

CALIFORNIA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF- RIVERSIDE

Where language and learning thrive!



FALL 2013

PAWSitive Reflections

News and Information for Families, Staff, & Friends

Students were thrilled when Superintendent Mal showed up bald the following day in the cafeteria

www.Facebook.com/CSDRiverside

View a video of second graders touching the superintendent's bare head at the school cafeteria

Superintendent Loses Hair Over State Testing Results: CSDR API Scores Exceed Expectations

Written by Stacey Hausman, Testing Coordinator – Department of Assessment and Intervention Services



Mal announces the +48 increase the day before when he had hair

All schools in the state of California must participate in the state's California Standards Tests, commonly referred to as STAR testing. Every year, each school is expected to make a 5% growth from the previous year's Academic Performance Index (API) score. The California Department of Education (CDE) annually calculates school growth scores and reports to the public in August. This year, California School for the Deaf (CSDR) earned +48 growth points! This is a 10% increase of growth, which exceeded the annual goal of 5 percent. According to the Press Enterprise that reported on API scores for the Inland Empire, CSDR has one of the highest growth rates in our area.

As an incentive for academic improvement of our students, Superintendent Mal Grossinger promised he would shave his head if the students were able to achieve the 5% growth. We may have to start calling him "Superintendent Mr. Clean". *See API on Page 2*

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CSD Mission: *The California School for the Deaf- Riverside offers comprehensive educational and extra-curricular programs that prepare students to achieve their full academic, social, and career potential.*

California Deaf Education Resource Center

Written by Dr. Natasha Kordus, Supervisor of Resource Center and Assessment/Intervention Services

The California Department of Education, along with the California Schools for the Deaf, agrees that one of its most important goals is to ensure a quality education for Deaf and Hard of Hearing children and adolescents. Together, we recognize that the more consistently deaf and hard of hearing children in California receive resources and services, the more these children can benefit from a quality education. Following the initiative of Scott Kerby, Director of the State Special Schools and Services Division, these entities are working to establish the California Deaf Education Resource Center (CDERC). In accordance with California Education Codes, the CDERC aims to provide support to all educators, professionals and caregivers who work with Deaf and Hard of Hearing children. These services will include training and guidance on early intervention, parent education, curricula and assessment, and community education, as well as assistance to

Local Education Agencies.

Under the leadership of the Schools for the Deaf, CDERC will have the advantage of a large, state-wide, community of professionals from which to draw resources and information to develop trainings and services.

The CDERC invites everyone to work together toward a shared vision of language, educational opportunities, school readiness, and prosperity among all Deaf and Hard of Hearing children in California. To access services or to ask questions in Southern California, contact Dr. M. Natasha Kordus, Ph.D. To access services or to ask questions in Northern California, contact Ms. Roberta Daniels.



California superintendents meet at the state capitol for planning

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API (Continued from Page 1)

When Superintendent Mal showed up on Tuesday, staff and students alike were thrilled! His show of school spirit really boosted the confidence and motivation of our children.

CSDR would also like to give a special “thank you” to our parents and guardians who continue to support our teachers and staff in order to improve academic learning. Keep up the good work, Cubs!

Welcome New Staff *Written by Mal Grossinger, Superintendent*

We are off to a great start for the school year 2013-14! I wish to announce new teacher hires for this school year, which includes those who came during the previous school year. Please join me in congratulating each individual listed below.



*Lizzie Finley
Teacher, ECE-SN*



*Amy Siebert
Teacher, ECE*



*Melanie Zakrosky
Teacher, Elementary-SN*



*Annie Utley '03
Teacher, Elementary*



*Brittany Williams
Teacher, Elementary*



*Scott Foor
Teacher, MS-SN*



*George Cartmell
Teacher, CTE*



*Peter Trzesniewski
Teacher, CTE*



*Brandon Bowdidge
Teacher, CTE*



*Mara Bowdidge
ASL Interpreter*



*Jennifer Kononenko
School Counselor*



*Patricia Bevinetto
Teacher's Aide, SN*



*Jonathan Valencia '02
Teacher's Aide, ECE*



*SuzAnne McDonald
Teacher's Aide, ECE*



*Martha Cochran
Teacher's Aide, CTE*



*Judith Montes '03
Teacher's Aide, CTE*



*Ruth Rodriguez '82
Teacher's Aide, CTE*



*Michael Contreras
Secretary, Elementary*



*Jean Pierre Ring
Secretary, Curriculum*



*Cynthia Justus
Secretary, Admissions*



*Jean Obray
Night Attendant-RL*



*Kaleem Ansari
Night Attendant-RL*



*Karen Harkey
Food Services*



*Marc Waters
Plumber*



*Phrank Aguirre
Security Guard*



*Dustin Zimpleman
Security Guard*

Camera Shy:

*Brent Cogswell '99
Night Attendant-RL*

*Tijuana Holston
Night Attendant-RL*

*Griselda Quiroz
Registered Nurse*

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Celebrating International Day of Signed Languages

Written by Alex Zernovoj, ASL-Bilingual Curriculum Specialist

“(Deaf people) are first, last, and all the time the people of the eye... As long as we have deaf people on earth, we will have signs. It is my hope that we will all love and guard our beautiful sign language as the noblest gift God has given to deaf people.”

- George Veditz, 1913



Drama student Marissa Salyer '14 recites Veditz (quote on left) in his original signed antiquity

Students spent the International Day of Sign Languages celebrating the rich world of deaf community and culture. The event was hosted through the collaborative effort of K-8 ASL teachers Kerry Hile, Joy Maisel, Georgette Visco and Shari Kido, HS drama teacher Peter Trzesniewski, and ASL/bilingual specialist Alex Zernovoj.

Students spent time in the Social Hall going from station to station learning about different countries' cultures and sign languages from different members of our CSDR community. There were four stations that included Philippines by middle school student Abraham Bagasin, Russia and Ukraine by community members Alla Soudakoff and Maya, Germany with a video produced by residence counselor Jens Rechenberg, and USA. Many thanks

See IDSL on Page 6

Dr. Paddy Ladd, British Author on “Deafhood” Visits Students

Written by Erika Thompson, Community Resource Coordinator

Last September, CSD was thrilled to welcome Dr. Paddy Ladd to our Riverside campus, all the way from the United Kingdom. Dr. Ladd is the famed British Deaf author of the scholarly book *Understanding Deaf Culture: In Search*

of Deafhood, and works as a professor at the University of Bristol. He spoke with the HS students in

an intimate setting at the Bummy Student Center, as well as did a TV interview with a student reporter, Jose Resendiz. First time speaking to young students in decades, after being accustomed to Ph.D. students and adults, Paddy did great! An increase in pride grew among the students, as they learned about the importance of sharing with the world how the "Deaf" can contribute to society and how they should strive for equality between "Deafhood" and "Deaf Culture" in time. Deafhood is the ideal nature and society where Deaf people and society view themselves in a positive light, with positive experiences as Deaf people.



