

# PUSD

PAGE UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Monthly Newsletter January 2023

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





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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

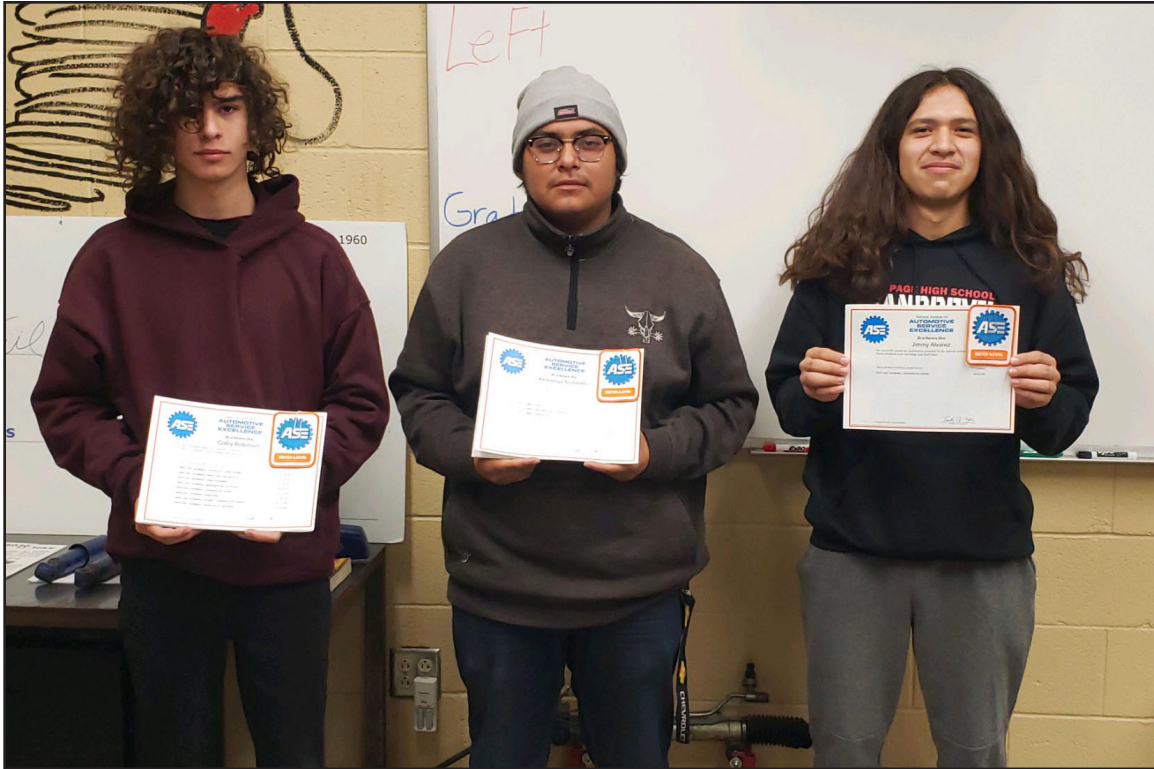
Collectively Committed to Every Student, Every Day, Every Minute.



