



PAWSitive Reflections

News and Information for Families, Staff, & Friends

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SUMMER 2015



This Past Year, Reflections of a Newcomer

Written at the close of the 2014-15 school year by Freshman Hailey Burton '18

When I first started 9th grade at a public high school, I thought it would be no different than what I had grown used to at my middle school. It was “just that.” I sat alone at lunch near my next class, read books, and did homework, and I shut out the world around me; I was different and I didn’t fit in with my classmates. I had big plans for my future, and still do, and everyone around me just didn’t care. I rode my bike two miles every day to school, and came home, nothing more. It was the same thing every day, and I knew I could’ve been doing something different rather than watching the hours pass by. And then I came to CSDR, and I realized that everyone I’d somewhat known since I was nine years old, when I met them the summer of ‘09 at the Wrightwood Lions Camp for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, was here. Every summer since that first year was spent wondering about them, who they were, and I wanted nothing more than to go back to camp. First I thought it was just the way a perfect summer felt, but when I saw them outside of camp, at CSDR, in every single one of my classes, I knew. There’s no language barrier anymore, and there’s nothing holding me back from really connecting with them. Camp was only a week long. Now I’ll spend three more years with them, and, if I’m lucky, more time than that. I’m where I

should’ve been all this time, and now my brothers will be spared the isolation of where we were before. For that, I’m grateful. We’re happy here.

This is where we’re meant to be. Cole, my twelve year old brother is doing better in school, and he’s happier too, though he doesn’t admit it. He’s not bullied anymore, and we’re not arguing at home at much as we used to. Logan never fails to surprise me; every day I notice something about him that’s different—the way he tucks his shirt in, he’s never done that before CSDR, and his facial expressions, like how he crinkles his nose and raises his eyebrow and tilts his head when he’s confused, that’s new too.

Me? I’m happy. I smile. I laugh. I’m social. My friends know my deepest, darkest secrets and fears, I trust them, and I actually want to go to school for other reasons besides learning. When I’m walking past the Bummy Student Center every morning to my first period, and I see my friends all standing there, laughing and talking, I smile to myself, sometimes I don’t realize it. Sometimes I try to hide it. I still find it hard to believe that I’d be here, with them. There’s always something new, another story I have to tell my kids and



Hailey Burton '18

*“In the end,
it’s not the
years in
your life
that count.
It’s the life in
your years.”
-Abraham
Lincoln*

See PAST YEAR, page 4

Mission:

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

In this Issue:

*This Past Year, p.1 & 4
Note from Scott, p.2
New Staff & Faces, p.3
Photo Imaging, p.4
World Basketball, p.5
Summer Work, p.6
Extended School, p.6
Leadership, p.7
Cottage Welcome, p.7
Visitors at Cottage, p.7
Six Shifts in Math, p.8
Good Character, p.9
Peer Mentoring, p.9
Rideshare, p.10
Donations, p. 10
CDERC—Pinterest, p.11
Family Educators, p.11
Dodger Employee, p.12
Deaf Pilots, p.13
Buy a Brick, p. 14
Upcoming Events, p.14
School Calendar, p.14*

A Note from Scott

Measuring school effectiveness is often referred to as *ACCOUNTABILITY* – the idea of holding schools responsible.

I prefer to call it *RELIABILITY* - a track record of doing what we promised to do. If a school continually completes tasks it promised to do, then it is considered reliable. Being considered reliable means that we are conscientious of our mission. Reliability simply means fulfilling our commitment – *student achievement*. A reliable school does not make excuses.

Last Year 2014-15 was a Year to Celebrate:

- Student Enrollment is up 12%
- Student Attendance is up 1.3%
- Student Incidents are down 9%
- Student Suspensions are down 10%
- Measures of Academic Progress are up 13 points for Elementary School; 10 points for Middle School; and 8 points for High School

We must all realize that *reliability* is not a destination but rather a journey of constant improvement. It means delivering on a commitment we made when we started working here. It's both an honor and obligation to do so everyday for every student with *CUB SPIRIT AND A BIG HEART*.

This Year 2015-16 is A Year to Look Ahead:

We stand united in the CSDR philosophy of teaching and learning that:

- All students are unique
- All students are brilliant
- All students are capable
- All students deserve a safe school environment
- All students deserve a stimulating learning environment
- All students can learn

We must all be relentless in our pursuit of what works. What works?

- A bold comprehensive program with a clear and focused mission.
- Strong support and collaboration with community stakeholders.
- A partnership of positive home-school relations and communication.

Join us in this pursuit of the amazing possibilities of our students.

Scott Kerby
Interim Superintendent



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Special Thanks:

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Niel Thompson
Scarlett Valencia ' 97
Rene Visco

New Staff and Same Faces in New Places (2014 - 2015)

On the first day the teachers returned to school, all new staff were warmly welcomed, and all new staff position transfers were announced. Below are only some of the new faces whom visitors might see when on the CSDR campus.

