The Vine is back! We are ready to start the school year with staff on Tuesday, August 16th, at the PRJUSD welcome breakfast at PRHS and we look forward to welcoming our students on August 22nd. The biggest news this summer is the approval by the Board of Trustees to place a bond measure on the November ballot. Read below for more information regarding the bond and the PRJUSD Facilities Master Plan.

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”
–Nelson Mandela

Board of Trustees Approves Bond Measure
The PRJUSD Board of Trustees voted unanimously at the August 2, 2016 meeting to place a bond on the November ballot that would focus on repairing and upgrading older school buildings.

This measure, if approved by voters, would allow PRJUSD to issue up to $95 million in bonds to finance school safety and modernization projects. The majority of the bonds would go towards the District’s elementary and middle schools to replace aging portables, fix leaky roofs, repair deteriorating plumbing and electrical wiring, and to retrofit buildings for earthquake safety. Construction of STEAM labs (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) and other facilities to help better prepare students for 21st century learning is also a major priority. Additionally, approval of this measure will make the District eligible for matching state funds that would otherwise go to other eligible school districts.

Leading up to the approval of placing the bond measure on the ballot, the District spent months preparing a Facilities Master Plan (FMP) from which to guide the prioritization of projects. The FMP includes a five-year projected facility needs assessment and a list of potential bond projects at a cost of $135 million. Based on public feedback, the District prioritized the projects and created an A-list and a B-list. The A-list includes the projects that would be covered under the $95 million bond.

The bond will require 55% approval in the November election. By law, bond funds can only be spent on school facilities which includes construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, and replacement. It also includes the furnishing and equipping of school facilities. Bond funds cannot be used for administrative or teacher salaries. Passage of the bond would require the District to form a Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee to ensure that all funds are being spent properly. The District would also be required to adhere to accountability measures including annual independent financial and performance audits.

Taxpayers can expect to pay about $49 per $100,000 of assessed property value, as opposed to market value, should the bond pass. The bond measure will be presented to voters at the statewide general election on November 8, 2016.

The Facilities Master Plan is available on the PRJUSD website: www.pasoschools.org/fmp. Also available on the website is the priority list for expenditures including a cost and project list for each school site.
Harvest Marathon

Mark your calendars for the 7th annual Paso Robles Harvest Marathon. The race will be held on Sunday, October 30, and will once again start and finish at Le Vigne Winery and will offer beautiful views of the vineyards at harvest time. The weekend kicks off this year with a pasta feed, prepared by our own award-winning chef Gregg Wangard, and wine tasting in Downtown City Park on Saturday, October 29.

All runners will receive a Harvest Marathon shirt, swag bag, free race photo, and breakfast. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top male and female runners in the marathon and half marathon. The winners in each age division will go home with a bottle of wine.

All runners are welcome to participate. Bring your family out to Downtown City Park on Saturday and to Le Vigne on Sunday to support the runners and enjoy the race. The event is sponsored by the Paso Robles Joint Unified School District and the proceeds will benefit all students in the district.

We have a special Employee code: @PRJUSD. Must show badge at bib pick up to receive discount. Go to www.harvestmarathon.com for more information!

Summer School

Our elementary students had a great time at the PRJUSD Elementary Enrichment Summer School at Winifred Pifer Elementary School. Click here to watch a video put together by summer school principal, Mr. Bruzzo.

Summer School Video

Doing Business with PRJUSD

The PRJUSD Business Services Department recently hosted the first of our “Doing Business with PRJUSD” workshops. The event was held at Paso Robles High School and brought in 30 different local businesses to learn about how they can sell materials or contract services to our district. The businesses also learned about opportunities to work directly with our students, whether it be through mentoring, job placement, or even internships. The next workshop will be held on August 16th at 6:00 PM in the PRJUS Board Room. Please help us spread the word to our community! For more information, contact Purchasing Manager, Christina Bennett cmbennett@pasoschools.org.
Up with Kids

