

# PAGE UNIFIED PUSD SCHOOL DISTRICT

Monthly Newsletter April 2021



[www.pageud.org](http://www.pageud.org)



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## Vision

A community of learners who direct our collective actions and resources toward the unique learning needs of every child in order for all students to become college and career ready and successful in a global society.

## Motto

Collectively Committed to Every Student, Every Day, Every Minute.



## 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.

# BOARD CORNER

## CELEBRATE!

We were so excited to be able to represent our 3A North teams, most of whom had decided not to participate, in the winter season for obvious reasons. So our wrestlers, soccer, and basketball teams were assigned to new sections to compete in. We had wrestlers place in the state meet, Ladies Soccer competed in the state meet, and the basketball teams were part of ‘firsts in Page history’! The girls won their third state championship in Coach Ryan Whitehorse’s career and the Page boys were led by Coach Justin Smith to their first ever state title.

To hear the teams talk, they would focus on one thing: it was great to be a part of a team which worked hard, came through adversity, and got the golden ball. So we celebrate with our student athletes and our community.

I have called, on the radio, virtually every championship game the girls have won and now one that the boys have won. But for me, there were two highlights in my mind that I won’t forget. The first was a shirt designed by our basketball teams to honor all those teams on the reservation who did not compete this year! “We play for You” was the theme. The second was the privilege of interviewing two of the many who have worked hard in the classroom to compete (Neve Redhair and Jonah Holiday).

Their stories are a model of what success is made of. The vision for them was planted early on by family and fed by many on the way who would encourage them and open up the doors of possibilities for them. They mentioned teachers, counsellors, coaches, and their teammates as instrumental parts to their journey. They both talked about experiences and memories that allowed them to dream. Each has already accomplished much through their hard work in the classrooms and each realize that their journey is just beginning. Both were rewarded with acceptance into two of the hardest programs in the nation to get into. Neve is going to Stanford and Jonah is still in the process of deciding but has



**Robert Candelaria**  
**Board President**

been accepted to ASU Barrett Honors University. Both have lofty goals to be in the medical field (Surgeon and Pediatrician).

These two are great examples of what you, teachers and staff, have produced. We all want that to be part of our DNA at Page Unified! All of you play a significant role in our kid’s stories. Continue to be focused on ‘why we do what we do’.

I was reading Shannon Garrison’s recent newsletter and saw this:

Celebrating our Bright Spots with exciting news: We are seeing increases in our academic achievement in our Common Formative Assessment Data! Way to go PUSD students and staff!

All of you are working really hard and when we begin to see some rays of light it is certainly worth the celebration and I hope it serves as great encouragement. We are all looking to build an atmosphere of celebration for each other and to continue to build on those ‘rays of light’.



# "I was so ecstatic and excited!"

## Parris Adams Awarded Flinn Scholarship

**T**o be clear, Parris Adams was always going to accomplish big things in her life, with or without the Flinn Scholarship, but winning the prestigious scholarship will certainly make achieving those dreams a good deal easier. And expand her horizons a little broader.

Adams will attend Northern Arizona University's Honors College this fall. She has already been awarded a Lumberjack Scholarship which goes to students who have achieved grades of only As and Bs during their four years of high school. The Lumberjack Scholarship will pay for four years of tuition at NAU.

The Flinn Scholarship, which includes funding for tuition, housing, meals, and study abroad, is valued at more than \$120,000.

Adams is one of Page High School's most active students and accomplished scholars. She's co-student body president, and she's been on student council all four years of high school. She carries a 4.0 GPA and will be one of this year's Valedictorians. She's involved with the National Honors Society, the GSA, the Culinary Club and the Service Learning Club. She's played varsity tennis all four years of high school.

Parris is bright, driven and organized. She's a self-starter and very personable, said Megan Moore. Moore has been Adams' student council advisor for the past four years. "I think one of her greatest qualities is that she cares about everyone," said Moore. "She's an advocate for her fellow students. She wants every student to be successful. When we plan events she makes sure everyone's included. She wants Page High School to feel like a safe place and a fun place to be, and she works with teachers and administrators to make that happen."

"Parris is such a smart, talented kid, I would have been surprised if she hadn't been given the Flinn Scholarship," said Wyatt Swinton, Adams' Culinary Arts teacher for the last three years.

