Cactus Shadows High School Student Named a Coca-Cola Scholar Semifinalist!

Congratulations to CSHS’ Katianna Blackwell-Scott, who has been named a Semifinalist for the 2021 class of the Coca-Cola Scholars Program. You may recall that Katianna was named a National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist; scored a perfect 36 on her ACT and a 1470 on her PSAT. Katianna is also a varsity/club diver and volunteers at the National Charity League, Mom's Pantry, Teen Lifeline, and Puppy Love.

One Thousand, Six-hundred nine high school seniors were selected as Semifinalists from a pool of 99,403 submitted applications from across the country based on their academic excellence, leadership and service demonstrated in school and community activities. The Semifinalists are in the running for 150 college scholarships worth $20,000.

Katianna will be moving to the next round of the selection process to become a Coca-Cola Scholar and receive a $20,000 college scholarship. A joint effort of Coca-Cola bottlers across the country and The Coca-Cola Company, the Coca-Cola Scholars Program is the largest corporate-sponsored, achievement-based scholarship program in the United States. With the addition of the 2021 class, the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation will have provided more than 6,450 Coke Scholars nationwide with over $75 million in scholarships over the course of 33 years.

Dear CCUSD Parents, Community and Staff,

Happy 2021 to you and yours. I hope you and your family are well. 2020 has now passed and exciting and better days lie ahead in the Cave Creek Unified School District. I am very optimistic about our future. We wish Dr. Debbi Burdick a happy retirement and thank her for all of her efforts over the many years she served in helping to achieve the level of excellence that exists in CCUSD for both students and families. Thank you Dr. Burdick.

I am thrilled to join the Cave Creek Unified School District family and have been made to feel very welcome already. I thank each one of you for that. 2021 brings me the opportunity to work with a great team of educators and professionals who serve our students in Cave Creek. As the new superintendent, I express my commitment to begin the good work by engaging and listening to stakeholders so that we can continue the many great things already happening and collaborate on how we can continue to improve. I look forward to meeting each of you and working with the Cave Creek Governing Board, staff, parents, families and all stakeholders in our commitment to both maintain and grow the success that has been accomplished so far in CCUSD.

Sincerely,
Cort Monroe, Ed.D.
CSHS’ Jack Tarkany…
Congratulations to Cactus Shadows High School's own - Jacob Tarkany! He signed with Ohio State for men's golf!

Cindy Armgort…
Congratulations to Desert Willow Elementary Schools’ Cindy Armgort! She has awarded ANOTHER grant to help DWES’ STEM lab grow! APS Suns grant awarded her an additional $1600 to use toward supplies and materials to help the Roadrunners become thinkers, problem-solvers, and engineers.

Superintendent’s Student Cadre – Sock & Mask Drive…
The Superintendent's Student Cadre's Sock & Mask drive was a SUCCESS! Thank you to all who donated to the homeless senior citizens who frequent the Justa Center in Phoenix. The items will be delivered next week - THANK YOU!
STMS Students of the month for November & December, 2020…
Congratulations to Sonoran Trails Middle School Students of the Month for November and December!
Month of November - seventh grade: Andrea Bolliwtt; Vanessa Maravilla Carlos Wright; Peyton Pfefforkorn; Brynn Riepe; and Megan Swansiger. Eighth grade: Katie Bachmeier; Harper Bahnerth; Ava Byman; and Alexa Campbell!
Month of December - seventh grade: Alynne Igondjo; Nicholas Pollicino; Carly Pullifrone; and Peyton Schmidtke. Eighth Grade: Aiden Hague; Erick Hughes; Carson Pipher; and Bruce Sedillo.

Special Education Excellence Awards…
CCUSD’s Special Education Department celebrated their Excellence Award winners at the December 14, 2020 Governing Board Meeting. Congratulations to: Drew Raymond (student); Caitlin Leja (Certified Language Pathologist at DWES & CSHS); and Cathy Smith (Psychology Assistant at CSHS).

Sonoran Trails Middle School Cheer…
Sonoran Trails Middle School Cheer placed FIRST in the USA Arizona & Utah Virtual Regionals. The Stingers qualified for Nationals.
The 24th Annual Hope Box Gift Project in the Cave Creek Unified School District has been a great success again this year. Teachers, staff, students, families and community members came together to give 40 families a great holiday. We received hundreds of gifts and gift cards beautifully wrapped and ready to go under the trees of these wonderful district families that were nominated for the program.

