece for the Page community.

The Colorguard members are Solbi Chung, Kiara Randle, Melanie Torres, Lucy Byrom, Ozlynn Begaye and Tyna Byrom, and coached by Lacy Harris, who is also a first grade teacher at Lake View.

This year's Colorguard performance was choreographed by Page High School alum, Braxton Harris, who was a member of the Colorguard since he was in middle school. Harris, who now attends Northern Arizona University, also wrote the choreographies for three other



Arizona Colorguard teams this year.

The Colorguard team make great progress throughout the course of its six-competition season. Its first performance earned 40 points. Its final rated performance was given 70 points. Page's six-member troupe competed against Colorguard teams that often had more than 20 members.

"The girls worked really, really hard this year. I'm really proud of them, and what they accomplished," said Harris. "They are just so dedicated, very responsible, very accountable, and that extends to them getting good grades and attendance. Everything they could do to improve as individuals and as a team, they did it."

Lake View's Grandparents Day Fosters Student Engagement



Lake View held its annual Grandparents' Day celebration last week, and it was the best-attended of any in recent memory. It was organized by Ximena Hendrickson, a Lake View parapro.

The event included games and activities the students and grandparents could do together.

Because the celebration occurred a few days before Easter, Hendrickson organized the event around an Easter theme, which included a location where the kids and grandparents could take their photo with the Easter Bunny. The Easter Bunny wasn't the only character in the house; several Disney characters also mingled through the crowds and gave students and grandparents an opportunity to have their photos taken with them.

Hendrickson partnered with the City of Page and Page High School's student council to make that happen. The City provided the costumes, and the student council dressed in the costumes. The student council members also played the Disney characters at the City's Easter egg hunt.

"The majority of the after-school activities we have are geared toward the parents, but at least once a year we try something special just for the grandparents," said Lake View Primary Principal, Brian Henderson.

Studies show that familial involvement plays a large role in a child's academic success. Adult figures who engage with a child in an encouraging manner – from parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and church or civic figures – have an outsized positive influence on the child, who is more likely to achieve higher in academics, athletics, and extra-curriculars.

During Grandparents Day the students had a chance to show off their school, which helps foster pride and belonging.

"Those are all qualities we try to encourage here, and Grandparents Day is an important part of that," said Henderson. "Big thanks to Ximena who did a great job making it all happen."

Hatching Day at Lake View



For the first graders at Lake View Primary, this week is one of the most exciting weeks of the entire year: it's the week the baby chickens hatch.

All seven of the first grade classes incubate, hatch and begin raising the chicks. The process began on March 27 when a shipment of fertilized eggs arrived, which were then placed in an incubator. Every day or two, the teacher would gather their students and they would “candle” a few eggs. When “candling” the eggs, the teacher holds an egg up to a bright light, which allows the student to see what is happening inside the egg.

At first, the kids see only veins in the yolk. A couple days later, a black dot – the beginning of a chicken – forms at the center of the egg. During the 21-day incubation period, students watch as wings, legs and feathers form, until one day the chick takes up the entire inside of the egg. That's when the class starts watching for the chick to start pecking its way out.

Egg incubation and hatching is something Lake View first

grade teachers do every year as part of its curriculum involving the life cycles of animals. The life cycle curriculum also includes raising Monarch butterfly caterpillars into butterflies, which are released into the wild during the final weeks of school.

The hands-on, real-life lessons with the chicks and the butterflies are very effective ways of learning, said Lake View first grade teacher Lacy Harris.

“Because so much of this lesson was hands-on, they will remember it for a long time, probably for years,” said Mrs. Harris.

For the students in Lacy Harris's class, the most exciting hour of the most exciting week happened last Monday.

Summer Begay Signs with ACU



In April Page High School volleyball phenom, Summer Begay, signed with Arizona Christian University. During her PHS volleyball career, Begay - the team's setter - was named to the First Team All-Region for the 2022-23 season, as well as MVP for the Page Sand Devils.

Way to go, Summer! We're so proud of you!

Hazel Starling is Art Contest Winner



City of Page Mayor Bill Diak presented Hazel Starling with a Certificate of Appreciation for creating the winning entry for the Page Attacks Trash Art Contest. The contest was open to area youth grades 9-12. Hazel and all the contestants had their art work displayed inside the Page Townhouse.

Way to go, Hazel. Great job!

HATCH from pg. 5

They were sitting at their desks listening to Mrs. Harris, but off to the side they could hear one of the chicks pecking, pecking, pecking, followed every so often by a chip of egg tinkling to the floor of the cage.

"They were having a really hard time paying attention to the lesson," said Mrs. Harris.

