Cave Gym Grand Opening!

PAWSitive Reflections

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News and Information for Families, Staff, & Friends

Ms. Jennifer Willey
RIVERSIDE—WHERE LANGUAGE AND LEARNING THRIVE!
Mission: Students at the California School for the Deaf are engaged in a positive environment where ASL and English are valued, cultures are embraced, learning is relevant, and self-worth is uplifted. In collaboration with families and school communities, Southern California students prepare for college and careers with academic rigor, innovative technology, and extracurricular opportunities.

News from Nancy

As Superintendent, I have placed a strong emphasis for teachers, students, and families to put reading as a top priority to promote literacy achievement.

Because of my commitment to see students thrive through reading, our school introduced the Accelerated Reading (AR) program last August. The AR program, by design, encourages and motivates students to read independently. It is not a teaching tool; it is an approach for students to grow to love books. The process for young students in selecting books that interest them might be difficult at the beginning, but the more students read, the better they will determine which books are interesting. Each student will have an “Aha!” moment, but with some time as long as we all remain patient and persistent.

As an educator and parent, I invite you to join me in making the commitment to push our students to read more. Naturally, we start by setting a good example when we read books ourselves.

Let us get started TODAY!

Happy Reading!

- Nancy Hlibok Amann, Ph.D.

Superintendent Nancy read aloud books to Elementary students to recommend for the California Young Reader Medal.

Far left: Superintendent Nancy surprised young students by visiting their classroom, clad in a dairy cow costume. She read aloud the book Click Clack Moo.

Left: Young students sign the word "cow" in a group photo with Superintendent Nancy.

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A Jumpstart in Accelerated Reader
Written by Ms. Jennifer Burnett, High School Teacher

We can see the students’ love for reading blossoming slowly but surely through the support of the Accelerated Reader program (AR) developed by Renaissance Learning, designed for K-12 schools. AR monitors the students’ practice of reading. Students have just begun learning about AR and are starting to become more independent in using the AR book finder feature, to find the perfect book for themselves. Students absolutely love the library, with the new books that have filled the shelves this year! Just recently, one student saw another student reading a very interesting book and the reader told him all about it in a quick synopsis without spoiling the ending. The student who asked now wants to borrow that book next. Another student had earlier been unmotivated to read and we worked hard to find a book that would suit her taste. We found a book for her, and she is currently halfway through it! These stories are what sparks a love for reading and brings back a culture of reading. It is evident that the benefit of AR is already having a positive benefit when students are asking me or other teachers to go to the library more often, or offering their input for making classrooms and the library cozier for Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) time. We are all excited to see what AR has in the store for us for the rest of the year!

Multicultural Children’s Book Day Storysigning
Written by Ms. Jenni Kysella, Elementary Teacher

January 25 on National Multicultural Children’s Book Day, Mr. Jeff Liu, HS Educational Advisor, read Bringing in the New Year by Grace Lin to all Elementary students. Students and teachers learned how a Chinese American family prepares for and celebrates the Lunar New Year. It was an opportunity for our students to see how we embrace each culture with its traditions, celebrations, language, and food. This exposure supports CSD’s core values in providing an equitable learning environment, including exposure to authentic books by multi-cultural authors for giving opportunities to learn from diverse perspectives and experiences.
How Being Bilingual Inspires Me

Written by Jaden Gamache, 5th Grade

I’m lucky to know two languages. My two languages are English and ASL. Both inspire me in different ways.

The advantages of ASL is that you can talk underwater, during meals, and faraway. That is good for a good talk, without stopping and to continue doing things. ASL uses facial expressions. It’s easier to understand than voices. It would be hard to tell between mad or sad. ASL helps you visualize more than voices. It shows exaggeration and also can communicate faster.

English advantages are that people can talk in the bright light. ASL needs eye contact but in the way of bright light it would be hard. English are used in books. In ASL, there is no ‘are’, ‘is’, ‘the’, or in some cases ‘it’. In books, the pages have ‘the’, ‘is’, and ‘are’. It is easy to get a person’s attention by yelling. Deaf people can yell, but it would be useless because deaf people can’t hear. If a hearing person yells to a hearing person, they would look back.

I have a multilingual family. Four of my siblings are hearing. One of my brothers is hard of hearing. My mom and dad have a bit of hearing, but they are called deaf people. Two of my grandparents are deaf. If I only use English, I would miss out on some words, and if I only use ASL, I would miss out on some words too. With both languages, I can talk to even more people and also it inspires me to meet new people.