Adams and Swinton also work together at the Grand Circle Grille, where Adams works as a line cook part time.

"She'll be successful at anything she wants to do in this industry," said Swinton. "She's by far the most-talented cook I've taught."

Adams was one of just 20 Arizona students to receive the Flinn Scholarship this year. She learned she'd been awarded the Flinn Scholarship during Spring Break.

Adams was one of 951 students who applied for the 2021 Flinn Scholarship last autumn. The Selection Committee narrowed the field down to 85 semifinalists. The 85 semi-finalists interviewed with the search committee



Photo by Anthony Palmero

**Parris Adams**

in January and the field was narrowed down to 35 finalists. Each time Adams passed to the next round, she was informed via email.

After the second interview, the committee told Adams that they'd call her by the end of the week and let her know if she was chosen.

"I wasn't sure if it was going to be before or on the actual day," said Adams, "so I was really nervous that whole week. It was actually spring break. So all of spring break I was waiting for this call, and then on that Friday I got the call at like three in the afternoon. It was terrible I felt like



# Meet Pearl Sandoval

Page High School Student artist thrives despite pandemic obstacles.

By Shundine Fowler, PHS Student Journalist



Pearl Sandoval



Pearl Sandoval, a junior at Page High School, is passionate about art and has developed methods that have allowed her to grow and thrive the last year despite setbacks caused from Covid-19 shutdowns and closures.

Sandoval dabbles in several different art styles and forms, but her preferred style is pop art; an art form that draws from commercial items and cultural icons, such as product labels, advertisements and modern media.

"Pearl is a star!" said Sandoval's art teacher, Sue Tucker. Tucker has been teaching Sandoval since she was in sixth grade. "As my student, teaching Pearl is very exciting because I've seen her growing as an artist since she was in middle school."

Because Sandoval was a more ad-

See SANDOVAL pg. 11



Examples of Pearl Sandoval's work.



# Original She Devil, Latasha Slim, is taking her wrestling skills to the next level



Latasha Slim



Latasha Slim has made a name for herself at Page High School as one of its premier female wrestlers. Slim made history during her years at Page High School becoming the school's first female wrestler to medal at the state championships. She placed 6th.

"She loves to wrestle, and she has the drive to win and perform her best," said Kyran Keisling, who coached Slim for two years.

Slim wrestled at Page Middle School and all four years at the high school level, even before female wrestling was officially sanctioned by the Arizona Interscholastic Association (AIA).

Slim medaled her sophomore year, when female wrestling was still an "Emerging Sport." During that year, female athletes were allowed to compete for individual medals, but not team medals.

The AIA officially sanctioned female wrestling for the 2018-19 season, and Slim was a founding member of the She Devils, Page High School's female wrestling team.

Slim medaled again this year, placing sixth out of 52 wrestlers.

Even when it wasn't wrestling season, Slim tried to maintain the wrestling mindset. "I've maintained my mindset, health, academics, to be able to be prepared for my wrestling season," she said.

Slim made history again in late-March becoming Page High School's first female wrestler to be recruited to wrestle at the college level, when she signed with Ottawa University

Arizona, in Surprise, Ariz.

Slim was elated to sign with them, as it will allow her wrestling career to continue, and she's excited for the opportunities it will provide for her future.

Slim was recruited by several universities across America and received numerous scholarship offers. "In the end I had to go with Ottawa," she said. "It was closer to home and had the right necessities for me as a collegiate wrestler."

As Slim finishes the final weeks of her high school career she wishes to acknowledge all that her coaches Kyran Keisling, Dakota Richardson and Ernie Rivers did to make female wrestling a reality.

Slim still recalls the goosebumps she got the day Rivers and Keisling told her that her favorite sport was officially sanctioned. "They showed me our new uniforms and it was one of the best days because that's when I knew I finally made a change at Page doing what I do."

In addition to wrestling, Slim has played soccer, football, wrestling, softball and track, and has taken several college-level classes including AP language, AP literature, AP U.S. History, AP Mathematics.

Slim says she'll always regard her time at Page High School as the platform that launched what she believes will be a bright future.

"Being a student and an athlete has been one of the best experiences, and it comes with an endless amount of opportunities."