Jose Resendiz '14



Summer Reading was so Enticing Over the Summer!

Written by Wendy Green, Elementary Speech Language Pathologist



4th Graders Ariana Flemming and Danik Soudakoff engage in Woodcrest Library reading activities

The Woodcrest Library in Riverside once again invited CSDR students to participate in their Summer Reading Program. Our "Cubbies" enjoyed the interpreted shows including a puppet show and an animal show. They also made many crafts and earned tickets playing carnival games. The excited collectors redeemed their tickets to buy toys and games in the library store. Of course, the best part of the program was the books! The large and spacious eco-friendly Woodcrest library houses a wonderful children's section with a large selection of books. After checking out and reading five books, our Cubbies earned prizes

for restaurant kid meals and tickets to area attractions! The shower of prizes continued for up to 60 books read. A pizza party with cake and raffle prizes celebrated the closing of another fun summer. What a good job our "Cubs" did in keeping up with the readings over the summer, and a huge thank you to the library for inviting us!

The Woodcrest Library also hosts teen and adult summer reading programs. This place is a wonderful resource for our community, with staff who are happy to help get students reading. They recently hosted a STAR WARS READS day on October 5. Library events and information can be found at www.rivlib.net.

Pizza and a Story Night!

Written by Melissa Brown, Curriculum Specialist

Students in both ECE and Elementary will enjoy four evenings of food, fun, and learning throughout the school year. The series is merged with the PSWT parent-staff meetings and trainings. Families are encouraged to bring their children and enjoy a story told in ASL, a free pizza dinner, a copy of the book and an activity for students while parents learn tips for helping children with reading and learning at home. "Pizza and a Story Night" helps build connections between school and home in addition to promoting literacy in both ASL and English. Thanks to Target Corporation for the full funding! Story Night will take place in the Social Hall from 5:00 – 6:00pm. Please join us on the following dates: November 12, January 14, March 4, and May 13.

No Ordinary Hero: SuperDeafy Movie Elementary Students as Actors with John Maucere '82

Written by Erika Thompson, Community Resource Specialist



The Riverside Deaf community, comprised of students, staff, parents, and alumni, celebrated in Los Angeles to at the movie premiere *No Ordinary Hero: The SuperDeafy Movie*, starring CSDR alumnus John Maucere '82 (a.k.a. SuperDeafy) and CSDR fifth grader Zane Hencker, with CSDR classmates. The Deaf-produced movie, funded by CSDR alumnus Paul Maucere '79 and Liz Tannebaum, succeeded its goal in being purchased by a mainstream production company, for film festivals and future showings.

Writing Contest for a Children's Book

Compiled by Erika Thompson, Community Resource Coordinator



"Mo comes from the Planet of Floopar. No pets exist on his planet, so he visits the planet Earth because of all the types of animals that live here. Mo wants what every boy or girl desires, to have his own pet... So what will Mo do when he finally finds the pet of his choice?"

CSDR students received the opportunity to write their own stories, competing to be the next co-author for Love of My Pet books, a series written by Thelma the Guide Dog and created by Owen Burgess and Joshua Hartley. The contest was the inaugural event of a nationwide competition supporting literacy, designed by Text Your Dreams LLC. An elementary and a middle school class took up the challenge. Teacher Paula Van Winkle's 5th grade class had recently read a variety of literature on animals for their expository research projects. Her students split up into groups of two to write their sequel stories. Elizabeth Duran's middle school class also wrote stories. All students submitted their stories to the school contest coordinator for judging the best entries. Elementary Reading specialist Melissa Brown, school librarian Mary Margaret Kopcho, and Community Resource Coordinator Erika Thompson served as judges.



Authors Ny'Kel Best and Caitlyn Jaramillo



5th graders celebrated the completion of the stories with an ice cream party

Fifth graders Caitlyn Jaramillo and Ny'Kel Best were selected as the school winner for their story on the white ocelot. They wrote together about a white ocelot who suffers prejudice and rejection from the other brown-coated ocelots. With the help of Mo, all of the creatures learn to care for one another and embrace their uniqueness. The 5th grade class, who worked together as a team in giving each other feedback, had an ice cream party to celebrate the completion of the Mo stories, and to honor the winners who were in their class.

CSDR submitted the final stories to the Lions Club and the Moose Club, who help sponsor this writing program. All the participating students received a certificate and a "Mo" beach towel from the story sponsors, and last year's fifth-graders with the best stories also received \$100.00 each for savings toward college.

Mark Pritchard, the marketing director for Text Your Dreams LLC, who is blind and is a member of the Lion's newest all-blind singing group, was present for this special celebration as the club begins expanding the story competition to a national contest.

IDSL (Continued from Page 4)

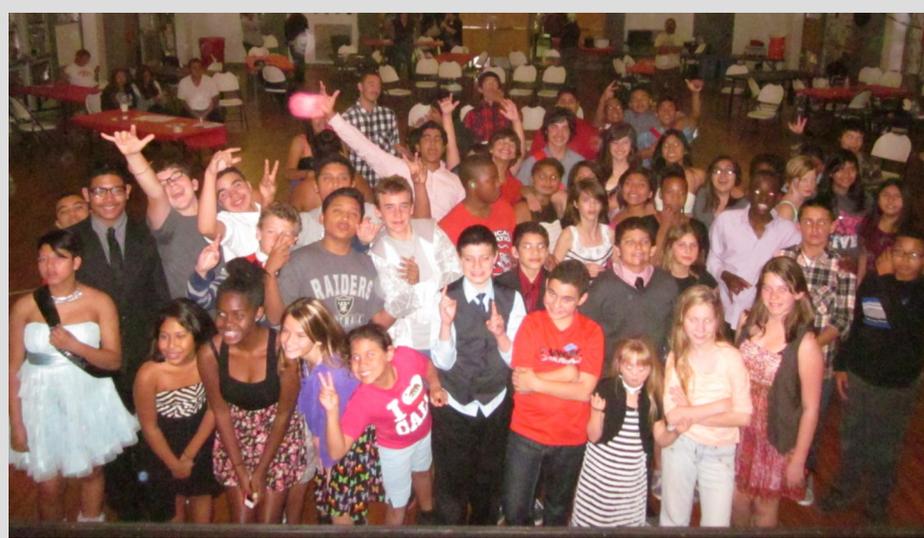
to the participants for sharing their cultural tradition and sign language of their country!