This is why multilingualism inspires me. You can talk during meals, underwater, and faraway while books use English languages. You can talk to so many people around the world.

Reading with the Principal

Written by Ms. Janelle Green, Elementary Principal

Each year during National Young Readers Week, the “Book It!” program challenges principals to choose one day to read their hearts out all day long. For the third year in a row, Elementary Principal – Janelle Green, has accepted this challenge. This is a day to dedicate the entire schedule to reading. It is important for students to see reading as a lifelong habit and one that is enjoyable. Who says learning stops when we graduate? We had students, teachers and other campus staff stop by and read! Some read to the principal, some read to each other, and some read to themselves. With a year focused on literacy, this was just one more event to emphasize how important reading is to learning. Having a day outside on the playground with all the amenities doesn’t hurt either – how better to spend the day than with a book and a child?!?

Monthly ASL Storysigning

CSD hosts monthly ASL Storysigning at the Elementary Library for families with Deaf children. Staff, students, and even families take turns volunteering every month as the storysigner. Books are retold in a reader theatre style, captivating young children who enjoy coming back every month! Contact Mary Kopcho at mkopcho@csrcde.ca.gov.
CSD in NADmag School Spotlight: Why is media important?
Written by students schoolwide, in response to ASL Today question; Reprinted from NADmag | Fall 2018

“Media helps me decide what to buy at the store. I enjoy media.”
- Andre Stokes, 5th Grade ACE

“If disaster starts, the media informs us and we have more time to survive from the disaster.”
- Xayleena Marquez, 5th Grade

“It’s easier to broadcast information than physical communication because words get twisted easily if shared through spoken conversations. The media can keep the words intact.”
- Ty Willey, 7th Grade

“Media is important because it helps communication and gives recognition to others to become inspired and feel positive; it makes the school better.”
- Christian Jimenez, 8th Grade

“Being alive on this planet is important, so we deserve to have global knowledge, knowing what is going on. It is also educational for me as a pupil.”
- Enza Visco, 9th Grade

“We use technology nowadays. We must use media for information and communication. I literally am improving my reading and writing skills from media.”
- Gisella Visco, 9th Grade

“If there were no media, we would hate. We wouldn’t understand Deaf culture. We wouldn’t understand other cultures.”
- Dezmen Soto, 9th Grade ACE

“Media helps me visualize, expand my creativity and best of all, acquire languages even further.”
- Lily DeSimone, 12th Grade

“It’s about the community talking to their people.”
- Britzel Hernandez, 11th Grade

“Some people may be completely lost in the world’s system, but with media, they can be inspired and they should be able to get an idea of what it’s like in the real world.”
- Elijah Andrade, 12th Grade

“For funny stuff, laughter, and acting, to enjoy anytime. I also watch Facebook for CSD sports news.”
- Mayla Alvarez, 12th Grade TOP

“We keep ourselves connected to the world and be aware of what’s going on within our deaf community. Media is the main way since it is common for the deaf community to be left in the dark as the world goes on.”
- Gabriella Rodriguez, 12th Grade
Our youngest cubbies learned all about fire safety that included a visit from the Firefighters of our local Riverside station. They came to give us lessons on what to do in case of an emergency and/or fire, and then showed us all the cool equipment from their Fire Truck and Fire Engine. We were able to touch and experience everything that they use when on an emergency call. One Firefighter even showed us how they use the giant ladder! We learned so much from them and at the very end saw how quickly they can respond to a 911 call as they received a real one and had to “gear up” right before our eyes. We saw them off - lights and sirens going! Thank you Riverside City Fire for your time with us.

The Riverside mayor’s Model Deaf Community hosted an annual Deaf Awareness Day in at the end of September. As representatives on the committee, student leaders from CSD Jr. NAD organization and Associated Student Body Government gave performances at the Saturday Kick-off celebration in Downtown. Students did a Fashion Show to showcase a variety of Deaf-owned business apparel. The school is thankful to be located in a city that is Deaf-friendly and supportive of the Deaf community!
Middle School continued another year of the Battle of the Books teams for 2018-2019. The Blue and Buff teams qualified for the November preliminary video matches that took place daily for three days. The other schools or programs for the Deaf that CSD played against were Washington, Metro, Rocky Mountain, Venado, Arkansas, Oregon, Judson and McNeil. The Buff team read The Girl Who Drank the Moon, Lucky Broken Girl, and Harlem Charade. Books for the Blue team were Demon Dentist, Nimona, and Two Naomis. The Green team read Jacob Wonderbar, the Cosmic Space Kapow, Charlie and Frog, and Drama. Kudos to all the teams who worked hard during their competition. We are pleased to learn that the Blue team advanced to the nationals! The students will fly to Gallaudet University in Washington D.C. during the end of Spring Break in March 2019. Please congratulate the following students, and wish the Blue team good luck! Happy reading!

