

PUSD

PAGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Monthly Newsletter March 2022



www.pageud.org

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On the Cover

Eli Lewandowski demonstrates his invention at Lake View's Invention Fair.

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.



Feb. 9, 2022

Notes from Regular Board Meeting: Feb. 8, 2022

Page Unified School Board members convened for its Regular Board Meeting Feb. 8, 2022. Board president, Desiree Fowler, and Board Members Sandra Kidman, Dee McKerry, Charles Weiss and Mike Mangum were present.

During the meeting, Board Member, Mike Mangum, recognized PUSD’s Employees of the Month. The Certified Employee of the Month was Christina Knapp. The Classified Employee of the Month was Louella Burton.

Board President, Desiree Fowler, recognized PUSD’s Students of the month.

They are:

Preschool: Mya Klain

Lake View: Annie Tso

Desert View: Atsa’Biiyazh Begay

Page Middle School: Jake Smith

Page High School: Tanner Dugi

Manson Mesa High School: Naashtezhi Rock

Sage and Sand Virtual Academy: Cadence Jaborski

The Board approved the resignation of a Page High School teacher.

The Board unanimously approved to consult with district legal counsel as it moves forward in the next steps of its Superintendent search.

The Board voted to support urging the Arizona Legislature to override the fiscal year 2022 aggregate spending for funds already budgeted

The Board approved PUSD’s calendar for the 2022-23 school year.

The Board approved the Campus Monitor job description. The District will hire two Campus Monitors at Page High School and one at the Middle School.

The Board approved the S.T.E.P. (Student Transition to Educational Progress) job description. This job will now be advertised. The positions will begin in the 2022-23 school year.

The Board approved a Professional Services Agreement with ProCare to contract with them to provide PUSD with a school psychologist

GOVERNING BOARD

Desiree Fowler **Sandra Kidman** **Dee McKerry** **Charles Weiss** **Mike Mangum**
President Clerk Member Member Member

Superintendent
Bryce C. Anderson

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



March 3, 2022

Notes from Regular Board Meeting: March 1, 2022

Page Unified School Board members convened for its Regular Board Meeting March 1, 2022. Board president, Desiree Fowler, and Board Members Sandra Kidman, Dee McKerry, Charles Weiss and Mike Mangum were present. Interim Supt. Dr. Bryce Anderson was also present.

During the meeting, Board Member, Charles Weiss, recognized PUSD's Employees of the Month. The Certified Employee of the Month was Monica Gaylor. The Classified Employee of the Month was Michelle Pugh.

Board President, Desiree Fowler, recognized PUSD's Students of the month.

They are:

Preschool: Jayce Malnack

Lake View: McKenzie Seschillie

Desert View: Penni Haskie

Page Middle School: Andrew Hawker

Page High School: Ciauna Jones

Manson Mesa High School: Suetta Blake

Sage and Sand Virtual Academy: Jackson Kanaswood

The Board left for Executive Session to discuss Administrator Roles in the Page Unified School District.

Supt. Anderson recommended to the Board that a Classified At-Will Employee be released from her contract. The Board unanimously voted to release the employee from her contract immediately.

The Board approved the contract forms for all positions for the 2022-23 school year.

The Board approved Lori Wilson to be PUSD's new Business Manager.

Desert View Intermediate music teacher, Josh Brink, requested to have Music in Our Schools month officially recognize throughout the district. The Board unanimously approved his request.

GOVERNING BOARD

Desiree Fowler	Sandra Kidman	Dee McKerry	Charles Weiss	Mike Mangum
President	Clerk	Member	Member	Member

Superintendent
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BIG GOALS

Girls Soccer Coaches Strive to Take Page Soccer to Next Level



Because of Page's remoteness, getting Page High School's top athletes noticed by college athletic recruiters can be a challenge. Not many are willing to make the effort to travel from their campuses in Phoenix, New Mexico, Utah, or Colorado to scout players in Page.

"We have several players who could play at the college or club level," said Maddy Crane. "We just need some coaches at that level to see them play."

This was Crane's first season as the Page High School girls assistant soccer coach. Crane also teaches first grade at Lake View Primary.

College soccer coaches don't recruit the same way that other sports programs do, explains Ben Dalton, PHS girls soccer head coach.

"The main challenge for our soccer players is that most college soccer recruiters go through club soccer teams or junior college teams to find the players they need," said Dalton.

It's easier and more efficient for college recruiters to find the talent they're looking for through club teams, where many high-level players are assembled on one field.