# PHS Track and Cross-Country Star Signs with Dixie State University



**Rex Martin, center, with parents Nicole and Theo Martin during a signing ceremony in March.**

Page High School running phenom, Rex Martin, signed a letter of intent to run for Dixie State University. Martin has been on the varsity track and cross country teams all four years he's attended high school. Martin's running abilities played a role in helping the cross country team win state titles all four years he's been on the team. Martin placed 5th at the 2020 cross country meet.

Martin is currently preparing to qualify for the state track meet on May 14 and 15, during which he'll run the one mile and two mile.

## **Rex Martin's Personal Records**

**5K 15:46**  
**3 Mile 15:15**  
**2 Mile 9:27**  
**1 Mile 4:29**



# WINTER SPORTS POST-SEASON AWARDS

## BASKETBALL

### Varsity Boys

Justin Smith: Coach of the Year.  
Stuart Sandall: Region Player of the Year.  
Robert Smith: Defensive Player of the Year.  
Jonah Holiday: All Region 1st Team.  
Orlando Yazzie, Dahntay Dugi: All Region 2nd Team.  
Nolan McCormick: Honorable Mention.

### Varsity Girls

Ryan Whitehorse: Region Coach of the Year.  
Miquedah Taliman: Region Player of the Year.  
Torrance Begay: Region Offensive Player of the Year.  
Neve Redhair: Region Defensive Player of the Year.  
Emma Yazzie, Nadya Begay: 1st Team All Region.  
Diana Secody, Arianna Jenkins: 2nd Team All Region.

## SOCCER

### Varsity Boys

Edward Mejia: All Region 2nd Team.  
  
Slade Christiansen, Javan Jakes: Honorable Mention

### Varsity Girls

Nicole Aquila, Reggy Edwards, Tatum Reynolds: All Region 2nd Team  
Abelien George, Octavia Irving, Carlee Oman, Tatum Reynolds, Laura Whipple: Honorable Mention

## WRESTLING

### Varsity Boys

Zach Ruiz: 5th Place  
Hunter Richardson: 6th Place

### Varsity Girls

Sharmayne Crank: 3rd place  
Latasha Slim: 6th Place

## Support Your Student's School with the Arizona Tax Credit

One of the simplest, yet most-effective ways to support your child's school, or their favorite program, is to donate to the school using the Arizona Tax Credit. And it's completely tax deductible.

Couples can donate up to \$400. Individuals can donate up to \$200. And you can specify exactly what program or classroom you'd like the money to go to.

Forms are available at [pageud.org](http://pageud.org)



# TWIN WINS!

## Boys and Girls basketball teams bring home state titles.

In one of the most exciting days in the history of Page High School athletics, both the boys and girls basketball teams claimed state championship trophies Saturday.

Even without the state titles, the 2020-21 season will be remembered for a long time. It was the season that almost wasn't. The Arizona Interscholastic Association (AIA) made the decision in the fall to cancel the season, but due to outcries and protests from student athletes and parents, the AIA re-instated the season. But after three weeks of practice, they cancelled it again. Then, after even more intense pressure from athletes, parents and the community the AIA reversed their previous reversal and re-instated the season a second time.

Yaadilah.

For the Sand Devils, the 2020-21 season also saw their main rivals sadly taking a seat on the bench. Covid-19 hit the Navajo Nation particularly hard, and out of an abundance of caution all schools on the nation made the very hard decision to call off the season. After some shuffling, the Sand Devils – lamenting the loss of their strongest competitors/allies/sisters/brothers – found themselves in the 3A North Central section, a coalition of schools willing to forge into the unknown.

The 2020-21 season opened with almost no spectators in the stands. Due to Covid precautions, persons allowed inside the gym were limited to officials, score-keepers, announcers, cheerleaders, photographers and a few others. Players were required to wear masks, even while on the court. The players played in ominously silent circumstances. How strange it must have felt to hit a crucial three-pointer, or make a clutch move only to hear the equivalent of golf-clapping from 15 people? It all felt spine-tingling surreal.

But, as the season, progressed and more people received Covid-19 vaccinations and the infection rates decreased and metrics turned from red to green, the AIA began allowing fans back into the stadium. And it was great! Cheers from 150 fans made a significant difference.