The program was started by Klou O’Dell, former District Nurse twenty four years ago and has been a great tradition in our district and community. According to Klou, “I started thinking about how we would drive down to PV mall to get Christmas angels and that we must have needy families in our own community. So I asked my two offices (at the time) if instead of exchanging gifts, would they like to be a part of a community giving project instead. The staff was so enthusiastic that I decided to open it up to both of my campuses to participate. It just grew and grew and became a tradition for lots of classrooms and school clubs. It gave me such joy. We had families that some years would tell me they were doing well now and wanted to help give back. It was, and I hope still is, such a gift to be able to support your community unconditionally. This project brought all of us so many cherished stories, smiles and happy tears over the years.”

The program has been organized over the years by many district departments and this year was headed by Education and Community Services. Carrie Rath, Preschool Program Assistant, worked tirelessly to organize and streamline the program with great success.

A huge thank you goes out to Kiwanis for adopting 8 families and giving out $100 gift cards to all 40 families. This is definitely a gift that keeps on giving! Additionally The Christ Church of the Valley (CCV) North Phoenix Neighborhood Groups donated 2 large food boxes to each family so not only will they have a great evening opening presents, they will be able to have a delicious meal as well.

Klou O’Dell shared, “I am so thankful that the Giving Box Spirit lives on!”
Employee of the Month Recipients for December 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>POSITION</th>
<th>SITE/DEPT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#WEARECCUSD Award</td>
<td>Receptionist</td>
<td>District Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michele Sivets &amp;</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Heather McGillivray</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nereida Castro</td>
<td>World Language Specialist</td>
<td>DWES</td>
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<tr>
<td>Denis Day</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>CSHS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Gentry</td>
<td>Bus Driver</td>
<td>Transportation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kellie Hale</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>LMES</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jocelyn Raught</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>CSHS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kelsey Spear</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>DWES</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kristin Steward</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>BMES</td>
</tr>
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Employees of the Month are honored with a plaque and a gift certificate from our sponsor, Summit Diner. One of the lucky winners will be randomly chosen to receive a facial from Summit Aesthetics. CCUSD thanks the sponsors of the Employees of the Month program: The Summit Diner, Noah Kendrick of Kendrick Wealth Management Group, and Summit Aesthetics.

Inspiration Citation Winners for December 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>POSITION</th>
<th>SITE/DEPT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jana Groh*</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>HTES</td>
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<tr>
<td>Krystal Hansen</td>
<td>Kids Club Program Manager</td>
<td>BMES/ECS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lori Johnston</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>DSA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stephanie Legro</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>DWES</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stephanie Mullinix</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>BMES</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kathryn Payan</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>STMS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kendall Regan</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>LMES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leslie Ricker</td>
<td>Food Services</td>
<td>CHILD NUTRITION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackie Schottel</td>
<td>Paraprofessional</td>
<td>STMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danae Sprouse</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>CSHS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Winner of the monthly raffle drawing - Complimentary Facial from our community sponsor, Summit Aesthetics

We thank our sponsors Chick Fil A, Cobblestone Auto Spa, Rancho Manana Golf Club, and Sprouts Farmers Market.
Outgoing Board Members/Superintendent...
Dr. Debbi Burdick, Board President Kathryn Hill and Board Vice President James Rich were honored at the December 14, 2020 Governing Board Meeting - THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SERVICE TO CCUSD!

Incoming Board Members/Superintendent...
Incoming CCUSD Governing Board Member, Brianna Walker, took her Oath of Office December, 2020. She's pictured here with Maricopa County Superintendent, Steve Watson Maricopa County School Superintendent's Office and CCUSD Superintendent, Dr. Cort Monroe.

Lone Mountain Elementary School...
Cindy-Lou Who showed up at Lone Mountain Elementary School the week of Winter Break.

On December 21st - new CCUSD Governing Board Member Jeff Fortney and returning Board Member Janet Busbee took their Oath of Office. Thank you both for your service to our students. They are pictured here with Maricopa County Superintendent, Steve Watson Maricopa County School Superintendent's Office and CCUSD Superintendent, Dr. Cort Monroe.
CCUSD wants YOU as a part of its team!

