

THE PAGE SCHOLAR

Monthly Newsletter

Sept. 2020

PAGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

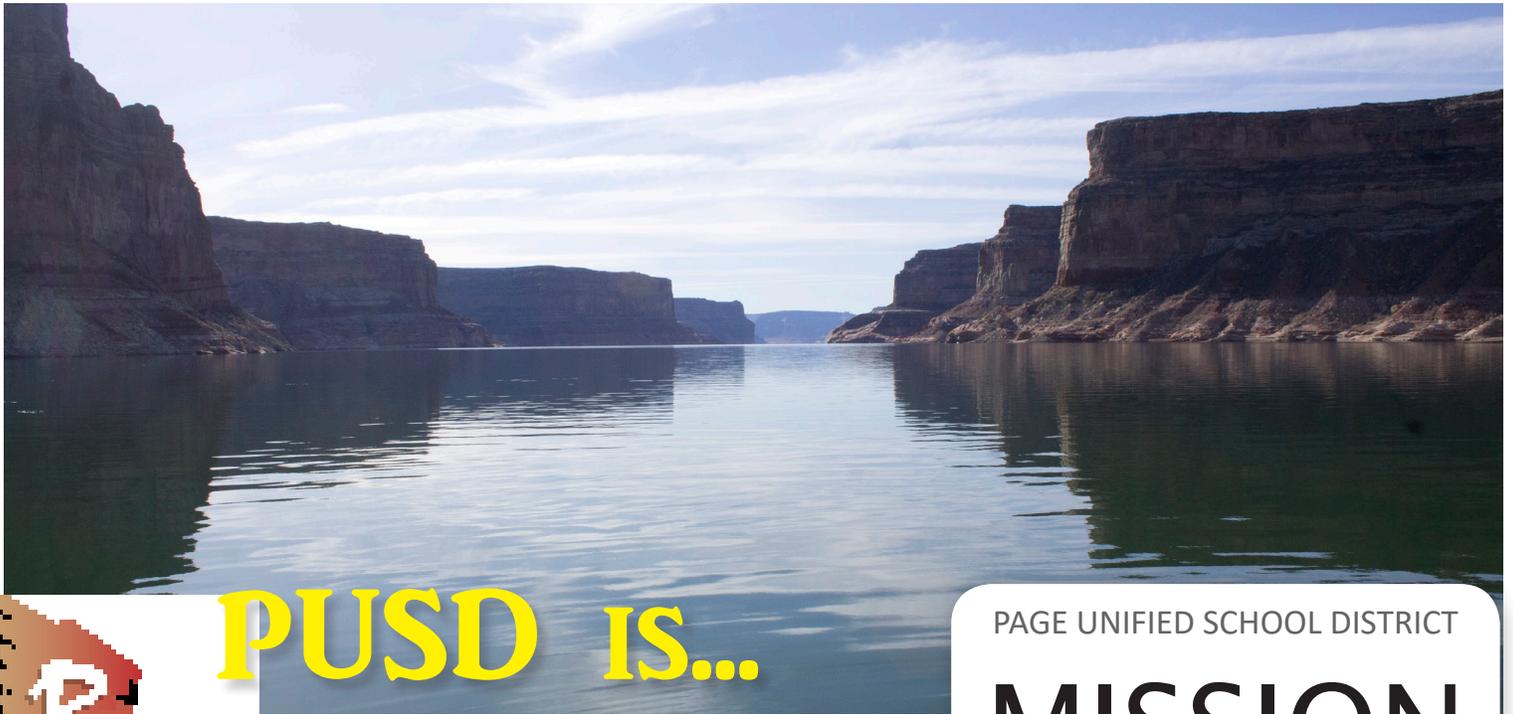
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PUSD IS...

Purposeful: Decisions will be made that are thoughtful and sustainable.

Intentional: Our conversations with students and staff are always about improving that person and leading them to be more successful. Teachers are encouraged to be innovative and “risk-takers” to push student achievement.

Visionary: Short and long term goals are SMART and selective. Our goals are known by staff, students, parents and the community.

Opportunistic: Providing opportunities for students and staff that will move the academic needle within our schools.

Trustful and transparent: This is the foundation of everything we do.

PAGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

MISSION



"Our schools are passionate about the learning-for-all mission and understand that every student matters. We are responsible and accountable for the education of every student that walks through our doors every day."

Meet Trina Hubbell

Dr. Hubbell is the New Principal for Manson Mesa and Sage and Sand Virtual Academy

Trina Hubbell is the new principal at Manson Mesa High School, taking over for Mary Stahl who became the new principal at Desert View Intermediate.