By the end of the season 450 fans were allowed inside during games, and athletes could choose if they wanted to wear a mask while they played.

## Climb the Ladder. Cut the Net. Kiss the Trophy. Boys Varsity State Championship Game.



For the first time in Page High School history, the Sand Devils boys varsity basketball team came home with the state championship trophy. And the victory net.

Head Coach Justin Smith is one of the only coaches in Arizona to win both a boys and girls state championship. Smith coached the Lady Sand Devils to a state title in 2015.

The Sand Devils finished the season with a very impressive 14-4 overall record.

This was the second time this season that Page played Snowflake. The first time the teams met in February, the Sand Devils lost to the Lobos 69-76.

Throughout the season, Sand Devils fans had the opportunity to watch their team improve and mature game by game. By the end of the season the Sand Devils were putting together some impressive offensive sequences, playing tight defense and notching some important wins. Even after some very stellar wins – such as the third win over Camp Verde – Coach Smith would tell the media that his team hadn't yet peaked.

"We still haven't played our best game," he said as recently as the state quarter finals, "but we're peaking at the right time."

Yup. They did that.

The Lobos jumped out to a seven to four lead in what would

Story continued pg. 8





be a fast-paced game from the tip-off to the final buzzer. But then the Sand Devils tightened their defense and went on a 7-0 scoring run. Jonah Holiday hit a free-throw and Robert Smith put in a three-pointer to give the Sand Devils their first lead of the game, 8-7, with three minutes left in the first quarter. Smith ended the quarter making a slash to the basket, which drew additional defenders his way, and after the defenders had committed he passed to Stuart Sandall who finished the play with a stretching lay-up. The Sand Devils finished the first quarter leading 11-7.

Jonah Holiday continued his three-point blitz in the second quarter hit two of them back to back in the quarter's opening minutes. A couple minutes later Orlandon Yazzie hit a three-pointer as well. As the Snowflake defense stretched out to guard Sand Devils shooters on the perimeter, Robert Smith, Orlandon Yazzie and Joel Beard attacked the interior where they would finish the play, or pass to Sandall.

It was all too overwhelming for the Lobos who were unable to keep pace with the Sand Devils, who built their lead 30-19 at halftime.

During the third quarter, Head Coach Justin Smith continued with what had worked so well in the second quarter, with Smith, Yazzie and Beard attacking the inside – always watching for Sandall posted up, while Holiday and Dugi continued to rain down three pointers. The Lobos offense was able to match the Sand Devils runs, but were unable to close the point gap. The Sand Devils led 42 to 32 at the end of the third quarter.

The fourth quarter began with an alley-oop from Smith to Sandall which really got the Sand Devils faithful on their feet in the Eastmark Arena. Sandall then returned the favor, dishing off to Smith cutting inside after drawing multiple defenders to him.

The Sand Devils defense was noticeably better in the cham-

pionship game than it had been when the two teams met in February.

"A big part of our game plan was keeping pressure on Michael Brimhall," said Coach Smith. "He's their best scorer and ball handler."

Robert Smith, who was awarded 3A North Central Defensive Player of the Year, was given the assignment of guarding Brimhall, and he was very effective, holding Brimhall well below his season scoring average.

"Robert made him work for everything he got," said Coach Smith.

Having built a sizable lead, the Sand Devils moved to a three-man weave and slowed down the pace to eat time off the clock. With 2:30 left in the game the Lobos still trailed by ten points. Their coach and all their fans in the bleachers, began yelling for the Lobos to foul, which they did.

The Sand Devils hit their free throws giving the Lobos no chance to chip away at the lead.

The final score read Sand Devils 64, Lobos 51.

"We peaked at the right time!" said Coach Smith after the game. "This win means everything!"

Coach Smith was proud of the way his team played in the championship game. "The difference between this game and the time we played them in February was we did a much better job defending them this time, and we hit our free throws."

Coach Smith was ecstatic with the way his team steadily improved throughout the season, despite the extra obstacles the strange pandemic year threw at them.

"The amount of resolve they showed this year was amazing," said Coach Smith.

The assistant coaches for the Sand Devils are Steven Smith, Joe Wright and Bubba Billie.