CCUSD is hiring for the following positions:

**CERTIFIED**
- Secondary Math Teachers
  - Full Time with 100% Health Insurance Paid
- Secondary ELA Teachers
  - Full Time with 100% Health Insurance Paid
- Secondary Digital Communication Teacher
  - Part Time with Paid Sick Leave
- Secondary Spanish Teacher
  - Full Time with 100% Health Insurance Paid
- Secondary Social Studies Teacher
  - Full Time with 100% Health Insurance Paid
- Elementary and Secondary Special Ed Resource Teachers
  - Full Time with 100% Health Insurance Paid
- Elementary French Immersion Teacher
  - Full Time with 100% Health Insurance Paid
- Elementary and Secondary World Language Teachers - Chinese
  - Full Time with 100% Health Insurance Paid

**CLASSIFIED**
- Kitchen Manager – LMES
  - Full Time with 100% Health Insurance Paid
- Food Service Worker
  - Part – Time with earned sick days
- Bus Drivers
  - Full Time with 100% Health Insurance Paid;
  - Paraprofessional II (multiple sites)
  - Full Time with 100% Health Insurance Paid
- Paraprofessional I
  - Full Time with 100% Health Insurance Paid
- Occupational Therapy Assistant COTA - Sped
  - Part-Time with earned sick days
- Teacher Aide - Campus Monitor - STMS
  - Part- Time with earned sick days
- Teacher Aide - Lunch/Recess - LMES
  - Part - Time with earned sick days
- Teacher Aide - Lunch/Recess - BMES
  - Part - Time with earned sick days

Please apply online:

There will be a Spanish Immersion Preschool Lottery Meeting for Desert Willow Elementary School by Zoom Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 4:15 pm. 480-575-2440 Please go to the ECS website at www.ecsforall.org for the Zoom link.
The Holland Center is partnering with Embry Health Clinic to offer zero-cost COVID testing to our Foothills community. We are excited to be able to offer this resource to our community and thankful to Embry Health Clinic for this opportunity!

The outdoor testing site will be in the Holland Center parking lot on the Black Mountain Campus, next to Paradise Valley Community College and the YMCA. Testing is available Monday through Friday from 7AM to 6PM. Appointments are required and are booked directly through Embry Health at https://embrywomenshealth.com/covid-19-testing-at-the-holl...

COVID testing is zero-cost to patients, regardless of insurance. Testing is available for all ages, kids and adults. Kids under 18 must have a legal guardian present. All providers have certified medical backgrounds. Results are typically posted in 24-48 hours.

More information can be found at www.embrywomenshealth.com

All COVID testing will be outdoors in the NW corner of our parking lot. We will continue our regular programming indoors at the Holland Center with nightly cleaning and disinfecting. The health and safety of our patrons is extremely important to us. Be sure to check out our website for upcoming classes, shows and events!

If you need additional information or have questions regarding COVID testing, please contact Embry Health directly at (480) 376-2175.
**Enrichment:**
Virtual Enrichment can be Fun and Rewarding for Children, Teens, and Adults!
Enrichment instructors virtually meet small groups of students live, in their homes, to introduce new challenges and creative prompts to engage students in learning, exploring interests, and developing skills.

New Elementary classes beginning in January or February include Mad Science, Learn2Code, Play-Well TEKnologies, Kids Who Cook, Young Rembrandts, Ramp Up Reading, French, Spanish.

For teens who are ready to get behind the wheel, Driving MBA offers an interactive Driving Permit Prep program that not only prepares students for the test but also equips them with many safety facts and scenarios. There is also a Parent Coaching class to help parents of teen drivers to promote safety and accurate direction.

**Adults, we haven't forgot about you!** During this time of increased stressors, we are offering Mindfulness Fundamentals to provide participants with foundational understanding of the biology of stress and a variety of techniques to help manage it. Course begins January 21.
The link to those mentioned above (some are new and open for registration mid-December), https://cavecreek.ce.eleyo.com/courses/category/126/virtual-enrichment

Thank you for supporting our local Enrichment and Prevention offerings! We strive to offer quality, relevant options and welcome feedback from our community during these changing times so we know how to best serve your needs and fill any gaps in services.

Explore the Enrichment offerings for all ages and help us celebrate the positives that are coming from the need to rethink the essentials. https://cavecreek.ce.eleyo.com/courses/category/126/virtual-enrichment

**Kid’s Club:**
We are still accepting registration for Kid’s Club for the current school year. Registration will be open soon for Kid’s Club Before and After Care for SY 2021/2022. Call ECS at 480-575-2440 or check the website (eccforall.org) for more information. Register online at https://cavecreek.ce.eleyo.com/ or call 480-575-2440 for more information.

