

July 14 invitation list Superintendent's Report

--Mary Palacio-Hum and guest

Custodians:

--Rosamelia Felix, Roberts-Naylor K-8
--Thang Ky, Roberts-Naylor K-8
--Saturnino Sanchez-Cisneros, Roberts-Naylor K-8
--Ramon Acuna Andrews, Palo Verde High Magnet School
--Catalina Martinez, Palo Verde High Magnet School
--Raymond Rodriguez, Palo Verde High Magnet School
--Hermelinda Rodriguez, Palo Verde High Magnet School
--Gildardo Rodriguez Medina, Palo Verde High Magnet School
--Laura Zavala, Palo Verde High Magnet School
--Guadalupe Martinez, Palo Verde High Magnet School
--Bobby Castro, Vesey Elementary School
--Rogelio Gutierrez, Vesey Elementary School

Camp Cooper Donation:

-- Dean Ronald Marx

--Rick Zurow

--Bruce Johnson

Dr. Sanchez: Normally, I try to keep this report as upbeat as possible, but today I need to share the passing of two members of the Tucson Unified family.

Mr. Sam Polito worked with Tucson Unified for nearly 60 years. President Grijalva has a few words about his legacy:

Pres. Grijalva: Sam's work transformed education not just in Arizona, but the country. He passed away July 3rd at the age of 80. Education was his passion and calling in life. He lobbied on behalf of K-12 and universities and in May he received a lifetime achievement award from the Metropolitan Education Commission.

Sam was not only a lifetime Tucsonan—he was a TUSD graduate—attending Sam Hughes and Tucson High.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Polito family.

Dr. Sanchez: Mrs. Polito is here tonight and we thank you for being here as we honor your husband.

We must also report the passing of beloved Teenage Parent High School science teacher, Mr. Thomas Gillespie. Mr. Gillespie passed away suddenly with his grandson last week on a hiking trip. The outpouring of comments we've seen on Facebook shows how loved he was.

Many former students also said Tom changed their lives and helped them graduate. He was with the TUSD family for 23 years and will be greatly missed.

I ask for a moment of silence in remembrance of both of these gentlemen.

At the end of each school year, the Custodial Department announces "The Best of the Best" awards for cleanest elementary, middle/K-8 and high schools.

Only schools that have passed each of their quarterly inspections during the school year are eligible. The winners are based on inspection reports and School Quality Surveys. The winning sites receive a plaque honoring their achievement and each custodian receives an individual certificate. For the 2014-2015 year, the winners were:

- The Vesey Wildcats, cleanest elementary school
- The Roberts-Naylor Phoenix, cleanest middle school/K-8. This is their second consecutive win.
- The Palo Verde Titans, cleanest high school. This is their fourth consecutive win.

I would like to thank these hard-working custodians for creating a clean and safe environment for the children at their schools.

Come on up for a certificate and picture. If any of our principals are here---we'd love to have you come up as well.

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I would like to congratulate **Mary Palacio-Hum**, the outgoing president of the PTSA at Alice Vail Middle School. She won the Arizona PTA Volunteer of the Year award for 2015!

The entire PTSA was also named Arizona PTA Local Unit of the Year Honorable and was recognized for:

- 100 percent teacher participation
- Male Engagement (20 percent male membership)
- Business Membership (3 percent of total membership)

The honors were announced at the AZ PTA Convention Superhero Awards Gala in Paradise Valley.

Mary encourages all schools to have a PTA. She says, "It doesn't take much to get a PTA started. Find just one parent in your school to take the lead, and before you know it, there will be a group of dedicated parents doing what PTA does best: provide resources, programs and school community for all families. Student achievement will start to improve. Students with parents who are involved in their children's education achieve more."

Thank you, Ms. Palacio-Hum, for your contributions to our students at Alice Vail. Please come up to be recognized!

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At our last board meeting, the board generously awarded a bonus to me for the achievements of our administrative team as we fulfilled 100 percent of our goals for the 2014-15 school year. I announced then that I'd be donating that bonus to Camp Cooper and today the team from Cooper is here to accept.

If you've never been there, Camp Cooper is a special place. Students from Tucson Unified and other local school districts experience the Sonoran desert during field trips. It's a hands-on, out of the classroom educational opportunity that can't be lost. The camp has been operating since the 1960's under our district. We partnered with the University of Arizona in 2008. In that time, more than 130,000 students have experienced Camp Cooper!

Camp Cooper has been fundraising all summer to ensure staffing for the 15-16 school year, and I'm proud to be able to help. There's still time for community members to help as well---we have a link to their fundraising page on our website for you at TUSD1.org

Could Cooper's University of Arizona College of Education Leadership, Dean Ronald Marx, Development Director Rick Zurow, and Department Head Bruce Johnson please come up and accept?

We also have a donation from the Superintendent's Leadership team in the amount of \$3000.00

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