On Saturday, August 6th, students and staff from PRJUSD helped distribute school supplies and work as “shoparones” at the local Target. This is the 15th year that RE/MAX Parkside Realtors have hosted this event. Families are nominated by local non-profit groups and the event gives students the opportunity to receive new school clothes and supplies for the start of the year. You can see a feature on KSBY here: http://www.ksby.com/story/32701714/up-with-kids-event-helps-kids-prepare-for-the-new-school-year

Independence High School Student Competes in National Rodeo

Congratulations to Independence High School freshman, LaRae Luis, who placed 7th in the nation in the reined cow horse event! You can read about her journey and how she got to the Finals in Wyoming by reading this article in the Paso Robles Daily News:


Bearcat Earns Scholarship

Congratulations to Kristen Thompson who signed a National Letter of Intent to throw discus and shot put at Alabama State University.

Kristen is a 3-year varsity basketball player and track & field athlete and served as captain for both teams during her senior year. As a member of the track & field team, Kristen is ranked 4th all-time at PRHS in shot put and discus. She has been a regular qualifier in CIF Sections and Masters and competed at the CIF State Championships this year. She earned PAC-8 All-League honors and was voted the PRHS Field MVP.

As a member of the basketball team, Kristen helped lead the team this year to the second round of the CIF playoffs. She has earned the Lions’ Club Award four times, an award voted on by her peers. Says Coach Heidi Sills, “She has been an outstanding kid to coach for the past three years on our varsity basketball team. The Lions Club Award is a true testament of her outstanding character.”

Alabama State University is located in Montgomery, Alabama. The Alabama State Hornets compete in the Southwestern Athletic Conference. The women’s track & field team has won the conference championship the last seven years in a row. Kristen Thompson becomes the fourth female Bearcat athlete to sign a National Letter of Intent this year. Joining Kristen are: Ashley Davis (Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, cross country/track & field), Chloe Kerns (University of Connecticut, softball), and Natalya Marcove (Campbell University, soccer).
California Mid-State Fair Highlights

Paso Robles High School students and teachers were busy this summer at the Mid-State Fair! They won numerous awards and made a lot of money at the auctions. Thank you to the advisors, parents, and students for all of the hard work and long hours spent at the fair. Here are some of the highlights:

Congratulations to our PRHS Industrial Arts students for winning awards at the California Mid State Fair and for bringing in over $11,000 for their projects! Pictured are: Dakota Ryan, Natalie Nicolay, Jared Thompson, Daniel Oliver, Wyatt Hambly, Chris Hernandez, Carson Cary, Justin Williams, Juan Guerra, Michael Dye, Justin Davis, and Mikayla Stone.

Paso Robles FFA Beef:
Justin Davis Market Steer 4th Place, group 1
Gracie Ellis Heifer 5th place, group 1
Dakota Rodriguez Heifer 3rd place, group 1

Maria Vargas FFA Reserve Champion Meat goat and Casey Dumong class winner.

Paso Robles FFA Swine Show Team:
Novice Showmanship: 3rd and 7th high overall
Advanced Showmanship: 7th & 8th high overall
Paso Robles FFA Hog:
Natalie Nicolay: FFA Reserve Champion AOB Hog
Jake Dilger: FFA Reserve Champion Crossbread
Stephanie Irysh: FFA Champion AOB Hog

Paso Robles FFA Sheep: 2nd place Chapter group
Emma – 4th place, group 2
Nathanael – 2nd place, group 1
Shayna – 7th place, group 2
Tyler – 7th place, group 2
Maddi – 6th place, group 2
Hailey – 4th place, group 1
Isabella – 7th place, group 2
Matt – 4th place, group 1
Sandra -2nd place, group 1
Ashley – 3rd place, group 1
Shane – 5th place, group 2
Jessica – 6th place, group 2
Blakelee – 7th place, group 2
Abbie – 1st place, group 1

Lewis Leopard Leadership
Lewis Middle School Leadership students got a head start on the school year. They spent the day cleaning up not only their campus, but the streets and neighborhoods in their area. Great job Lewis Leopards!