A moment was taken to celebrate the 100th anniversary of George Veditz's video *The Preservation of Sign Language* and honor Veditz who took the initiative to preserve our sign language for future generations to see. High school student Marissa Salyer came on stage honor George Veditz by going in Veditz character for a moment to recite his

famous quote: "As long as we have deaf people on earth, we will have signs. And as long as we have our films, we can preserve signs in their old purity. It is my hope that we will all love and guard our beautiful sign language as the noblest gift God has given to deaf people." At the event, the students, even ECE and young children, understood the importance of preserving their ASL as well as other sign languages from around the world!

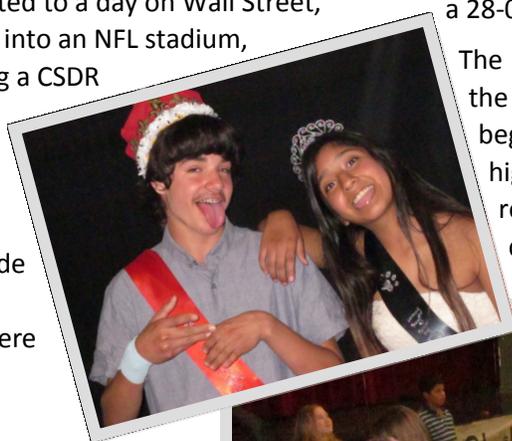
Party's Rockin' in Middle School during Homecoming Week

Written by Elizabeth Durham, Middle School Teacher



Thanks to the contributions of aides, teachers, students, organizations, and parent volunteers, CSDR Middle School's homecoming week was one to remember! At the beginning of Spirit Week, student council representatives voted for a week of "spirit clothes" which included professional, sports, school colors, and mismatch clothes days. Walking down the hallway felt like being transported to a day on Wall Street, stepping into an NFL stadium, attending a CSDR rally, or waking up on the wrong side of the bed. There was no question about the deep Cub pride of the staff and students.

On October 10, students enjoyed a pep rally in the quad, where they were fired up to support their football team during the homecoming game.



Before heading out to the field, students enjoyed the festivities of the Rubidoux Carnival, hosted by the cottages. Staff worked various booths for bake sales, games, and prizes, allowing students to enjoy a variety of fun activities and treats. As students began running out of tickets, they moved down the field to the football game where they cheered their team on to victory with a 28-0 win!

The fun did not die down after the game; that was just the beginning of the night's highlights. The students returned to their cottages and dressed themselves to the

nines, wearing beautiful dresses with matching heels, or handsome slacks with ironed button-up shirts. The students arrived at the social hall to enjoy a taco bar where volunteers served the students first, second, and even third servings of tasty street tacos. Many students then made their way to the main hall to have professional style photos taken by high school photography students. After documenting their gorgeous garb in their photo shoots, it wasn't long before the heels came off and the students hit the dance floor!

With a DJ to monitor music and ensure the night remained wholesome and fun, students rocked out on the dance floor. In addition, teachers led dance activities including a dance freeze-off, a pumpkin dance, and the announcement of Dominic Luvisi and Emma Salazar as King and Queen. The students laughed and joked the whole night, until they were exhausted and ready to go home. While the song "Party Rock Anthem" blared out that the "party's rockin' in the house tonight," the middle school students did plenty of rockin' of their own.



Gallaudet University's Academic Bowl Comes to Riverside!

Written by Scarlett Valencia, High School Teacher Specialist

CSDR will host the West Regional Academic Bowl Tournament here on campus from February 14-17, 2014. We will be welcoming 18 academic bowl teams from 7 different states: California, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming, and Hawaii! With the help of Gallaudet University staff members in addition to our on-site committee, we hope to ensure that this tournament becomes the best one in the history of regional tournaments. Teams will arrive on Friday afternoon and participate in icebreaker

activities while the coaches meet to draw team names to be put into two pools, Buff and Blue. Matches will occur all day on Saturday and Sunday, with a break on Saturday evening for a social outing. The top two teams from each of the two pools will automatically be qualified to fly to Washington, D.C. to participate in the National Academic Bowl Tournament at Gallaudet University in April.

CSDR's team (consisting of a sophomore and three freshmen!) traveled to Washington for last year's regional tournament, and then went on to the national tournament and had a wonderful time getting a taste



CSDR Team: Coach Mitch Kurs, Mavrick Fisher '16, Karina Baker '15, Noah Valencia '16, Christian "CJ" Jacobs '16, and Coach Sharon Vollmar '68



The Academic Bowl team practices mock matches weekly during lunch period

Jose Resendiz '14

of what the competition was like. We are hoping that the team will get another chance to travel to the national tournament in 2014.

During the tournament, we will need volunteers from the school staff, student body and community to cover duties such as: door monitors, proctors, registration, set-up, and hospitality. If you are interested in volunteering, please send an email to Scarlett Valencia, the West Regional Academic Bowl Tournament Coordinator, at SValencia@cldr-cde.ca.gov. Thank you, and see you all here on that weekend

to show your spirit for our teams!

Editor's Note: Historically speaking, the academic bowl is returning home to our campus where the first ever Academic Bowl was hosted back in 1995, when the CSDR team won under coach Kevin Struxness, '76. Struxness coached the team to victory for three consecutive years. One of the players was Scarlett Bernstein, '97, who is this year's tournament coordinator and the mother of Noah Valencia, a current player on the CSDR team. (Source: *The CSDR Story* by Kevin Struxness)

Jr.NAD Students Meet the Former Riverside Mayor

Written by Mike Anderson, Student Development Coordinator, and Laurie Waggoner, Public Information Coordinator

The high school student officers of the Junior National Association of the Deaf met with former Riverside mayor Ron Loveridge. The mayor retired after many years of outstanding service to the City of Riverside with unsurpassed support for the Deaf Community and the

California School for the Deaf. It was Mayor Loveridge and the City Council who implemented the creation of the Riverside Model Deaf Community in March 1999 “to focus on enhancing and promoting an integrated community, which enables all citizens to enjoy the

benefits of participating in that community, including education, communications, manners, cultural sensitivity and awareness”. The unity of pride and celebration continues under the current mayor Mr. Rusty Bailey, with Jr.NAD joining as youth representatives on the committee. The CSDR students and the Jr.NAD staff sponsor Shanna Grossinger, and Student Development Coordinator Mike Anderson and were pleased about having such a rare opportunity.