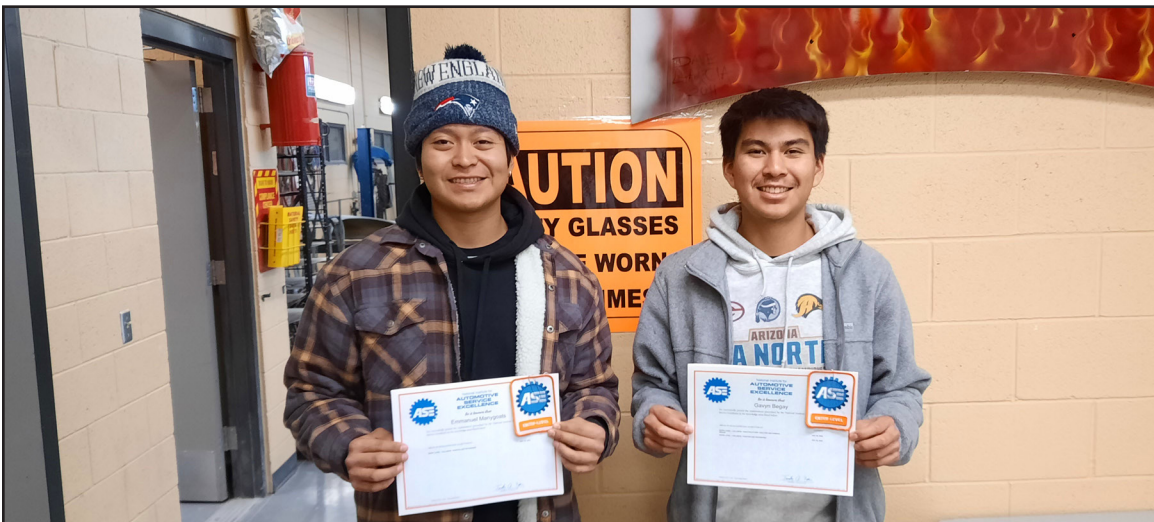
## Mission

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.

# CTE Students Earn ASE Certifications



CTE students Colby Robinson, Keiloshua Sombrero and Jimmy Alvarez display recently earned ASE certifications in Auto Tech. So far this year, Robinson has earned nine ASE certifications, Sombrero has earned three and Alvarez one.



CTE students Emmanuel Manygoats and Gavyn Begay display recently earned ASE certifications in Collision Tech. So far this year, Manygoats has earned one ASE certification, and Begay has earned two.



# Page Middle School Student Competes in Spartan Warrior Kids World Championship

Page Middle School student, Nyall Prather, placed 8th at the Spartan Warrior Kids World Championships on Dec. 10. Prather was one of 60 boys ages 13-14 competing in the race. His fellow competitors traveled from all across the United States, as well as China, England and the Czech Republic to participate in the race. Prather qualified to compete in the championships after winning the Arizona State Spartan Warrior race in November, held in Phoenix.

The championship race was held in the swampy lands outside of Lake Placid, Florida. The Spartan Warrior race incorporates much more than just running; it's designed to test a competitor's cardio endurance as well as his upper body strength and technical skills to complete obstacles while running at his anaerobic threshold.

The course included 27 different obstacles, including climbing a 13-foot rope, throwing a spear into a hay bale, carrying a 40-pound bucket 100 meters, and carrying a 30 pound bag of sand 100 meters. The course was swampy and muddy and the runners had to watch out for fire ants and a loose bull.

"I had a lot of fun doing it," he said. "I like doing that kind of thing."

Nyall and his father Jonathon Prater flew to Florida two days prior to the event to allow Nyal time to get acclimated to the climate, weather and humidity.

Nyall, an eighth grader at Page Middle School, has been competing in these types of races since he was six years old. He is on Page Middle School's football, cross-country, and track teams. He lifts weights with his father Monday and Thursday, and goes on 4.5 mile runs with his father twice a week.

A big part of his fitness success comes from living an active lifestyle every day. Nyall enjoys backpacking, hiking and rock climbing with his father, Jonathon Prather. The two like to climb routes set out by Kyran Keisling in area canyons.

"His abilities and fitness really took off this year, particularly in the last two months," said Nyall's father, Jonathon Prather. "He's always been an outdoor kid who likes running, jumping and climbing. This was the perfect outlet for those passions."

Nyall plans to continue his fitness and weight training and compete in the Spartan Warrior Kids World Championship again next year.





# Panthers NAIC Soccer Champions!



The Page Middle School Panthers soccer team were crowned NAIC champions after defeating St. Michael's Indian School in the championship game last week.

This was the first year that northern Arizona middle schools have had a soccer programs. Because of that, not every school in our region was prepared to field a team. This year the Panthers played against St. Michael's Indian School, Sanders Middle School and Navajo Mountain Middle School.

More schools are expected to join next year, said PUSD Athletic Director, Megan Moore.

"This was the first year any school's in our region have wanted to try soccer," she said.

But developing an entirely new program from scratch takes a lot of effort and a budget.

"Schools need equipment, practice fields, coaches and players," said Moore. "Some schools need some time to get that."

The Panthers soccer team was co-ed, consisting of 27 players with ten boys and 17 girls spanning grades six through eight.

The Panthers played nine games during their season and won all nine games. They scored 83 goals and gave up just one goal.