Stuff the Bus
Our district is continuing its partnership with the United Way’s Stuff the Bus Campaign. Kelly Stainbrook and our PRJUSD Transportation Department have dropped off a bus at the Walmart on Niblick Road. It will be there through Sunday at 4:00 PM to collect school supplies. Our goal is to STUFF the BUS with as many supplies as possible for our students. For more information, visit our website: Stuff the Bus Info

Drop-off times:
Friday 1:00 – 7:00 PM
Saturday & Sunday: 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Sixteen very bright, motivated and adventurous Paso Robles High School students and their five chaperones recently returned from an eight day trip to Santa Cruz Island where they conducted field biology studies and examined the island’s unique ecological resources.

Known as “Santa Cruz Island Summer Field Biology,” the course has been running uninterrupted since 1991 and was led by science teachers Mark DiMaggio and Alisa Bredensteiner. Students spent six days in the field identifying and documenting over 25 different species of plants as part of a long term research project. The data they collect is used by the two co-owners of the island - The National Park Service and The Nature Conservancy - to develop science-based management plans with the intent of returning the island to its former robust and diverse ecological health.

Part of the high school’s Field Studies Collaborative, this trip is one of several offered each year to various sites throughout California, with the intent of providing students with a unique, research based outdoor field experience.

“We are so fortunate to be able to provide this opportunity to our students, and to give them the chance to learn first-hand what field based research is all about,” said lead teacher Mark DiMaggio.

“They really excelled in all these areas. There was something intangible - and magical - about the trip. Maybe it was the pod of at least 1,000 common dolphins along with three humpback whales we encountered. Maybe it was the sighting of baby island fox pups, or the bald eagle we saw. Maybe it was the successful seven mile climb we did to the top of Mt. Diablo, highest peak on any of the Channel Islands, or maybe it was the six mile hike to Willows beach that didn’t even have footprints on it when we arrived. Maybe it was the crazy talent show we had, or the frisbee games we played on the beach, or perhaps the impromptu geology lecture provided by three U.S. Geological Survey scientists who were mapping ancient deposits on the island.

Life-long friendships form when people do meaningful work together in a beautiful place. In the end it was, I think, all these things that came together serendipitously to make the trip a truly life-changing, unforgettable experience.

Senior Teresa Cabello summed up the experience well: “The value of the experiences that this trip has given me can never be fully expressed in words no matter how hard I try, but I do know that I am a stronger, more confident person because of it. I will never forget my week on Santa Cruz Island, it has become part of who I am.”

For more information contact Mark DiMaggio mdimaggio@pasoschools.org or Alisa Bredensteiner abredensteiner@pasoschools.org, Paso Robles High School.
PRHS teacher, Aaron Cantrell, has been selected as an NEH Summer Scholar from a national applicant pool to attend one of 26 seminars and institutes supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Endowment is a federal agency that, each summer, supports these enrichment opportunities at colleges, universities, and cultural institutions so that teachers can study with experts in humanities disciplines.

Mr. Cantrell will participate in a seminar entitled “Charles Dickens: Hard Times and A Tale of Two Cities.” The 4-week program will be held at The University of California, Santa Cruz. It is hosted by the Dickens Project and directed by Marty Gould, Associate Professor of English at the University of South Florida.

Mr. Cantrell, along with colleague Anne Domenic, were selected to participate in the College Board’s Annual Advanced Placement (AP) Reading in AP Literature and AP Language. Each June, AP teachers and college faculty members from around the world gather in the United States to evaluate and score the free-response sections of the AP Exams.

AP Readers are high school and college educators who represent many of the world’s leading academic institutions. The AP Reading is a unique forum in which an academic dialogue between educators is both fostered and encouraged. “The Reading draws upon the talents of some of the finest teachers and professors that the world has to offer,” said Trevor Packer, Senior Vice President, AP and Instruction at the College Board. “It fosters professionalism, allows for the exchange of ideas, and strengthens the commitment to students and to teaching. We are very grateful for the contributions of talented educators like Mr. Cantrell and Ms. Domenic.”