The Elementary department now includes:

- Early Start (PIP)
- Preschool
- Transition Kindergarten
- K-5

The Elementary department is now led by two administrators, Principal Janelle Green and Assistant Principal Debra Rose.

The CSDR Curriculum department has some of the same faces in new places, with specific areas of expertise in assisting and training teachers in matching academic standards/common

core standards, informing them of new research and best practices, and utilizing a variety of strategies in making resources available for use in and outside of the classroom.

Nanci Shrager: Curriculum Supervisor
 Joy Maisel: ASL/ Bilingual Education
 Timothy Hile: History/ Physical Education
 Mitch Kurs: Career Technology Education/ Feast Academy

Continued support:

Melissa Brown: Language Arts
 Darrin Green: Mathematics/ Science
 Lisa Kuntzsch-Beck: Alternative Curriculum
 Rene Visco: Educational Technology
 Stacey Hausman: Student Outcomes/ CDE Resource Center
 Mary Kopcho: Librarian



*Brittney Kinder,
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*Nora Gonzales,
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*Stefanie Kent,
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*Jasmine DeLoss,,
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*Melody Ayala,
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Elementary*



*Allison Clark,
Teacher - Elementary
Special Needs*



*Carol Bella-Adams,
Teacher - 5th Grade*



*Desiree Cartmell '83,
Office Technician-
Middle School*



*Jayla Martinez,
Speech Teacher-
Middle School*



*Priscilla Biskupiak,
Teacher - Language
Arts, High School*



*Alyssa Romano,,
Teacher - Language
Arts, High School*



*Jennifer Friede,
Program Technician-
Career Technology
Education*



*Marla Williams-
Barnes, Teacher's
Aide-High School*



*Patricia Melvin,
Family Education
Coordinator, CDERC*



*Nanci Shrager,
Curriculum Supervisor*



*Victor "Andrew"
Aguilera, Counselor PI*



*Wendy Korn '82,
Counselor PI*

Calyssa Yepez '15 Receives Photo Imaging National Award

Contributed by Mr. Kaveh Angoorani, Photography Teacher, Career Technology Education

Upon graduation, CSDR's own Calyssa Yepez '15 of Riverside was awarded \$250 last June by the Rochester Institute of Technology's National Technical Institute for her "Leaf with Eye" submission in the "Photo Imaging" category.



Calyssa Yepez '15

Yepez developed the picture during her senior year in the CSDR Photography class. The subject is her classmate and friend Emily DeSimone '15. "Calyssa did the editing and color on Photoshop. She is an excellent photographer and a creative student. I am not surprised she was chosen as a winner of the photo imaging competition," says teacher Kaveh Angoorani, of the Career Technology Education department. The annual RIT Digital Arts, Film and Animation Competition for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Students includes interactive media, graphic media, photo imaging, Web page design, film and 3D animation. Of the seven national winners, Yepez was the only award

recipient from the Western states. The winning entries may be seen at www.rit.edu/ntid/dafac/. Yepez's award and photo was also featured in the July 8 Riverside Press Enterprise.



Calyssa Yepez '15

Yepez's "Leaf with Eye" with DeSimone wins RIT photo imaging award

Past Year, Letter by a Newcomer (Continued from page 1)

grandkids and whoever else I meet later in life. Only now, I'm not outside looking in anymore—I'm part of the stories and the people, and they're a part of me. When my friends here gave me a nickname, I was over the moon, because I knew it meant something I never thought I'd find again for a long, long time. I'm glad I was wrong. There are times when I'd just look up in class, at everyone in the room, and I'd let it all sink in. I'd think about where I was before, and where I am now. Nothing compares to that feeling I get every time. This place is my safe haven, in every single way, no matter how small or seemingly irrelevant.

When asked to explain my favorite part of this year, honestly? I can't tell you that. I don't know how to, in a way that you'd really, truly understand. It's indescribable. To me, it feels unfair to name just one thing, when every day takes my breath away. But if I had to, I'd say February 9th, 2015. If you ask me again ten years from



Hailey with CSDR classmate and friend Courtney

now, my answer would be the same. If my next three years at California School for the Deaf are the same if not better than the three months I've spent here now, then it is guaranteed these will be a few of the best years of my life. It's only the beginning. February 9th was my very first day here. It was unplanned, I thought I was only supposed to come for a meeting, but then I'm sitting in a desk in my third period Biology, with familiar faces that would soon become like family. I do wish I could've been better at signing, but that I cannot help since this is my first Deaf school, and to improve is my goal for next year as well as having twice the adventures and participating in sports and other extracurricular activities. I want to

live life to the fullest, because these are years I am never getting back. As Abraham Lincoln once said, "In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years."

Summer 2015 USA World Basketball Team Members

Written by Jeremias Valencia '99, USA Player, and contributed by David Hamilton, USA Basketball Team Director



Four alumni from CSDR went to play on the USA Men's Basketball Team for the World Deaf Basketball Championship held in Taoyuan, Taiwan, last summer. These three members represent three different generations of CSDR basketball.

