

## 2/10/15 Superintendent's Report

Rachell Hochheim, IELC  
Ana Gallegos  
Bonnie Demorotski, Brichta  
Terri Howard, Schumaker  
10 parents expected

Angela Nachampassak & Parents, TUSD Spelling Bee Champ from Pueblo Gardens  
Seth Aleshire, Principal  
Kristina Rodriguez-Loya, Counselor

Tsuru Bailey-Jones, Asian Pacific American Student Services department  
Masbil Bulale  
Ndabibonye Desire  
Ann Klocko  
Leonard Muhunga  
Lydia Sahyouni  
Wadiyah Sarah  
Joyce Tominaga  
Rachel Sanchez

Cesar Rivera, Pueblo Magnet High School  
12 parents expected  
Augustine Romero, Principal  
Amalia Salazar, Native American student services  
Roxanne Begay-James, Native American student services  
Possible rep from KVOA  
Possible rep from Boys and Girls Club of Tucson

### Attendance Awards

1<sup>st</sup> Place Elementary – Borman  
1<sup>st</sup> Place K-8 – Miles ELC  
1<sup>st</sup> Place Middle – Dodge Magnet  
1<sup>st</sup> Place High – University HS

When I came to Tucson, one of the first things I set out to work on was early childhood education. It's our best chance to get kids ready for kindergarten and their future. We had a dream to re-purpose some of our closed schools, and in just a few short months the Infant and Early Learning Centers at Brichta and Schumaker were born!

Our team opened the centers in July of 2014. A few months later, we submitted the sites to the Expect More Arizona Excellence Tour, and we recently found out we won the People's Choice award for December!

Congratulations to the staff members at the centers who do such great work! Representing all of those folks are some of the leaders who help run the centers. Please come up:

**Ms. Rachell Hochheim**

**Ms. Ana Gallegos**

**Ms. Bonnie Demorotski (Dem/or/out/ski).., Brichta Director**

**Ms. Terri Howard, Schumaker Director**

We have many parents in the audience who came to support the team. We thank you for trusting us with your tiny babies, toddlers and preschoolers. Could you please stand to be recognized as well? Thank you!

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Next I'd like to call up **Angela Nachampassak (Na-cham-pa-sok)** and her family, along with Pueblo Gardens **Principal Seth** Aleshire and counselor **Kristina Rodriguez-Loya**.

Ladies and gentleman, meet the winner of the district wide Spelling Bee!

Angela has been at Pueblo Gardens PreK-8 since kindergarten and is a gifted speller who works very hard, Principal Aleshire says. Leading up to the competition she could be seen studying before school and at lunch, and when she went home she continued to study.

She created flashcards to help with the words and their pronunciation and drilled herself to get ready for the competition.

All the hard work has paid off. Congratulations on winning the district bee, Angela, and we wish you the best of luck in the county competition.

Continued next page

TUSD has an incredibly diverse student population. Did you know we have over 800 refugee students in 33 elementary schools, 18 middle and K-8 schools, and 11 high schools.

These students leave their home countries and come here--a completely different environment, often without knowing the language, culture or customs. They need support. And those students and families get that support thanks to TUSD.

Recently TUSD Refugee Services was one of a handful of agencies recognized by the local business Mister Carwash for their contributions to the refugee population in Tucson.

I'd like to call up Ms. Tsuru Bailey-Jones to introduce her team to be recognized.

*(Tsuru introduces team at the mic)*

It's also my honor to report to you we've signed an agreement with the South Korean Mayors who recently visited us to continue to the Tucson Korea Ambassador program.

The Tucson-Korea Ambassador Program builds cultural, language, and friendship ties between students from Tucson Unified School District and students from Ulleung-gun and Yeongyang-gun in South Korea.

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Next up, I'd like to introduce a student who is now "Twitter and Facebook famous" here in Arizona---thanks to his selection to watch the Super Bowl in person!

**Cesar Rivera** of Pueblo Magnet High School along with your family, **Principal Auggie Romero**, and **Amaila Salazar and Roxanne Begay-James** from Native American Services are here too.

Cesar was the happiest guy in town when Comcast NBC Universal and the Boys and Girls Club of Tucson surprised him with tickets to the game. He got to see the Super Bowl live, visit with the cast of the Today Show and received a special message from the Patriots players.

Cesar was chosen because of his commitment to his education and to the Boys and Girls Club. Cesar's dad says the club has helped all three of his boys stay on the right track, and all are grateful for the opportunities the program offers.

Cesar has a few words to share with us all about his experience.

*(Cesar at mic)*

We'd like to thank local NBC station KVOA and the Boys and Girls Club—please come up if you are here so we can thank you!

Congrats, Cesar, and maybe next year we'll see the Cardinals in the Super Bowl!

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Every month, we recognize the schools that had the best attendance percentage. This is part of our attendance awareness campaign. Attending classes is incredibly important for student achievement, and I'm always happy to recognize schools that are succeeding in the area of attendance.

The first place winners have the honor of flying a special attendance flag on their flagpoles.

So here are the winners for January:

We have some upsets in elementary and K-8!!!

1<sup>st</sup> Place Elementary – **Borman**

1<sup>st</sup> Place K-8 – **Miles ELC**

1<sup>st</sup> Place Middle – **Dodge Magnet**

1<sup>st</sup> Place High – **University HS**

Great job students, families and staff!!!!