The Advanced Placement Program enables willing and academically prepared students to pursue college-level studies – with the opportunity to earn college credit, advanced placement or both – while still in high school. Through AP courses in 37 subjects, each culminating in a rigorous exam, students learn to analyze complex problems, construct solid arguments, and see many sides of an issue – skills that prepare them for college and beyond. Research indicates that students who score a 3 or higher on an AP Exam typically experience greater academic success in college and are more likely to earn a college degree than non-AP students.

Staff News
Our staff has been preparing for the start of the 2016-17 school year. Pictured top to bottom: New teacher training, all district clerical staff, and district administration. Below is a picture of district management showing their Olympic spirit by wearing red, white, and blue. We are working hard to get ready for the new year and look forward to having students on August 22nd!
Congratulations to the following employees who will be starting this fall. Welcome to our new PRJUSD members and congratulations to those who have accepted new positions!

Melanie Crawford – Virginia Peterson Principal
Melanie Crawford has been an educator for over 25 years as a teacher, coordinator of gifted programs, site leader, adjunct graduate professor, district director and consultant. She holds a Bachelor’s degree in General Studies and a Masters in Curriculum & Instruction from University of Southern California. In addition, she holds an Ed Specialist degree in Educational Leadership from St Mary’s University. Melanie began her career as an elementary teacher in Glendale Unified, Los Angeles Unified and then Tustin Unified where she also served as GATE Coordinator. Relocating to MN in 1998, Melanie spent the next 12 years consulting for schools and districts across the country providing professional development, facilitating strategic planning, developing curriculum and leading instructional & systemic change efforts. Most recently, Melanie served as the Director of Talent Development & Advanced Academics for the Minneapolis Public Schools serving 36,000 students PK-12. Melanie and her husband John have recently relocated back to CA and are excited to become part of the Paso Robles community. They have son, Jack, who is heading off to USC this fall and a daughter, Maddy who remains in MN going to school and working.

Dana Budd - Director of Curriculum and Instruction
This is Mrs. Budd’s second year with Paso Robles Joint Unified School District where she helped to develop programs in educational technology including GAFE rollout, Tech Tuesdays, ST Math, and assessment and benchmark integration with Illuminate. Mrs. Budd is technically trained in dance and was instrumental in adding dance to our elementary VAPA program. She is originally from the Central Valley where she earned her Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology and Master’s Degree in Education from California State University, Fresno. She started her career as a classroom teacher and an instructional coach. She has experience in distributing electronic devices to 15,000 students in grades K-12 and working with curriculum leads to adopt a new ELA program. She takes over as the Director of Curriculum and Instruction where she will be spearheading the Instructional Action Plan, Professional Learning Communities, Student Achievement Summits, and other professional development opportunities for staff with a focus on “Growing Excellence”. She will also continue to oversee VAPA. Mrs. Budd and her husband both love being part of the Paso Robles Joint Unified School District team. They have a one-year-old daughter, Charlotte, who can’t wait to be a Bearcat!

Kelly Roth – TIP TOSA
Kelly Roth is a very proud “home grown” product of the Paso Robles Joint Unified School District. She makes the claim she “bleeds crimson” both literally and metaphorically. She had Pat Butler as her third grade teacher, attended Winifred Pifer Elementary, and graduated from Paso Robles High School in 1983. Kelly continued her education at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. In 1988 she earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture and married her high school sweetheart, Mitch Roth. In 1989 she began her teaching career at Virginia Peterson Elementary as a fourth grade teacher. Kelly went on to earn her Masters in Library and Information Science at San Jose State in 2008. She was our District’s K-5 Librarian and also the California Math and Science Partnership Grant (Cohort 7) Project Director. Kelly and Mitch have two wonderful children, Garrett (24 years old) and Carly (21 years old). Their family of four are very proud to be all Cal Poly Mustangs! Kelly’s family settled in the Templeton area in 1886. Her two children are the 5th generation to still own and operate the family ranch north east of Paso Robles. No matter whether it is in the classroom or on the ranch Kelly has a very strong work ethic. She does her very best at everything she tackles.