Read about the Mayor’s Model Deaf Community Committee at <http://www.riversideca.gov/mayor/deaf.asp>

Left to Right: Mike Anderson, Student Development Coordinator; Erick Diamyuga, Senior President; Miguel Contreras, TOP representative; Honorable Mayor Loveridge; Edward Larizza, JR NAD representative, Ramon Gonzalez, TOP representative; Shanna Grossinger, Jr NAD sponsor

Library Wall Divider Built by Students

Written by Mary Margaret Kopcho, CSDR Librarian

The Construction Technology classroom is filled with talented and resourceful students who built the new wall divider at the CSDR Student Library. This wall helps separate the circulation desk area from the students’ seating area in the library. The wall divider was made using the discarded shelves from the library remodel two years ago which were collected by the class for wood scrap. The repurposing of the wood is excellent as the color of the wall divider now matches the current shelving in the library.

The students who were involved in the creation of the wall divider are: David Adams, Angel Aragon, Jermaine Chisom-Wade, Devon Esclovon, Luis Estrella Torres, Oscar Gomez-Gonzalez, Ariel Gonzalez, Deshun Jones, Edward Larizza, Raymond Lee-Levine, Rogelio Maciel, Michael Mendoza, Jacques Miller, Carl Rivera, David Roblero, Giovanni Sanchez, Edward

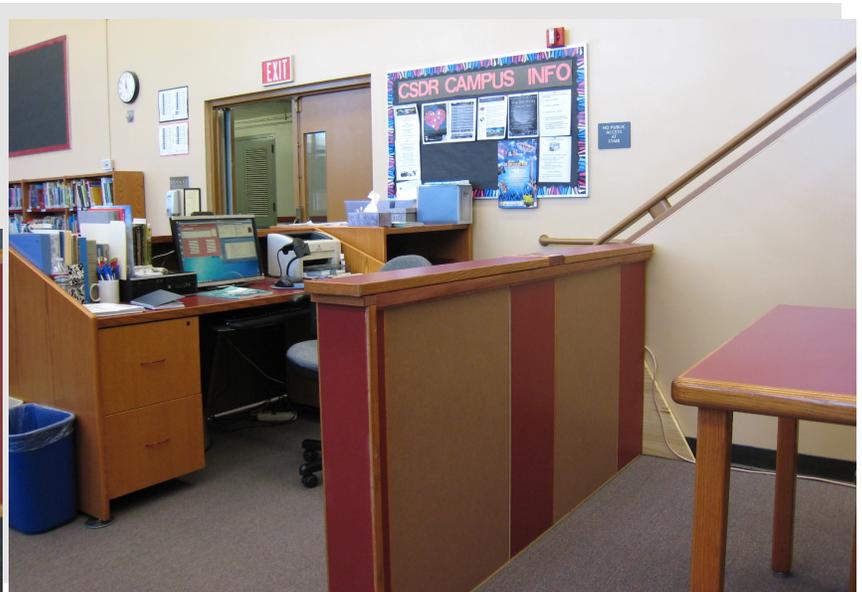


A carved paw of the “Cub” mascot

Schoonover, Clemente Telles, Ermias Thomas, and Tho Truong. They have dedicated several class periods under teacher Bill Mather* to work together on this project.

Let’s thank them for all their hard work in creating the beautiful wall divider in the CSDR Student Library!

*Mr. Mather now works for the Transition Partnership Program office. For future projects, contact our new Construction Technology teacher George Cartmell.



The student-created wall divider from repurposed wood matches the library furniture

Hearing ASL Students in the CSDR Movie *Two Sounds, One Love*

Written by Yoon Lee, TV/Film Productions Teacher, Career Technology Education



The movie *Two Sounds, One Love* is a sentimental love story about a Deaf girl meeting a hearing guy. They later find themselves in the midst of an inevitable and at times volatile clash between two very distinct worlds. Both are equally convinced that their relationship would never work, but an ensuing tragedy brings the couple back together with a new lease on life and happiness.

Our Deaf students worked with hearing ASL students from Vista Murrieta High School under ASL teacher Walt Witzcak, a CODA* whose deaf family members graduated from CSDR. This film project lasted six months during the school year. Deaf and hearing students enjoyed the great experience of practicing ASL together, and bonded like a family. The lead hearing actor at the beginning was not proficient in ASL, but as the filming progressed, he improved a great deal. Looking like a natural won him the Best Actor award! The Best Actress award was won by Alexa Ontiveros for the second year in a row. She enjoyed the amazing experience of working with both groups of Deaf and hearing actors and crew. Vianney Bernal was honored with the Best Supporting Actress award, for her smooth and believable performance as the supportive best friend. Both Alexa and Vianney recently graduated from CSDR, and are now in college.

You can purchase a DVD of *Two Sounds, One Love* from ylee@cldr-cde.ca.gov, and share with your family and friends.

*CODA – a fully grown hearing ‘Child of Deaf Adults’

2013 Movie Awards:

- **Best Picture (Story) –**
CSDR (1st), MSSD (2nd), NMSD (3rd)
- **Best Cinematography (Video) –**
CSDR (1st), MSSD (2nd), NYSD (3rd)
- **Best Movie Poster–**
NYSD (1st), ISD (2nd), MSSD (3rd)
- **Best Actor–** John Connor Casillas, CSDR
(Hearing ASL student from Vista Murrieta High School)
- **Best Actress -** Alexa Ontiveros, CSDR '13
- **Best Supporting Actor-** Rollin Warwick, NMSD
- **Best Supporting Actress-** Vianney Bernal, CSDR '13



CSDR/Vista Murrieta movie cast receive the award for Best Picture



Riversiders cheer for HS students' movie success at Opening Night

Queen of Hearts
Therapeutic Riding Center
 Jurupa Valley, California



Robin Kilcoyne shows Devon Chavez how to lead Missy



Sir Judge Quick Frost



Queen of Hearts founder and owner Robin Kilcoyne teaches horse handling to CSDR WorkAbility I students: Devon Chavez, David Perez, Yvette Villalpando, Sentayehu Bartfay & Krystal Neimeyer.

- Collage design contributed by Workability Students and Jeannine DeLoye



Many deaf school students weren't raised with sign language

Re-printed by Permission from Riverside Press Enterprise; Written by Dayna Straehley; Published October 11, 2013

Although she was born deaf, the language foundation 11th-grader Karina Baker got as a baby using American Sign Language with her deaf father helped her learn to read and write English quickly.

