Connect
News from the Cotati-Rohnert Park USD Superintendent Dr. Mayra Perez

COTATI-ROHNERT PARK
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Hello Families!

I hope you are enjoying the cooler days of fall! Students have settled into their routines and our schools and district services are busy doing good work.

Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday, November 7 - remember to turn your clocks back one hour.

Fall brings the return of indoor activities and many gatherings. Please keep safe and healthy by following COVID-19 protocols. We wish all our families the best!

-Dr. Mayra Perez, Superintendent

COVID Update

Our COVID cases have dropped dramatically and we have successfully kept our schools open. Thank you for your continued support and efforts in being safe and following our school protocols.

By working together, we've been successful in keeping all doors open. Over the past two months, we have provided COVID testing for more than 2,600 students and staff. Although we had a few bumps with our testing process, things have smoothed out and we are happy to provide this additional health care service for our families and staff.

Congratulations Technology High School! National Blue Ribbon School

Technology High School (THS) was named a 2021 National Blue Ribbon School in the category for Exemplary High Performing School. The National Blue Ribbon School designation is one of the highest honors a school can receive. Technology High School is a science, technology, engineering, and math-focused college preparatory school, founded in 1999.

THS serves nearly 350 students in grades 9-12. THS develops students' critical thinking and creative skills in a small learning community through project-based and applied learning, integrated and thematic instruction, and teamwork. The school offers a wide variety of student clubs along with 11 sports teams.

Exemplary High Performing schools have their state's highest high school graduation rates and the highest achieving students (the top 15%) in English and mathematics, measured by state assessments.

Curriculum Council Reviewing Language Arts Materials

The district Curriculum Council heard publishers' presentations on K-8 Language Arts instructional materials aligned to the California State Standards.

The team includes representatives from each school who are enthusiastic about having the opportunity to review new materials for our instructional program.

The instructional materials that will be piloted were selected after several hours of presentations and deliberations. The team will pilot three sets of instructional materials from November 2021 through February 2022 with the goal of recommending one program for board approval.

The team is also reviewing an English Language Development program to support English learners. Students will have new language arts materials to use in Fall 2022.

Safe School Ambassadors Aim to Help Reduce Bullying

The Safe School Ambassadors Program (SSA) is launching at Technology Middle School, Lawrence Jones Middle School, Technology High School, and Rancho Cotate High School.

The SSA harnesses the power of students to prevent and stop bullying and mistreatment by educating diverse social leaders with the skills needed to prevent and reduce bullying.

The SSR relies on the "inside-out" approach to improving school climate. Student bystanders see and hear things adults don't. They can intervene in ways adults cannot. They are a critical and necessary resource for positively impacting school culture and reducing bullying.

The recruited student ambassadors attend a two-day interactive training along with adults who serve as program mentors. The training gives Student Ambassadors skills and tools to help resolve conflicts, defuse incidents, and support isolated and excluded students. And adult mentors are always available to help and intervene where needed.

After the training, school site Ambassadors meet every few weeks. These meetings, led by adult mentors, provide time for strengthening skills, analyzing Ambassador interventions, and helping to sustain student and adult commitment to the program.