

PUSD

PAGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Monthly Newsletter Oct. 2023

www.pageud.org



Meet Kendra Clutter	1
Weatherization Improvement Begin at PUSD	2
Chemistry Class Joins w/ Welding Class for Flame Test Lab	4
Runnin' Devils Rock Lake Powell Invitational	5
Photos from Strings Concert	7
Photos from Choir Concert	8
Photos from Around the District	9
Students of the Month	10
Employees of the Year	12
Employees of the Month	13

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.

Meet Kendra Clutter

Music is her jam and history is her future.



Kendra Clutter is a sophomore at Page High School. She is very active with school activities and equally busy outside of school with a multitude of hobbies that interest her.

She's in Upward Bound, the Tech Club and the Anime Club, and the Gay Straight Alliance (GSA). "We have some problems with that so I like to support my friends and everyone," she said.

She also plays percussion in both the marching band and the regular band, and she sings in the high school choir.

Her passions are music and history and she's already looking far ahead to ways she can apply her passions in hopes of making a difference. After she graduates from high school, she plans to major in music education and minor in history. Right now, Clutter is planning on returning to Page to become a music or history teacher. "So I can make a difference in some kids' lives, whether it be in music or history."

For Clutter, music is her lifeblood. The thing that wakes her up and gives her life some added RPMs.

"I love music," she said. "I am always listening to music. I also love kids and teaching kids how to play music or sing, and I also love history a lot. It is my favorite subject and I think that it is very important."

In addition to playing percussion in the band and singing in the choir, she also plays the piano, the guitar, the bass and some clarinet and trumpet. And recently she's been

performing songs at Page's open mic night, held every two months or so at LP Espresso.

At last month's open mic, she sang "Jolene" by Dolly Parton and the crowd loved it.

"I loved doing it," she said. "I don't really get nervous anymore. I feel happy and I feel like I can just be free and be who I want to be when I perform."

Lately Clutter has taken her passion for music to a new level by writing some of her own music. "I kinda do a mix of everything and sometimes combine genres."

Outside of music and history, Kendra's hobbies include crocheting riding her longboard, riding dirt bikes and quads, going for hikes and walks and reading.

"I don't have a favorite author because I feel like all of them bring different aspects," she said.

She started reading because she didn't like playing with toys too much and her dad had a lot of books.

"So, I started reading and it turned into a hobby and I have so many books at home it's crazy," she said. "The first book I read was the Harry Potter books and I loved how I could see the whole story in my mind. It just really made me happy."

Kendra is the daughter of Michelle Hockley and Troy Clutter.

Weatherization Improvements Begin at PUSD



Georgie Mowbray, Herb Billah, Calvin Nelson, Marty Mountain, Jessie Willie, (top) Kayden Begay, Terence Winlock, (Bottom) Jerry Reese, Allen Nockideneh, Marcus Daw, Jonah Linsley, Cody Chischilly, and Levi Parkett.

If you walk around the exterior of Lake View Primary school, you'll see that it has been given a new facelift, including new doors, new windows, new paint, new trim and new signage. But the new doors, windows, paint, trim and signage are just the finishing touches on a much larger project to weatherize the school.

Contractors began weatherizing Lake View's roof and exterior walls in March 2023 and finished the bulk of the work in September. Crews are still finishing a few final touch-ups.

In the months and years to come, most of PUSD's school buildings will have their roofs and exteriors weatherized.

"This roofing and weatherization project will basically do the entire outside shell of every district building where students are taught," said Cody Chischilly, PUSD's Facilities Director. "The idea is to have buildings that our maintenance crew can maintain when this is finished."

Approximately 90 percent of the weatherization and roofing project will be paid for from a grant from the School Facilities Board (SFB). The high-end grant was procured by Chischilly, who has worked for PUSD since 2010.

"I've been working on these buildings for a long time and I could see that they needed a lot of work," said Chischilly. "I hate going to the district office to ask for money to

make the improvements I see need to be done, so, I went looking for a grant.”

The grant from the SFB is a big one. The SFB grant differs from most other grants in that it doesn't set forth a fixed amount of money; instead, it funds the project through to completion. The estimate to weatherize the high school alone could reach as much as \$10 million.