"The big colleges like to go to club tournaments because they can see 50 to 100 teams all at once," said Crane. "That way they don't have to go to an individual school where they can only see two teams play at a time. The idea with getting us into club tournaments and to potentially get our players playing on those club teams is that they can potentially be seen by these coaches."

It grows considerably more difficult for a high school

soccer player to get recruited if they have a specific college team they want to play for.

"If a player has a specific school they're interested in, they have to be a good fit for their system," Dalton explained. "The college has to need a player at the position they play, and chances are, they already have a player in that position."

The other challenge for high school soccer players trying to earn scholarships at D1 universities is that scholarships usually don't exist for players in their first two years of playing. Because soccer doesn't attract the fanbase that basketball or football do, college soccer programs have a much smaller scholarship pot to work with. But junior colleges and community colleges do pay scholarships, and that creates opportunities for passionate soccer players to play at the next level if they're open to being flexible about their options, says Dalton.

"If you just want to be a college soccer player, and you don't have a specific college in mind, you can get a scholarship the first year," said Dalton. "Playing for a junior or community college is the best way to get noticed by D1 schools. It's easier for them (D1 schools) to let the junior and community colleges develop the players and scout those schools, rather than take them straight from high school and develop them themselves."

With that in mind, Coach Crane took measures to open the soccer program's recruitment portal a little wider. To

4 PUSD Teachers Earn Advanced Degrees

Julia Redman
2nd grade Teacher, Lake View

When did you receive your Masters degree?

December 2021

What is your degree?

Master of Education in Curriculum & Instruction

What is your bachelor's degree?

Elementary Education

From what university did you receive your masters degree?

Southern Utah University

How long have you been working on your masters degree?

Two years

How long have you taught at PUSD?

This is my fifth year at Lake View.



Alex Moore
Music, Page Middle School

When did you receive your Masters degree?

August 2020

What is your degree?

Master of Science in Instructional Technology

What is your bachelor's degree?

Bachelor of Music - Music Education

From what university did you receive your masters degree?

Grand Canyon University

How long have you been working on your masters degree?

13 months.

How long have you taught at PUSD?

This is my 4th year at PUSD



Edrose Camagos
Pre-Algebra, Page Middle School

When did you receive your doctorate degree?

June 2019

What is your degree?

Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Management

What is your bachelor's degree?

Secondary Education, Major in Mathematics

From what university did you receive your doctorate degree?

STI-West Negros University

How long have you been working on your doctorate degree?

Three years

How long have you taught at PUSD?

I have taught at PUSD for three years.



Nichole Reitze
2nd Grade, Lake View

When did you receive your Masters degree?

June 2020

What is your degree?

Master of Arts in Mathematic Education

What is your bachelor's degree?

Elementary Education

From what university did you receive your masters degree?

Western Governors University

How long have you been working on your masters degree?

Seven months

How long have you taught at PUSD?

This is my fifth year at PHS



PHS WINTER FESTIVAL AND INCOMING FRESHMAN NIGHT



Page High School held a combined Winter Festival and Incoming Freshman and Parent Night in February and it proved to be a winning combination. In the past, the two events have been held separately, but this year interim Principal, Brian Henderson, decided to hold the events simultaneously to increase student turnout and participation.

“It turned out great,” said Mr. Henderson.

This year’s eighth graders and their parents found information booths stocked with information and manned by high school teachers who were able to answer any additional questions for next year’s incoming students. The CTE classes had videos playing that demonstrated what students do in the classes. The math classes had math puzzle games and the English department had an assort-

ment of different literature students will study during their time in high school.

When the eighth graders finished their rounds, they were free to enter the main gym and join current high school students for the Winter Festival. The Winter Festival included inflatables, a pool table, a Jenga tower and other games, a food court with pizza and snacks, and music DJ’d by Ally Gardner.

The event was organized by PHS Student Council, who ordered the inflatables, set up the activities and oversaw the food court.

“Usually the two events are held separately,” said Mr. Henderson, “but this time we combined them so the incoming students could get a taste of the cool stuff we do. I think it turned out great!”

U.N.I.T.Y. Pageant Returns After Year Absence

Jayden Secody and Kathleen Kewanyama were crowned Mr. Naat' àanii Hastiin, and Miss Naat' àanii `Asdzàni during the U.N.I.T.Y./Navajo Language Club Pageant held last Wednesday evening. Naat' àanii Hastiin means Male Leader in Navajo, and Naat' àanii `Asdzàni means female leader in Navajo. In their new roles, Secody and Kewanyama will represent the Page community, Page High School and Dinè in all gatherings, ceremonies and conferences attended by the U.N.I.T.Y./Navajo Language Club. A big part of their duties will be sharing the Native culture and traditions with the wider community.