Michelle Ehlers – Math Teacher
Michelle Ehlers grew up in Paso Robles, attending Paso Robles High School. She majored in Child Development before going to Cal Poly for her Teaching Credential and Master’s Degree in Education. Her experience ranges from Kindergarten through 8th grade. She has found middle school students challenging and fun to work with. Michelle lives in Paso Robles with her husband and three children. She is really excited to work in the community that she grew up in.
Samantha Woolf – Special Education Teacher

Samantha Woolf has fifteen years of experience in education, teaching middle school in the Newcomer Program and RSP Program at Chalone Peaks Middle School in King City, Ca. Before that she worked for PRIUSD as a Substitute Teacher and an Elementary Physical Education Assistant. During her time at CPMS she was the school’s Activity & Leadership Advisor, an original member on the school’s PBIS Team and a BTSA Support Provider for new teachers in KCUSD. Samantha attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison on a Volleyball Scholarship and graduated from the Chapman University with a degree in Social Science. She earned her Multiple Subject Teaching Credential from Chapman University and then went on to receive her Level I Education Specialist Mild/Moderate teaching credential through California State Monterey Bay and her Level II Education Specialist credential through Monterey County BTSA Program. She was most recently inducted into PRHS Athletic Hall of Fame in 2013. An important aspect in her life is her family (husband and 11 year old daughter). She spends her free time attending her daughter’s sporting events, playing volleyball, camping and working to improve her family’s ranch property.

Shelli Foust – Math Teacher

As a person, Shelli Foust is energetic, intelligent, driven by her beliefs and loves children. She began her career with a degree in communications and was employed as a marking specialist. She cared about children so much she wanted to become a foster parent. She decided that the best way to do this was to have a similar schedule, pursuing passionately her teaching credential and foster parenting. She fostered several children and adopted two little girls during her fostering. She fell in love with teaching and parenting simultaneously. Following her first year in teaching, a good friend was becoming principal at a local middle school and invited her to join the math department. She quickly realized that middle school mathematics was her passion. She loved teaching mathematics and found middle school to be engaging and interesting every day. She continued to build her content knowledge by pursuing a full mathematics teaching credential and a masters in mathematical education. She has future goals of getting nationally certified. Shelli has wanted to move to the central coast area for several years. She and her husband have discussed it several times for their retirement. Her parents’ age and health made them consider the idea about 15 years earlier than planned. They both love the area and the community. This move allows them to visit her parents on a regular basis.

Ellen Johansing – Speech Therapist

Ellen Johansing, a native of Paso Robles, CA, received her bachelor’s degree from San Francisco State University. Thereafter, she pursued a career in film and television in Los Angeles and New York City, where she worked as a propmaster and costume fabricator for eight years. During that time, Ellen volunteered for a child-based therapy clinic and eventually decided to go back to school to study Communication Sciences and Disorders, the field in which she earned her master’s degree from Brooklyn College in 2015. Ellen is currently finishing her Clinical Fellowship Year as a Speech-Language Pathologist at Bayside Care Center in Morro Bay and is excited at the opportunity to return to her roots at PRIUSD as a school-based SLP.