# Perfect!

## Lady Sand Devils win 3rd championship in four years.



For the third time in four years, the Lady Sand Devils carried home the state championship trophy after defeating the Snowflake Lobos 36-32.

The victory capped what has been a superlative 15-0 season for Page. Saturday's game marked the Lady Sand Devils fifth straight visit to the state championship game. Ryan Whitehorse has been head coach of the Lady Sand Devils all five seasons. Three of this year's seniors, Torrance Begay, Neve Redhair and Nadya Begay, have played at the varsity level all four years, taking part in three state titles and a state championship runner-up.

In what turned out to be the season's most exciting game, the Lady Sand Devils defeated the Thatcher Eagles in overtime Wednesday to advance to the championship game. It was Torrance Begay's buzzer-beater shot against Thatcher in the semi-finals that sent the game into overtime.

The championship game was the second time Page and Snowflake have squared off this season. The Sand Devils beat the Lobos 40-21 when the teams met for the first time in February.

The Lobos played much more aggressively in the championship game. They even adopted Page's full court pressure defense. But their efforts at full-court defense had little effect, for three reasons. One, Miquedah Taliman, Nadya Begay and Torrance Begay are all excellent ball handlers and three excellent

ball handlers was too much for the Lobos to corral. Torrance, who typically spends the better part of the offense posting up near the basket, spent a large portion of Saturday's game bringing the ball up the court for the Lady Sand Devils. "She's a very versatile player," said Coach Whitehorse after the game. "They were so focused on Miquedah bringing the ball up the court, so I had Torrance do it for a while."

The second reason the Lobos full-court press amounted to little was that the Sand Devils practice against it nearly every practice. Coach Whitehorse gave credit to his second team for that. "Our second group does a great job pressuring our first team," he said. "We're used to it."

The third reason the Lobos's full court pressure had little affect is that they didn't score very much. To run an effective full-court pressure defense you have to score and then form into your defense while your opponent is inbounding the pass. But the Lobos didn't score enough for this to happen and Page simply outran them on the transition after getting the rebound.

The Lobos got a quick shot in the arm, scoring on their first two possessions. They were able to maintain their lead the first seven minutes of the game.

Sand Devils fans got a little concerned when Neve Redhair, the 3A Central Defensive Player of the Year, got her second foul



of the game with 3:10 left in the first quarter. Coach Whitehorse replaced her for the duration of the quarter with Jade Reid.

The Sand Devils were trailing 5-10 at the end of the quarter when Torrance Begay hit a bucket from the paint. Taliman followed that with two free throws. On the quarter's final possession, Taliman tight-roped along the baseline and put up an acrobatic under-the-basket scoop seconds before the buzzer sounded, giving her team the lead for the first time in the game. The Sand Devils led 11-10 at the end of the first quarter.

Chamique Nez started the second quarter with a steal. She brought the ball to the top of the key then dished it to Emma Yazzie who was waiting at the three-point line. Her shot sizzled through net.

Taliman put in a floater and on the next possession – after another steal – dealt a crisp assist to Nez sailing between defenders, who banked in a lay-up.

The Lobos regrouped and regained their composure after that and were able to match the Sand Devils' run. The Sand Devils led 20-18 at halftime.

Torrance tore it up in the third quarter with six points and a blocked shot, leading a 10 to 5 scoring run against Snowflake.

Leading 30-23 going into the fourth quarter, the Sand Devils slowed down the pace of the game considerably, and moved into a three-man weave offense designed to eat time off the clock. Coach Whitehorse called out for his team to "Be patient" from the sidelines.

After the Lobos hit a three-point shot with 3:30 left in the game, they trailed by five points and began intentionally fouling the Sand Devils in hopes of rebounding a missed free throw and turning the rebound into points on the other end. But it was a case of too little, too late for the Lobos; they couldn't



muster the offense to bridge the scoring gap.

The Sand Devils won their third state championship in five years by a score of 36-32.

"It felt great!" said Coach Whitehorse. "It really means a lot to us and the community after Covid shut everything down and almost having our season cancelled. And to do it undefeated mae it even greater."

There were several keys to Sand Devils victory. One: they had experienced players. Torrance Begay and Miquedah Taliman have started for the Sand Devils the last two seasons. They were unflappable, and their leadership really showed.

