



Catalina Foothills Unified School District #16
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BOARD AGENDA ITEM

ITEM NO: 3.4

BOARD MEETING DATE: Monday, November 4, 2024

OPENING ITEM: Outstanding Achievements

SUBMITTED BY: Denise Bartlett, Superintendent

PRESENTED BY: Denise Bartlett, Superintendent

I am pleased to highlight the following CFSD student and staff achievements:

Catalina Foothills School District Named Arizona's Only All-A K-12 District

Catalina Foothills School District (CFSD) proudly stands as Arizona's only K-12 district to have every school earn an "A" rating from the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) for the 2023-2024 school year. This exceptional milestone reflects CFSD's commitment to excellence, rigorous academic standards, and the collective effort of its students, teachers, families, and community.

Additionally, CFSD is thrilled to announce that Sunrise Drive Elementary School achieved a perfect score of 100 in the total points earned in the Arizona Accountability Model. This achievement makes Sunrise Drive Elementary the only K-8 public school among Arizona's 1,368 K-8 schools to earn this distinction, underscoring the school's unwavering dedication to academic excellence and student growth.

The ADE's A-F Letter Grade system annually evaluates schools on critical performance metrics, including student growth in English language arts, math, and science; proficiency and growth of English language learners; high school graduation rates; and readiness indicators for college or careers. CFSD's achievement reflects a district-wide dedication to preparing students for success in college and beyond.

National Merit Semifinalists

We are proud to announce that seven of our seniors have been named National Merit Semifinalists in the 2025 National Merit® Scholarship Program.

In an average year, less than 1% of U.S. high school seniors are named National Merit Semifinalists. By comparison, an impressive 1.4% of CFHS seniors earned this prestigious distinction.

Congratulations to our Class of 2025 Semifinalists Joseph Drexler, Fox Foster, Sara Christina Nielsen, Nilay Patel, Carson Ruiz, Tahlia Szoke, and Bryan Zhang.

These students now have the opportunity to compete for nearly 7,000 National Merit Scholarships worth a total of \$26 million, to be awarded in the spring of 2025. To advance in the competition, our Semifinalists must fulfill several additional requirements to achieve Finalist standing. We are incredibly proud of them and wish them continued success as they move forward in this competition.

CFHS Girls Golf

The CFHS girls' golf team, coached by Robert Rathbun, qualified and competed in the Arizona Interscholastic Association (AIA) Division II State Championship! the State Championship, which took place at Aguila Golf Club in Phoenix on Monday, October 28th and Tuesday, October 29th.

The girls had a remarkable season, coming within just one stroke of an undefeated match record. They recently secured a victory over their top Southern Arizona rivals, Salpointe Catholic and Ironwood Ridge, in a thrilling match. The team was led by Junior Sofia Strobel, who shot an outstanding 4-over-par 41.

Catalina Foothills Girls Golf Team proudly finished in seventh place at the state championships, achieving a total score of 683. Congratulations to our talented athletes for their hard work, dedication, and impressive performance on the course!

The team consists of Brienna Claw, Charisma Corkle, Sara Emslie, Emiliana Lamb, Gabrielle Matty, Olivianne Matty, Jayden Nester, Elsa Ricker, and Sofia Strobel.

CFHS Choir

On October 20-21, CFHS hosted the Arizona Choral Educators Fall Festival in the Music Hall. There were 25 choirs from 15 different schools from all over Southern Arizona. The choirs were adjudicated by local choral experts Dr. Marcela Molina, Jennifer Campman, and Dr. Jeff Vanderlee. Out of the 25 participating choirs, our choirs received the top three scores of the whole festival, earning them

the title of Superior with Distinction. The Concert Chorale received the highest overall rating, and Change of Pace took the top score in literacy.

Choir Silver members include Meryl Abdelmessieh, Sunita Adhikari, Jillian Bea, Ivy Buffalo, Abigail Carnahan, Ellaina Carnahan, Madisyn Gabbard, Gia German, Riley Goetsch, Brielle Groves, Sarina Herrington, Harper Hisey, Sophia Hudgens, Elise Lanzarotti, Olivia Linton, Lorena Marye, Sophia Maria Oliveira, Anna Palmer, Alexis Perry, Ada Tenbroeck, Isabella Trader, and Avisa Victory.

Concert Chorale members include Meryl Abdelmessieh, Abigail Amante, Frances Bavier, Owen Becker, Sophie Bian, Laila Brooks, Ellaina Carnahan, Mariah Coats, Mia Correggio, Lillian Dupont, Nora Fadel, Carter Ferrell, Addison Fluegel, Fox Foster, Layla Fraser, Madisyn Gabbard, Isabella Gamas Collazo, Isabella Garcia, Aisha Gereau, Charlotte Gordon, Zachary Green, Norah Jacob, Alexandra Kapke, Audrey Landau, Laney Lee-Hilton, Thomas Lindgren, Sebastian Mehl-Dominguez, Vincent Merheb, Esperanza Naney, Salome Nifong, Stephie Norvilus, Edgar Padilla, Anna Palmer, Fernanda Partida Guillen, Alexis Perry, Cullen Rae, Anakin Ramirez, Maya Reed, Taylor Rupprecht, Eli Schmidt, Benjamin Silverman, Eden Tarquinio-Alexander, Joseph Towe, Mason Tribble, Luis Urtaza, Arian Valiani, and Nathaniel Wiley.

Change of Pace members include Ellaina Carnahan, Carter Ferrell, Jacqueline Foley, Fox Foster, Isabella Gamas Collazo, Aisha Gereau, Kiera Kuehnle, Siena Mayfield, Zachary Pittner, Benjamin Silverman, Abigail Sinclair, Louisa Stine, Alejandro Tavera-Reyes, and Luis Urtaza.

Congratulations to all of the singers for their hard work and excellent musicianship!

Mr. Jeffrey Evans is the Director of Choirs for Catalina Foothills High School.

Esperero Canyon Middle School Sixth Grader Recognized in Arizona Treasurer's Essay Contest

The Catalina Foothills School District is proud to announce that Abigail Henson, a sixth grader from Esperero Canyon Middle School, has been selected as one of the 20 winners of Arizona Treasurer Kimberly Yee's annual AZ529 Essay Writing Contest. Abby's winning essay was chosen from among 627 entries submitted by fifth and sixth grade students from across Arizona's 15 counties, representing district, charter, private schools, Bureau of Indian Education, and homeschools.

Abigail responded to the prompt, "What Is Your Dream Job and How Do You Plan on Achieving It in the Future?" Her essay captivated judges with her vision of becoming a Supreme Court Justice dedicated to supporting environmental

protection. Her thoughtful, original writing demonstrated a strong commitment to both justice and sustainability, underscoring the values of leadership and stewardship.

As one of the 20 winners, Abby received \$529 towards an AZ529 Education Savings Plan, supporting her future educational pursuits. Congratulations, Abby!

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Information Item