The weatherization that each building receives will be in the millions of dollars, and thanks the grant procured by Chischilly, it's money the school district won't have to fund itself.

“The district's capital funding alone isn't enough to keep up with the level of maintenance that needs to be done,” said Chischilly.

Receiving the SFB grant frees up capital and money that the school district can put toward other maintenance and improvement jobs.

The weatherization project is being done by outside contractors who specialize in this type of construction. The weatherization includes adding new doors and windows where needed, new shingles on the roof where needed, weather stripping along all doors and caulking added to all windows, all cracks in the roof or walls sealed and the entire things covered with an elastic, durable paint.

During the weatherization process, contractors dig down four feet below the ground surface and remove dirt away from the foundation. The wall of the building is then cleaned, dried, primed and all cracks caulked and sealed. The final step is painting it with elastomeric paint, a specialty paint that blocks out moisture and contracts and expands with temperature fluctuations.

On the roof, if contractors find spots where the white top or shingles need to be replaced, they replace it. At Lake View, contractors re-shingled the entire roof. Places that needed new paint received new paint. Places that needed new siding received new siding. Outside the library door, contractors tore out old wood beams and replaced them with steel beams.

Brian Henderson, Principal for Lake View Primary, was impressed by the final outcome.

“It looks really great!” he said. “Everything looks nice and clean. Even simple things such as placing rocks in concrete at the bottom of the gutters so the water doesn't splash out and create a mess. There was an amazing amount of attention to detail.

“One of my favorite parts of the weatherization is the front of the school. Obviously, we have new paint, new doors, new concrete, but this custom sign they made for us – which was designed by our art teacher, Erica Pullin – really makes it look great! It's a really great piece that wasn't planned but a spontaneous add on we were able to include. The whole look of the building is beautiful.”

After contractors finished Lake View's weatherization, a

third party performed a final walk-through and inspection in late September and any areas that weren't up to specification were brought to specification.

Before PUSD could qualify for SFB's weatherization grant, inspectors ran assessments on the buildings to see if they actually needed weatherization. Many of PUSD's buildings are decades old, and after years of exposure to the harsh northern Arizona elements they easily qualified.

One of the main tests the inspectors conduct is a Rylum test, which evaluates the permeability and coating of a building's exterior surfaces. When conducting a Rylum test, inspectors press a tube filled with water against a building's exterior wall and measure how quickly water from the tube is able to flow into the wall. Ideally, little or no water would leach from the tube into the wall, but that was not the case for any of PUSD's buildings.

“Our buildings drank water,” said Chischilly. “The inspectors were amazed how quickly the water ran out of the tube. At first, they wondered if they had attached it right. You can imagine what that building took in when it rains.”

As the project moves forward, Page High School, Page Middle School, Manson Mesa High School and Desert View Intermediate schools will all receive the same weatherization and re-roofing treatment that Lake View received, all of which begins with new bids put out to contractors.

“After the bid is put out to contractors, the contractors do an on-site walk through of the buildings,” said Chischilly. “This allows them to have a realistic idea of the amount of work required to complete the job.”

When the construction begins, a general foremen will be on site almost every day to ensure things are moving forward in a safe, timely manner. Other times an architect or engineer will visit the site to do inspections and create documentation.

Because the roofing and weatherization is a large, district-wide task, Chischilly says it's likely that multiple projects at multiple schools will be happening at the same time.

After a contractor is awarded the bid, it has to include a design plan for how the work will get done. Doing the weatherization and roofing work is far from a straight-forward process. It's nothing like constructing a new building on an empty lot.

“The project has to be done around classes, summer school and all the other everyday things that happen at a school,” said Chischilly. “Yeah, there are a few hoops to jump through on this one.”

Chischilly estimates that all PUSD schools will be weatherized by the end of 2026. “Once it's done, we'll develop a maintenance plan for my crew and myself to help it last for decades to come.”

Chemistry Class Collaborates with Welding Class for Flame Test Lab



It's the part of the job that Page High School chemistry teacher Julianne Hatt loves the most: Lab experiments with her students.

