



# PERRIS UNION

## HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

May 2016

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(951) 92-ALERT (922-5378)

(Please note this line is not monitored)

Emergency updates on website:  
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## Superintendent's Message by Dr. Jonathan L. Greenberg



Since I started teaching almost 39 years ago, the world as we know it has changed markedly. The Cold War is over, our economy has experienced booms and busts, including the Great Recession which began in 2008. From the cars we drive to the televisions we watch, and from the advent of the personal computer to the rise of smartphones, a lot has changed in the last few decades; and, it seems like this is just the beginning.

When it comes to public school classrooms, K-12 public education has made slow but steady progress to improve student outcomes for all students. In the past, we had hope that all of our students would be successful, yet we did not have a concrete plan to improve outcomes for English Learners, students from impoverished backgrounds, Special Education students, and foster youth.

In 2014, the State of California attempted a bold new initiative to improve outcomes for all students, while allotting additional resources for schools/districts with high percentages of English Learners, students in poverty, and foster youth. On top of that, we have introduced new curriculum (Common Core) and new assessments (Smarter Balanced Assessments). The purpose of Common Core and Smarter Balanced Assessments is to better prepare all of our students for the world, their world, of the 21st Century.

We have come a long way in transforming our classrooms from passive learning environments, where the teacher delivers information standing in the front of the classroom to students sitting in rows, to one in which students are more engaged and taking greater control over their learning. Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) teaching strategies, 1:1 technology, Professional Learning Communities (PLC's), and increased collaboration time for teachers are conscious efforts to improve classroom instruction in a collaborative manner district-wide.

Our collective efforts, regardless of your role in the District or at the California Military Institute, have been remarkable to-date. Our challenge is to continue asking ourselves what we can do to make certain all of our students graduate high school ready for college and/or a career for the 21st Century.



The Governing Board desires to provide a safe school environment that allows all students equal access and opportunities in the district's academic and other educational support programs, services, and activities. The Board prohibits, at any district school or school activity, unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying of any student based on the student's actual race, color, ancestry, national origin, ethnic group identification, age, religion, marital or parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or gender expression; the perception of one or more of such characteristics; or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. School personnel must take immediate steps to intervene when safe to do so when he or she witnesses an act of discrimination, harassment, intimidation or bullying. (BP, 5145.3)

# HUMAN RESOURCES

by Tonya Davis, Chief Human Resources Officer



We had a great time celebrating all of our employees of the year at our annual Employee Recognition event held this year on April 6th at Monteleone Meadows. I am excited to share that our very own Norma Carrillo, teacher at Perris High School, was a semi finalist for the Riverside County Teacher of the Year Program. We are so proud of you Norma!



Perris High School Staff



Heritage High School Staff



Perris Lake High School Staff



The Academy Staff



CMI Staff



Pinacate Middle School Staff



Paloma Valley High School Staff



As we approach the final countdown to the school year, we hope that you know how much your commitment and dedication to the students we serve is appreciated! Our next big ACT event will be a Perris Union High School District night at the Storm Stadium enjoying a baseball game that will feature Dr. Greenberg throwing the first pitch. We hope to see many of you there on Thursday, May 12th!!

The ACT Team (Employee Morale Committee) had a blast planning the 2nd Annual Casino Night that was held at Perris High School on March 11th. Although we almost had to row ourselves to the event because of the down-pour we experienced that evening, staff had a great time laughing, relaxing and simply enjoying time together.



## Technology

by Joseph Williams, Executive Director of Technology



Perris Union High School District is a special place to work. I am lucky to work with thoughtful and dedicated educators on a daily basis. I use the term "educator" to describe not only teachers but also the classified staff. We are all in the business of education and we all are educators regardless of the position we hold. I remember when I was hired

here at the District, I was given the opportunity to state my philosophy of education. One point that I expressed is that "it should be our mission to collaboratively transform education." I stated this in the interview and stated this often over the years. It is through our collaborative process that we are able to offer a world-class education to our students.