Jeremias Valencia'99 (#1), assistant coach for CSD Riverside, led CSDR to the CIF playoffs and led nearly every record in the boys' basketball program. He earned multiple honors during his basketball career with the Cubs, including team and league offensive player of the year. Although Deaf from a small school, he was honorably selected to play on the Riverside County All Stars team.

Raymond Nelson'11 (#23), a current Gallaudet basketball player, used to play for King High School, Riverside along with Kawhi Leonard and he was a powerful presence on the court as he led the Cubs' basketball program during his high school career. He was selected as the league's offensive player of the year.

Orion Palmer'05 (#11 in middle with arms crossed) is a P.E. major about to graduate in May 2015, and was a former basketball player at Gallaudet University. He used to play for

Chaffey High School before transferring to CSDR. He led CSDR records for rebounds and blocked shots, and 2nd most wins in a season.

Noah Valencia'16 (#0) is CSDR's current basketball star. As the son of Jeremias, he has been working extra hard to break every record his father previously led, succeeding in three so far: number of three points in a game, number of three points in a season, and number of steals. In December 2014, he was recognized as the Inland Empire's top scorer with 42 points in a game. He was recognized as the league's offensive player of the year and led his team to the CIF playoffs in February. He was also selected as an All-American for NDIAA and he was selected as the student athlete of the month in February, with a 4.0 GPA.

Parents and/or staff from CSDR also served on the USA team. Noah's uncle Steve Valencia-Biskupiak, who is currently one of the assistant coaches for CSDR, also played on the team. David Hamilton, the head coach for CSDR, was a former player and went as Team Director. Jeff Liu, the Health teacher in the High School program, also went as the USA team's Athletic Trainer.

What glory for both CSDR and the city of Riverside!

Student's Memoir: World Basketball Championship Results

Written by Noah Valencia '16

If I had to pick the best experience in my lifetime, it would be my trip to Taiwan and having the honor to play for USA. It's not easy being a sixteen year old boy in high school and playing on a highly competitive level. As a matter of fact, I was the only high school player on the team. The more I trained and played along my teammates, the more I realized how lucky I was to be part of this team consisting of the 12 best players on the USA Deaf basketball roster. How lucky am I that my dad and I became the first father-son duo to play together at the same time. This also was my first time to fly overseas and play at the international level. I was raised in a basketball family, so almost everybody in my family has played for USA in the past, and I'm proud to say that I am part of that history now.

Many of us on the 12-man roster had CSDR Cub pride as we played for the USA. Even though I didn't get many minutes on the court, it was still wonderful to grab the opportunity to play. I averaged 5 minutes and 5.2 points per game, plus 3 assists per game. As for my experience at Taiwan, we unfortunately lost in the gold medal game to Lithuania by a nail-biting three points. I cannot lie that we were disappointed, yet this game brought us together even more, making us stronger. I'm

looking forward to going back on the team for Pan-American Games 2016 and Deaflympics 2017. To represent USA, to represent CSDR, and to represent my family, this whole experience was truly inspiring. Thank you all for your support! GO CUBS!



Noah Valencia #0 with father Jeremias #1, the first father-son duo on the court

Summer Work Experience for High School Students

Contributed by Mr. Don Burnes and Ms. Nina Poblete, Workability Teachers

While many students enjoyed summer break, a good number of high school students went to work instead. As part of the Workability program at CSDR, students were connected with a variety of local businesses for paid summer job experiences. This prepared the students in developing the skills, broadening their job experiences, and established relationships with employers. See the kinds of places our students worked, and their photos!

1. Wendy hard at work making a poster for Independence day.
2. Marianna taking a quick break to pose. She was busy working in the Hyatt Hotel in their kitchen.
3. Javier preparing a pallet for local homes in Riverside. High accolades were given for his work ethic.
4. Anna making sure that children toys are sanitized for their safety. Woodcrest Montessori were sad to see her leave.
5. Javier busy assembling a circuit board. Career Assembly in Chatsworth, CA hired two of our students this summer.



6. Alin Party Supply stated that Sarahi was one of their best workers they ever had. They would love for her to return in the fall.
7. Elizabeth applied for a job in Chatsworth at the Career Assembly. Her supervisor stated that she is a hard worker and is detail oriented.
8. Meyer cleaning up after morning breakfast crowd. Hyatt was very impressed with FEAST students' willingness to show initiative.

Not pictured:

9. Ashley and Andrea both worked at Marriott in the kitchen. They were placed initially doing food preparation and quickly moved to the hot line.
10. Jamund and Edward worked at Marshall's. They both helped to keep Marshall's inventory organized.
11. Trystany worked at CODIE during the brief time she had transportation.
12. Ermias worked briefly at the Animal Shelter at the beginning of the summer.



Extended School Year during the Summer was a Big Success

Written by Ms. Tammy Mitchell, Director of Instruction

Extended School Year (ESY) was a huge success this summer! We burst the seams of the program and increased enrollment by almost 200%, signing up nearly 100 students! Summer education helps students retain their learning from the previous school year, reducing the typical "summer slump" that most students experience. This year, CSDR students from ages 3 to 22 were kept engaged with various themes:

- Preschool coordinated a blend of social play, ASL development and an activity center filled with ANIMALS.