CSD’s Academic Bowl team hosted an entertaining fundraiser to cover the costs of trips to regional and national competitions. "Are You Smarter Than a Cubbie" was a game show where the audience got to play for games and prizes. Students and the audience burst with excitement participating in trivia games. Players gave great answers that showed deep intelligence! A 7th grader CODA* broke the record for lasting the longest in the game “Who Wants to a Millionaire?”, reaching the final question in which he was challenged to identify the most expensive substance on earth; the correct answer was anti-matter.

Later, just before winter break when college students came back home, the Academic Bowl team played a friendly match against alumni members of previous academic bowl teams who came to the campus for a visit. The former players had been formidable, top players in the nation, including Noah Valencia ‘17, Nathaniel Humpal ‘18, Hailey Burton ‘18, and Dakota Ronco ‘18. Guess who won? Our current team! Everyone had a lot of fun. Thank you to the community for your support! Good luck to this year’s team at the Regional bowl in Phoenix during early March, and hopefully at nationals in April!
The annual Battle of California took place at the northern California School for the Deaf in Fremont. The energy and enthusiasm was high at our pep rally to send off our CSD Riverside players well wishes for the winter Battle of California! The day before the Battle of California weekend events, students arrived for a special first ever Jr. NAD of California joint leadership retreat. Combined with CSD Fremont’s students, 57 students developed action plans after the workshops on Deaf education, LEAD-K for language acquisition, and community collaboration. Our youth leaders are empowered and ready to unite California more than ever.

On Saturday, our academic bowl team’s two for two victories ignited the Battle of California! We also triumphed in a very hot wrestling match that resulted in a tie, which we eventually won based on criteria!

The Fremont team, however, won the Boys Basketball game. Another battle came for us in the Girls Basketball game, with Fremont winning over Riverside. Kudos to our athletes who participated for their hard work and perseverance!

After a long Battle of California, students at both schools gained pride in their learning, their team efforts, their new friendships, and their home state! We thank CSD Fremont for hosting this great event. Onwards to elevating our leadership in youth!

Famous Deaf World Traveler Shares Stories with the Students

Calvin Young, a Deaf world traveler, videographer, photographer, blogger and inspirational speaker, gave all our students such a special treat - many amazing eye-opening stories of courage and perseverance. Calvin and the Sorenson team visited young children in ECE first. He shared videos, photos, and stories of his worldwide travels. He also shared other sign languages and welcomed students’ knowledge of other sign languages. At the assemblies with the older students, Calvin stressed to students about being open to truly experiencing the diverse cultures all over the world, and that students can travel or pursue their dreams when they work hard. At the end, Calvin led the crowd to sign in unity “Seek the World!” Thank you to Sorenson for your generous sponsorship, and to Calvin for sharing your experiences and inspiring us!
Sharing a Cultural Heritage

For International Day of Signed Languages, Elementary student Xayleena and her mother Fabiola shared their Mexican Sign Language and stories of Fabiola’s language barriers in Mexico. Guest speaker Melissa Yingst from Convo shared that she embraced LSM late in life, and advised students to cherish their bilingualism, and to be open to new languages.

Honoring Veteran’s Day

In observance of Veteran’s Day, middle school students attended an assembly. They watched an inspirational movie, “Taking Chance,” about a marine escorting home the body of a marine Killed-in-Action (KIA) with honor and reverence. Afterwards, they learned about the experiences of military life from a coast member of the Coast Guard, Jolyn Green, who presented directly in ASL. Jolyn is the eldest CODA* daughter of Elementary principal Ms. Janelle Green and Mr. Darrin Green. Thank you for sharing, Jolyn!