**Child’s Play Preschool:**
SY 2021/2022 Preschool Registration Schedule:
- **Monday, January 4 – Friday, January 15, 2021**
  Desert Willow only registration
  Current SY 20/21 families (all 5 campuses), employees and incoming siblings
- **Wednesday, January 13, 2021**
  New Families Lottery Meeting – Zoom – 4:15 pm
- **Monday, Tuesday February 8-9, 2021**
  Enrollment for BM/DSA/HT/LM returning families (Registration fee/August Tuition/Immunization Records/Birth Certificate)
- **Thursday, Friday February 11-12, 2021**
  Enrollment for BM/DSA/HT/LM new families (Registration fee/August Tuition/Immunization Records/Birth Certificate)

We are still accepting preschool registration for SY 20/21. Please visit Eleyo our online registration system. Registration fee and 2020 tuition is required at the time of registration. Birth certificate and Immunization record are also required to process and accept your child’s registration. Children must be 3 by August 1, 2019 and potty-trained (Diapers/pull-ups are not allowed).

(Birth Certificates are required for new students only and Immunization records are required for new and returning students.)
Tucked away near a dry creek, on a hill a few blocks from the center of Cave Creek, is a desert foothills treasure in the rough. It’s the Cave Creek Museum and its resources in terms of culture, historical preservation, education, and entertainment are substantial. If you discover it, like a miner back in the early days prospecting for gold, you’ll be amply rewarded.

The Cave Creek Museum is the repository of the rich and highly varied history of the area. Native Americans, miners, ranchers, dude ranch guests, 1880’s tuberculosis patients, artists, musicians, eccentrics, and successful business people have called the desert foothills “home.” This is where all the records and artifacts are kept. “We’re in the position to provide that hands-on onsite experience that only a small museum can,” explained Suzanne D. Johnson, Interim Executive Director, Cave Creek Museum.

The Museum’s newly renovated History Wing (formerly the Pioneer Wing) is a look into the past and the future. “We’re telling familiar tales that people have heard in the past at the museum, but we’re expanding from the 1860’s to present day,” explained Elizabeth Kapp, Museum Curator. “Yavapai life, mining and ranching, everything all the way up to the Ocotillo Fire. It serves as a visual explanation of how life has changed or not changed. It’s how the people have enjoyed the same space for over 150 years.”

On November 18, the Cave Creek Museum reopened officially, celebrating the 2020-2021 Season Opening with everyone who visits the Museum. The museum will be open from 11:30am to 4:30pm, including a very special Kitchen and Garden Boutique, hosted by Rita Treat. The Hibachibot food truck will be on site, selling the delicious Korean barbecue that its owners Virginia Schenck and Eddy Sparr are known for. Entertainment will be provided by Gary Sprague ‘The Singing Cowboy’ and Dusty, his famous horse. Everyone is invited to stop by! And if you can’t make it on Opening Day, then be sure to visit the Museum for one of the monthly Stamp Mill Demonstrations and Kiwanis Family Sundays … or anytime.

Kiwanis Family Sundays are held once a month at the Museum, and cover a variety of interesting topics. “Kiwanis Family Sundays are a chance for kids to experience the Museum and participate in varying educational events,” stated Museum Program Coordinator Remington Pettus, “I want to encourage children of all ages to get a chance to learn, while making it fun!”

The Cave Creek Museum is located at 6140 E. Skyline Drive, Cave Creek and is open Wednesdays through Sundays, 11:30am to 4:30pm. Please visit the Cave Creek Museum website for all CDC-compliant guidelines. www.cavecreekmuseum.org

CAVE CREEK MUSEUM STAMP MILL DEMONSTRATION - November 14, 2020; December 12, 2020; January 9, 2020, February 13, 2021; March 14, 2021; April 10, 2021; May 8, 2021 at 1:30pm
The Cave Creek Museum Golden Reef Stamp Mill, complete with Tramway, is Arizona’s only fully operational ten-stamp ore crushing mill. Watch history come alive as the ten 1,000 lb. stamps slam down with synchronized precision and hear the pounding echo from the desert foothills, just as it did over 140 years ago. Videos, photos, and fascinating historical tidbits and tales are regularly posted on the Cave Creek Museum Facebook Page. There is something for everyone of all ages and interests!