In September, Mrs. Hatt conducted a flame test lab with her chemistry students. But this year's flame lab had a collaborative twist; they had to join forces with the welding department to make it happen.

In the weeks leading up to the flame test lab, Mrs. Hatt had been discussing the electromagnetic spectrum in her classroom. When they came to the area where they talked about the visible part of the electromagnetic spectrum, Mrs. Hatt arranged experiments to help her students see it in real life, in real time.

Mrs. Hatt explains. "In the visible spectrum portion, we can excite electrons and by giving them energy, they excite up to a new energy level where they release the energy in the form of light photons. Each element has its own unique spectrum fingerprint."

To run the experiment, students dip a wooden skewer in a chemical (the chemical is mixed with chloride) then hold it in a flame. The heat excites the chemical's electrons to photons, which become visible. When exposed to heat, strontium chloride turns red. Cobalt sparks, like little fireworks. Potassium gives off a purple flame, and copper produces a green flame.

"I wanted them to understand that atoms are so small that we can't see them with a naked eye," said Mrs. Hatt. "And the subatomic parts are even smaller, but we still got to see it light up."

Such experiments are fun for the chemistry students to take part in, but it has practical science value too. Studying the visible part of the electromagnetic spectrum is one way scientists can detect the presence of chemicals on distant planets and stars. And taking it one step further, if they apply red shift/blue shift analysis they can determine if a distant celestial object is moving toward or away from Earth.

Normally, Mrs. Hatt conducts the flame test lab in her science room, but the gas lines in her classroom are temporarily out of order. So she approached PHS welding instructor Sam Rangel for assistance. He was happy to help. Mrs. Hatt and her students carried their chemicals and supplies to the welding lab. Welding student Justice Joseph sparked up a welding torch and the chemistry students dipped their wooden skewers into beakers containing potassium, strontium chloride, copper and cobalt and held them in the flame of the welding torch and watched as the flame turned red, purple or green.

And through it, the students got to learn another important science lesson. Science often involves collaboration, inventive thinking and finding solutions to problems to reach their desired results.

"I enjoy experiments like this, and I think the students do too," said Mrs. Hatt. "I think it helps them learn more and stay interested in science. A big part of doing these experiments is to get the students asking more questions about chemistry, and get them thinking about chemistry as a possible career field."

Runnin' Devils Rock Lake Powell Invite



All eyes were on Page runners Symond Martin and Jade Reid going into this year's Lake Powell Cross Country Invitational. Earlier this year, Martin won the Peaks Invitational, The Chinle Invitational and placed third at Ojo Rojo and third at the Carlsbad Grit and Grind. Martin is currently ranked 4th among Division III runners. He was the top ranked freshman for most of the year last season.

Reid won the Chinle Invitational earlier this year and is currently ranked ninth among Division III runners.

Martin and Reid did not disappoint. They led the field at this year's Lake Powell Cross Country Invitational, each placing first at the varsity level.

Page hosted teams from Chinle, Tuba City, Whitehorse,

Pinon and Kayenta at this year's event. The course began on Lake View Primary's north playground and from there went to Potato Hill, and returned to the Lake View.

As a team, the varsity boys team placed second behind Chinle. Pinon placed third, Tuba City fourth, Kayenta fifth and Whitehorse sixth. For the varsity girls, Chinle placed first, Tuba City second, Whitehorse third, Pinon fifth and Kayenta fifth.

The boys Runnin' Devils had four runners finish in the top ten. Symond Martin finished first, Nyall Prather placed fourth, Elijah Reed placed seventh and Max Reid placed ninth. Bryce Williams placed 23rd, Alek Scott placed 25th, and Ty Lefthand placed 26th. Jaiden Jordan, who usually



finishes third in such meets, is out with a hip injury.”

Due to injuries, the girls Runnin’ Devils had only three runners compete at the Lake Powell Invitational this year. Jade Reid placed first, Sloan Saige placed 19th and Terolyn Begay placed 25th.

“Everyone ran pretty good overall,” said Sand Devils cross country head coach Tim Martin. “Symond ran lights out, breaking the course record my thirty seconds. Overall, everyone ran faster than they did last year.”

