Good morning Board and Administrative Council,

I will be sharing media stories on/involving Carmel Unified with each of you as they are published so we can ensure leaders are informed of issues in the news.

Please see this article from the Monterey County Weekly on the CHS stadium lights project.

Thank you.

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CalSPRA President-elect
NSPRA Southwest Region Front-Runner 2021
Good afternoon,

As discussed during yesterday's meeting, we are looking to update our overwhelmingly lengthy COVID safety plan into a more user friendly format for staff, students, families and the community.

Attached is a draft two-page safety information sheet. I'd appreciate any feedback you have to share with me on how it can be improved.

Thank you for your help as we work to consolidate this information so it is useful to all.

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Attachments

- COVID Safety Information 2021.22.pdf
Happy Sunday,

Please see this Monterey Herald article on attendance rates as it includes information from Carmel Unified.

Thank you.

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Good morning AC and Board Members,

This morning we will be sending out Mission, Vision and Values surveys to our staff, students, parents and community members through ParentSquare, our social media accounts and on our website.

Surveys will be open today through the 21st.

Thank you for helping to encourage our stakeholders to participate in providing valuable feedback for this process.

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Attachments
- Mission Vision Values Survey 2021.png
Good afternoon,

There are many anti-vaccine mandate parent groups on Facebook sharing information about a statewide school walkout on October 18 (see graphic below). I am wondering if anyone has heard from parents and/or staff members about Carmel Unified students/families participating?

Thank you!

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COVID Safety Information Sheets in English and Spanish

From: Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org>      Wed, Oct 13, 2021 at 4:04 PM PDT (GMT-07:00)
To: CUSD Administrative Council Group <cusdadministrativecouncil@carmelunified.org>

Happy Wednesday AC,

Our COVID Safety Information sheets are now available in English and in Spanish on our COVID-19 page, but I'm sending them to you all as well to share with your communities.

Thanks and have a great day.

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Attachments

- CUSD COVID Safety Information 2021.22.pdf
- CUSD COVID Safety Information 2021.22_Spanish.pdf
Good morning and Happy Thursday,

We've established a new way for the Carmel Unified greater community (individuals who are not a student, parent/guardian or staff member) to sign up for a community member list to receive news and updates about Carmel Unified. This information is on our website homepage and on our social media accounts, but we would appreciate you also sharing it when you are out and about in the community. The link to sign up is here and can also be accessed when scanning the attached QR code.

Thank you!

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Attachments

- Community Member Subscribe Button.png
- Community Member Subscribe QR Code.png
Good morning,

Please see a story on staffing challenges for schools in Monterey County here.

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Good evening,

Please see an article in the Herald [here](#) on the CHS stadium lights project.

Thank you.

Jessica Hull *(she/her/hers)*  
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Good morning,

Please see the Local Spin piece by Sara Rubin in this week’s MC Weekly.

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Good afternoon,
Please see the following pages regarding CUSD in this week's edition of the Carmel Pine Cone:
- Front page: CHS student recognition
- 6A: School vax mandate story
- 11A: Full page ad against CHS stadium lights

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Good afternoon AC,

If you have staff members who do not check email frequently, I would appreciate it if you could touch base with them to see if they are a veteran and if so, let me know prior to Friday afternoon.

Thanks so much.

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-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org>
Date: Wed, Oct 27, 2021 at 3:27 PM
Subject: Veterans Day Recognition Info Needed - Please Respond by Friday, October 29th at 4 p.m.
To: Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org>

Good afternoon CUSD Staff,

The local US Army and US Army Reserve wishes to recognize all CUSD school staff members who are veterans for this upcoming Veterans Day. If you are a veteran (any branch), please respond to this email with your legal first and last name and your branch of service by 4 p.m. on Friday, October 29th.

This information will be shared with the local US Army and US Army Reserve Office and will also be used by the District Office to recognize CUSD veterans.

Thank you in advance for sharing this information with us. Have a wonderful day.

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Good evening,

Please see Herald article [here](#) on staff vaccination rates of districts in the county.

**Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)**  
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Apologies for the link error. The correct link is here.

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On Sun, Oct 31, 2021 at 8:22 PM Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org> wrote:
Good evening,

Please see Herald article here on staff vaccination rates of districts in the county.

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Good morning,

Please see MC Weekly article here which mentions Ted's statement to the community.

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Good morning and Happy Friday,

There are two letters to the editor regarding CHS stadium lights in this week's Pine Cone (22A and 24A).