- Elementary classrooms dove into Ocean animals, as well as Hungry Caterpillars and Ecology.
- Middle School students became "Crime Scene Investigators", created their own Bang Bang News program, and studied Oceanography.
- High School cracked open a variety of books from around the world and some classes learned about healthy eating while other groups focused on independent living skills and social ASL skills.

Student Leadership Opportunities

Contributed by High School Student Leadership

With CSDR's encouragement, the some High school students attended enriching programs and camps last summer. Kendall Merrill and Wendy Aguirre participated in a five-day Youth Leadership Forum in Sacramento, for 60 selected students with disabilities in California. They learned about technology, resource agencies, and development of a "Personal Leadership Plan". Kendall Merrill also went to a six-day career exploration program, "Explore your Future," at Rochester Institute of Technology in New York. He focused on personal growth and career awareness. Dylan Duarte attended the Deaf Film Camp at Camp Mark 7. He learned about screenwriting, directing, acting, effects, and cinematography. Zeniko Acosta-Grant, Jarita Bustamante, and Breannah Medina attended the Youth

Leadership Camp in Oregon. They developed their scholarship, leadership, and citizenship qualities in a nature environment. Most recently last weekend, the students returned from a successful and fun leadership summit. After a great summer, CSDR students are equipped and ready to be a stronger leader for a great school year, and to give back to our community!

SUMMER CAMP WEBSITES:

CA Youth Leadership Forum:

calylf.org

RIT Explore Your Future:

www.rit.edu/ntid/eyf

Deaf Film Camp:

<http://campmark7.org/programs/deaf-film-camp>

NAD Youth Leadership Camp:

<http://nad.org/ylccamper>

Cottage Welcome Back!

Written by Ms. Deandra Garcia, Student Life Counselor

The girls of Shasta 3 hosted this school year's 2015-16 Welcome Back Party! We had blaring music, pizza, games and most of all, a wonderful group of students who all joined in together for a night filled with fun. Staff and students were able to catch up with each other and share their summer stories! This was especially a great night to designate in meeting and getting to know the new faces on our campus. It was a joy to see everyone enjoying the night with great food, great chats, and a great start for a new year of memories.

Riverside Sports Commission



Riverside Sports Commission and Uniquely Special thanks CSDR for partnership to make the Host Town Riverside visit so memorable for the members of Team Sweden as they prepared for the Special Olympics World Games. Visitors described their experiences at the CSDR cottages as the "best anywhere". Truly a highlight of their stay was the housing, meals, transportation, and special attention given to them. The athletes, coaches, and officials of both teams felt welcomed, being cared for in such a family-like atmosphere. The CSDR graciousness could not have been more inviting and supportive.

The team's three days were filled with wonderful adventures and plenty of relax time for them to acclimate and prepare for the World Games in LA. The team ended their journey with 34 Gold, 63 Silver, and 22 Bronze medals with the greatest success in swimming and judo.

The team's experience at CSDR cottages will be long remembered with tremendous impact on the lives of a population of truly unique individuals who are so often overlooked. Thank you for your help, CSDR.



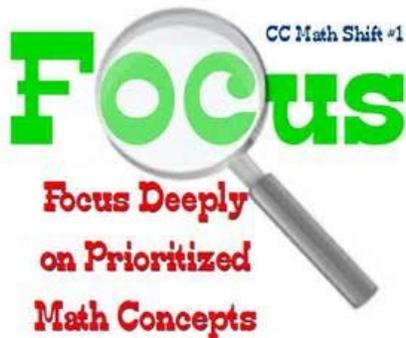
CSDR Has Adopted Six Shifts in Mathematics—Common Core

Contributed by Mr. Darrin Green, Math/Science Curriculum Specialist

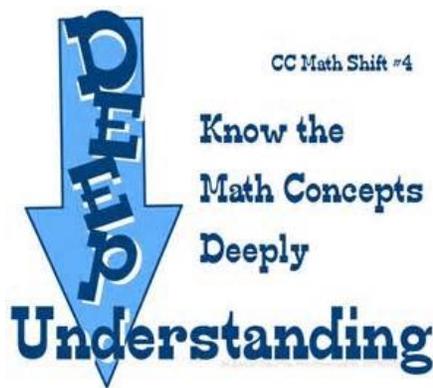
CSDR has included in its educational program the expectations of the “Common Core State Standards” and completed its transition for testing materials. A critical component of a student’s success in school is dependent on

what and how they learn at home. This practical guide provides steps that families can take to improve their child’s learning of the Common Core. Check out this site:

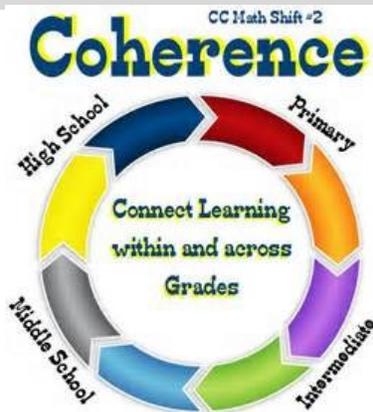
<https://www.engageny.org/resource/common-core-shifts>



Teachers significantly narrow and deepen the scope of how time and energy is spent in the math classroom. They do so in order to focus deeply on only the concepts that are prioritized in the standards.