The soccer team was coached by Kimberly Codner-Gayle, who teaches xx at the middle school. Revington Babu, who teaches science at the middle school, was the team's assistant coach. Ashley Epps and Brett Clark, Page High

School soccer coaches, volunteered their time and expertise to the middle school's soccer program.

"Overall, we had a great season," said Coach Codner-Gayle. "The players improved a lot on the field and in the classroom and they were all dedicated to learning and being better every day. Our biggest challenge was on Saturday for the finals and during the game we were able to evaluate our downfalls and turned them around to take a win."

Moore is excited about what the middle school's soccer team will bring to the community. The extra years of training and experience players get in middle school will go on to improve the quality of play and players at the high school level.

"Our athletes and coaches came out excited and strong for the middle school soccer program, and they demonstrated they have the passion and skill for it," said Moore. "Having a feeder program like that will help the high school in the long run."

This summer Page High School's soccer teams will host a summer camp and they'll invite the surrounding communities to participate in an effort to help them develop their own soccer programs.

That increased amount of competition and experience would be a win-win for all schools involved, said Moore.



# Manson Mesa High School Graduation

Manson Mesa High School held its Winter Graduation last night. Congratulations to our newest graduates, Class of 2023, Kysha M. Begay, Tamera A. Benally, Christin Chapin and Nizhoni N. Willie. We are so proud of you!





# Lake View Christmas Pageant

December's performance of the Lake View's Christmas pageant was so great!

Thank you to Lake View's Specials teachers, and especially music teacher Cheryl Weiss for all that you put into it!





# Winter Strings Concert

Page High School and Middle School students gave an amazing Strings Concert in December, conducted/directed by David Johnson and Alex Moore. With performances by Page Middle School Beginning Strings, Page Middle School Intermediate Strings, Page High School Concert Orchestra and Page High School Chamber Orchestra.

What a wonderful evening!

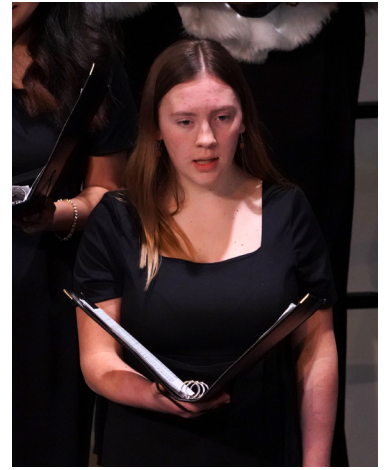




# Winter Choir Concert

The Choir Christmas Concert, featuring Page High School and Page Middle School was wonderful! A very talented, spirited group of kids ushered in the spirit of Christmas with the first winter concert of the season.

Great job everyone!





# Winter Band Concert

PUSD's Christmas concert season concluded with the Page Middle School and Page High School band and guitar concert. The audience was privileged to witness some great performances!





# Desert View Winter Concert

Desert View's Winter Concert, led by music teacher Joshua Brink, featured strumming, drumming, singing and dancing. Great job, everyone!





# Student Support Services Provides Christmas for District Families

Thirty families from Page and surrounding communities received bountiful Christmases this year, thanks to the heartfelt efforts of PUSD's Student Support Services in partnership with several area families and businesses.

Because of Student Support Services ongoing community outreach, they were aware that some area families were struggling to provide Christmas gifts for their children. Student Support Services staff, Sharon Watson, Geraldine Clark and Virgie Whiteshore, reached out to the families to let them know they were there to help for anyone who wished to take advantage of it. Student Support Services gave each family a wish list to fill out for their family. The families could choose clothing, toys, puzzles, art supplies, School supplies, sporting goods, electronics and home décor items with several options listed in each category. The children on the list were encouraged to be as specific as possible when filling out their wish lists.

Several area businesses provided gifts and other supplies for an entire family. In other cases, individuals from the school district teamed up and together provided the items on the family wish lists. Players of Page High School's girls basketball team adopted a family and purchased the gifts on the list.

Student Support Services arranged for the families to pick up their Christmas presents on the evening of December 20th in the lobby of Manson Mesa High School. When the families arrived, they found their gifts already wrapped with a child's or parent's name on each item. The families were greeted by the Student Support Services personnel, as well as Santa Claus







and an elf, who were played by Mike Barnes and his daughter Kaylene Barnes.