This is the first time the pageant has been held since 2020. The event wasn't held last year due to Covid-19 restrictions.

The contestants were judged in four areas. First, their ability to introduce themselves in the traditional Navajo way. Second, each contestant had to answer a question – related to Navajo or Hopi culture – from the judges. Third, the contestant performed a modern talent. Fourth, the contestant performed a traditional talent.

Secody – the son of Eli Secody and Trina Reid – performed a beat-box song for his modern talent, and a Native American Church peyote ceremony song – accompanied by his father on drums – for his traditional talent.

For the modern talent portion of the pageant, Kewanyama – who is one fourth Hopi, one fourth Navajo, one fourth Havasupai and one fourth Laguna Pueblo – gave a presentation on the Hopi tribe's culture, dances, celebrations and other important aspects of Hopi. For her traditional talent, she performed a song from the Native American Church. "It's more of a religion, than a tradition to me," she said. "I grew up around it since I was young."

Kewanyama says she is honored to carry the title of Miss Naat' àanii `Asdzàni and looks forward to fulfilling the duties of the role. "It feels good," she said after the pageant. "I'm ready to take the crown places, and take on this leadership role."

She and Secody wasted no time stepping into their new



Jayden Secody and Kathleen Kewanyama



Bryce Williams, performing his traditional talent.



Navajo Nation Council Delegate, Eugenia Charles-Newton, one of the pageant judges, commended the students after the pageant.



U.N.I.T.Y./Navajo Language Club Pageant participants Keanu Chewing, Bryce Williams, Emmanuel Manygoats, Kathleen Kewanyama, Jayden Secody, and Acacia Williams.



Kathleen Kewanyama and her father, perform a NAC song for her traditional talent.



Acacia Williams, performing her traditional talent.

roles. The two attended a conference in Phoenix Monday as Mr. Naat' àanii Hastiin, and Miss Naat' àanii `Asdzàni.

For Kewanyama, her calendar is already filling in. In her new role, she'll be visiting Havasupai Village in July, and a conference in Hopi.

The pageant, held in the Cultural Arts Building, was MC'd by Raquel Rivare and Tyler Tsosie. The judges were Dixie Ellis, Des Fowler and Navajo Council Delegate, Eugenia Charles-Newton.

The contestants also included Keanu Chewing, Bryce Williams, Emmanuel Manygoats, and Acacia Williams.



Tyler Tsosie and Raquel MC'd the pageant.

Hunter Richardson Places 4th at State Wrestling Tournament

Sand Devil wrestler, Hunter Richardson took fourth place at the State Wrestling Tournament last Saturday. It was the second time in two years that he has taken the podium at state. Last year, Richardson suffered a shoulder injury that prevented him from wrestling his final matches.

“I’m very proud of this young man!” said head wrestling coach, Kyran Keisling. “He overcame adversity and became the inspirational and selfless leader of our team. We became better because of his example.”

Richardson wrestled at the 165 pound level. “His weight class was very, very competitive,” said Coach Keisling. “He had to win some very tough matches to get himself into that spot.”

Richardson comes from one of Page’s storied wrestling families. His older brother, Cheyenne Richardson, placed first at state a few years ago, and Dakota Richardson is a two-time state wrestling runner-up.

Three other Sand Devil wrestlers, Ashton Penrod, Shayne Ruiz and Hayden Charles, all came within one match from medaling. “They went deep into the tournament and de-



serve some credit,” said Coach Keisling. “It was valuable experience for them wrestling at that high level. All three of them will be back next year, and I expect them to do big things.”

Miquedah Taliman Scores 1,003 Points in Regular Season



In the final game of the regular season, Lady Sand Devils' playmaker, Miquedah Taliman, scored her 1,000th point. Taliman reached the impressive mark with less than 40 seconds remaining in the game. She would go on to score three points, giving her a total of 1,003 points for the regular season.

Head basketball coach, Celeste Claw, called a timeout when the Taliman reached her 1,000th point to give the fans a chance to recognize Taliman's remarkable achievement.

Lake View Teachers and Students

Drop Everything and Read



In conjunction with National Love of Reading Month, Lake View teachers and students participated in the Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) program.