Who can blame them? I mean, it's hard to concentrate when the miracle of life is happening in real time just ten feet away.

So Mrs. Harris let her class leave their desks and watch the chick finish hatching. It took about half an hour, but the drama kept the students riveted. The chick had already chipped out a sizable hole. As the kids watched, the chick expanded the hole till it was about halfway around the egg. Then, after a short rest, it stretched and pushed and broke out of the egg. The kids remember the chick sitting there wearing a chunk of egg on its head, like a hat. Its feathers were still damp.

After resting a minute, it stood up and took its first wobbly steps. The students cheered.

The students are allowed to hold the chicks for very brief periods of time.

The chicks will be raised in class for the first two weeks of their lives. They will then be given to families in town who have the space and means to care for them. Families of the first graders have first chance at adopting the chicks.



AVID from pg. 1

students from each grade level ninth thru twelfth in four areas: AVID Greatest of All Time (GOAT), Binder Boss (the most-organized student), Hypebeast (the most enthusiastic student). One student is chosen as the Bleeding Heart, which is the student who is most passionate about finding success.

The award winners were:

AVID G.O.A.T.

- David Dawavendewa
- Nastassja Harris
- Shaunicey Begay
- Lanecia Nez

Binder Boss

- Talen Yellowhair

- Maridius Lee
- Kaydence Tsinigine
- Téa Nockideneh

Hypebeast

- Tasha Hayden
- Collin Cope-Keller
- Mauricia Magana
- Kylee Secody

Bleeding Heart

- Saydee Plier

Shania Valentine is the AVID Site Coordinator for Page High School. The AVID instructors are David Johnson, Shaun Shields, Dionna Dempsey and Taylor Oneal.



Runnin' Panthers Finish 1st, 2nd at NAIC Championships



Congratulations to our Page Middle School Track and Field teams. The boys won the 2023 NAIC Championship and our girls took 2nd place.

Way to go athletes, and a big thank you to our coaches and volunteers!

Middle School Track Teams Place First at LP Invitational



The Page Middle School track teams had excellent showings at the Lake Powell Invitational Wednesday with several runners posting Personal Records, several first place finishes and even a new school record.

Both the boys and girls teams placed first.

Kaia Mansker set a new Page Middle School record in the 100M dash with a time of 13.75 seconds.

The boys 4x100M relay team set a new Page Middle School record with a time of 52.05 seconds. The team is made up of Damian Bravo, Zach Smith, Andrew Hawker and Jaiden Jordan.

Kora Tappan took first place in the 100M hurdles.

Logan Rivers took first place in both Shot Put and Discus.

Maya Cambridge won the 400M dash with a time of 70 seconds flat. She also won the long jump with a leap of 12 feet four inches.

The girls 4x100M relay team took first place. The team includes Kimi Kiwano, Maya Cambridge, Yamilee Ramos and Kaia Mansker.

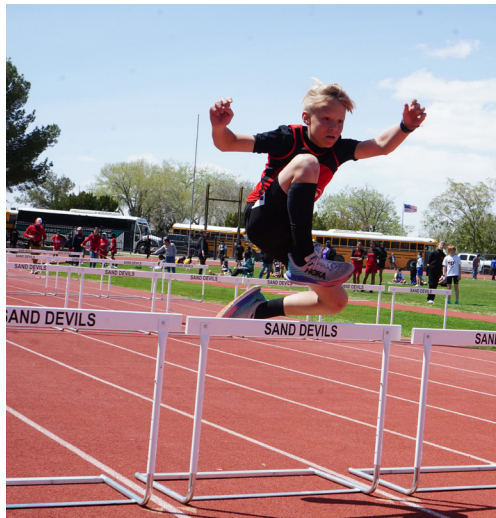
The boys 4x800 team took first place with a time of 10:22. The team consists of Noah Reid, Alek Scott, Troy Touchin and Justin Rivers.

Nyall Prather finished the 1600M with a time of 5:06. He is currently ranked ninth in the 1600M in Arizona.

Jaiden Jordan set a new page Middle School record in the 200M dash last week with a time of 25.49 seconds.

“Both the boys and girls teams have been doing very well this year,” said track coach Jonathon Prather. “They have been dedicated to the process of getting day by day, week by week and setting new PRs (personal records), because that’s what they can control.

“Each week our goal is to PR and get better every week. If we place, that’s awesome, but becoming better every day is our goal and these kids have done that, and I’m so proud of their effort yesterday. It was pretty cold, windy conditions and they came through with both team titles, lots of new PRS set, and a great workout all around for both teams going into the championships next week.”