But most deaf students aren't so lucky, says Mal Grossinger, superintendent of the California School for the Deaf, Riverside.

Most deaf children's parents can hear and too few of them learn sign language, meaning they can't fully communicate with their deaf children, he says. Consequently, many students arrive at the deaf school at an intellectual and social disadvantage – and several years behind their peers academically. Many struggle to communicate in any form, much less to read and write.

That delay in learning a language – and the resulting delay in brain development from simply hearing parents' normal conversations – explains the school's low state test scores, though Grossinger said the deaf students are improving in English proficiency faster than the state average.

"Many of our deaf children have no language at all" when they start school, Grossinger said through school interpreter Julie Hurdiss.

Parents and the public "expect us to start right away with reading and writing," but he said even some 10- or 12-year-olds, and a few students arriving when they are older, are not "kindergarten-ready." They lack the basic communication and knowledge of typical 5-year-olds.

This makes the campus' sign



language classes for students and their families vital, Grossinger said.

Parent Sandra Carranco said she started using American Sign Language to communicate with her deaf son when he was 3. But she regrets losing time with him when he was younger and unable to communicate. He has since graduated from the Riverside deaf school and now attends Rochester Institute of Technology, which houses the National Technical Institute for the Deaf.

Carranco said she and her younger daughter, Mireya, started learning ASL when Mireya was 8 months old. The family moved to Moreno Valley to be closer to the deaf school, which Mireya now attends. Some deaf school students, like Karina, take advanced academics, but more who arrived on campus way behind pull down the school's test scores, Grossinger said.

Grossinger said he has watched some high school students using the school's telephone video relay system, which involves a sign language interpreter, to have the first full conversation of

their lives with their parents. Before that, family communication had been limited to pointing and gesturing for hunger, bedtime or other basic needs but never more complicated topics such as family values, goals or dreams. About half of the school's ninth-graders are new every year, he

said. The freshman class numbered 40 last year, and high school classes make up more than half of the school, which serves students from 18 months to 22 years. Few parents who live far from the Riverside area want to send their younger children away to boarding school.

The Riverside campus is one of two California schools for deaf students. It serves about half of the state, from San Luis Obispo south. California School for the Deaf, Fremont, serves northern California.

'FULL ACCESS'

At Karina's previous regular school in Los Angeles, she couldn't join sports teams or after-school programs because they were after her interpreter's work day, she

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said. She was often frustrated when she had a question during class because her interpreter wouldn't ask right away or would slightly misinterpret her questions.

"I didn't feel I had full access to my teachers," Karina said through a sign language interpreter.

Now the confident, outgoing teen is enjoying extracurricular activities and trying to decide which university to

attend. Her father, Todd Baker, said she has blossomed socially since transferring to the Riverside school.

Sign language is critical for deaf children, and their families need to use it too, Grossinger says.

Children who don't have a solid first language, such as American Sign Language, struggle to learn to read and write English, which is a second language for all deaf children, he said. Sign language has its own syntax and grammar.

Grossinger has been on a mission to teach sign language to parents and families of deaf and hard-of-hearing children and to educate them about its importance. The school offers free weekly classes in American Sign Language.

Deaf children in households that don't sign miss out on day-to-day communication and the incidental learning of their parents' conversations about their work, family values, current events and all sorts of topics, Grossinger said.

Children who start developing a language early are more successful in life, he said. Most educators say that children who start



STAN LIM/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
A student uses sign language in Jeff Liu's health class on Thursday, Sept. 26, at the California School for the Deaf, Riverside.

kindergarten with large vocabularies learn to read faster and are less likely to struggle in school.

Karina was reading on her own by age 5.

MORE FAILED EFFORTS

Fewer new students are fluent in sign language, which complicates the school's mission.

More parents now get their deaf children cochlear implants, which bypass parts of the inner ear and directly stimulate the hearing nerve to provide sound signals to the brain.

Grossinger and the school's community resource coordinator Erika Thompson said those implants don't work for everyone. Sometimes they work great, but in other cases, sound is distorted and a person hears some conversation but not all of it, Grossinger and Thompson said.

The implants often can be adjusted for better sound quality, but many children who were born deaf don't know the difference and can't tell parents or doctors, he said.

Children for whom cochlear

implants don't help enough sometimes come to the school for the deaf after years of frustrating efforts to learn to read lips and speak without much success, Grossinger said.

Thompson compared lip-reading skills to the ability to run fast – some people are better at it than others.

She grew up in a hearing family and learned sign language as a baby. Her

mother, a speech and language pathologist, taught Thompson to speak. Thompson said, in sign language, that only about a fifth of the strangers she meets understand her when she talks, so she prefers sign language with people she doesn't know well.

Deaf children can't learn to fully communicate without sign language, Grossinger insists, especially for complicated academic instruction.

Some public school districts have good programs for deaf and hard-of-hearing students but not all, he said. California has 15,000 to 17,000 deaf students. Enrollment at the Riverside school fluctuates between 425 and 475, and California School for the Deaf, Fremont has similar numbers, Grossinger said.

He said some parents are reluctant to embrace sign language because they're afraid their children will lose their ability to speak.

"But it's the opposite," Grossinger said.

Students who learn to socialize in sign language develop closer relationships with their parents, he said.

Student Profile: Joshua Browne's Journey

Written by Terri Vincent, Family Education Coordinator, and Erika Thompson, Community Resource Coordinator

Joshua Browne is a unique half-Japanese bilingual individual, who is fluent in the languages of Japan and the U.S. through signed and written forms to varying degrees. His father, an American citizen, had married a Japanese woman and has lived in Japan since Joshua was born. He wore hearing aids during the first two years of his life, but they were a complete failure. When Joshua was four years old, his father, a university professor, brought the family to Canada for a sabbatical year at the University of British Columbia. Professor Browne explained, "There, we were able to move Joshua away from the ineffective oral approach that so many doctors and educators in Japan were pressuring us to use, to ASL, one of Canada's signed languages. Joshua reacted to ASL like a fish in water and his language growth exploded while in Canada."