*CODA=Child of Deaf Adults

Dancing with the Deaf Stars for International Studies

On December 10, the audience was riveted watching staff and community representatives strut their stuff on the dance floor at the MAC! It was all for a good cause; to help give our International Studies students Elijah, Britzel, and Enrico a rare opportunity to visit Thailand to gain a better understanding of world history, improve their cultural literacy and experience natural sights of the world. Among the eight volunteer dancers were Daniel Blair of California Baptist University, paired with Stacey Hausman of the department for Curriculum Data Instruction and Advancement. They danced to “Shake It for Me” and “Frosty the Snowman”. Phil Carmona of RISE Interpreting joined Middle School teacher India Oliver, dancing to “Fever” and “Jump, live, and Wail". Diana MacDougall of Riverside City College danced with Michael Garza ’02 of Transition Partnership Program, to “Happy” and “Waiting on the World to Change”. Judges of the evening were Dr. Nancy Hlibok Amann, and community members Scott Berdy and Maureen Mazza. After mulling over a tough decision, they announced the winners were CSD Alumni President Erlinda Miller ’82, and Educational Advisor Jeff Liu. The winners danced fabulously to “Time of My Life”, and “Uptown Funk”. The evening ended with everyone dancing together. Thank you to everyone who came to support this fundraiser, and especially to Activities Director Mike Anderson for all of his hard work! We already cannot wait for this event next year!
Astronomers at the University of California, Riverside, have teamed with teachers at the California School for the Deaf, Riverside, or CSD, to design an astronomy workshop for students with hearing loss that can be easily used in classrooms, museums, fairs, and other public events. The workshop utilized a sound stage that allowed the CSD students to “feel” vibrations from rockets, stars, galaxies, supernovae, and even remnants of the Big Bang itself. The members of the team have made their materials public and written up their experiences to help teachers and other educators worldwide to similarly engage the deaf community in STEM activities.

They have worked closely with CSD teachers before, ensuring American Sign Language, or ASL, at public astronomy events, but had never developed an activity targeted for the deaf community.

“Designers of informal STEM education and public outreach activities often overlook people with hearing loss,” De Leo-Winkler said. “For our workshop we decided to focus on astronomy—a gateway to science—because of the breathtaking imagery it offers, the big questions it tackles, and its increasingly interdisciplinary nature. We used storytelling, videos, and images in the workshop to bring meaning to the sounds of the universe — all of which made for a very engaging experience for the students.”

“The students clearly loved the experience,” said Wilson, “and that’s the whole point.”

De Leo-Winkler and Wilson presented the workshop multiple times over three days at CSD, using feedback from the teachers and students not only to better convey the scientific concepts, but also to improve the students’ experience. Their presentation took the students on a cosmic voyage: the students “traveled” from Earth, where thunderstorms were raging, to the sun, where they experienced a solar storm. The voyage continued to Jupiter, flew through the rings of Saturn, and continued on to stars Alpha Centauri A and B. The students flew past the Large Magellanic Cloud galaxy and encountered a...
Continued from p. 12: The Vibrating Universe

supernovae explosion. The voyage ended by encountering the Cosmic Microwave Background, the radiation left-over from the Big Bang. Temperature variations in this radiation were sonified to allow the students to experience them as vibrations.

“Deaf individuals have a more developed sense of touch than hearing people due to their brain ‘rewiring’ in a process called neuroplasticity,” De Leo-Winkler said. “We paid close attention to this when designing the workshop. The students sit on a special interlocking wooden floor and face a TV screen. When sounds are played, they are transmitted by the sound system onto the floorboard as vibrations. Meanwhile videos and images that provide information are displayed on the screen. We tell the story and an interpreter signs what we say in American Sign Language.”

The workshop opens a new way of communicating cosmic phenomena, related to sound, to the deaf community, and opens the door for further developments in public outreach using vibrations to engage and excite students.

“Continuing their collaboration with CSD, De Leo-Winkler and Wilson are now developing another workshop for the deaf entitled, “Smells of the Universe” (with a school visit that occurred in November of 2018).

The paper, published in the Journal of Science Education and Technology, was funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation.

CSD Editor’s Note: After a four-year process, the visit for “Sounds of the Universe” took place in Spring 2018, and was recently published by UC Riverside. Stay tuned for the next feature, “Smells of the Universe”.