Desert View's Talent Showcase is Big Fun!



The winners of this year's DVI Talent Show were:

1st place - Cresente Diez

2nd place - Mila Tew

3rd place - Piper Mangum

The talent show was organized by Desert View teacher, Shannakay Burgess.

Desert View held its inaugural Talent Showcase last Wednesday, and it was a smash hit!

The talent show was the idea of ShannaKay Burgess, a teacher at Desert View. Prior to teaching at Desert View, Burgess was a teacher in Jamaica. At her former school in Jamaica, holding pageants and talent shows was a common event, and something she thought would work well here. The talent show was open to any Desert View student. Eighteen students competed in the talent show.

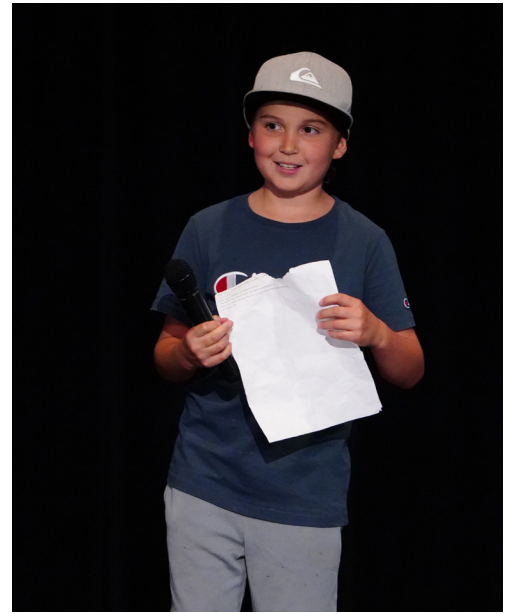
The students performed a variety of acts including singing, dancing, playing ukulele and stand-up comedy. In the weeks leading up to the Talent Night, students met with teachers for coaching sessions, where they learning about what to expect when they took the stage, from how to handle the microphone and the glare of the spotlight, to

dealing with stage fright. Two nights before the big event, the students and teachers had a rehearsal during which they go to go run through their acts on the CAB stage.

"The whole idea of the talent show is to build the students' confidence and self-esteem," said Burgess. "Experiences such as this teach a student to be bold and brave and say to themselves, 'I can do this.'"

Desert View Principal, Mary Stahl, was impressed by the amount of effort students and teachers put into it, how seriously they took it and the end result that was witnessed on stage.

"It was really cool to see all these students be very brave and get out on the stage and try their hardest and show their talents," said Ms. Stahl. "Some kids showed talents we didn't even know about. All in all, it was a very positive,



good feeling vibe that really brought us together.

“And I am so proud of Shannakay for making this happen. She really worked hard. This was her idea. She organized it, got the sponsors from the community, and recruited the other teachers to coach the students and prep them for the event.”

Everything the student performers did to get up stage

and perform are early indicators of future success, said Ms. Stahl.

“The time spent preparing and practicing ahead of time, having the nerve to get up in front of others and present their material even though they were probably scared are all habit and skills that every successful adult possesses,” said Ms. Stahl.

MARCH STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Tucker Sutherland
Lake View Primary



Tanner Christiansen
Desert View Intermediate

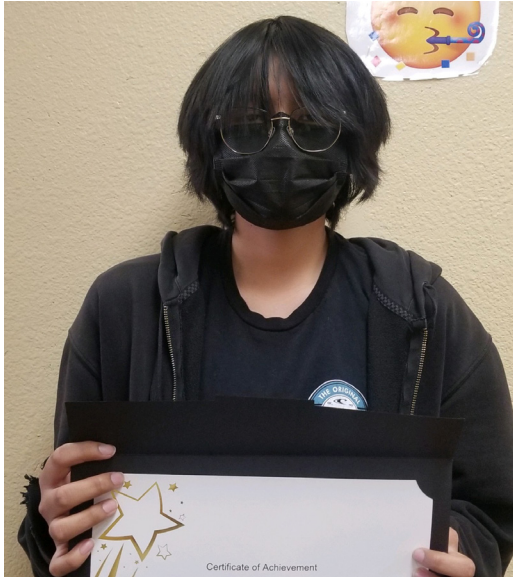


Peyton Miller
Page Middle School



Laura Whipple
Page High School

MARCH STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Gabrielle Tsoie
Manson Mesa High School



Tyler Chee
Sage & Sand Virtual Academy



Carter Lefthand
Page Preschool

EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

Certified Employee of the Month
March 2023



Erica Pullin

Classified Employee of the Month
March 2023



Georgie Mowbray