Students deeply understand and can operate easily within a math concept before moving on. They learn more than the trick to get the answer right. They learn the math.



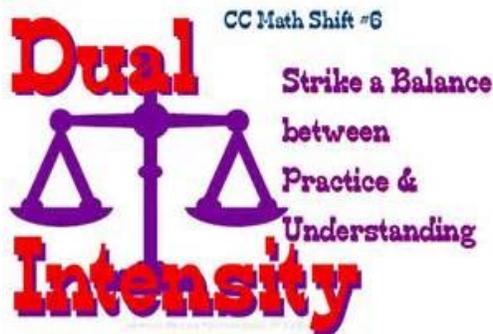
Principals and teachers carefully connect the learning within and across grades so that students can build new understanding onto foundations built in previous years.



Students are expected to use math and choose the appropriate concept for application even when they are not prompted to do so.



Students are expected to have speed and accuracy with simple calculations; teachers structure class time and/or homework time for students to memorize, through repetition, core functions.



Students are practicing and understanding. There is more than a balance between these two things in the classroom – both are occurring with intensity.

Kicking Off the Year with Good Character

Written by Ms. Jennifer "JT" Jesser, Elementary School Counselor

CSDR's youngest students started the year off right by earning 120 Character Counts certificates just four days after school began! The Character Counts program rewards students for social skills that reflect the six pillars of good character. Students from ECE to 5th grade earned these certificates by displaying one or more of the "Positive Attitudes Will Succeed" (PAWS) social skills that are taught and encouraged at CSDR. My goal this year is to help people understand better how specific social skills support the broader concepts of the Character Counts!" program about being caring, responsible, trustworthy, good citizens, fair and respectful. On each



"CCI" pillar certificate, I label the specific "PAWS" skill the child has demonstrated, so students can make the connection between the two character education programs at CSDR. When staff or anyone on campus who happens to "catch good behavior" nominates particular students, I pop into the nominees' classrooms to recognize and honor them in front

of their peers. It is so fun to see the smiles and feelings of joy that our students radiate when they receive a certificate!

Good work, CSDR cubbies!

Peer Mediator Program

Contributed by Ms. Kelly Gunderson, High School Counselor



High school has implemented a new Peer Mediator program. During summertime, five students Hailey, Karla, Kyra, Courtney, and Christian "CJ" attended a three-day training to become peer mediators. They learned how to assist with school-wide programs, provide advocacy, create a positive environment, and welcome and orient new students. They also focused on conflict resolutions among students - how to best help their school peers solve problems. Peer mediators can work with students on a one-on-one or two-on-one-basis. It will be up to the student who needs help. For any questions, see the high school counselor anytime.



Staff sponsors for peer mediators:
 Ms. Gunderson (Counseling), Ms. Miller (CTE/TOP),
 Ms. Price (Student Life), and Mr. Liu (HS)

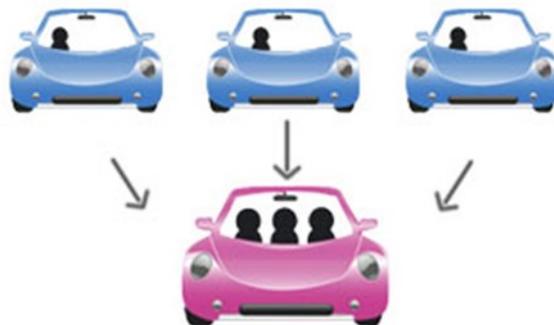
Did you know that cutting air pollution can cut cancer risks?

Written by Ms. Vicki Strum, Procurement Supervisor

Per the South Coast AQMD (Air Quality Management District) cancer risks, "a major study by Southland air quality officials has found that reductions in toxic emissions have cut residents' cancer risk from air pollution on average by more than 50 percent since 2005. (From 1,050 per one million to 418 per million.)

What we do and how we help matters! It is our desire and the desire of South Coast AQMD to lower toxins in the air and improve our health in the process. How do we do that? Rideshare, bicycle, walk, and or take a bus to work.

IECommuter.org is personalized to you when you register. It has many features that will help you plan your



commute. Some of the features are:

- Matching you with other people who want to rideshare
- Metro link, bus and train information
- Live traffic for your route
- Driving directions

IECommuter also provides incentives. Staff who are new to ridesharing may be eligible to receive \$2.00 for every day that is rideshared for the first three months. After the first three months the individual can sign up for Rideshare Plus and receive a coupon book for restaurants and activities in the area. Rideshare week is October 5-9, 2015. Please join us in helping the environment of our community by pledging to rideshare the week of Oct. 5-9, and beyond.