Hubbell will also serve as the principal for the Sage and Sand Virtual Academy.

Hubbell grew up in Kayenta, Ariz., where her parents were educators. Her mother grew up in the LeChee/Coppermine area, and her father is from Black Mesa. She has spent most of her career as a teacher and administrator at schools on the Navajo Reservation.

Hubbell began her teaching career at Ganado as a high school social studies teacher, a position she held for the first five years of her career. She then taught social studies at Tuba City High School for 13 years. She then moved into administration becoming the principal at Chinle Junior High School. Most recently, Hubbell served as the principal at Pinon Elementary School for two years.

Hubbell moved from teaching to administration because she felt her school lacked strong leadership, and the decisions being made on behalf of the students and teachers were being made behind closed doors with little or no input from the teachers.

“We moved into Beyond Textbooks at Tuba City, but there was no assistance, no direction from our administrators,” she said. “A teacher always wants to get the most out of teaching, and learning from our students, but without support from above it was a struggle.”

She saw directly how such a lack of leadership and support led to less teacher innovation and collaboration. New ideas presented by the teaching staff never gained traction. Teacher morale slipped, and ultimately the achievement, education, success and grades of the students stagnated and declined. During her 18 years as a teacher, she had repeatedly witnessed how a dedicated, encouraging teacher could have a big, positive impact on the students in her class. She calculated that a dedicated, supportive, innovative administrator could have a similar positive impact on a school’s teachers, and ultimately,



Dr. Trina Hubbell

student education and achievement would rise accordingly.

“That was the reason I stepped into administration: to be able to provide affective instruction for teachers, for the benefit of the students,” she said.

One of Hubbell’s greatest strengths—and one she hopes to incorporate at Manson Mesa, and Sage and Sand—is successfully implementing new systems.

As the principal at Pinyon Elementary School, Hubbell became very involved implementing Beyond Textbooks into her school’s curriculum, embedding the data analysis into the PLCs, and embedding PLCs into what teachers were doing on a daily basis using Reteach and Enrich models into our daily schedule.

“Prior to that, they were having conversations at a school level that were irrelevant to what we were trying to accomplish,” she said. “This moved the entire school in the same direction. This gave us focus. Once we were able to get focus, we immediately dived into lesson planning and processes provided by Beyond Textbooks, then analyzing our processes and providing our assessments.”

Implementing the new teaching methodologies was

See HUBBELL pg. 8

Onsite Support Services is a Big Help for Working Parents

PUSD opened its Onsite Support Services on August 17 and it has been a big help for households with working parents. Fourteen students returned to in-school learning on Aug. 17th. Since then the number of students attending classes on-site has grown to more than 50.

The district initiated its Onsite Support Services as a way to serve students who come from a household where the parents or guardians work, or the internet connection is too poor to allow for proper learning.

“Parents in that situation are faced with a difficult dilemma,” said PUSD Superintendent, Larry Wallen. “One of the parents was going to have to stay home to supervise their child, or the child was going to be left home alone unsupervised.”

All parents or guardians who took part in the Onsite Support Services met at the Page High School gym and signed in their student. A school worker took the student’s temperature with a forehead scanner. If their temperature was normal, someone from the school led them into the gym where they were assigned a desk correlating with their grade level.

Kindergarteners and first graders sat together. Second and third graders sat together. Fourth and fifth graders sat together. Sixth through eighth graders sat together, and high school students sat together.

Grades K-5 were housed in the main gym. The gym was divided into three sections using vinyl curtains that lower from the rafters during basketball season to give each team their own practice space. Grades 6-12 met in the Pool Gym.



Lake View Elementary School Principal, Nancy Warner, visits one of her students, Easton Rivers, on the first day at Onsite Support Services.



Noah Tucker, attends Mrs. Richardi’s virtual art class, from his desk at the Onsite Support Services.

PUSD bus drivers and meal workers combine forces to deliver meals to students



PUSD's Nutrition Services delivers meals to a Bittersprings family .

At 7 a.m. Oliver Begay pulls his school bus to the curb on 9th street behind the Page Middle School and stops in front of a wall of red and blue coolers.

Begay and a helper, Thomas Hall, load a half dozen of the blue and red coolers onto their bus, and leave. The coolers are loaded with meals destined for Page Unified School District students who live outside of Page.