I am honored and humbled to have recently been promoted to a cabinet level position. I am excited to serve and to work hard to continue our focus on a student-centered education. As a classroom teacher and in my current position, I have been able to work with purpose and have a meaningful impact on the direction of the District. But the most powerful part of this is the awesome people I get to work with. I look forward to our continued collaboration and look forward to our work to transform education.



# Business Services

by Candace Reines, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services



The Business Services Division believes that we play an important role in education by providing top notch facilities and services that our students, teachers and staff deserve. We take this role very seriously and take great pride in providing clean, safe, and well maintained facilities throughout the District. Whether maintaining existing facilities, modernizing or repurposing existing instructional spaces, planning for and managing new construction projects, or the upgrading of security cameras, we strive to provide the very best and make the most of the resources entrusted to the District. Below are some of the upcoming summer projects as well as an update on two major ongoing projects, the Perris High School construction and upgrade to our security system.

## Upcoming Summer Projects

This summer, the following projects will be scheduled and completed for the start of the 2016-17 school year. The Academy, California Military Institute, and Perris Lake High School's will have Makerspaces for the upcoming school year. Pinacate Middle School and Paloma Valley High School will also have additions to their Makerspaces which were completed last summer. The artificial turf at Paloma Valley, Heritage and Perris High schools will be groomed and sanitized and the tracks at each of these schools will be restriped. Paloma Valley High School will have their stadium scoreboard replaced with an LED scoreboard. An LED scoreboard will also be added to the girls softball field. There will be painting projects at both Heritage High School and Perris High School to address certain aging outdoor building surfaces. The fitness room at Perris High School will be remodeled to include painting and replacing the wooden floor with RamFlex a weight resistant rubber flooring system. We will also apply a slurry seal coat of asphalt and striping at the California Military Institute on their basketball courts, the volleyball courts and the parade deck. California Military Institute will have the addition of HVAC units in the coaches offices of the boys and girls locker rooms. At Perris High School, we will apply a slurry coat in the lunch area. Perris, Paloma Valley and Heritage High schools will have their gym floors top scrubbed and refinished.



In addition to the maintenance projects described above, our District will be implementing energy efficiency upgrades at each of our school sites. The District has received funds from the California Clean Energy Jobs Creation Act - Prop 39. These funds will be used to change the majority of outside lighting at our sites from incandescent to LED lighting. Also on the list for the energy upgrades are the lighting systems in our athletic gyms throughout the District, which will likewise be changed over to LED fixtures. HVAC upgrades on the small gym at Perris High School along with a new high efficiency pool pump control system are included in the projects to be funded through Prop 39.



## Perris High School Construction Update

Anyone that has been to the Perris High School campus recently has been able to see the improvements on the campus which continue to move forward in the form of the Phase 2A project. Phase 2A includes the construction of the new boys and girls locker rooms along with two 2 story classroom buildings and a satellite kitchen kiosk. This phase of the overall campus transformation began in the spring of 2015. The construction activities have been ongoing during the last 12 months and have added new, very prominent, facilities to the campus. The new boys and girls locker room building is substantially complete and is scheduled to open at the beginning of the 2016-17 school year.

The locker building includes not only locker rooms but also athletic team rooms as well as an athletic trainers room. Also scheduled for opening in August is the satellite kitchen. The satellite kitchen will provide an opportunity for Nutrition Services to serve lunch at a different area of campus in addition to the existing kitchen and lunch lines for quicker and more efficient service. Finally, Phase 2A includes the most prominent feature that has changed the center of campus at Perris High. From a concrete slab to its steel beam structure to its current state as a semi complete classroom building, the students and staff at Perris High School have seen this building go up and move towards completion. The two story buildings include an ASB office, student store as well as art, ceramics, and other classrooms that will be a welcome improvement to the facilities at Perris High. The two story classroom buildings are scheduled of opening during winter of the 2016-17 school year.