The second factor falls on the shoulders of the Lobos. They had more than a dozen opportune shots from near the basket, but rather than square up and take a proper shot, they panicked under pressure and took hurried, flustered shots that missed the mark.

The Sand Devils assistant coaches are Charlotte Nockideneh, Darlisa Tsinnie and Gerrald Begaye.

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## PARRIS from pg. 2

I was playing the waiting game the entire time."

By three o'clock Adams still hadn't received the phone call.

"She texted me about three and said she must not have got it, because no one had called her," said Kori Fitch-Adams, Adam's mother.

But, the terrible wait ended with very good news, when just a few minutes after texting her mother, a Flinn representative called Adams and informed her she'd been selected.

"I was so ecstatic and excited!" Adams said. "I was literally screaming when I got the call! It was just really rewarding that all of the work I've put in over the last four years finally paid off."

Adams plans to major in Hotel Restaurant Management, and she'd either double-major or get her minor in Political Science.

"My long term plans are to be involved in the restaurant industry and then create a non-profit for underprivileged individuals to have access to healthy and sustainable food options.

"I think college and being involved with the other Flinn scholars is going to be an amazing experience for Parris," said Fitch. "Parris is passionate about education, she's a

self-starter, she has big plans and big ideas. It will be great for her to be surrounded by other students and adults who feel the same way."

One of the big perks that comes with the scholarship is that the students get to travel to Europe twice during their four years as a Flinn Scholar.

Adams hopes those two trips to Europe will just be the beginning of a lifetime of travel.

"I am so excited to travel the world!" she said. "I'm super excited for all of the adventures that await and just being able to experience something different is going to be really awesome."

Adams has attended schools of the Page Unified School District since she was in second grade, and says she's had several important teachers during her time as a student.

"I've had a lot of really influential teachers from elementary to high school," she said. "Some key ones are Ms. Codner, Mr. Serventi, Ms. Schmitter, Mr. Swinton, Ms. Moore, both of my parents (Mr. Adams and Mrs. Fitch), Mr. Bunch, Ms. Wold, Mr. Albert, and Ms. Willson."

Megan Moore

"It will be fun to see what she does," said Moore. "She's going to accomplish exactly what she wants."



vanced art student, even while at Page Middle School, Ms. Tucker has been giving her advanced projects that have helped take her to a different level of experience in the arts. One of those projects was a pretty big one: Ms. Tucker had Sandoval paint murals on the walls at the middle school. The murals are still there today.

"She's very prolific, she's a scholar, she's passionate, independent, dedicated and goes above and beyond by being a role model, as well as a fun-loving person, to her peers," said Ms. Tucker. "She's like a sponge: she absorbs everything I teach her."

Sandoval is attending high school remotely this year. This year she's taking Painting II from Ms. Tucker. In previous years, Ms. Tucker has taught her Drawing I and II, Painting I and Honors Advanced Art. Sandoval plans to take Honors Advanced Art during her senior year. In Honors Advanced Art, Sandoval will be allowed to create their own curriculum designed around what she wants to learn. At the end of the year, she hopes to display her work in art shows.

Attending school remotely has brought some added challenges, but Sandoval has been able to work through it with few problems, she said.

"Working remotely was not difficult because my mom was there to provide me with the resources I needed," she said.

Sandoval communicates with Ms. Tucker primarily via email. Sandoval sends photos of her art in various stages of completion and Ms. Tucker provides critique, feedback and guidance, if needed.

In recent months, Sandoval has taken her art to a new level. She recently started her own business dedicated to promoting and selling her artwork. She showcases her art on Instagram, TikTok, Facebook, and Snapchat.

Sandoval is happy with the progress her new business is making. She gets a lot of help from her family.

"It is going very well," she said. "I am happy to say that I have a very supportive family, especially my sister. She gets me the things I need for the business and always goes above and beyond when it comes to packaging. We are currently in the process of making custom stickers and more business cards, as well as Thank You cards for [people] purchasing my canvases."

During the last year, the Coronavirus pandemic has had a negative impact on businesses big and small throughout the world, but that didn't stop Pearl Sandoval from opening her business.

