



Catalina Foothills Unified School District #16
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BOARD AGENDA ITEM

ITEM NO: 3.6

BOARD MEETING DATE: Tuesday, May 12, 2026

OPENING ITEM: Deep Learning Showcase – Striking a Chord: What Guitar Has Taught Us About Learning, Catalina Foothills High School Guitar Program

SUBMITTED BY: Julie Farbarik, Director of Community Schools

PRESENTED BY: Denise Bartlett, Superintendent

Presented for the governing board's information is the CFSD Deep Learning Showcase – Striking a Chord: What Guitar Has Taught Us About Learning.

The latest Deep Learning Showcase spotlights the Catalina Foothills High School guitar program, where students describe how picking up the instrument has taught them far more than music. Students say they have learned the power of showing up and practicing every day, even when it's frustrating, and how pushing through those moments has made them stronger learners in and out of the classroom. Students credit the discipline of daily practice with improving their focus, their grades, and even their fine motor coordination. Under the guidance of teacher Jeff Good and the resources the guitar program provides, students say the class has shown them that setting your mind to something and sticking with it is a skill that carries into everything you do.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Information Item