Begay's bus route takes him south out of Page on highway 89. The Vermilion Cliffs, which border him on his right, glow pink-red in the light of the morning sun. The air is hazy from the smoke from the California wildfires.

The Vermilion Cliffs fall away as the bus leaves Manson Mesa and climbs onto Coppermine Mesa, then they rise again as the yellow bus passes through The Cut and drops down into Bitter Springs.

See MEALS pg. 9

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT GETTING MEALS FOR YOUR STUDENT

- All pre-K-8 students enrolled with PUSD qualify for free meals.
- Pickup time at Page Middle School is 7-10a.m. and 11a.m.-1p.m.
- Students don't need to be present to get meals, but whoever is picking up the meals must show the student's ID.
- If you don't live in Page, go to the following web address to find out what meal delivery route is nearest you, and what time they deliver to that location.

<https://content.schoolinsites.com/api/documents/4e96e9676d834d8abc9b0d4316b1b376>



"The first day of school was filled with positive energy at the middle school. Prior to attending my first Google Meet, I was so nervous I felt sick, but once the camera turned on and I saw their smiling faces, the teacher in me took over.

I watch Rita Pierson's TED Talk, 'Every kid needs a champion,' before every school year starts. This year I needed it more than ever--to remember that if I build solid relationships with these kids, we will make it through. My students were so excited to be on their Google Meet, with their peers, hearing from a teacher again. The students were engaged, trying new things, and exploring remote learning along my side. Even though it was exhausting, because we all need to build our stamina again, it was fulfilling.

I am so glad to be back!"

-RAINI GOATSON, 6th and 7th grade ELL teacher at Page Middle School

"Jakobe Smith shared his favorite book today during Literacy specials. He asked if he could come to office hours to read it aloud to me. Jakobe did a wonderful job reading the book, *We Don't Eat Our Classmates* by Ryan T. Higgins. After reading the book, we discussed the key events and made connections."

-LAUREN VIERS, Reading Specialist, Desert View Intermediate

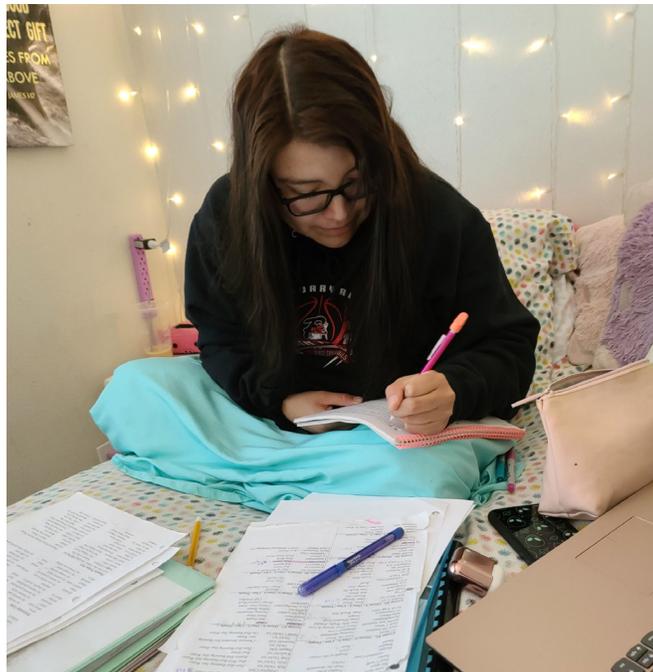


Jakobe Smith reading *We Don't Eat Our Classmates*.

SNAPSHOTS



Preschool teacher, Tiffany Haynie, interacts with her students via Google classroom.



Page High School student, Marah Little, studying in her home study space.



Dakota Bravow, who attends Onsite Support Services, during recess.



High School art teacher, Susan Tucker, talks to her students during a lesson using charcoal and paper as the art medium.



Announcements

The theme for 2020-21 is Building Connections and we want your photos and stories.

The 2020-21 school year is unique in many ways. This school year will certainly have its challenges but it's also going to have many moments worth celebrating and remembering. We may be separated physically from our friends and teachers, but we want to stay connected with each other and build on those connections.

PUSD is asking you to help us remember the unique opportunities and experiences from this year. With that in mind, we're asking you to share your experiences with us through words and photos. Let us know what's happening at your home. What are you doing to stay involved and connected and in touch with your school, your teachers and your classmates?

Please send those photos and stories to PUSD2020@pageud.org

PUSD20-21 | BUILDING CONNECTIONS

CALLING ALL ARTISTS, ILLUSTRATORS AND GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

Page Unified School District's theme for the 2020-21 school year is "Building Connections" and the District is holding an art contest to find the perfect logo to go with it.

