



Catalina Foothills Unified School District #16
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BOARD AGENDA ITEM

ITEM NO: 1.4

BOARD MEETING DATE: Tuesday, April 9, 2024

OPENING ITEM: Outstanding Achievements

SUBMITTED BY: Mary Kamerzell, Superintendent

PRESENTED BY: Mary Kamerzell, Superintendent

I am pleased to highlight the following CFSD student and staff achievements:

Arizona Regional Science & Engineering Fair (SARSEF)

Sunrise Drive: Abrielle Stevens - “What’s that Smell?!” (Fixing Problems That Stink - 3rd place); Armelie Puell - “Fish Behavior in response to the environment” (2nd place); Cora Sakievich - “Cookie Monster” (2nd place); David Bui - “Affects of Temperature on Gold Balls” (3rd place); Diego Fatas-Belous and Jakob Chan - “Does Spicy food Affect Body Temperature?” (3rd place); Emery Chukly - “Why is it a bother to have H2O2 in our water?” (2nd place); Jotham David - “Conductors and Insulators” (3rd place, Second Place Elementary School award); Sylvie Schenten - “How do the bubbles get into bread?” (1st place); Timothy Wong - “Canyon Melting Project” (2nd place); and Zenji Ashton - “Is Your Fingerprint Identification Actually Safe?” (3rd place).

Manzanita Elementary: Aubrey Wettengel - “How Does Tube Size Affect the Weight a Dump Truck Can Lift?” (2nd place); Elise McDonald - “Does Positive or Negative Encouragement Vault a Gymnast to Success?” (2nd place); Elizabeth Sipe and Christopher Sipe - “Investigating Well-Known Baking Techniques” (SARSEF Board Award); Ella Winter - “After How Many Days of Use Does a Water Bottle Become Germy?” (1st place); Kathleen Bowman’s Class - “One Small Step for Manzanita, One Giant Leap for the Environment: Less Idling, More Smiling” (3rd place); Lilah Winter - “How do Different Macronutrient Ratios Affect My Blood Glucose and Blood Ketones?” (3rd place, Alex and Laura

Schauss Elementary School Award “WCC Best Female Project, Third Grade, WCG Shirley Bemis Memorial Award); Maura Baker’s class - “How Strong Are You, Mayan Blue?” (1st place); Megan Winter’s class - “Which Classroom is Germier, a First Grade Classroom or a Fifth Grade Classroom?” (1st place); Mike Allie’s class - “Recycling Sorting for Success” (1st Place); Remy Scott - “Why is Milk White?” (1st place); and Ria Tuli - “Colors and Feelings” (2nd place).

Canyon View Elementary: Autumn Andrews-Hanna - “Twisted Science: Tornados and Hurrricanes” (3rd place); Elijah Wilkinson - “Amazing Abilities of Sound #302” (3rd place); and Olivia Babst - “Smart soils keep more water for dryer times” (3rd place).

Ventana Vista Elementary: Eliot Mandel - “A Rabbit’s Toy” (3rd place); London Emerson - “Are Your Hands Clean?” (3rd place); Michael Montoya - “Changing Ingredients” (1st place); Mikael Cusanovich - “Poppin’ popcorn with oil!” (2nd place, ASQ SARSEF Sponsored Award); Natasha Jain - “Tennis Fiasco” (1st place); Pascal Guifarro - “Comparing Apples and Oranges” (3rd place); and Rebecca Black - “Is a warm swimmer a faster swimmer?” (3rd place).

Esperero Canyon Middle: Brooklyn Natkowski, Elena Suarez, and Cecilia Suarez - “Snail Power” (2nd place, Lee and Kack Mayer Memorial award for excellence in science); Isabelle Babst - “Producing Food and Energy in a Dryer Climate: Agrivoltaics and Water Management of Arizona’s Crops” (1st place, Alex and Laura Schauss Middle School Award, Hogan Energy Hero); and Khalil Shehab and Leo Blueskyes - “Cool Roofs” (1st place).

Catalina Foothills High: Iliana Wisniewski - “Runoff Erosion Prevention with Forest Thinnings” (1st place, Arizona Hydrological Society).

Two Flinn Scholars!

Both CFHS Seniors Seth Rojas and Ruby Wray are 2024 Flinn Scholars. The scholarship is valued at more than \$130,000 and covers tuition, fees, housing, and meals at one of Arizona's public universities, plus study abroad.

With our two scholars in the Class of 2024, we will have graduated nineteen (19) Flinn Scholars. This is the first year that we have had two Flinn Scholars in a single class. Since 2018, we have had one Flinn Scholar in each graduating class. The record for the most Flinn Scholars in a single year is held by the Class of 2009, with three.

CFSD 2024 Poetry Contest Winners

Congratulations to the winners of our annual poetry contest, one from each K-12 grade level. They are: Kindergarten - "Spring" by Xavier Bingham (MZ), 1st Grade - "Micah" by Mara Chan (SD), 2nd Grade - "Pink" by Abby Vanwinkle (MZ), 3rd Grade - "Constellation" by Lilah Winter (MZ), 4th Grade - "The Wild

Life" by Reese Lewis (VV), 5th grade - "Rain Dance" by Robyn Burguillo Meyen (VV), 6th grade - "Peace" by Emma McNulty (ECMS), 7th Grade - "Fading Memories" by Zen Shah (OGMS), 8th Grade - "Death" by Riley McGuire (OGMS), 9th Grade - "If I Could" by Quin Mekkelsen, 10th Grade - "Wanderlust" by Avery Maland, 11th Grade - "Dear Imaginary Friends" by Adlanta Cromer, and 12th Grade - "My Girl" by Amy Cao.

Artist Awards

CFHS art student Gwendolyn Alviar was chosen as one of five winners of the Outstanding Emerging High School Artist Award. Her artwork is currently in the exhibition Our Stories: High School Artists at the University of Arizona Museum of Art (UAMA) and was selected as outstanding by a jury of U of A School of Art faculty and UAMA staff. Her piece is called "Boxed." The U of A School of Art recognizes Gwendolyn with a \$1,000 tuition waiver to the School of Art BA or BFA major in the next two years. Her art teacher is Zoe Reinhardt.

Orange Grove Middle School student Catherin "CoCo" Wang won 1st place in the Aline Goodman Young Artist Award competition at the Tucson Festival of Books Art Contest this year. It is a linoleum block print, "Jewel of the Crested Cactus."

Best Community for Music Education

Our district has been recognized with a Best Communities for Music Education Award, sponsored by the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) Foundation. NAMM states, "We applaud your community's unwavering commitment to creating an environment where each child can learn and grow with music."

Early Childhood Program

In year-one of our Early Childhood Education program, senior Alyssa Siwik received the Gold Medal award in her interview competition at this year's state Family, Career and Community Leaders of America competition, held April 1-3 at the Westin La Paloma. The high school's ECE teacher is Brenda Cabarga.

Recommended Motion: Information Item