“Drop Everything and Read is a strategy to promote literacy and the love of reading,” said Lake View’s Media Specialist, Pam Guenther who organized the event. “Reading is so important. It prepares the kids for success in life.”

For 45 minutes at the end of the school week, teachers dropped their regularly-scheduled curriculum and read with their students. Some gathered in hallways, or on comfy chairs. Some read in groups, some read individually. As part of Love of Reading Month, Lake View also invited guest readers to visit their classrooms and read with the students.

DESERT VIEW, LAKE VIEW STUDENTS RAISE \$13K FOR KIDS HEART CHALLENGE 2022



Students from Lake View Primary and Desert View Intermediate raised more than \$13,000 during this year's Kids Heart Challenge.

Desert View students made a goal to raise \$6,000 as a school. They raised more than \$9,000. The Lake View students set a goal to raise \$3,500 as a school. They raised \$4,492. The proceeds go to the American Heart Association. Students raise the money by gathering pledges from their family and friends, in person and online.

Fundraising is just one component of Kids Heart Challenge. The other component is promoting heart-healthy lifestyle choices for the kids.

For the culminating event of Kids Heart Challenge – and a fun way to celebrate – kids gather in their school's gym and play. They jump rope, jump on pogo sticks, jump on mini-tramps onto crash pads, and bounce on balls.

Each school's P.E. teachers, Rachel West and Stacy Zinnecker, organized and operated the events.

As an added incentive to the Desert View students, they got permission to spray their Specials teachers with Silly String if they reached their goal of raising \$6,000. If they reached \$7,000 they could spray their principals with Silly String. Since they raised over \$9,000 students are vying for permission to "slime" their principals and teachers. We'll keep you informed of what ends up happening.

At Lake View, because they reached their goal, some of the teachers were "slimed" during an assembly.



Lake View Students Raise Money for Page Animal Adoption Agency



Popeye after the surgery.



Bubbles after the surgery.

Bubbles and Popeye were in rough shape when they arrived at the Page Animal Adoption Agency (PAAA). Bubbles, a Lab-Rott mix, had been hit by a car and sustained a fractured pelvis and upper jaw. Popeye, a German shepherd-Rott mix, came to PAAA with its left eye dislodged from its socket.

But both dogs are doing great now, thanks in large part to the students at Lake View Primary who recently raised \$1,332.26 for the Page Animal Adoption Agency during the school-wide Penny Wars competition.

During the Penny Wars, which spanned from January 24 to February 11, the different grade levels competed with each other to see which class could bring in the most pennies, with the ultimate goal of donating the money to a local charitable organization. The students chose the animal shelter because it was an organization they could relate to, said Maddy Crane, Lake View first-grade teacher, and Penny Wars organizer.

Lake View students and faculty took some time out of their day on Feb. 14th to present a check to Natalie Ferrando, PAAA Director.

“This is such a huge gift to our shelter. Thank you all so much!” Ferrando said. “I was completely shocked that they raised that much money. They did a great job.”

PAAA used the money raised by the Lake View students to pay for the operations that Bubbles and Popeye needed. After the surgery, Bubbles was put on crate rest and medications while she was healing. She is currently with one of PAAA’s rescue partners and is doing really well.

Popeye, the dog with the trauma to its eye, had a successful surgery to remove the damaged eye, and has since been adopted out.



The Kindergarten classes of Ms. Pullin, Ms. Maratas and Ms. O’Neal celebrate their fundraising efforts with Natalie Ferrando, Director of the Page Animal Adoption Agency. All classes at Lake View Primary raised money for PAAA.

The Page Animal Adoption Agency takes in more than 500 stray dogs and cats in the course of a year. Once at the shelter, the animals receive food, shelter, medical care, baths, medication and lots of TLC. The expenses for caring for so many animals in need can add up quickly.

The Kindergarten and FLS classes raised \$349, the first-grade classes raised \$478, and the second-grade classes raised \$504. Though the emphasis was on gathering pennies, coins of all denominations were accepted. As a reward for their hard work and kindness, the winning classes got to have a pizza party in their classrooms.

Events such as Penny Wars play a big role bolstering other goals and curricula the school is pursuing.

“Every month Lake View has a Character Trait of the Month, such as compassion, or resilience or gratitude,” said Crane. “Programs like these are a great way of putting words and ideas into real-world solutions.”

For teachers, the Penny Wars was a great opportunity to improve counting, addition and fraction skills for their students. Rather than have their students just turn over the pennies, teachers and students would count and add the coins together. Because of the hands-on involvement, teachers saw an increase in some of their math-related areas of study. “One of our first-grade standards is coin identification and counting up to a dollar. We saw big improvements in those areas.”

Lake View Students Display Imagination & Creativity at STEAM Night and Invention Fair



Lake View's STEAM Night and Invention Fair was a big hit with students and their families in February.

Throughout the hallways those in attendance found numerous booths displaying all kinds of science-related displays and experiments created by Lake View teachers and community agencies, including the Page Library, and National Park Service. The science displays included casts of dinosaur fossils, aerodynamic and thermodynamic demonstrations. Most of the booths were hands-on and interactive as a way to encourage students and their families to join in



See STEAM pg. 13

Lake View Students Help with Black History Month



Back row, from left: Grace Harrison, Mahcory Yazzie, Madison Black, Caleb Goodnight, Tayden Baez, Skyler Surget, Robin Richardson Bentley Gonzales and Eli Lewandowski.
Front row, from left: Tanan Keisling, Rhaven Tulabing, Deming Keisling, Andre Thompson, Luke Clutter, Tenlee Storey, Jocelyn Dalton, Martina Rejvoloso, and Parker Klain.

Lake View Primary recognized 18 of its students for their help with Black History Month in February. Each day during morning announcements, the students read over the school intercom a short profile of an influential black person in American History.

The program was initiated by Alyssa Covington, LVP's interim Assistant Principal.

"The purpose of having students do this was to to promote literacy, and support a culture of reading out loud while learning about some of America's great black leaders," said Covington.

Teachers also saw a great boost of self-confidence among the students who did the morning reading.

"After each one of them read, they had a big smile on their face and they held their heads up," said Covington. "It was a big boost of confidence for them."

At the beginning of the month, only a few students expressed an interest in doing the morning reading, but after the program progressed and the students saw how it was done, many more came forward wanting to be a part of it.

"Some of the students are struggling readers, but they still wanted to try it," said Covington. "But they tried it, and most of them did a great job. I think such a positive experience will go a long way toward their love of reading."

STEAM from pg. 12

and stimulate their curiosity.

The STEAM night coincided with the Invention Fair. In the gym, Lake View students displayed and demonstrated a wide variety of gizmos and inventions that showcases their creativity, curiosity and genius.

Alex Henderson, from Ms. Reitze's class, took first place. Dantez Turquoise from Ms. Watson's class took second place, and Eli Lewandowski, from Ms. Reitze's class, took third place.



Arizona Tax Credit Donations to PUSD

Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021

The Page Unified School District reported to the state its Arizona Tax Credit Donations for 2021. From January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021 PUSD received a total of \$24,727. The majority of the donations made to the high school and middle school were spent on the sports programs.

Page High School: \$17,707

Page Middle School: \$1,800

Desert View: \$2,428

Lake View: \$2,092

People can still donate until April 15, 2022 for their 2021 tax return.

Thank you, to everyone who donated to our schools and programs.

SOCCKER from pg. 3

do that, Crane and some of her best players – Ally Gardner, Gianna Manning, Abbie George and Alana Thompson – loaded into her car and got back on the road, and traveled to club matches at Southern Utah University, Arizona State University. Those trips got the ball rolling (ha ha), which encouraged other soccer players to give it a go. Zoe Hansen and Jaynee Cummings traveled to soccer camp at Utah State University, and to a tryout at Snow College.

Moving forward, Coach Crane wants to establish relationships with college and club teams that will generate invitations to soccer camps, appearances as guest players on club teams.

Other big goals for the soccer program is establishing its own soccer tournaments and scrimmages between Page and its rival schools in the off-season, to keep the players' skills sharp and growing, and keep the players conditioning at game level.

For a high school player, the process of taking their game to the college level can seem like a daunting task, full of obstacles they're not familiar with. "We want to help them with that too," said Crane. "We want to help them walk through different college applications, and what scholarships they can get with that, and try to put

soccer on top of that. We've been contacting coaches, sending emails, trying to send videos and get their online recruiting profiles all up to snuff. Especially our juniors: this coming year we can get some footage of them to put on it."

Another one of Crane's big goals is generating more enthusiasm and increased interest and passion for soccer throughout the entire Page community that starts at the first-year city league teams and continuing all the way through a player's senior year of high school.

Crane is a life-long soccer player and enthusiast. She started playing soccer in first grade, and played city league every year until she entered high school. She played on her high school team all four years, and played varsity her junior and senior year. She played outside midfielder.