The family wanted to continue Joshua's ASL-bilingual education by staying in Canada, or moving to the States but unfortunately, his father was unable to get work in his field of expertise in applied linguistics. "We were forced to go back to Japan and figure out a way to continue his education in sign language. As the Japanese government didn't recognize JSL as a real language at the time, education in sign (and deaf culture in general) is just a horribly negative situation," Mr. Browne admitted. His family spent several years working with other families and succeeded in creating a pioneer elementary school called "Dragon Charter School" and also a middle school, "Meisei Gakuen." These are the first and only bi-lingual and bi-



Shari Kido (left) and the Browne family (right) during the 2011 school tour



Joshua Browne (right), pageant winner with Catalina Romero, 2013

cultural schools in Japan that use 100% Japanese Sign Language with written Japanese. Joshua used JSL at school and often at home with his mother who became fluent in JSL. "Joshua thrived in the JSL environment and I tried to stick to ASL with him," his father continued. However, the bilingual program his parents helped to found only went up to the 8th grade, and Joshua was approaching graduation.

His parents then searched worldwide for the best education for his son outside of Japan, and found CSD Riverside. He saw high quality in this school that would fit his son's needs, as the family took a tour with the help of a CSDR teacher who interpreted information from ASL to JSL for Joshua. Fortunately this wonderful teacher, of part Japanese ancestry, was willing to take Joshua on as his guardian. Ms. Shari Kido who was already fluent in

Japanese sign language, acquired out of personal interest later in life, could support Joshua's first language at home and continue his education in ASL and English. The matter was immediately decided. Joshua transferred here mid-year in late March, as an 8th grader, then decided to repeat his 8th grade year for another full year. His father made many trips back and forth between Japan and Riverside to make sure Joshua was adjusting and happy, but it was clear that during that year, Joshua was truly blossoming!

"Joshua was a chess champion, a star football player, a prince for the MS homecoming court, and took second

See JOSHUA on Page 15

Jaclyn Vincent Awarded the 2013 Outstanding Parent Award

Written by Jeannette Zarembka, President of Parents Staff Working Together and Erika Thompson, Community Resource Coordinator

Jaclyn is the mother of Kiera Vincent, who is now in Kindergarten. Jaclyn has worked tirelessly for the benefit of Deaf children, putting in many hours behind-the-scenes for the future of Deaf Education. She has served on the statewide committee to develop the Parent Resource Guide (PRG), and volunteered as chief editor. The PRG has been released by CDE, with an online summary as well as a more comprehensive printout to be given to every parent of deaf children, newborn and older, in the state of CA. Jaclyn has also contributed on parent panels at CSDR, and helped with fundraising for HS International Studies Organization. Most importantly, she has for the past year served on the Advisory Commission of Special Education (ACSE), which consults directly to California governor Jerry Brown. For ACSE, Jaclyn set up a powerful networking



Courtesy of Jaclyn Vincent

Jaclyn Vincent with daughter Kiera' 26



Superintendent Mal and Community Advisory Committee presented the award to Jaclyn

e-mail group, known as "Advocates and Stakeholders for ASL and English", which includes other leaders of Deaf Education in and out of the state. She has helped bring everyone together to consult and share resources with each other, and to develop visions and media products. Jaclyn has organized all this valuable information and resources on her personal website, jaclynvincent.com for everyone's access, and used this information to give her presentation to ACSE about the issues and needs in Deaf Education. For her passion and work, the Los Angeles Deaf Community recently awarded Jaclyn the status of "Pearl," which is an annual award for successful Deaf women. We at CSD Riverside also recognize Jaclyn with pride.

Please view the complete Parent Resource Guide at www.cde.ca.gov/sp/ss/dh to get you started on the exciting journey of raising a child who is Deaf or Hard of Hearing." – Tom Torlakson, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

JOSHUA (Continued from Page 14)

place as math tournament champion," Shari Kido exclaimed. On the September 22nd Annual International Day of Signed Languages, Joshua told a story on video in Japanese Sign Language for the audience of CSDR students and staff. Later in spring, Joshua was selected to be one of the contestants in the annual Middle School Rubidoux Pageant. Many viewers were impressed with his magnificent platform presentation as he spoke about "Deaf Children's Right to Sign Language" with highlights about his International experience traveling around the world as he grew up. Joshua won the Talent Award for his "Koinobori" storytelling based on a Japanese folk tale

and inspired by Shizue Sazawa, a well-known JSL storyteller from Japan. "He knocked the audience out that night, and won the Mr. Rubidoux title. It was his most accomplished moment," Joshua's proud guardian commented.

Now Joshua has just begun his first year in high school. We anticipate what leadership qualities Joshua will develop over time, and what he will eventually contribute to the world as a widely acculturated Deaf individual with his dual Japanese and American identities.

Annual School Open House

Written by Terri Vincent, Coordinator of Family Education and Open House



Families and community members mingle at last year's CSDR Open House

In the last few years, CSDR has hosted an Open House – Parents, family and prospective family members, CSDR alumni, ASL students, and community members formed lines at the entrance of the Multiple-Purpose Activity Center (MAC) building in the morning. Upon arrival, everyone registered and received their badges. The campus tour was in high demand for those who wanted to see the Early Childhood Education (ECE), Elementary, and Middle and High Schools. They were delighted to see the ASL class in action and the speech village at the elementary school. Many visitors enjoyed discovering more information about our school. We also provided museum and cottage tours in the morning and afternoon, which offered more options for the visitors to explore our school. Meanwhile, ECE and Elementary principals were busy greeting guests and promoting a bake sale to support their departments. Many visitors enjoyed a yummy snack while walking through the campus tour in the morning! Parents, family members, and prospective families had the opportunity to observe classrooms and see students in action. They were able to walk around on their own and visit the classrooms.



Open House vendor SignBee features books with built-in ASL video stories

In the MAC, visitors enjoyed catching up with old and new friends, and gathering information from vendors such as video relay service providers (VRS), ASL material publishing companies, technology and equipment dealers, family support services, and agencies for the deaf/hard of hearing. People also connected with various school departments and organizations, including the CSDR alumni association and the parent and staff organization (PSWT). We had a BBQ hosted by Outreach for the visitors to enjoy lunch before the afternoon tours. We also offered a book fair, campus store, and international studies fundraiser event at the Bummy Student Center and at the library, which was open all day. It was nice to see people shopping and supporting our students' educational needs. By the end of day, many people left with a smile on their face. Open House was on Veteran's Day in November for the last three years, and on Columbus Day in October this year. We have had several hundreds of people visiting our school each year with over 700 as the record. Next year, we will have Open House on a different day to allow more parents to attend; stay tuned for more information!