New Cave Gym and Ammons Memory Bench

After ten years of floor plan design and state contracts, CSD is overjoyed at the long-awaited opening of the new high school Athletics complex. The 45,000 square foot gymnasium building consists of two-sided folding bleachers, practice and wrestling gyms with bleachers, a weightlifting room, locker rooms, classrooms, therapy and laundry room, equipment storage facilities, and staff offices. In the area outside is a 25-meter competitive swimming pool, as well as a shallow wheelchair-accessible pool, along with bleachers, restroom facilities, pool equipment building, two tennis courts, fencing, a new roadway, vehicle parking, and night lighting. A new addition to the Athletics complex was installed in January of 2019—a memorial bench in front of the new Cave gym, that is inscribed “In loving memory of Jason Ammons (1922-2010)”. The school is honored with this gift from the Ammons-Bernstein family, friends, and school community, in the memory of a longtime devout CSD Athletics fan. Under leadership of PE/Athletics supervisor Laura Edwards and Athletic Director Jesse J. Bailey, CSD Riverside is excited to be ushered into a new age of Athletics in this Home of the Cubs!
Our Fall Cheerleading season has come to a close, with great accomplishments. We had a total of 22 team members this year and 3 managers. The fall season started off with 4 dedicated members attending USA summer camp in June. Two of our Cubs, Jared Herman and Kellirae Cox, were one of 29 selected out of about 70 cheerleaders to be on the USA All-American Cheer Team! They both traveled to Italy to perform in Rome’s New Year’s parade during winter break. For football season, we had 15 brand new members who worked hard to learn how to become cheerleaders for the first time. In October, the California Cubs Cheer Team competed against “hearing” schools at a Sharp International Cheer Competition and brought home 1st place for our division, Novice Co-Ed Non-Tumbling, 2nd place for Best High School Stunt Group, and 3rd place for Best High School Jumps. I am very proud of all the cheer members that participated during the fall season. Go Cubs!

From CSD, Kellirae and Jared are the FIRST deaf All-Americans representing their school and USA Camps. These two seniors from Riverside, CA are fluent in American Sign Language, set lofty goals for their futures, have a great appreciation for this exciting week and immediately took a leadership role here in Rome, Italy.

The Cubs Cheerleading Squad at CSD cheers for every sport – Football, basketball, volleyball, soccer. You name it! They are leaders on the field and in the school, with their involvement in multiple programs and influence in the community. We had the chance to ask Kellirae and Jared about their spirit raising activities within their school, and here’s what they had to say:

Kellirae, senior cheerleader at CSD, says “Every time we raise spirit at our school, we clearly explain what we want the audience to do in the stands, and then they copy us. It gets the audience more involved to have them physically do what we are doing. We do this by use of sign work for colors, plays of the game, chants and the direction and color of our pom poms.”

These two All-Americans put their game day materials to the test, and it paid off when they tried out for All-American at USA Camp. Jared, senior cheerleader at CSD said “At first, I did not think I was going to try out for All-American. I didn’t want to be rejected and I didn’t think I would raise the money for the trip. My coach, Stacey, encouraged me to try out anyway. It turned out that I made it, and I was so thrilled. USA Camp has always been such a special place for me, and this experience is truly incredible.”

Kellirae agreed, and added “USA Camp is such a supportive environment. The whole camp stood and cheered for me. It completely took the pressure off and made me feel very comfortable.” Kellirae and Jared have been lucky enough to work with Andy Gault, an ASL interpreter, and one of the NCA Staff.

Wish Kellirae and Jared luck as they are off to college next year and chasing their dreams!
Middle School Tackled Football with an Undefeated Season  
Written by Nancy Moore, Youth Sports Coordinator & Student Life Counselor

Last fall, our middle school students won all the football games with an 8-0 undefeated record. It was so exciting for us! Then for the championship, we were up to play against Redlands, the reigning champions who had usually won for the last eight years. Then at the championships, we finally beat them, narrowly with 34-30. We were overjoyed to reach this historic league championship! We had great coaches and the team had unity, with so much fire and passion. Our 8th grade players who will be entering high school this fall are very much looking forward to having Mr. Keith Adams as their Football Head Coach, for more great years of Cubs Football!

Volleyball Advanced through CIF Playoffs  
Written by Erica Hossler, Student Life Counselor and Co-Coach

At the end of October, the HS Volleyball team ended the season strong and proud. The first round of playoffs, which CSD won, was held at home. The second round was at Thousand Oaks High School. Despite the great distance, loyal fans traveled to Thousand Oaks to cheer for our HS volleyball team, and witnessed a great game. CSD won the first set, leading with a great stride of 18 points, won the second set, and eventually won the entire game. The girls were overjoyed! We are very proud of our Volleyball team for winning the first and second rounds of CIF playoffs. The team eventually was stopped at their third game, but are proud they made it this far. Thank you for all of your amazing support towards the volleyball team.

Athletics Fall Sports Recognitions  
Contributed by Tyler Bayarsky, Office Technician, PE/Athletics

Arrowhead All League Recognitions:
- Defensive Player of the Year - Hannah Metzner
- Offensive Player of the Year - Serenity Fry
- 1st All Team - Scarlet Watters
- 2nd All Team - Hannah Weiss
- Coach of the Year - Michelle Skowzgird
- Arrowhead League Champions 2018

2018 DeafDigest Sports 8-man Football All-American and other honors:
- Riverside – Dylan Duarte
- Riverside – Dylan Eveland
- Riverside – Robert Marquez
- Riverside – Cale Gamache
- Riverside – Andrew Taylor
- Riverside – Spencer Willey

2018 DeafDigest Sports Volleyball All-American and other honors:
- Riverside – Hannah Metzner

Spike Out 2018 All Star:
- Hannah Metzner

The mission is to prepare student athletes to practice ethical behavior, including fair play, integrity and obedience to rules.
College and Career Exposure and Preparation
Contributed by Ms. Ingrid Christianson and Ms. Erlinda Miller, Transition Options Program, Career Technology Education

This past fall semester, students benefited from multiple events provided by the CTE Transition Partnership Program. CSD hosted a Career Day, allowing HS students to meet Deaf professionals who work in a wide variety of careers. Professionals either gave presentations on campus for classes in rotation, or talked with the students through a videophone, displayed in larger size on the classroom white board.

Sophomores and Juniors also attended a special presentation on campus about National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) and Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), given by college visiting representative Brittany Comegna. After the college presentation, Brittany Comegna in collaboration with Vocational Rehabilitation counselor Kristin Connor, met one-on-one with Seniors on campus to discuss in depth their applications and desired college majors. As for the Seniors, including post-HS students in the Transition Options Program, they enjoyed a “Senior Transition Day” where they had the opportunity to explore on campus the many booths representing colleges with Deaf programs and services, and other human and communication services for Deaf people, including Video Relay. Students asked the professionals questions on potential Deaf Friendly opportunities. This endeavor was successfully co-coordinated in collaboration with the Dept. of Rehabilitation to ensure student success in their transition to college and careers.

FEAST Multi-Media Presentation: Mid-Atlantic Cuisine
Written by Ms. Scarlett Valencia, High School Principal

In October for example, students studied Mid-Atlantic cuisines, and in particular Louisiana’s history and culture. For their project, students in small groups shared their presentations to an audience of administrators, staff, and other FEAST students through all means of literacy including QR codes that provided the link to each student’s description of the menu in ASL. They also skillfully prepared Cajun and Creole food such as Cajun Canapés, a backyard seafood boil and king cake! What a royal treat for the audience to enjoy the enriched learning and sampling of food!
New Staff After the First Day: Welcome to the Family!

I bet you didn’t know that the idea of volunteering or giving of oneself for the benefit of others has its origins in early African life. Their traditional cultural beliefs and practices encourage collective responsibility, solidarity and reciprocity. These ideas are fundamental to expressing an individual’s humanity through his or her social relations with others. And they are the essence of what it means to volunteer. At CSD we currently have between 50 – 100 volunteers that provide hours of support to the students and staff. To be a volunteer means that you are; offering something and working side by side with others. This connects you to other human beings as you work towards a common goal. When you volunteer, you are making connections.

Thank You to Our Amazing Volunteers
Written by Ms. Laurie Waggoner, Volunteer Coordinator

Our volunteers do not volunteer for the pursuit of a monetary prize or recognition. They volunteer because the optimist inside of them sees a glimmer of hope. They understand that they are helping someone or something. They see that their time is worth investing in US! They volunteer no matter what their beliefs are, they know they are capable of inciting a change of doing well, or making progress no matter how small or large.

We have volunteers working side by side with our students and staff on a daily bases. They connect with us and feel that the common bond with a common goal. Volunteers are a huge part of our family and we all benefit greatly from working together! Here are just a few of the volunteers here on campus. Greet and thank them for working with us!
Elementary Principal Janelle Green, Middle School Principal Tammy Mitchell, High School Principal Scarlett Valencia, and Student Outcomes Specialist Stacey Hausman traveled to Phoenix, Arizona to participate in the first ever NWEA Accessibility Leadership Summit at Phoenix Day School for the Deaf. It was a great experience for CSD administrators and specialists to meet those who serve Deaf students from other schools across the nation. Together, they engaged in a meaningful dialogue about how the MAP tests can work better for the Deaf population.

Deaf Testing Accessibility
Written by Ms. Scarlett Valencia, High School Principal

CSD continues in its mission to increase safety for students and staff. All staff in Student Life, Instruction, and Student Services divisions received training on how to stop bleeding, in an event of a disaster. Procedures include 1) Apply pressure with hands, 2) Apply dressing and press, 3) Apply tourniquet with the steps of wrap, wind, secure, and time.

ASL Linguistics Training

CSD began a series of ASL linguistics training this school year for a group of teachers, student life counselors, and specialists with guest trainer, Dr. Keith Gamache, ’92. As CSD Valedictorian of 1992, Dr. Gamache has returned our school to share his expertise. Trainings were established in response to the recent distribution of national ASL standards from the Clerc Center for schools, to provide teachers with more resources in teaching to these standards.

Topics that have been introduced include language variations and depiction. Gamache covered the many types of identified classifiers, the history of its beginnings, and provided great examples of overlapping classifiers that convey information in the least amount of time. Teachers enjoyed the many hands-on activities analyzing and applying classifiers, with much laughter and heated discussions! The school is excited to increase our in-depth knowledge of ASL linguistics!
Thinking Maps
Written by Ms. Amy Kimmerle and Ms. Nanci Shrager

All students at CSD are learning to use a concrete, visual thinking tool called Thinking Maps to generate, organize, and explore their ideas. There are eight different Thinking Maps, each with its own visual representation of a specific cognitive process. Thinking Maps are used school-wide across all subject areas; instructors in all grade levels use them in some capacity. These maps provide a common language that encourages meaningful, memorable, and focused learning. When used correctly, they become tools for life-long learning and can be applied independently and authentically.

Parents can also review detailed information on the newly presented maps, and use the “home engagement ideas” in order to reinforce critical thinking skills children at home.

https://www.thinkingmaps.com

Teacher Science Finalist
Contributed by California Department of Education

Elizabeth Henderson checks a student’s Science composition notebook that a student holds up above her desk, and gives feedback in ASL.

Ms. Elizabeth Henderson, a Deaf teacher in Middle School at California School for the Deaf, Riverside, was recognized by State Superintendent Tom Torlakson as a Science Finalist for the national Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST).

Henderson has been teaching for six years and supports her peers by collaboratively developing lessons. She is developing student-friendly Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) posters for the Deaf and had also worked with the Rochester Institute of Technology to develop sign language for science terms. She teamed up with her colleague, Amy Kimmerle, a Social Studies teacher, to present at a conference for California Educators of the Deaf, (Cal-Ed 2015) on “Common Core in Science and History.” She also collaborates with Bilingual Language Arts teacher Lisa Chute and Spoken English teacher Wendy Green, as the science representative on the team for CSD and UCR’s ongoing partnership for Smells of the Universe and Sounds of the Universe. Elizabeth was also featured as a classroom teacher in the article “Addressing the Common Core State Standards with Deaf,” written by Erika Thompson for California Speech-Language-Hearing Association magazine.

Congratulations to our own Elizabeth Henderson!
CSD Riverside is honored with the generosity of the grown children of the late Felix Kowalewski, for recently bestowing upon CSD some remaining original artworks and artifacts that once belonged to a brilliant Deaf artist, teacher, poet, playwright, and author. One of the works include a self-portrait of a very young Felix taken in oil painting in 1939 while around age 26. Another piece of art depicts in fine detailed charcoal the famous sculpture of T.H. Gallaudet and Alice Cogswell. Kowalewski, a retired CSD art teacher, had already passed away in 1989. His wife Laura, who had taught at CSD Elementary, had survived him and is still living in her 100th year in Riverside. Like many late Deaf giants, Felix was born in Brooklyn, NY, and died in Riverside, CA. When he became deaf at age seven from spinal meningitis, he attended the New York School for the Deaf at Fanwood, 1921-1932; graduated Gallaudet College in 1937, then continued to study art. Kowalewski taught art at Deaf schools in West Virginia, Michigan, and California (Berkeley). When CSD Riverside opened in 1953, he immediately requested for a transfer and became one of the first teachers here until his retirement in 1977. At Riverside, he encouraged students to succeed, including one student, Paul Johnston, one of the pioneers for De’VIA who identified Kowalewski as a source of his inspiration. In 1983, the Graphic Arts department printed in limited edition Kowalewski’s poetry anthology You and I: fifty years of poems, translations and art work. This collection beautifully ties his writings in to his artwork. He also wrote a play for the National Theatre of the Deaf, The Last Supper. His artwork has been displayed in many galleries, including the National Gallery, the Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco, and Walt Disney Studios in Burbank, and one painting is permanently at Gallaudet University. He was also wrestling coach for the U.S. team at the World Games for the Deaf, Yugoslavia, 1969. Kowalewski is recognized in many publications, being listed as among the most famous Deaf Americans. Riverside is proud to preserve the works and the memory of Felix Kowalewski, and other Deaf role models who were here before us.
Riverside mourns the loss of an international Deaf hero, Gerald “Bummy” Burstein. Bummy passed away Friday evening August 31, 2018 at the age of 91 in his hometown, Riverside, CA.

A native of “Brooklyn, USA”, his love of the Brooklyn Dodgers “Dem Bums” gave him the nickname “Bummy.” Bummy led an active life making great contributions to the community. Bummy graduated from Gallaudet University in 1950 and became a teacher for Deaf children. After 52 years as teacher and administrator, which included 37 years at CSD Riverside, he retired. During his retirement years he remained a staunch supporter of education for Deaf children and youth.

In recognition of Bummy’s leadership and generosity, CSD honored him in February 2010 with the establishment and dedication of the Gerald "Bummy" Burstein Student Center.

Upon learning of his passing, Superintendent Nancy Hlibok Amann stated, “It is our commitment to make sure Bummy’s legacy lives on.”

A beautiful memorial was held for the community in Riverside on Veteran’s Day.

Bummy’s contribution to CSD Riverside continues, through his community foundation to support students’ growth in leadership and literacy. To continue your support of this cause, you may send donations to Gerald “Bummy” Burstein Endowment Fund, c/o California School for the Deaf, Riverside”.

Weep Not for Me
Hey! It’s me, Bummy!
I feel strange …
Somehow, I’m not here,
But my soul shall remain….
I’m gone, but weep not for me…
It was time to go.
It’s time for our young to flower…
Time to celebrate and grow.
Being famous was not most important.
Passing the torch was pure satisfaction…
I lived to inspire others,
So they could in turn, inspire a nation…
Indeed, spread the message!
I’m gone, but weep not for me…
Dwell within me, set the example
For our youth to be the best they can be.
Heyt! It’s me, Bummy…
Someplace peaceful and worthwhile,
Waiting to “language” with you later…
With an amused smile.

- Tim Jaech
9-3-2018

Bernard Bragg (1928-2018)

“BB”, also born in Brooklyn, NY, was a well-known deaf actor, producer, director, playwright, artist, and author who is notable for being a co-founder of the National Theatre of the Deaf and for his contributions to Deaf performing culture. Bragg was also a huge part of Deaf West Theatre, a local theatre that performs in Southern California. ASL and Deaf theatre were made possible for CSD students, with thanks to Bernard Bragg’s trailblazing work.
How Do I Find CSD Riverside Information Online?

CSD Website: www.csdcubs.com
E-mail: info@csdr-cde.ca.gov | Sign up to subscribe news
Facebook: www.Facebook.com/CSDRiverside
Instagram: @csdriverside  Athletics Instagram: @csdralumni
Twitter: @csdriverside  Athletics Twitter: @csdralumni
YouTube: www.youtube.com/channel/ CaliforniaSchoolForTheDeafRiverside
Newsletters: issuu.com/search for “csdr”
CSDR Alumni Association: www.csdralumni.org/
Thrive | California Deaf Education Resource Center:
http://thrive.cde.ca.gov | cderc@csdr-cde.ca.gov

Upcoming Events: 2019

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<tr>
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*Events subject to change
View latest school event details at www.Facebook.com/CSDRiverside and sports information on CSDR Athletics Facebook page

The Counseling Services and Social Work department at CSD would like to express sincere appreciation and gratitude to Ontario Reigns for the donation of funds toward new sneakers, purchased through “Shoes That Fit”, and to Santa Claus, INC. for donating sandals, to go to students. Thanks also go to Riverside Police Foundation for supporting our students.

Contact our Social Workers Darlene Wadler (951) 824-8047 VP and Lorna Rutherford at 951-248-7700 x4909.

“The students are very happy wearing their new gifts. Their uplifted self-esteem shows in every step.”