



Catalina Foothills Unified School District #16
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BOARD AGENDA ITEM

ITEM NO: 1.4

BOARD MEETING DATE: Tuesday, February 14, 2023

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:

National Board Certification

Congratulations to Erin McCullough, 3rd grade Canyon View teacher, for earning her National Board Certification, and to Tiffany Wiley (MZ 1st-2nd multiage) and Beth Jurgensen (CFSD learning support specialist) for renewing their certification.

The certification program is sponsored by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. The program is considered one of the most impactful professional development experiences to advance teaching practice.

Music Education

Congratulations to CFHS Assistant Director of Bands Ramon Sepulveda who was recognized with the O.M. Hartsell Award for excellence in music education, sponsored by the Arizona Music Educators Association. The award is given to a music teacher who demonstrates exceptional ability and exhibits dedication to a comprehensive music education program.

Governor's Art Contest

Congratulations to two CFSD students, Ava Erlacher (CV 2nd grade) and Cayden Kitz (OG 6th grade), who were named runners-up in Governor Hobbs' "An Arizona for Everyone" inaugural art contest. Both students received congratulatory calls from the Governor and had their work displayed at her inaugural gala.

Flinn Scholarship Semifinalist

Congratulations to CFHS senior Jack Boylan who was named one of the 82 Flinn Scholarship Semifinalists selected from 1,045 Arizona student applications.

Chess

Congratulations to Esperero students, Vincent (7th) and Julian (8th) Merheb who took 2nd place at the Arizona State Championship Blitz Chess Tournament.

Congratulations to three Sunrise Drive 1st grade chess team members, Owen Chu, Adam Elitzer, and Eleanor Smith, who won 1st place in the state chess tournament on January 21.

Spelling Championship

Congratulations to Samantha Emslie (CV 5th) who is CFSD's spelling champion for 2023. She will move onto the Pima County Spelling Bee on February 18.

Cross Country Player of the Year

Congratulations to CFHS senior Brandon Martz who was named the 2022-2023 Arizona Boys Cross Country Player of the Year by Gatorade. Brandon was recognized for his athletic excellence, academic achievement, and exemplary character. Brandon has signed a National Letter of Intent to run on scholarship at Rice University this fall.

Robotics

Congratulations to the CFHS Pioneer Robotics who was named the recipient of the INSPIRE award (overall winner) at the FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) Diamondback Qualifier. Winning this award qualifies the team for the FTC State Championship on February 25. Team members are Elyse Ardolino, David Berk, Henry Bonomolo, Eugenio Cambuston, Braden Cantor-Goldner, Owen Cantor-Goldner, Zakary Gruber, Presley Landis, Ethan Lin, Kyle Lo, Dale Nelson, Christian Pierson, Camila Ritz, Seth Rojas, and Spencer Schiller. Alternates are Sara Nielsen, Thomas Scott, and Cole Warnock. Their coaches are Charlotte Ackerman and Mark Haye. Foothills grad Jackson Tint ('19) serves at the team's mentor.

The Grocery Gurus won the Engineering Excellence Award and 3rd place for Robot Performance at the FIRST Lego League state championship held on January 14. Team members are Madison Chiem, Audrey Dessent, Braeden Gracy, Warren Moore, Sarah Orr, Ben Wild, and Nathan Wu.

The Rechargeables won 2nd place in Robot Design. Team members are Esteban Aguirre, Sophia Barrios, Ali Lucas, Matthew Meislin, Lily Ruiz, Jolie Wung, and Aiden Zhou.

Four CFSD alumni served as judges at the state tournament: Sean Bergan ('19), Any Liaupsin ('19), Michal Gross ('19), and Josh Tint ('21).

All-State Jazz

Congratulations to CFHS student musicians Ethan Blakely and Logan Thomasson who performed in the Arizona All-State Jazz on February 2nd. The performance was at the Mesa Arts Center under the direction of well-known Lincoln Center jazz trumpeter Tatum Greenblatt.

Colorguard

Congratulations to CFHS Colorguard who took 1st place at the Mountain View Winterguard Invitation on February 11. Members are Taryn Austin, Payton Bergin, Mariah Bime, Tatum Bruwer, Alexander Cramton, Cali Glenn-Grambo, Ayla Huerta, Klara Jonsson, Sarah Lindner, Nicholas Luckey, Sophia Mallino, Matina Marias, Ellie Moffet, Calista Morrison, McKenna Pastorious, Jordan Pierson, Autiana Rumel, Annalise Runyon, Ava Servidio, Inara Smith, Daniel Sutherland, Lhiannon Ward, Sage Wexler, Basil Wood, Maria Zavros-Finnegan, and Addison Zugeran. Their coaches are Andrea Villareal and Thomas Gerald.

Recommended Motion: Information Item