Ron Menke – Math Teacher

We are pleased to announce the addition of Ron Menke to our Paso Robles Unified School District family. Ron says he has been aware of the Paso Robles region for many years as he often trained at Camp Roberts while serving in the California Army National Guard. Ron and his wife have chosen to call San Luis Obispo County their new home in order to reside closer to family. He comes to us with 14 years of experience teaching middle school math. Ron is excited to share his unique set of skills with students in our district. In particular, he is very proficient at aligning technology with curriculum, a skill he developed working with his district’s 1:1 Technology Pilot program. Additionally, he served on his district’s textbook adoption committee wherein he advocated for the adoption of the CPM textbook. Afterwards, he received several days of intense training to learn how to implement engagement strategies so students stay alert and learning. He had opportunities for leadership as he served as his school’s Math Chair. He also maintained membership at the district level on the Math Leadership Team, which was responsible for creating district-wide assessments. Rest assured he welcomes close relationships with his students and parents alike. You can count on him to attend to any of your questions or concerns in rapid fashion.
Yvette Reynoso – Human Resources Administrative Assistant

Originally from the Southern California area. Yvette grew up in Riverside County, and relocated to Orange County to attend college at California State University, Fullerton where she obtained a Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology with a minor in Business Administration. She went on to achieve her Human Resources Management Certification and Professional of Human Resources credentials at the University of California, Irvine. Her professional career includes various Human Resources and Customer Relations Senior Management positions for retailer IKEA Home Furnishings in Orange County and she opened the first and only store in the state of Colorado. She relocated to the Central Coast and joined the Paso Robles Lowes Home Improvement team as their Human Resources Manager. She is the proud mother of three amazing sons that inspire her daily and all attend schools in the PRJUSD. As a parent, she says “I have witnessed my children flourish in all the great initiatives our district has to offer and I wanted to be a part of it!” She joined the PRJUSD team in February as an Accounting Technician for Student and Staff Attendance. While this position in title was a vast change from her previous roles, it afforded her an opportunity to transition into the new career field of education and partner with a lot of people both on the Certificated, Classified, School Site and District Office locations which she enjoyed. She is thrilled to re-join her passion of the Human Resources profession while being a part of such a dynamic team at this exciting growth period for our school district. She says, “I look forward to continuing to learn and interact with all of you in my new position...ONE TEAM ONE DREAM!”

Christie Hall – Intervention Specialist

Christie Hall was born and raised in Fresno, California where she attended California State University, Fresno. Through Fresno State Christie earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology, a master’s degree in counseling, as well as a pupil personnel services credential. While working on her bachelor’s degree she served as a program implementer for a nonprofit behavioral intervention organization. Through this organization Christie worked one on one with children diagnosed on the autism spectrum providing in-home and in-clinic behavior analysis services.

Christie then switched her focus upon entering graduate school and became a substitute teacher for Fresno Unified. During her final year of graduate school Christie worked at Fresno High School as a counseling intern for half of a year as well as Computech Middle School for the second half of the year. While Christie’s family remains in Fresno, Ca she is currently moving residency to King City, California where her fiancé currently resides. In her free time Christie enjoys staying active, she loves playing tennis and working on her new home.

Emma M. Marziello – Elementary Teacher

Emma is a passionate teacher who has been teaching for over 15 years. She is also a wife and mother to three children. She loves spending time with her family. Emma has taught a variety of grade levels – kindergarten, first, third, fourth, fifth and adult ELD classes. Along with teaching those grades she has also been an intervention teacher and an ELD teacher in the Paso Robles Joint Unified School District at Georgia Brown. During her time with Georgia Brown she was honored with the award of the 2008-2009 Teacher of the Year. Emma is an innovative and driven elementary school teacher dedicated to working with culturally diverse students to inspire them to love to learn by utilizing her skills. She truly strives to make a difference in the lives of the students she serves. Emma is a lifelong learner and would love the opportunity to work for a district that indulges in professional growth that collaborates with the school and the district community for student success and student achievement.