She was a walk-on for the University of Mary Washington (Virginia). After her NCAA four years of eligibility ended, she played on a club team, playing on multiple indoor and outdoor soccer teams.

She is bringing that passion and knowledge of the game to get a new generation of soccer players excited about a sport that has given her so much.

EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

Certified Employee of the Month
January 2022



Christina Knapp

Classified Employee of the Month
January 2022



Louella Barton

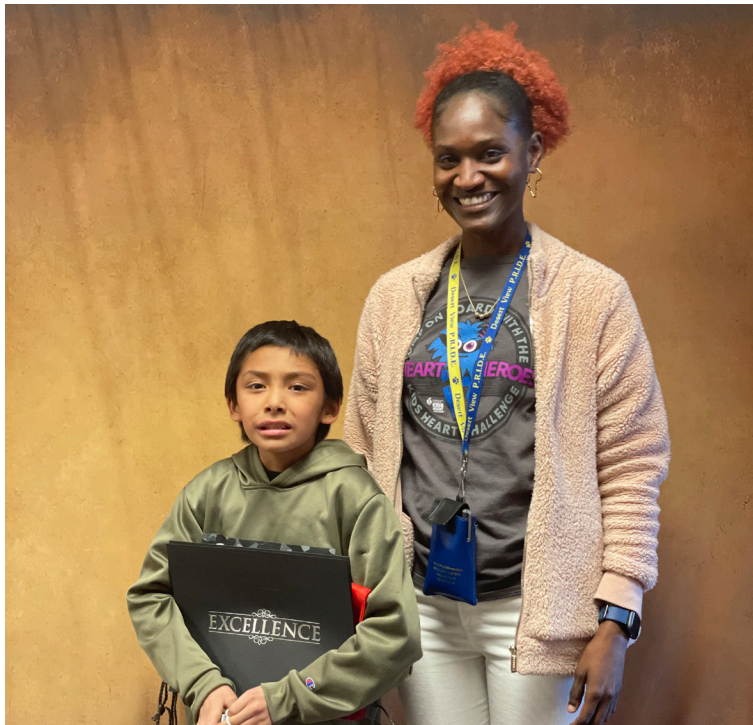
JANUARY STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Mya Klain
Preschool
w/ Jillyn Anderson



Annie Tso
Lake View Primary



Atsa Biiyazh Begay
Desert View Intermediate
w/ Jodian Brown



Jake Smith
Page Middle School

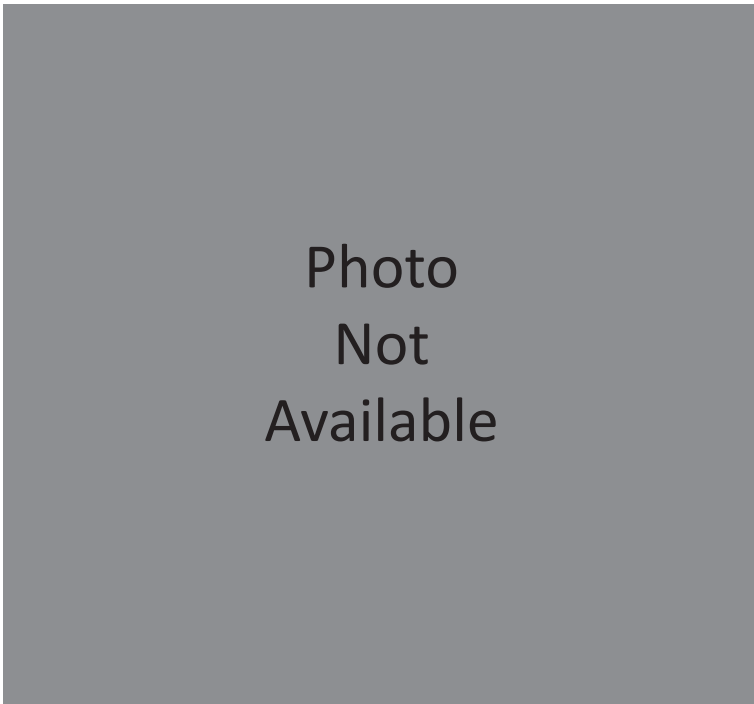
JANUARY
STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Tanner Dugi
Page High School



Naashtezhi Rock
Manson Mesa High School



Cadence Jaborski
Sage & Sand Virtual Academy