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Happy Friday,

See Herald story here on CHS Film Festival winners.

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Monterey Herald Article on Declining Enrollment

From: Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org>  
To: CUSD Administrative Council Group <cusdadministrativecouncil@carmelunified.org>; CUSD Board Group <board@carmelunified.org>

Happy Sunday,

See here article in Herald on declining enrollment that mentions CUSD.

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NSPRA Southwest Region Front-Runner 2021
Good evening,

Please see Herald article on 5-11 vaccinations here which mentions our two clinics - https://www.montereyherald.com/2021/11/12/monterey-county-school-based-vaccine-clinics-underway-for-ages-5-11/?fbclid=IwAR3qCABCaxaV2knIzy2yEGTZvDwzwsml0HqXsMTpM8HNI-fB4bACH07nY8.

--

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Good morning,

Please see a few articles related to CUSD in this week's Pine Cone:
Front cover - superintendent update
Front cover - Carmel Valley art show preview featuring Tularcitos
22A - Editorial on CHS site

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Good morning,
Here’s a piece on the CHS stadium lights - https://www.montereycountyweekly.com/opinion/squidfry/.

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Good afternoon,
Another article on stadium lights - https://www.montereyherald.com/2021/12/09/tensions-remain-high-over-carmel-high-stadium-lights-project/?utm_content=fb-montereyherald&utm_campaign=socialflow&utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook.com&fbclid=IwAR1-xG217lzG00lTI14-2m1ALj5Th9v8pBS4zkwIYS3YXVDiQ5D6kNg2s.

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Good morning and happy weekend,

Please see this story regarding CUSD - https://www.courthousenews.com/school-district-does-not-have-to-display-blow-up-menorah-judge-rules/.

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Good morning,

Two pieces on River School today [here](http://example.com) and [here](http://example.com).

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[CalSPRA President-elect](http://example.com)
[NSPRA Southwest Region Front-Runner 2021](http://example.com)
Articles in The Sandpiper of Note

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CUSD Board Meeting article here.

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Unmasked parent prompts Carmel Unified School District to cancel board meeting

By TESS KENNY | tkenny@montereyherald.com | Monterey Herald  
PUBLISHED: December 16, 2021 at 2:41 p.m. | UPDATED: December 16, 2021 at 4:21 p.m.

CARMEL — As the Carmel Unified School District prepared to open its last regular board meeting of the year for public session Wednesday night, a refusal to wear a mask by one member of the in-person crowd left the district with no other choice but to involve law enforcement, and ultimately cancel the meeting altogether.

“This is happening all across our country right now, and now it seems it’s happening right in our backyard,” said Ted Knight, Carmel Unified superintendent. “Our education system is the bedrock of our democracy, but situations like this have me worried about our future.”

Upon reconvening from closed session to a live audience of around 40-50 members of the community, half a dozen students, and a dozen staff members, the Carmel Unified board paused to ask an unmasked parent in the crowd to put on a face covering, Knight explained. The parent refused, citing a medical exemption.

Though they had not met face-to-face ahead of Wednesday’s board meeting, Knight noted he and the district had come in contact with the parent in question before. Since in-person instruction began at Carmel Unified schools in August, the parent had sent repeated messages threatening to sue the district and Knight himself on the grounds of “child abuse” for enforcing an on-campus indoor mask mandate and holding vaccination clinics, Knight said.

Fearful the situation would escalate given the district’s history with the parent, Knight asked the board president to take a recess and sequester in a classroom adjoining the Carmel Middle School library, where Wednesday’s board meeting was held. Knight made quick contact with the district’s legal counsel and local law enforcement, which did not arrive until 90 minutes after the board went into recess.

Through that period, the board remained sequestered in a separate room while the public audience waited without knowledge of the situation. Knight refrained from notifying the crowd, again wary of a volatile response from the unmasked parent if news that law enforcement was on its way became known, he said.

Still, tensions were only kept at bay for a limited stretch of time, as the unmasked parent, accompanied by a group of six to seven community members with varying levels of face coverings, became restless. The group sought to forcibly enter into the classroom housing board members 55 minutes into the recess, showing signs of heightened hostility, Knight continued.

“They literally broke into the classroom and started screaming obscenities towards us,” he said. “Our staff had to hold the door closed while (the group) tried to pry it open.”

Knight said the agitated group of parents then returned to Carmel Middle School’s library to converse with other members of the live audience and explain why the meeting had been halted.