As the cross-country season approaches the finish line, Coach Martin is concentrating on keeping his team healthy to have a productive post-season.

“We’re hoping Jaiden Jordan recovers because we need him in the top five for us,” said Coach Martin.

Another runner to keep you eye on is Nyall Prather who is the fourth-ranked freshman and fifth overall in Division

III.

The Page boys teams is the defending state champions. They also won the state championship in 2019.

Middle School

The Page Middle School boys varsity team performed very well at Saturday’s meet, with three of its runner finishing in the top five. Noah Reid placed third, Justin Rivers placed fourth and Max Martin placed fifth.

Peyton Seimy placed finished 25th, Kyan Scott placed 28th, Luke Reid placed 30th and Taylon Secody finished 32nd.

For the Page Middle School girls team, Mackenzie Bedonie placed 27th, Maya Cambridge placed 29th, Star Yazzie placed 37th, Kelli Yellowman placed 52nd and Kasiya Akee placed 53rd.

Photos From Strings Concert



Photos From Choir Concert



Photos From Around the District



August Students of the Month



Willow Williams-Begay
Lake View Primary



Ethan Smith
Desert View Intermediate



Harper Keisling
Page Middle School

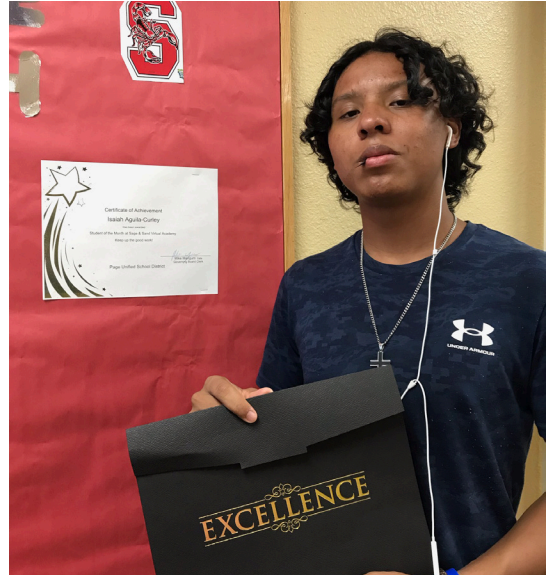


Karmine Bennett
Page High School

August Students of the Month

Photo
Not
Available

Michaela Long
Manson Mesa High School



Isaiah Aquila Curley
Sage & Sand Virtual Academy



Brandon Lincoln
Preschool

Employees of the Year!

Certified Employee of the Year

2022-23

Erica Pullin

Classified Employee of the Year

2022-23

Georgie Mowbry

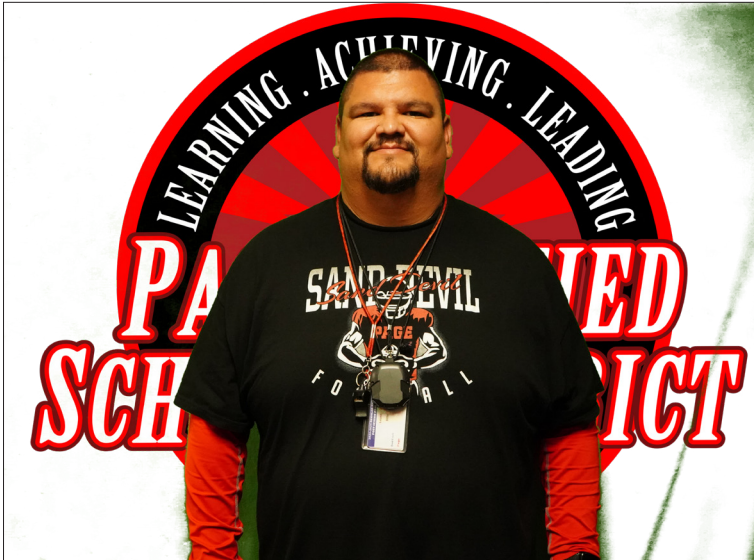


Congratulations!

Employees of the Month

Certified Employee of the Month
Aug. 2022

Classified Employee of the Month
Aug. 2022



Leland "Bubba" Billie



Mikaila Yellowhair