Due to Covid-19, our school buildings and classrooms are closed, but although we're separated physically, we want to maintain that human to human, school to community connection that makes attending a PUSD school such an amazing experience.

The ideal logo should be a symbol or graphic that captures the sentiment of being separated physically, but connected in every other way.

The logo will be used on our websites, social media, newsletters and other forms of communication for the duration of the school year.

Contest is open to all ages, students, staff and community.

1ST PLACE	2ND PLACE	3RD PLACE
\$100	\$50	\$25

The "Building Connections" Logo Contest begins August 25th and closes October 9th. The winner will be announced at the Schoolboard Meeting October 13th.

PLEASE SEND YOU LOGO ARTWORK SUBMISSION TO
PUSD2020@PAGEUD.ORG

All submissions become property of PUSD.





Announcements

PUSD is seeking stakeholder feedback and review for Sage and Sand Virtual Academy

Page Unified School District is currently reviewing Edgenuity-Pathblazer as a resource for Sage and Sand Virtual Academy. The resource is being considered for grades Kindergarten through Fifth grades. Stakeholders across the District and community can review and provide feedback during the 60-day review process.

Please join us in reviewing Edgenuity-Pathblazer as a possible resource for grades K-5 at Sage and Sand Virtual Academy. Below you will find information to access the demo accounts to see both the teacher and student views.

Please go to pageud.org to find more information and links to survey.

WEDNESDAY
16
SEPTEMBER

GIVE
THE GIFT
OF
life

**BLOOD
DRIVE**

1 PINT OF BLOOD SAVES
3 LIVES!

MINOR DONOR
FORMS can be
picked up...

Tuesday 9/1 - 4:30 - 6:30
Thursday 9/3 - 4:30 - 6:30
PHS Main parking lot

HOSTED BY PAGE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL

QUESTIONS? / SIGN UP -- mmoore@pageud.org

HUBBELL from pg. 2

met by a lot of resistance, Hubbell said. "They weren't accustomed to being held accountable to a process."

But once the system was in place, the school saw great success. "We were able to move test scores in one year," she said. "The school went from a D letter grade to a C letter grade in one year. As long as the systems are in place, and tightening up some of the infrastructure, you can start moving test scores in a year."

Because of Hubbell's expertise in introducing and successfully implementing new systems, she was the natural choice when the district began looking at opening its own virtual academy.

At the time last spring when Hubbell accepted her position with Manson Mesa, the school district also

asked her if she'd be willing to be the principal of a virtual academy, if Covid-19 made such a school necessary. Hubbell accepted the new challenge, feeling such a challenge readily aligned with her skill sets.

"I knew I was able to build systems, however it really is difficult when you don't have models available," she said.

Hubbell and Supt. Larry Wallen looked at education models from online schools to see what made them successful.

"The models we looked at had been operating for years," said Hubbell. "The big question for us was, 'How do we start?' It's been interesting and exciting, working through it."

All the students and staff were required to wear masks and the desks were spaced to accommodate proper social distancing.

The On-site Support Services is headed up by Ernie Rivers and Kevin Anderson, Assistant Principal at Desert View.

Forty-one students signed up for Onsite Support Services. To be on the safe side, Rivers and Anderson brought in 150 desks.

The students were well taken care of. Nurses, counselors, para professionals and several administrators were present and available for any need. The custodial staff wiped down the restrooms and commonly touched surfaces at ten a.m. and 1 p.m., and deep-cleaned the entire area in the afternoon after the students left for the day.

Once inside the gym, each student was assigned a desk and they then logged-in to their Google classroom on their iPads or Chromebooks and began class. The students were provided breakfast, lunch and rest breaks. After 1 p.m., students K-5 were divided into groups and taken to the Desert View Intermediate School's playground for recess.

By early afternoon, the Google classroom time had ended for the day and students were free to work on assignments, or read.

Caleb White and Sheena Benton's son, Mason Benton, attended school on-site on Monday. Mason is a Kindergarten student at Lake View Primary. Both Caleb and Sheena work, and being able to drop their son off at school was the best choice for them, said Caleb.

"We had to juggle our work schedules around that first week so we could stay home with him during school hours," said Caleb. "And at home there are a lot more distractions. I think he'll be able to focus better at school."

Bonnie Martin also opted to use the Onsite Support Services for her two students, LaKayla and Hannah Martin. "We had problems with our internet not working," said Bonnie. "I think it will work better here at the school."