Three deputies from the Monterey County Sheriff’s Office soon arrived on the scene. John Thornburg, a spokesman with the Sheriff’s Office, said that by the time law enforcement arrived, the situation was reported to be relatively calm. Together, the deputies and Knight sought compromise, asking the unmasked parent to voice her public comments from the library’s doorway or put on a face shield, but she again refused, Thornburg continued.

No arrests were made and no one was forcibly removed from Carmel Middle School’s campus, but the district and law enforcement eventually came to the decision that going forward with the meeting was not possible.

With unfinished district business still looming and a requirement by state law to hold a regular board meeting every month, Carmel Unified will hold a make-up meeting outdoors at Carmel Valley High School, 27335 Schulte Rd. Friday at 2 p.m. Someone from the Sheriff’s Office will be in attendance at the meeting to ensure everything remains orderly, Thornburg said. Knight added that he plans to have law enforcement in attendance at Carmel Unified board meetings for the foreseeable future.

Though immediate concerns have been addressed, the events of Wednesday evening have left Knight unsettled over the impression that has been left on the district community, as well as how safety and comfort can be retained going forward.
"My main concern is psychological safety," he said. "I never once felt like anyone was going to be physically harmed, but we’re models. Kids are watching how we behave and act. I worry about students seeing this and thinking that’s an appropriate way to act in society, and I worry about the trauma. School is supposed to be a safe place for students, but I can’t imagine how they felt walking back onto campus after having heard about what happened (Wednesday) night."

For now, Knight hopes to lead by example himself.

“They won’t deter me from doing the right thing,” he said. “It will not deter me from doing the work that needs to be done for staff and students. I’m not scared by bullies.”

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On Thu, Dec 16, 2021 at 4:24 PM Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org> wrote:
CUSD Board Meeting article here.

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Good evening,

Three articles this week related to CUSD -
http://pineconearchive.com/211217PCA.pdf

Page 3 - River
Page 10 - MCOE Board Election
Page 19 - Board Meeting

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Two Additional Articles on River

Happy Friday,

Here are two additional articles on River in the MC Weekly and The Jerusalem Post.

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Community members come forward following postponement of Carmel Unified School District board meeting

By TESS KENNY | tkenny@montereyherald.com | Monterey Herald
PUBLISHED: December 17, 2021 at 3:18 p.m. | UPDATED: December 17, 2021 at 3:19 p.m.

CARMEL — Tracy Henderson, the Carmel parent at the focal point of the postponed Carmel Unified School District board meeting Wednesday night, says she was within her rights to attend the meeting and voice her public comments without wearing a mask, citing an undisclosed medical exemption from the California Department of Public Health indoor mask mandate that went into effect the day of the meeting.

Carmel Unified’s annual board of education organizational meeting began late Wednesday afternoon in the Carmel Middle School library. After ending the closed session, the board prepared to reconvene for open session but instead took a recess and sequestered in a separate classroom near the library at the request of Carmel Unified Superintendent Ted Knight when he saw that Henderson and another community member in the back of the library were not wearing masks. Knight also called law enforcement at the time.

Henderson says she was not explicitly told to wear a mask.

When board members and Knight chose to take a recess, they did not inform the public of their reasoning to sequester, according to members of the audience that day. After waiting longer than they had anticipated for the recess to end, Henderson, accompanied by a handful of other community members, approached the classroom where board members were located.

She expressed that Knight’s explanation of the interaction as reported in Friday’s Herald between those who approached the classroom and the board members was not indicative of her experience. Knight had said he was fearful the situation would escalate given the district’s history with Henderson. According to her LinkedIn profile, Henderson founded California Parents United, a group that has called for parents to send their children to school without masks. She also serves as legal director of Utah Parents United.

Henderson refuted allegations made about her previous interactions with the district as well as what happened that night.

“I have never threatened to sue the district on grounds of child abuse,” she said. “Nobody screamed obscenities and nobody tried to force the door open” to the room where the board members were located.

After approaching the board, Henderson and the group of community members returned to the library, where they informed those still left in attendance why the meeting had been delayed.

Derrell Simpson, a spokesman for the Monterey County Sheriff’s Office who was not on the scene but reviewed the report after the incident, further sought to clarify the timeline of Wednesday’s meeting. Simpson explained that after Knight called the Sheriff’s Office at 5:42 p.m., three deputies from the Sheriff’s Office arrived on the scene. Reports from community members and the district place law enforcement’s arrival 90 minutes to two hours after the board initially went to recess.