## Business Services (cont.)

The Perris High School campus improvement plan is ready to take another step. In April, the Board of Trustees approved contracts for the construction of the Phase 2B portion of the Perris High Improvement Plan. The 2B portion of the improvements to Perris High includes a single story building that will house a new kitchen facility, student union, and career tech classrooms. ROTC will also have a new home in the Phase 2B facility. Also approved in April was Phase 2 of the Perris High School Agricultural Facility Plan. The Agricultural Facility Phase 2 project includes a two story building which will house new Ag classrooms and laboratories, as well as a floral shop. The Phase 2 facility has been dubbed the Perris Agricultural Center for Excellence, PACE building. The Perris High School Phase 2B project as well as Phase 2 of the PACE project are scheduled to begin this summer and will be completed during the winter of the 2017-18 school year.



### New Security Cameras and Monitoring

A little over one year ago, the District embarked on an ambitious project to overhaul its' ageing and inadequate security camera (CCTV) systems. The cameras and wiring were not designed for quality video; they only transmitted analog signal and were not compatible with a digital signal used for high quality Internet Protocol (IP) cameras, commonly used for modern CCTV security camera implementations.

In October 2015, the Board approved a contract with TRL Systems, Incorporated. after a competitive bidding process was completed, and shortly thereafter, work began with completion scheduled prior the start of the 2016-17 school year. The project includes all of the wiring, software, cameras, network video recorders, alarm panels, and all other goods and services necessary, including a three year warranty. A schedule was developed that permitted TRL to work at multiple sites simultaneously while making every effort to minimize the impact on instruction or other events on our campuses. TRL has coordinated closely with plant supervisors and site custodial staff to ensure that they have worked with minimal disruption and have proven themselves to be a competent and conscientious partner with the District. As with any project of this scope and magnitude, there will be minor scheduling conflicts and the occasional problem, but we have been able to work through these eventualities with minimal disruption.

While only half way through the scheduled time for implementation, the new CCTV system has proven itself useful in investigating a multitude of campus security issues from stolen equipment to vandalism to investigations of student altercations. We have even been able to assist the Riverside County Sheriff's Deputies with locating a suspect in an armed robbery! We will be rolling out access to the new system to site administration in the coming days and weeks



surveillance to better protect the District's assets and facilities.

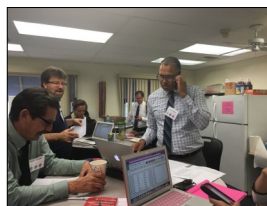
## Educational Services

by Grant Bennett, Assistant Superintendent



More Perris Union High School District seniors will be eligible to receive federal and state financial aid when they start college this fall thanks to the focused and collaborative efforts of counselors, teachers, administrators and district personnel aimed at ensuring students submit financial aid applications. The District began the year-long focus on

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) completion in October with the Kickoff to College event. On this one day event, all seniors participated in a financial aid workshop and began the process of completing a financial aid application by creating a Federal Student Aid ID. The commitment to push the sense of urgency related to financial aid extended far beyond this one day event. Counselors, teachers, administrators and classified staff all joined the FAFSA movement to motivate students to take action to fund their educational future. Innovative and creative ways to motivate students included FAFSA submission celebrations and appealing incentives for students like electronics and graduation tickets.



On March 14, 2016 during a monthly leadership meeting, all District administrators took part in the first annual "Dialing for Dollars" event by calling 597 families to educate them on the importance of completing a FAFSA. In the three days following the event, FAFSA submission increased an additional percent. This event helped generate the completion of 1,487 FAFSA applications with over 71 percent of the District's seniors having an application submitted. The "Dialing for Dollars" event demonstrates the commitment that the Perris Union High School District has towards college and career readiness for all students. This commitment has generated the highest District FAFSA submission for the class of 2016. In the County's "Race to Submit" contest, Heritage High School topped all large high schools in Riverside County with 88 percent of seniors submitting the FAFSA. The chance to pay for college might be the opportunity students needed to pursue the dream of attending college.