CAVE CREEK MUSEUM - KIWANIS FAMILY SUNDAYS - January 10, 2021; February 14, 2021; March 14, 2021; April 11, 2021; May 9, 2021 - 2:00pm to 4:00pm

CAVE CREEK MUSEUM - SMITHSONIAN MAGAZINE DAY - April 4, 2021

CAVE CREEK MUSEUM - Closes for the Season - May 31, 2021

For more information please contact The Cave Creek Museum. They are located at 6140 E. Skyline Drive, Cave Creek - Mailing address: P.O. Box 1, Cave Creek, AZ 85327 - cavecreekmuseum.org / 480-488-2764
Participating in the Superintendent’s Challenge…
Superintendent’s Challenge Information for the 2020-2021 School Year will be and posted here: https://www.ccusd93.org/Page/7297 mid-June. You can start accruing Superintendent’s Challenge hours beginning June 1.

Volunteer Opportunities

A Peek at the Peak (The Peak) online magazine: lesconklin@gppaaz.org
(email for opportunities)
Arizona Helping Hands, Inc.: www.azhelpinghands.org/volunteer
Arizona Humane Society: www.azhumane.org/volunteer
Arizona Musicfest: www.azmusicfest.org/getinvolved/volunteer
Carefree*Cave Creek Chamber of Commerce: director@carefreecavercreek.org
(email for opportunities)
Cave Creek Museum: https://cavecreekmuseum.org/volunteer-with-the-cave-creek-museum/
Cave Creek Youth Education Foundation (CCYEF): http://ccyef.org/ccyef/
Child Crisis Arizona: www.childcrisisaz.org/how-to-help/volunteer
Desert Foothills Foodbank: https://www.foothillsfoodbank.com/
Desert Foothills Library: https://dfla.org/
Desert Foothills YMCA: https://valleymca.org/desert-foothills/
Desert Hills Presbyterian Church: email for volunteer opportunities (high school age students only) darlagil@sbcglobal.net
Families Giving Back: www.familiesgivingback.org
Foothills Caring Corps.: http://foothillsbasingcorps.com
HandsOn Greater Phoenix: www.handsonphoenix.org
Hoof and Paw Rescue: www.hoofandpawrescue.com
ICAN: www.icanaz.org/volunteer
Keep America Beautiful: kazb.org/events or www.kpbvolunteers.org
Kiwanis Marketplace: gm@kiwaniscarefree.com
(email for opportunities)
Relay for Life: www.RelayForLife.org/CaveCreekAZ
St. Mary’s Food Bank: www.volunteer.firstfoodbank.org
St. Vincent de Paul: www.stvincentdepaul.net/volunteer
Tempe Municipal Volunteer Program: www.tempe.gov/volunteer
United Food Bank: www.unitedfoodbank.org/get-involved/volunteer
Valley of the Sun United Way: www.vsuw.org/volunteer
Do you know of a phenomenal parent(s)/grandparent(s)/community member? If so, send in a short paragraph and let us know what they’re doing to Inspire Excellence in our schools or for our District! Send your nomination to jscotto@ccusd93.net – they may be included in an upcoming issue of News from the Creek!

For Your Information
Cave Creek Unified Education Foundation:  www.ccuef.org
Cave Creek Museum:  http://cavecreekmuseum.org/
CCUSD’s Annual Report – Click here
CCUSD’s 2019-2020 Budget Resource Guide - Click here
CCUSD Schools Accepting Open Enrollment – Click here
CCUSD Partners Page - Click here
Desert Foothills Library information–Click here – Volunteer opportunity contact Erin Meadows at emeadows@dfla.org or call 480-488-2286

CCUSD Governing Board and Superintendent Monroe

Beth Hatcher
President

Jeff Fortney
Vice President

Scott Brown
Member

Janet Busbee
Member

Brianna Walker
Member

Cort Monroe, Ed.D.- Superintendent

Have you taken the Superintendent’s Survey?

Click on the graphic below:

GET-TO-KNOW
CCUSD SURVEY
PARENTS • STUDENTS • STAFF

Click Read More, below

Governing Board Meetings
33016 North 60th Street
Scottsdale, AZ
January 11 & 25, 2021

Governing Board Members
Beth Hatcher, President
Jeff Fortney, Vice President
Scott Brown, Member
Janet Busbee, Member
Brianna Walker, Member

Julia Scotto, Editor