Cumulative Giving to CSDR—Thank You!

Contributed by Mr. Gerald Sullivan, Volunteer and CSDR CAN Board Member



(2014)

Sorenson

Communications, Inc

(2015)

CSDRAA

Friends of CSDR

(2014)

Inland Force

Community Foundation

"Bummy" Fund

American Cancer Society

Anna Petrillo

(2015)

Community Foundation "Bummy" Fund

ASA of Southern California

Rancho Cucamonga Employee Contribution RC & Schward Charitable, SF

(2014)

Juan Lopez

Anthony Barksdale

National Charity League

Orange Crest Volleyball Club

Satoshi Nakama

Anna Petrillo

Gerald "Bummy" Burstein

Robert A Wengen

ASA of Southern

California

(2015)

Endowment Trust Fund

Anthony Barksdale

Gilbert Rubalcaba

April Vidal

David Gary Brodtkin

(2014)

Notre Dame High School

Nancy Coulter Forster

Santa Ana Club of the Deaf

(2013)

William & Camilla Ramborger

(2015)

United Way California Capital Region

Brian & Colleen Bennett

Teresa Crawford

Box Tops for Education

R & J Restaurant LLC

Target and Protective Life

Betty Witzczak

Margaret Almendarez

ASBG

(2014)

NJ Brown

Box Tops for Education

Life Touch

Brian L Money

Gallaudet University

(2013)

Jay Shopshire

Charles Marsh, Jr

Thomas Perry

S Hook

Frank J Lala

Karen Kleiman

Billy R Wales

Jeffrey B Lubman

Pinterest for Teachers and Families

Written by Ms. M. Natasha Kordus, Ph.D., Supervisor of Assessment and Intervention and CDERC

Teachers, are you looking for ideas to spark learning in your classroom? Families, are you looking for information on reading, playing, and learning about your children and the Deaf community? The California Deaf Education Resource Cen-

ter – South, housed right here at CSDR, has put together a clearinghouse of ideas on Pinterest! Check us out and follow us for updates! Also, check out our website and YouTube channel! New items are posted often, so come by and visit.

ONLINE SITES:

WEBSITE: <http://www.CDERCSouth.org>
 PINTEREST: <https://www.pinterest.com/CDERCSouth/>
 YOUTUBE: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEZBDaCRvtt_DyiyuFZ2Qxg/



CDERC South Provides Family Education

Written by Pat Melvin, Family Education Coordinator

Welcome to the 2015-2016 school year. Ms. Terri Vincent and Ms. Pat Melvin are excited about working as Family Education Coordinators under the California Department of Education Resource Center, South (CDERC), which is located here at CSDR in Pachappa I, between the Elementary School and the Middle School.

What do Family Education Coordinators do? We schedule and give school tours for prospective CSDR students and their families. You may see us out and about on campus with a group, introducing them to people and places in various departments on campus. If you know of a family with a deaf child who would like a tour of our school, you can contact Jasmine DeLoss at: Telephone (951)-248-7700 Ext 6542 (voice), (951) 824-8015 (VP) or via email jdloss@csdr-cde.ca.gov to schedule an appointment for a tour. Spanish and ASL interpreters will be provided for the tours.

In addition we provide informational materials such as brochures, posters, and newsletter articles about our school. These materials include family tips and best practices, and are free for the parents to take home with them after their tour. We also send packets of information to outside agencies and school districts to inform them of what our school can offer to Deaf students.

ASL classes are offered to families once a week, on Wednesdays, taught by Ms. Terri Vincent. Assisting families with developing and improving ASL communication skills is critical to the Deaf child's success in school and in life.

Parent Education Workshops are also offered on a variety of topics once a month after ASL class. Some of the topics will include: Helping Your Children with Their Homework, Reading with Your Deaf Children, Cyberbullying and Internet Safety, How to Include Your Deaf Child in the Holidays, and many more to be planned and presented as the school year pro-

gresses.

Two potlucks will be held during the school year. The first one will be a holiday themed potluck held on December 16th and the second one will be an end-of-the-year potluck held on May 25th. Opportunities for parents to interact and network with one another allow you to share your experiences and ideas about raising Deaf children.

We also attend conferences and workshops to represent our school, and let people serving Deaf/hard of hearing (DHH) students know what our school has to offer to professionals working in deaf education, as well as what we offer to Deaf students who attend our school.

Workshops are available at no charge for school districts, LEAs, and SELPAs on providing access to instruction for DHH students. Instruction will include presentations, demonstrations, videos, guest speakers, and hands-on training given by a network of professionals who serve DHH students.

For more information about CDERC South, you can go to the internet at www.cdercsouth.org

to get the latest updates. We also have an active YouTube channel called, "Deaf Education Resources," that has videos with information focusing on techniques and strategies to develop language skills in ASL and in written English with Deaf children. New videos are being created and added on a regular basis by Ms. Terri Vincent.