"I took the time to do something I really love and am passionate about," said Sandoval. The loving support from those around her is what motivated her to start her business, Sandoval explains.

"What motivated me to start my business was my family. Also, [not to mention], my art teacher named Susan Tucker", said Sandoval. "She motivated me the most to

start it and helped me with materials and supplies."

Sandoval also explains why she started her business. As well as what made her want feel like this was a perfect time to start her successful business:

"I felt like this was the right time to start my business to show other people that even though we're in a pandemic," says Sandoval, "it won't stop us from our dreams and goals. Even if we live in a small town we can still do big things in life!"

Sandoval is proud of her art, and also takes pride in the way she presents it and packages for her customers. She likes giving it that personal touch. That includes making her own business cards and including treats in with the art her customers have ordered.

Pearl Sandoval's introduction to the art world came from her father. He has been a great source of inspiration for her as well.

When Sandoval was about five years old, her father would show her how to draw a person's face and how to shade it. He's always enjoyed drawing and has always encouraged her to draw with him. She's currently the only artist in her family but does have a younger niece and cousin, ages three and eleven, who are following her artistic footsteps.

Sandoval says the interest her niece and cousin show in her artwork inspired her to continue on her own art journey.

"They both have such a huge heart for art and painting," she said.

Her cousin always asks her for opinions on how to draw animals and sketches of people.

Her niece calls and tells her what she paints and what color she uses. "I do what I can to show them all the techniques and skills to paint or draw," Sandoval said.

Sandoval also takes inspiration from one of the world's greatest artists, Leonardo Da Vinci, who she became interested in when she was in eighth grade.

"He took so much time sculpting and painting," said Sandoval. "One of his quotes will always remain in my heart: 'Time stays long enough for anyone who will use it.'"

You can see more of Sandoval's work on her social media platforms. Instagram ([artpainting533](#)), Facebook at ([joy Sandoval](#)), TikTok at ([artpainting533](#)).

**Shundine Fowler** is a student journalist at Page High School. She loves playing guitar, listening to music, writing, drawing, playing with her dogs as well as practicing and studying tattoo artistry in her spare time. Shundine is also an independent self-taught tattoo apprentice and has her own tattoo machine and practices on fake skin {included in the kit} to accelerate her tattoo artistry skills



# Desert View Teachers get Slimed for Kids Heart Challenge

Photos by Lyonel Tso



Desert View students, teachers and staff raised \$3,239 during this year's Kids Heart Challenge. As part of the fun, the teachers who raised the most money, and teachers who had the most student participants, got the privilege of getting slimed by some of their students. The students who raised the most money for the event had the honor of pouring the slime.

Ms. Talbott's class raised the most money: \$598. Ms. Gilert's, Ms. Iverson's and Ms. Tucker's classes tied for having the most student participants.

Kalyn Nalwood was the student who raised the most money: \$548.

All the money raised will go to the American Heart Association.

The event was organized by Rachael West.



# EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

Classified Employee of the Month - February 2021

Certified Employee of the Month - February 2021



Tina Slavens



Holly Castelan



# STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



**Skye Johnson**  
Lake View Primary



**Makaytlynn Williams**  
Desert View Intermediate



**Jake Smith**  
Page Middle School



**Tea Nockideneh**  
Page High School



**Alex Begay**  
Manson Mesa High School



**Cailin Baughman**  
Sage & Sand Virtual Academy





# Announcements

Consider Supporting the Yeego Foundation

# YEEGO

*GO WITH GREATER INTENSITY*

In the Diné language, Yéego means, "to do something with greater intensity."

Some of our students living in remote areas lack the technological equipment capable of running Adobe software, such as Photoshop or Premiere.

With a purchase of a student created T-shirt or hoodie, you will help us purchase laptops capable of running Adobe software for our students so they can create professional level media and allow them to achieve their dreams of one day working in the movie, music, art, and design industry. 100% of all the proceeds generated in this fundraiser will be used to buy equipment to assist the program. To make a purchase, go to [bonfire.com/store/yeegofoundation](http://bonfire.com/store/yeegofoundation).

**A'hé'hee'**

IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING YOU'D LIKE ADDED TO THE SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER PLEASE CONTACT

STEVEN LAW  
PR COORDINATOR