Open House 2013 Exhibitors:

AT & T Relay
BuyASL.com
California Association for the Deaf-
Riverside (CAD)
California State University Northridge
Center on Deafness - Inland Empire
(CODIE)
CSD Riverside Athletics
CSDR Alumni Association (CSDRAA)
Deaf Comic Store
Deaf Community Service (DCS)
Deaf Pilots Associations/Fly Corona!
Deaf Sports Academy (DSA)

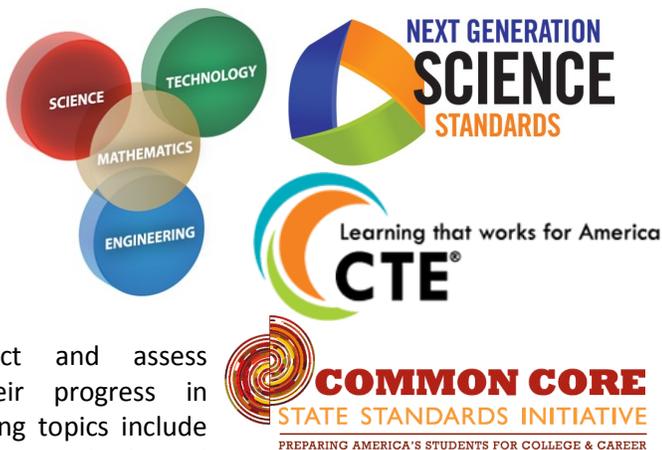
Deaf West Theatre
Gallaudet University Alumni Associa-
tion- Riverside Chapter (GUAA)
Greater Los Angeles Agency on Deaf-
ness (GLAD)
IEHP
Molina Healthcare
Ohlone College/Gallaudet University
Orange County Deaf Equal Access
Foundation (OC DEAF)
Parents Staff Working Together
(PSWT)
People's Care

Purple
Pyram
Rise Interpreting
Riverside City College
Rochester Institute of Technology/
NTID
Scholastic Book Fair
Sonia' House of Nails (deaf business
owner)
Sorenson
Sprint Relay
TMB Foundation (deaf business
owner)

CSDR Provides Staff Professional Development Trainings

Written by Darrin Green, Curriculum Specialist

We are delighted to have scheduled academic trainings this year provided by the CSDR Curriculum Department to help teachers effectively instruct and assess students on their progress in academics. Training topics include the Common Core standards and Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM), Literacy and Collaborative Learning. CSD teachers taking the workshops all come from ECE thru HS/CTE, gathering on Fridays when students are released early.



The following are our professional development training dates:
 Aug 30- Common Core and STEM with DeafTEC
 Sept 20- Next Generation Science Standards with DeafTEC/Lego (SN)
 Sept 27- ELA Common Core Standards presented by a CSUN professor
 Oct 4- Math Common Core Standards
 Oct 25- Next Generation Science /Lego (SN)
 Nov 1- ELA Common Core Standards
 Jan 10- Math Common Core Standards
 Jan 24- Next Generation Science /Lego (SN)
 Feb 7- ELA Common Core Standards
 March 7- Math Common Core Standards
 April 11- ELA Common Core Standards

Ground Breaking Ceremonies in Construction

Written by Curtis Miracle, CPO Supervisor and Erika Thompson, Community Resource Coordinator

The CSD Riverside campus continues to undergo some exciting, major construction projects to upgrade or replace the buildings. Keeping up with current facilities standards will have a long-term impact on student learning and excellence. Parent, student, staff and supervisor representatives participated in the construction kick-off ceremony for the new ECE and CTE buildings. Here is an update on current projects for the next two years.

CTC phase 1 Building B project:

There is a delay of part of the project for procedures for a small soil clean up but overall the project is on schedule, at this time. The Pine trees from the corner of Horace street to the existing CTE building are being removed for the installation of the new retaining wall.

Gate entry # 1 and roadway in front of the existing CTE building (from Horace Street) is closed for work on

underground storm drains and utilities. This area will remain closed for several months to possibly a year.

The pedestrian walkway between the CTE building and the High School 300 wing classrooms will remain open.

CTC Phase 2 Building A project:

Scheduled to begin in August 2014.

CORE project:

Underground water lines, storm drain plumbing and electrical systems are progressing. The project is on schedule, at this time.

Elementary parking lot being reopened soon in October or November, 2013.

New Front sign:

The new front sign and parking lot work had to be re-bid. However, work on the new CSDR front sign and parking lot asphalt area is planned to begin on June 9, 2014.

New Gym and Kitchen renovation:

Scheduled to begin in September 2014.



Photos by Jeanyssa Cabetoja '14



Middle School Football and Volleyball Had a Strong Season!

Written by Nancy Moore, Youth Sports Program Coordinator, and Ingrid Fleming, Volleyball Coach

In September, our High School football team won their Homecoming game, 44-0. In October, our Middle School football team followed suit by winning their Homecoming game, 28-0! These were two big victories for our football program! This year, the middle school football team was given the privilege of practicing on the same field as the high school team. Many thanks go out to our Varsity Head Coach Marcus Chmaj (a CSDR parent), for the opportunity to show our younger players what it takes to play at the next level. Coach Chmaj can look forward to having 17 players (current 8th graders) join his team next year as freshmen.

The girls volleyball team had a large roster this season with a total of 15 girls! The girls played through tears, sweat, injuries, and some "oops". We won 5 games and lost 6 games. Kudos to the girls for improving their volleyball skills such as serving, spiking and most of all, passing the ball around before hitting the ball over the net. The girls continued to amaze each other by showing off their ever-improving capabilities throughout the season. Here's a round of applause to the girls for wonderful and memorable 2013 volleyball season!



Superintendent Mal fires up the team who wins at MS Rubidoux Bowl

To our fans... thank you for coming out and rooting at our games! We were thrilled to see Superintendent Mal Grossinger and our Director of Residence, Farley Warshaw, come and watch our Homecoming game. The team was so happy to see them! Also, BIG thank you to all of our the parents for coming to ALL of our games!

Students at Deaf West Theatre See *Flowers for Algernon*

Written by Fred Weiss, Residential Life Counselor

The cottage residents of Lassen, Palomar and Shasta, who reached the "gold level" of the PEAK program, earned the opportunity to watch a play called *Flowers*

for Algernon presented by the Deaf West Theatre Company in Los Angeles. The students followed the story intensely and by intermission were excited to see what would happen. The play was an emotional and heartfelt story that was enjoyed by all and resulted in shared reflections about the story. The premise of the play is about Charles and how he became a brilliant boy, despite being intellectually disabled after a botched neurosurgery. Charles faces a lot of struggles in his life, much like the experience of a mouse stuck in a maze. We won't want to spoil the surprise so we will spare the details. Thanks to this wonderful experience, many of our students are looking forward to future performances given by deaf actors.



