



Catalina Foothills Unified School District #16
2101 E. River Road, Tucson, AZ 85718
(520) 209-7500 (520) 209-7570 FAX www.cfsd16.org

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

ITEM NO: 3.6

BOARD MEETING DATE: Tuesday, January 13, 2026

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 High School (CFHS) HOBY Nominees

Each year, the CFHS counseling department can select sophomores to participate in the prestigious Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY) Seminar. This program is dedicated to training and nurturing young leaders, empowering them to explore their potential and develop into effective leaders in their home, school, workplace, and community. This year, we are pleased to announce the nomination of seven outstanding sophomores who will represent CFHS at this summer's HOBY Leadership Seminar: Alexis Appel, Isabella Goodall, Elliya Griver, Olivia Linton, Riley McGuire, Maria Serratos, and Vivienne Shehab.

Thomas Vamos, CFHS Senior, Named Flinn Scholarship Semifinalist

Catalina Foothills School District proudly congratulates Thomas Vamos, a senior at Catalina Foothills High School, on being named a Flinn Scholarship Semifinalist, one of only 79 students selected statewide from a competitive pool of 1,150 applications.

The Flinn Scholarship, now in its 41st year, remains one of Arizona's most prestigious and generous undergraduate awards. The merit-based scholarship is valued at more than \$135,000 and includes funding for international study, mentorship, and membership in a community of high-achieving peers across the state.

Thomas's selection as a Semifinalist places him among an exceptional group of Arizona high school seniors who represent academic achievement spanning science, arts, athletics, and community leadership.

The Semifinalists will participate in virtual interviews January 21-22, with approximately half advancing to Finalist status. Finalists will interview in person at the Flinn Foundation in March, and the 20 Flinn Scholars will be announced in April. Award recipients will attend Arizona State University, Northern Arizona University, or the University of Arizona beginning fall 2026.

As a Semifinalist, Thomas is also eligible for a special tuition scholarship from Arizona's three public universities, offered in recognition of his exceptional achievement. Congratulations, Thomas, on this outstanding accomplishment! The entire CFSD community is proud of you.

Esperero Canyon Middle School (ECMS) Choir

Congratulations to the 21 ECMS choir students who auditioned and were selected to participate in the American Choral Directors Association statewide Cantaremos Honor Choirs. Students Scarlett Braun, Abigail Gordon, Amelia Marr, Emma McNulty, Stella Schumacher, Gwen Seppala, Elizabeth Sinclair, Cecilia Suarez, and Elena Suarez performed with the 7-9 Grade Treble SSA Honor Choir. Students Luke Figueroa, Andrew Moseke, and Grant Taylor performed with the 7-9 Grade Tenor/Bass Honor Choir. Students Luna Blueskyes, Grace Braun, Ava Escajeda, Adele Espinosa-Shanahan, Julia Lauer, Nora Lindsay, Mia McNulty, Ava Moore, and Margo Santos performed with the 5-6 Grade Treble Honor Choir. The rehearsals and performances took place at Central High School in Phoenix on Sat. November 22nd. Their director is Julia Higgins.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Information Item