If you are interested in any further information about Family Education, you can contact Ms. Terri Vincent at (951)-824-8027 (VP), or email her at tvincent@csdr-cde.ca.gov, or Ms. Pat Melvin at (951)-248-7700 Ext 6552 (voice) or (951)-824-8015 (VP), or email her at pmelvin@csdr-cde.ca.gov to request an information packet, schedule a workshop, or just have your questions answered. We as Family Education Coordinators are looking forward to a successful school year meeting the needs of Deaf/hard of hearing students.



Ms. Terri Vincent & Ms. Pat Melvin
Family Education Coordinators

Alumni Profile: Where They Went From Here— Lorenzo Heredia Jr. '05 Works at Dodger Stadium

Written by Ms. Erika Thompson, Community Resource Specialist



*Lorenzo Heredia Jr.
CSDR Sophomore, 2003*

When Lorenzo Heredia Jr. was a student at California School for the Deaf in Riverside, he became a Dodgers fan thanks to the inspiration of his English teacher, Mr. Niel Thompson. Now as a grown man, Heredia gets paid to watch every single home game on the first level at Dodger Stadium. This former student works as

an usher, greeting baseball fans and guiding them to their seats or giving them directions to restrooms or other parts of the stadium. He also watches for any breaches of security.

Passersby speak into Heredia's ears that are fitted with hearing aids, and he responds using spoken English and pointing gestures. He also has a deaf co-worker who ushers a different section near him, which fulfills his need for full rapport in his first language of ASL. "This job is comfortable and enjoyable. I have fun chatting with people," says Heredia, who adds that he has always liked socializing.

His best memories of CSDR were both the after school student life program and his teachers in his classes. He enjoyed the organized activities and recreation, held after school and in the evenings at the student dorms. During the afternoon hours, he also played football, basketball, and baseball with weekly team practices. These were the times when he remembers having good friends and being treated equally by his coaches and peers. Heredia also appreciated his academic courses, especially English with Mr. Thompson who also bled "Dodger blue." Growing up with limited access to language before entering middle school at CSDR, he became immersed in an environment



Lorenzo Heredia Jr. '05, lands the job as a Dodger Stadium usher

rich in language and learning. In high school, Mr. Thompson helped him acquire a better vocabulary and improve his English grammar, and got him to read avidly by introducing him to the Sports page in the daily newspaper after he completed his class requirement for the day. "I have not let go of the Sports page ever since," laughed Heredia. "I enjoyed learning in his class; he was like a dad to me. I was always early and ready at the beginning of class every day." Heredia was not able to stay at CSDR during the last two years of high school, returning to Los Angeles in 2003 for family reasons.

After Heredia received his high school certificate from Marlton, a regional program for deaf students in Los Angeles, he attended El Camino College for some classes to continue his learning. Refusing to give up, he was determined to get a good job.

Heredia feels lucky to be working at Dodger Stadium. For the past three years, he had been operating the Tickets Star Cup window at Staples Center, home of the Kings, Lakers, Sparks, Clippers, Avengers and other events. Finally in March 2015, his excellent work ethics at Staples Center helped him land the Dodgers job. "It took me three interviews to finally get hired; I was competing against 100 hearing applicants!" exclaimed Heredia. He now aims to get promoted to the ticket booth, which provides better pay. "He has a good heart; he is such a strong, hard worker," smiled Rudy Jimenez, his supervisor of security, as he patted Heredia's back. Heredia still works at Staples Center during other days of the week when the Dodgers are not playing home, and after the baseball playoffs end in October, he will be at Staples Center exclusively until the next baseball season begins. Meanwhile, go Big Blue!



*Dodger fans Lorenzo Heredia Jr. (right) with his former CSDR teacher
Mr. Thompson (left) at Dodger Stadium, 8-30-15*

Alumni Profile: Where They Went From Here— Raymart Tinio '11 Earned His Wings from Purdue University

Written by Mr. Craig D. Van Winkle, Supervisor of ES/MS Student Life, also a Licensed Deaf Pilot



Raymart Tinio '11 trained in this Flight Design CTLS aircraft



Don McCary '62



Garrett Regan '91



Kevin Willis '97



Raymart Tinio '11

Portraits of deaf aviation pilots back when they were a senior at CSDR

*“Deaf
individuals
can earn
their
wings.”*



(Left to right) McCary '62 getting ready for a nice flight in Southern California; Regan '91 (front) and Willis '97 (back) fly the Piper J3 Cub over Mt. Rubidoux

PILOT: Cessna 3044 to CSDR Tower, I want to make a pilot's report, over.

CSDR TOWER: CSDR Tower to Cessna 3044, go ahead.