Preparing the gifts for delivery was a weeks-long process. Student Support Services initiated the process by gathering the wish lists. They gathered the items on the wish list, boxed and wrapped them and made arrangements for the families to pick them up. Student Support Services delivered the gifts to those families who were unable to pick up the presents in person.

The Christmas Gift Program was available to any family with children enrolled at PUSD schools.

In addition to the Christmas gifts, families who needed

shoes also received shoes, which were purchased from Hibbett Sports using money donated to Student Support Services through the State Tax Credit.

Student Support Services Coordinator, Sharon Watson was impressed by the amount of involvement she saw from PUSD employees and local businesses.

"I knew from my time in this position that people in our community are very giving and generous, but what we received this year's was above and beyond what I expected," said Watson. "We are thankful for the huge outpouring of support."

## SOC CER from pg. 3

The Panthers soccer team included Kora Tappan, Abigail Goldtooth, Peyton Miller, Kylie Parsons, Zachary Smith, Mattheu Perry, Sven Fowler, Kimiko Kawano, Maliya Nez, Kasiya Akee, Karli Dodson, Karcyn Mangum, Nolan Talbot, Star Yazzie, Ashley Tucker, Shaylynn Clark, Payton Inzunza, Violet Kerr,

Mason Barnum, Brooklyn Neal-Meyers, Brooklyn Keith, Bryan Jones, Marcus Szabo, Benjamin Robinson.

Tucker Christiansen, Kaia Mansker, Ethan Curley were the team captains. Sean Begay, Kadence DeVries and Alika Combest-Begishe were the team managers.



# NOVEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



**Brooklyn Swinton**  
Lake View Primary



**Joshua Tsinnijinnie**  
Desert View Intermediate



**Olivia Schroeder**  
Page Middle School



**Katona Reed**  
Page High School



# NOVEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



**Leman Gishie**  
Manson Mesa High School

No Photo  
Available

**Alana Thompson**  
Sage & Sand Virtual Academy



**Cody Black w/ her family**  
Page Preschool



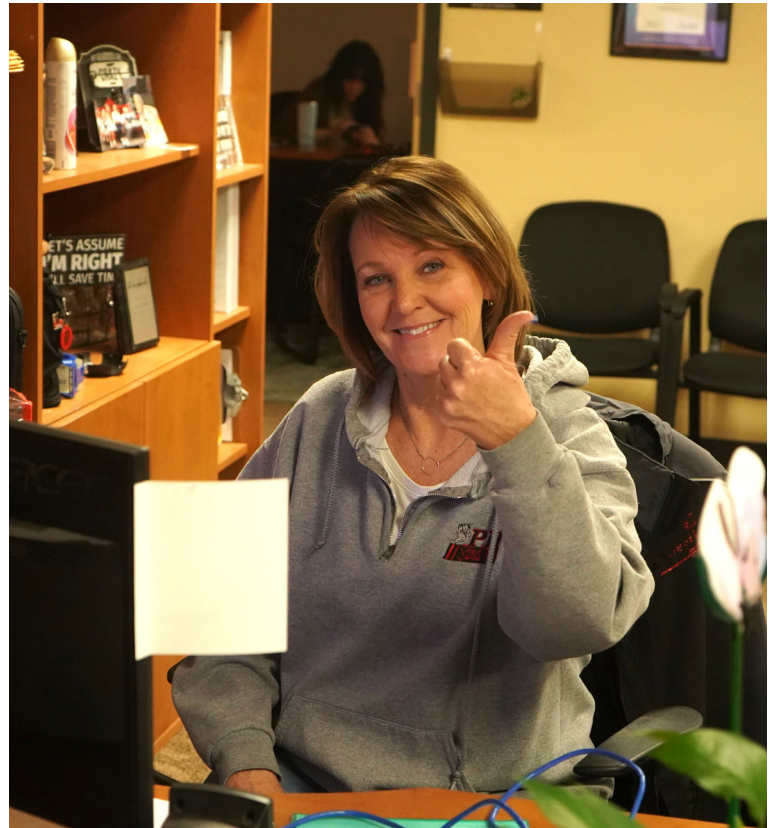
# EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

**Certified Employee of the Month**  
**November 2022**



**Jillyn Anderson**

**Classified Employee of the Month**  
**November 2022**



**Kendra Childs**



# PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT

