

## A Summary Report of the December 10, 2019 CFSD Governing Board Meeting



### Executive Session

The governing board held an executive session for the mid-year performance review of Superintendent Mary Kamerzell.



### CFSD Foundation Check Presentation

Foundation President Melinda McNeilus, Foundation Board Members Lori Leung, Laurie Seder and Carole Siegler presented their semi-annual gift in the amount of \$75,000.00 to support the Great Beginnings teacher professional learning program. Board members expressed their gratitude to the CFSD Foundation for their donation and continued generosity and support.



## Outstanding Achievements!

Superintendent Mary Kamerzell shared the following student and staff achievements.

### Canyon View

Canyon View fifth-grader Izzy Garcia was selected by Arizona Superintendent of Public Instruction Kathy Hoffman as a member of the first statewide Student Advisory Council. There are 20 student members selected from across the state.

### Catalina Foothills High School

Speech & Debate - Nine members placed in the Finals with a First Place Finish at the Water Tower

Tournament. Josh Tint won the "Big Question" championship event.

At the Division I Winter Trophy Tournament, held at ASU on December 6-7, nineteen CFHS students competed. The following team members medaled in their events: Jake Martin, Congressional Debate, House 2, 6th place; Yusuf Rahman, Congressional Debate, House 4, 3rd place; and Josh Tint, Big Questions Debate, 2nd place. The following team members advanced in their events: Romit Banerjee, Humorous Interpretation, Semifinals; and Pranav Iyer and Max Sigsworth, Varsity Public Forum, Quarterfinals. Their teacher/coach is Angela Hill.

First Tech Challenge - The high school's FTC team, Pioneer 327, won the Connect Award at the FIRST Tech Challenge regional competition last weekend. The Connect Award goes to the team that best connects with their community, FIRST, and the business world. They won a majority of their robot matches and advanced to the semifinals. The fifteen students on the team are Jerry Barela, Josh Barlow, David Berk, Braeden Cantor-Goldner, Danil Clayton, Joseph Cohen, Delaney Endean, Nik Gruber, Mohamed Katbah, Dexi Lin, Ben Seckeler, Gianluca Tenino, Josh Tint, Jeremy Wang, and Noah Wellman. Their coaches are Charlotte Ackerman, Mark Haye, and Tim Colson.

Cross Country - The girls team placed 2nd in State competition with 3 runners finishing in the top twelve. Girls coach Amy Peterson and boys coach Steve Carney were named Cross Country Coaches of the Year by All Sports Tucson. Brandon Martz and Taylor McCue were named Freshmen Runners of the Year. Taylor McCue, Tia Woods, Brandon Martz, and Henry Anderson were named to the All-Star Freshmen Team. Lauren Jorgensen, Taylor McCue, Alyssa Roudebush, Bryn Callie, and Luis Sotelo were named to the All-Southern Arizona First Team.

Pomline - They placed 2nd and qualified for USA Nationals in Pom and Jazz at the Regional Qualifier. The team will travel to Disneyland in February to compete at the national level.

Volleyball - Lauren Rumel was named to the Tucson Local Media 2019 Girls Volleyball All-Region First Team, Middle Blocker. She was also named to the All-

Southern Arizona first team by All Sports Tucson. Mya Breitweiser, Jiana Lawson, and Ashley Ruiz were named to the All-Southern Arizona second team. For the 4A Conference, Jiana, Ashley, and Lauren were named to the first team. Myra Breitweiser and Caroline Parker were named to the second team. Ella Parsons and Olivia Rubio were named to the third team.

National Letters of Intent for Athletics - Six athletes signed their letters on November 13: Kiersten Belkoff, gymnastics, University of Pennsylvania; Maya Benita, golf, University of Arizona; Skylar Dikeman, swim, University of Arizona; Hannah Draper, soccer, New Mexico State University; Caroline Parker, volleyball, Western Colorado University; and Christiana Williams, swim, Tulane University.

Chess - The team won the Division IV championship with a perfect match score. The team also placed 2nd in the State Team Championship.

Theatre - Two CFHS teams competed in the Arizona Thespian Society State Conference, Tech Challenge on November 15-16. Sixty-one teams registered for the event, the largest Thespian Society Tech Challenge in the country. "Backstage Badgers 1" tied for 7th place overall. Team members are Maya Benita, Elle Muller, Katrina Purvance, and Annie Roche. Maya placed 2nd in Overall Individual Events for Rigging, and The Team placed 2nd for the Cable Coiling Relay. "Backstage Badgers 2" placed 12th overall. Team members are Maya Benita, Erik Ostrop, Ellen Sipos, and Carter Weeks. Their teacher/coach is Norm Testa.

#### Community Schools

Our First Lego League (FLL) robotics teams competed in the Tucson Regional Robotics Tournament last weekend. Each team presented research on urban sustainability and resilience and proposed innovative ideas for Tucson. They were also scored on teamwork, robot design, and performance. "Team 5156-Red Light Redemption" took 1st place and the Championship Award. They advanced to State. Team members are Connor Bates (OG), Casey Berk (OG), Henry Bonomolo (EC), Zak Gruber (OG), Maxwell Palermo (EC), Seth Rojas (EC), Zoe Wung (EC), Bryan Zhang (EC), and Cyrus Zhang (EC). Their coaches are Charlotte Ackerman and Mark Haye. "Team 5155-City Shaders" won the Robot Performance Award and the Core Values Award. They advanced to State. Team members are As'id Badereen (OG), Connor Belokovski (EC), Ingrid Benito (OG), Landon Chang (OG), Dante Franco (OG), Maija Hildebrand (OG), Rory McGuire (OG), Luke Sadalla (OG), and Zacarias Young (OG). "Team 27727-Accessibility Matters" won the Rob Design Award and advanced to State. Team members are all Sunrise Drive students: Elizabeth Esquer, Braeden Gracy, Olivia Luff, Nicholas Pickard, Patrick Twomey, and Gregan Vamos. Their coaches are Eugene Vamos, Sarah, Esquer, and Charlotte Ackerman. "Team 5152-Y.I.M.B.Y." advanced

to State. Team members are Michelle Chiu (CV), Gavin Hoose (CV), Ian Huber (VV), Kian Mccandless (VV), Constantine Panousopoulos (VV), and Jolie Wung (VV). Their coaches are Charlotte Ackerman and Kelly Taylor. "Team 5154-High Five" advanced to State. Team members are all Manzanita students: Alexis Bates, Madison McCoy, Matthew Meislin, Nathan Wu, and Aiden Zhou. Their coaches are Kelly Taylor and Donna Fisher.

#### **Approval of Revisions to Grade 9 Human Growth and Development (third reading)**

Associate Superintendent Mary Jo Conery presented the third reading of the proposed changes to the curriculum. She reported that the changes to the curriculum are based on the repeal to Arizona Revised Statute 15-716(C) during last year's legislative session that affects the specific language that guides the content for instruction on acquired immune deficiency syndrome and human immunodeficiency virus. Dr. Conery reviewed the proposed addition to the third sub-topic for Session 2, Understanding Gender. She reported that there were two minor wording corrections. As indicated in the earlier presentations, Arizona law requires that the governing board publicize and hold two public hearings before the consideration for approval. The hearings were held at the Board's two November meetings. The board approved the addition to the Grade 9 Human Growth and Development curriculum, as presented.

#### **2019 Arizona Legislative / Governmental Activity**

Board members discussed information on the initiative entitled "Arizona Classroom Code of Ethics for K-12 Public Schools," proposed by legislators. If approved, the initiative would prohibit school teachers of any subject, including history, to speak positively or negatively about recent elected officials, political parties or judicial decisions. Teachers would only be allowed to discuss world events that occurred before 1970.

Also discussed were comments by United States Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos during her visit to Arizona about her Education Freedom Scholarships federal proposal. Under the plan, donations to scholarships for private schools and other education services would get a dollar-for-dollar federal tax credit. The proposal is similar to Arizona's Empowerment Scholarship Account tax credit program for private education.

#### **Consent Agenda Items**

The governing board approved the following consent agenda items.

- November 25, 2019, regular governing board meeting minutes
- Expense voucher memorandum
- Field trip request memorandum
- Fundraising request memorandum
- Personnel memorandum

- Gift and Donations memorandum
- Authorization for use of the Governing Board signature stamps for 2019-2020 memorandum
- The consent to the assignment of the agreement from Smartschoolsplus to Educational Services Inc., memorandum
- 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter tax credit eligible fees memorandum
- Core and supplemental instructional materials/resources memorandum

### **Upcoming Board Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled governing board meeting is ***Tuesday, January 14, 2020, 6:30 p.m., at the Professional Learning Center at Valley View Early Learning Center.***

- Outstanding Achievements
- CFSD Star Award – CFHS Girls Swim and Dive State Champions
- Election of Governing Board President and Vice President
- Consideration of Changes to High School Courses and Programs for 2020-2021 (first reading)
- Report of ASBA Annual Conference December 18, 2019 Business Meeting Report



Please welcome new CFSD staff members:

Beth Bramblett, EA Inclusion, CFHS  
 Jaqueline Comisso, EA Classroom, ECMS  
 Delaney Hughes, EA Inclusion, CFHS  
 August "Sandy" Merz, Math Teacher, ECMS