PILOT: Over the summer, former CSDR Valedictorian Raymart Tinio '11 earned his pilot's license from Purdue University through the AbleFlight scholarship, making him the 4th alumnus of CSDR to become a pilot. The idea of becoming a pilot first occurred to Tinio while a junior at CSDR with the help of his career preparation teacher, Mr. Mitch Kurs. He has since then been sharing his aviation goals with his other teachers. “CSDR taught me to fight for my future,” Raymart recalls. “I was all grins when I first flew a plane with my trainer, thinking ‘Finally, after all these years!’” Only a handful of Deaf pilots exist in the world and Raymart has demonstrated proof that Deaf individuals can earn their wings. One must have a solid foundation of language, mathematics, science and physics in order to become a pilot. Tinio '11 is currently a student at San Jose State University majoring in Aviation Management, in addition to his desire to be a professional pilot, and is expected to graduate in 2016. From one Deaf pilot to another, Airman Tinio, congratulations and safe flying!

The other three notable CSDR alumni pilots starting with the more recent graduates are Kevin Willis ('97), Garrett 'Rusty' Regan ('91), and Don Allen McCary ('62). Willis and Regan are both are working at FlyCorona Flight School in Corona, CA. Willis is a certificated aviation

ground school instructor. He will complete his Associates of Science of Commercial Flight degree this semester from Mt. San Antonio College. Regan is a certificated as both a flight instructor and an aircraft mechanic. Veteran pilot McCary, on the other hand, is retired and enjoying the rich memories of flying and skydiving that he has done over the years.

It's possible to be deaf and fly planes. Hearing and speaking are not required for the vast majority of American airspace, thus deaf pilots do not communicate directly with towers. However, Tinio, who has partial hearing with a hearing aid, likes using the radio to listen for any engine trouble or for the blaring of horns if his plane is too close to a stall. Regan, who speaks well, prefers to announce his position on the radio. The majority of deaf pilots do not wear headsets and rely on their natural strength—their eyes.

PILOT: Over and out.



Tinio '11 flies solo over Purdue University honing his maneuver skills during training



PAWSitive Reflections
 News and Information for Families, Staff, &



How Do I Find CSDR Information Online?

- CSDR Website: csdr-cde.ca.gov
- E-mail: info@csdr-cde.ca.gov
- Facebook: www.Facebook.com/CSDRiverside
- YouTube: www.youtube.com/channel/UChAeH9n41nDpCYBEdo_Yonw
- Newsletters: issuu.com/search?q=csdr
- PSWT: parentsstaffworkingtogether@gmail.com
- CSDR Alumni Association: www.csdralumni.org/
- Friends of CSDR: www.csdrfriends.org/
- California Deaf Education Resource Center: cdercsouth.org/

Upcoming Events

- 9/19 Deaf Awareness Week Kickoff Celebration
- 9/22 Documentary Film: Deaf People in Havana
- 9/23 Movie Screening: Found on South Street
- 10/5 Make Up Picture Day
- 10/6-7 CAHSEE Testing– Juniors Only
- 10/6 Community Advisory Committee Meeting
- 10/7 Character Counts! Kickoff Day
- 10/8 MS Rubidoux Bowl
- 10/31 HS Homecoming vs. Sherman Indians
- 11/4-6 ASL Roundtable National Conference @ CSDR
Fridays, once a month: CDERC Workshops



The donated bricks will mount on the outside wall of Social Hall, around the wall letters “CSDR.” 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:
 CSDR CAN**

California School for the Deaf, Riverside/Attn. Laurie Waggoner
 3044 Horace St, Riverside CA 92506
 If you have any questions, please call Laurie Waggoner
 951-248-7700 ex. 4361 or VP 951-824-8055.

Academic Calendar 2015-16

9/7	SCHOOL CLOSED – Labor Day
9/24	School Closes Early @ 2:03 PM
9/25	SCHOOL CLOSED
10/15	<i>School Closes Early @ 2:03 PM</i>
10/16	SCHOOL CLOSED – IEP Day
10/19	SCHOOL CLOSED
11/4-6	ASL Roundtable Conference @ CSDR
11/23-30	SCHOOL CLOSED – Fall Recess
12/11	Parent/Teacher Conference – ES/MS (HS in session)
12/21–1/4	SCHOOL CLOSED – Winter Recess
1/18	SCHOOL CLOSED – M.L. King Day
2/11	<i>School Closes Early @ 2:03 PM</i>
2/12	SCHOOL CLOSED
2/15	SCHOOL CLOSED – Presidents Day

2/25	<i>School Closes Early @ 2:03 PM</i>
2/26	SCHOOL CLOSED – IEP Day
3/21	SCHOOL CLOSED – IEP Day
3/31-4/8	SCHOOL CLOSED – Spring Recess
5/18	School Closes Early @ 2:03 PM
5/19-20	SCHOOL CLOSED – IEP Days
5/26	School Closes Early @ 2:03 PM
5/27	SCHOOL CLOSED
5/30	SCHOOL CLOSED – Memorial Day
6/8	High School Graduation
6/9	Last Day of School – <i>School Closes Early @ 12:00 PM</i>

View latest school event details at www.Facebook.com/CSDRiverside and sports information on [CSDR Athletics Facebook](http://www.Facebook.com/CSDRAthletics) page