The District made the decision on July 24 to offer Onsite Support Services and Rivers and Anderson began working out the details shortly thereafter. Rivers,



A school nurse checks the temperature of third grader, Alexandria Pugh, when she's dropped off at school.

Anderson and several custodial staff began organizing the space last Friday, laying down tarps, dropping separation curtains and moving in desks.

"It went really smooth," said Rivers. "All the prep ahead of time really paid off. Our nurses and staff are amazing. Without them it wouldn't have been successful."

Any student enrolled at PUSD school is eligible for Onsite Support Services.

To learn more, read Onsite Support Services' FAQs on the District website.

<https://content.schoolinsites.com/api/documents/c288497c7595498c9e371df9e212bc45>

Begay's first stop of the day is at Cedar Ridge, which is just a little pullout on highway 89 at milepost 505. He's scheduled to be there at 7:45. He arrives at the stop a couple minutes early and finds a family is already there waiting for his arrival. A man comes to the bus and Hall hands him six meals: three breakfasts and three lunches for three students.

Any person picking up the meals must show the bus driver the student IDs of the kids for whom he's picking up meals.

"We have a list of the people who will be picking up meals from us," Begay said.

Begay has worked as a bus driver for the Page Unified School District for five years, driving route 15 which has stops in the Bittersprings and Cedar Ridge area. Begay lives in Bittersprings and keeps the school bus parked at his house. On a normal year, he leaves his house at 5:55 a.m., and picks up his first group of students a few minutes later at milepost 510 on highway 89. From there he makes his way north, toward Page, picking up students at half a dozen locations. He makes his final pickup at 6:40, then drives up the hill, through The Cut, and drops the students off at their schools in Page.

But now, Begay is driving his route in reverse, so to speak. He starts his route at the Page Middle School, where he picks up his daily food delivery, and takes it to the Bittersprings area. He has eight stops on his route, and on a typical day he delivers around 60 meals. It takes him the majority of the morning to complete his route and return to Page.

Because Begay drops off the meals in the morning, during the same time when students are attending their virtual classes via Google classroom, the meals are picked up by the students' parents or guardians.

Begay is one of seven bus drivers delivering food to PUSD students this year.

Geographically, the Page Unified School District is one of the largest in the U.S., encompassing more than 1,800 square miles, the majority of which is part of the Navajo Reservation. Getting meals to far flung students, some of whom live as far as 80 miles away from Page is no small task. The bus drivers deliver food to students in Bittersprings, Kaibeto, LeChee, Coppermine and Inscription House.

Hall, who helps Begay delivery the meals, has worked for the school district for several years as one of its crossing guards. But, with students attending classes virtually this year, the district has no need for crossing guards yet this year. When Hall hands the meals to a parent, he is merely the final link in a long logistical chain.

PUSD's Food Services has eleven employees who make the meals. Lena Brown, Wynona Brown and Megan Williams arrive at the Page Middle School kitchen at 6:30 a.m. to start preparing the meals. One meal crew makes the entrees, which may be sandwiches one day, or burrito bowls the next. Another crew washes, prepares and pack-



With PUSD doing remote learning, bus driver Oliver Begay has transitioned from delivering students to delivering meals to students.

ages all the fresh fruit. When all the meals are prepared and packaged they're put into coolers and loaded onto the buses.

PUSD's Food Services delivers about 300 meals every day, Monday through Friday. They deliver the food on seven routes, most of which go into the Navajo Reservation. In addition to the seven routes that go out to the Nation, Food Services also delivers meals to Tse Yaato, PUSD's special education students and the students that attend On-site Support Services.

Since classes resumed on Aug. 10th, Food Services has prepared and delivered 8,900 meals. To put that in perspective, Food Services prepares 5,200 meals per day when school is in session.

Food Services prepared and delivered more than 58,000 meals at the end of the 2019-20 school year, after on-site classes were suspended due to the Corona virus.

"I feel like things are running pretty smoothly," said Food Services Director Art Marquez. "We got pretty good at this at the end of last year, and this year we just had to make a few minor tweaks to get it going again."

If you have any questions regarding the meal program, call Art Marquez at 928-608-4102, or Millie Chee at 928-608-4105.

If you don't live in Page, go to the following web address to find out what meal delivery route is nearest you, and what time they deliver to that location.

<https://content.schoolinsites.com/api/documents/4e96e9676d834d8abc9b0d4316b1b376>