Student's News on High School Volleyball and Football

Written by Miranda Murphy '15, Student writer for HS PAWS Press

We, CSD-Riverside, worked hard to prepare for our Homecoming 2013. High School ASBG officers prepared a variety of activities including spirit week, homecoming booths, and the homecoming dance. We all were looking forward to a big game between Texas School for the Deaf and CSD-Riverside Football teams along with a volleyball game between Crossroad and CSD-Riverside. The Homecoming dance was a success and enjoyed by all! On September 28th, the morning started off with the great "Red Rage" spirit! The volleyball players played against Crossroad at 11 AM. Volleyball girls played their best on the court and sure enough, we won! The game was a hot one with scores of: 26-24; 17-25; 25-20,



Photo: Yearbook Students



and 25-19. Meanwhile, our football players prepared for their BIG GAME! At the game, there were a variety of booths including booths allowing each HS class to fundraise. While our Cheerleaders signed the National Anthem, we received a big surprise! Two pilots (CSDR staff members), one Deaf and the other hearing, flew two small planes across the football field. It was such an inspiration for everyone in attendance! Since the football game began at 2 PM, the players had to face a hot and sunny day. The game was a battle as CSD-R players slowly seized control of the game: 1st quarter, 0-0; 2nd quarter, 10-0; 3rd quarter, 18-0; and 4th quarter, 24-0! We won against Texas School for the Deaf! Congratulations to both of our teams.

Student's News on High School Homecoming

Written by Craig Long '14, Student writer for HS PAWS Press

On September 28, CSD-Riverside had their homecoming volleyball and football games and our athletes played very well. At eleven o'clock, we had a volleyball game who were supported by our amazing cheerleaders. Playing against Crossroad, our volleyball players played hard and showed their strength, winning by a score of 3-1. Later in the day, was our football game. Right before the football game started, two small Cessna planes flew right over our football field as our cheer team sang the national anthem in ASL. We also brought out a bear cub statue to the corner of the field for good luck to our wonderful football players. During half time, we had a small parade with our newly crowned homecoming king (Alex Morales) and queen (Kimberly Guzman) followed by a brief presentation from our school superintendent Mal Grossinger.



We played a great football game as we (CSDR) crushed Texas School for the Deaf with a score of 24-0. The defensive team prevented TSD from scoring the entire game. We did not want TSD to score and were successful! During the football game, our cheer team did a toe-touch jump for every CSDR touchdown, which resulted in three in a row! Rogelio Maciel proved to be the most valuable player that day, scoring all three touchdowns. He was grateful to have his strong offensive linemen blocking for him, allowing him to score those touchdowns. We did great on the court and field with fantastic sportsmanship while showing respect to the opposing teams. The fans had a great time watching our volleyball and football games, as well as buying items from the many CSDR student organizations booths on the home side of the field. It proved to be a great homecoming day!

PAWSitive Reflections

News and Information for Families, Staff, & Friends



CALIFORNIA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF—RIVERSIDE

STUDENT TESTING DATES—STUDY AND SLEEP WELL!

Student Interim Assessment Dates in the Classroom:
 Oct 9, Dec 11, Feb 12, March 26, May 28 for (K-2 only)
California High School Exit Exam:
 Oct 2-3 (Juniors) Nov 6-7 (Seniors), Feb 5-6 (Seniors),
 Mar 12-13 (Sophomores), May 14-15 (Juniors/Seniors)
Measures of Academic Progress Test (Grades 2-12):
 Sept. 4-28, Mar 4-29

CAPA:

Apr 14-May 9
STAR Science Test:
 April 14 week (Grade 5)
 April 15 week (Grade 8)
 April 21 week (Grade 10)
Smarter Balanced Test (Grades 3-8, 11): Spring



BUY A BRICK!

The donated bricks will mount on the outside wall of Social Hall, around the wall letters "CSDR" (see far right).

Your brick will be a permanent reminder that you or someone you loved was here.

Each brick will have a personalized message and no two will be the same.

The brick is 4x8 and costs only \$100.00.

All donations will support programs for our students.

YOU CAN MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO:
California School

for the Deaf, Riverside

3044 Horace St
 Riverside CA 92506
 CSDR CAN/

Attn. Laurie Waggoner

If you have any questions, please call Laurie Waggoner
 951-248-7700 ex. 4361
 or VP 951-824-8055.

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF 51ST CONFERENCE:
PUTTING G.A.D. BACK ON THE MAP

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
REGISTRATION AT 4PM PRESIDENT'S HORS D'OEUVRES Life Arts Center 3485 University Ave, Riverside, CA	WORKSHOPS EXHIBITS BUSINESS MEETING CAD YOUTH EVENING PROGRAM	WORKSHOPS EXHIBITS BUSINESS MEETING & ELECTION ASL FILMS: THE SLOT

NOVEMBER 22-24, 2013

California School for the Deaf, Riverside
 3044 Horace St.
 Riverside, CA 92506
[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CADRIVERSIDE](http://www.facebook.com/cadriverside)

COMBO TICKET
 INCLUDES:
 2 BREAKFASTS,
 2 LUNCHES &
 FRI- SUN EVENTS

EARLY BIRD: \$110
OCTOBER 20
REGULAR BIRD: \$130
NOVEMBER 15
AT DOOR: \$150

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS:
 WORKSHOPS: \$25
 HORS D'OEUVRES: \$30
 CAD YOUTH: \$20
 THE SLOT: \$11

DAYCARE:
 9AM-5PM, SAT/SUN
 DAILY RATE: \$20
 5-17YRS OLD
 POTTY TRAINED

Mark Your Calendar!

For updates, sports, and other details, go to www.Facebook.com/CSDRiverside

11/8	PSWT Bingo Night	6:30pm-8:15pm	Social Hall
11/12	PSWT Workshop & Pizza / Storytelling Night	5:30pm	Social Hall
11/22-24	CAD Conference	All Day	CSDR
12/10	PSWT/ASL Holliday Potluck Dinner	5:30pm-7:15pm	Social Hall
1/14/14	PSWT Workshop & Pizza / Storytelling Night	5:30pm	Social Hall
1/24-1/25/14	National Wrestling Tournament	All Day	CSDR
2/14-2/16/14	Deaf Academic Bowl Regional Tournament	All Day	CSDR
3/4/14	PSWT Workshop & Pizza / Storytelling Night	5:30pm	Social Hall
3/28-3/31/14	Deaf Teen America Pageant	TBA	TBA
5/13/14	PSWT Workshop & Pizza / Storytelling Night	5:30pm	Social Hall