Doug Harbottle – Volleyball Coach

Doug Harbottle started coaching at the age of 17 at a Junior High in Orange County and has been coaching Collegiate, High School, and Club Volleyball since 1977. He is USVBA - Impact Certified, Gold Medal Square Certified and a USA CAP Level 1 Coach. Coach Doug is a head coach for the USA Junior Olympic High Performance development camps and also on staff at the Long Beach State Skills/Setter summer camps. Doug’s high school team won third place in the National High School Championships in 1979 and Doug was an alternate on the ANVA Junior Olympic Team in 1980. Doug played for Goldenwest College and Orange Coast College. He has a BS in Finance, MBA and is the Financial Analyst for Straight Down Clothing in San Luis Obispo. When asked what he is most proud of, Doug quickly replied: "my wife, Kathy, and our three amazing daughters!"
Teresa Trengove – Elementary Teacher

Teresa Trengove is a long-time San Luis Obispo County resident, making North County her home for the past 25 years. She attended Cuesta College, and then Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, where she earned both her BA in Liberal Studies and MA in Leadership and Administration. She has taught reading, intervention, computer education, and 1st through 4th grades multiple subjects, with a focus on 1st and 2nd grades in the past six years. She enjoys spending time with her family and traveling and learning about historical events and different cultures. She is excited to join the educators in Paso Schools and share her knowledge and expertise with Paso Robles students.

Holly Gonzales – Elementary Teacher

Holly Gonzales comes straight to the rolling hills of Paso from the Bakersfield area. She was born and raised in the central valley where she attended Bakersfield High School and continued on to CSU, Bakersfield where she earned her Bachelor’s degree in Liberal Studies, a California teaching credential, and a Master’s degree in Education. Miss Gonzales has been teaching for 7 years in Bakersfield and is passionate about kids. She believes that every child can learn and succeed... and have fun while doing it!

Suzanne Balderrama – Intervention Specialist

Suzanne Balderrama, a full time student and SAP project manager for Morris Group International, has dedicated the last seven years to completing her education in order to obtain a Master’s degree in Educational Counseling. Suzanne attended Mount San Antonio Community College (Mt. SAC) where she was employed on campus as a peer counselor assisting in areas of registration, tutoring, financial aid, and as an administrative assistant in the job placement office. After receiving her Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts from Mt. SAC, she opted to work full time and pursue a career in Procurement. She obtained her certification as a Certified Purchasing Manager (C.P.M.) through professional development courses before eventually becoming a Project Manager. As a single parent, Suzanne always emphasized the importance of post-secondary education and was challenged by her son’s to “walk the walk” and obtain an undergraduate degree. Determined to set a positive example, she stepped up to the challenge, returned to school, and completed her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB) in December 2013. She is currently a student at the University of La Verne and will be completing her Master of Science in Educational Counseling with a Pupil Personnel Services Credential (PPS) and concentration in School and Family Based Counseling (SFBC) in November 2016. Suzanne has been certified in Domestic Violence, S.A.F.E. Confidentiality, and Mandate Reporting training. Suzanne is passionate about family and the importance of spending time with her two sons, parents, sisters and their families. Relocating from southern California, she loves spending time enjoying the beauty of the Central Coast beaches, vineyards, and hills. Suzanne is excited about working with elementary students as an Intervention Specialist and plans to complete her educational goal as a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor working with children and adolescents with mental health issues.

Shanleigh Klimek – Elementary Teacher

Ms. Klimek has been committed to educating and inspiring a love for learning for elementary school students for over the past seventeen years. She takes pride in nurturing, guiding, and empowering children to develop a love for learning that enhances their ability to become intelligent, contributing citizens in their community. Ms. Klimek grew up on the Central Coast but ventured out to pursue a college education. She graduated from San Diego State University earning a Bachelor Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences. Ms. Klimek then returned to the Central Coast where she earned her Clear Multiple Subject Teaching Credential from Chapman University in Santa Maria. During this time, she educated 3rd grade students for two years at Del Rey Elementary School in King City. For the past fifteen years, she has educated 2nd grade students at Plantation Elementary School in Bakersfield. She is excited to relocate back to the Central Coast where she grew up and her family still resides. It is with great pride that Ms. Klimek looks forward to inspiring and educating a new generation of students with Paso Robles Joint Unified School District.