The three deputies from the Sheriff’s Office were additional support for two officers from the California Highway Patrol, who were first on scene. At that point, Simpson explained that the situation was reportedly civil. Community members had dispersed to conversing outside amicably with one another by the time deputies arrived, he continued.

Law enforcement asked the board members if they would consider alternatives to the indoor meeting, which the district reportedly did not pursue. Simpson noted that a statement was made in regards to Henderson’s medical exemption and having paperwork on hand, though he could not speak to what extent the paperwork was inspected. Henderson said she provided her exemption to deputies.

Simpson made it clear that it was solely the board’s decision to cancel Wednesday night’s meeting, and that law enforcement only stayed on scene to ensure the situation did not escalate and that no laws were broken. Again, he reiterated that there was no apparent fighting or arguing when officers arrived at the middle school.

Julia Scattini, a parent of three children enrolled in Carmel Unified schools who was also in attendance at Wednesday night’s meeting, echoed the impression that the environment within the library, while the board was in recess, was calm. After the events of Wednesday had transpired, during which Scattini stayed inside the middle school library, she said what was most upsetting was there seemed to be “false division within the community” and that “adults should be able to communicate about a difference of opinion.”
Bill Schrier, who likewise remained in the library through the course of the board’s recess, expressed confusion and curiosity more than frustration. As the president of the Association of Carmel Teachers, as well as a teacher at Carmel High School, Schrier has an obligation to attend board meetings, yet what occurred Wednesday night was unlike any board meeting he had gone to before. He did notice a downturn in mood as the recess went on, but explained frustration from his point of view stemmed primarily from community members not being able to voice the public comments they had intended to make, rather than direct frustration with one party over another.

Similarly, Lindsay Peelman, an instructor at Monterey Peninsula College who attended Wednesday’s meeting with her husband, said she was disappointed she could not speak with the board as she had planned. She also linked her dissatisfaction with Carmel Unified’s choice to reschedule the board meeting to Friday afternoon at Carmel Valley High School, which barred her and other members of the community who work during the day from attending.
Good morning,

Here is a compilation of the CUSD news pieces from winter break:

- Monterey Herald COVID testing story
- Monterey Herald Letter to Editor on school board meeting
- Monterey Herald Letter to Editor on school board meeting
- River School Menorah story
- River School Menorah story
- And below is the text of the MC Weekly email from December 25th. This piece led the MC Weekly NOW email:

For a country founded on religious freedom, we still have learning to do.

Good morning.

Sara Rubin here, reminded that if you promise a third-grader hot chocolate and donuts, they’re sure to get excited. At least that’s how it worked for Michele Lyons’ son, a student at Carmel River Elementary School, who came home and announced the sweets in connection to a planned tree-lighting event: “Mommy, we have to decorate the Christmas tree,” Lyons says he told her. “We can decorate it with a menorah.”

While Lyons is an atheist, she is culturally Jewish, and celebrates Hanukkah. The instructions in connection to the tree-lighting explicitly encouraged people of other faiths to contribute. “We encourage students and their families to decorate the tree with an item that reflects their families’ values, heritage and/or faith. Please ensure, due to capacity limitations, that the item can fit inside a lunch paper bag,” per a flyer from the PTA.

Yes, there are Jewish-themed Christmas ornaments out there in our melting pot world, but Lyons wasn’t having it. “The suggestion is offensive to a Jewish person,” she says. “You are asking us to endorse a Christmas symbol.”

This is where things get murky. While I think it’s unambiguous that a Christmas tree is a Christmas symbol, the U.S. Supreme Court disagrees. “Although Christmas trees once carried religious connotations, today they typify the secular celebration of Christmas,” the court has ruled.

Same goes for Santa, elves, reindeer pulling a sleigh, etc. While I get it – there are Christmas decorations everywhere, including in non-religious settings – the assumption underlying all of this is that Christianity is synonymous with American culture. At what point has a religion become so broadly
practiced that its symbols are treated as secular? Judaism, at least according to the Supreme Court, has not arrived: “The Christmas tree, unlike the menorah, is not itself a religious symbol.”

When I asked Lyons about her family’s menorah options, I asked if she might have had a tiny one in compliance with the paper bag specifications, and I called it a ritual object. She bristled at my phrase “ritual object,” instead equating the menorah to a Christmas tree – so widely seen and displayed that it’s a secular decorative symbol, not an object of ritual. (As a practicing Jew myself, I use a menorah to light candles eight nights a year.)

Lyons proposed a corresponding menorah-lighting alongside the PTA’s tree-lighting, with a large, inflatable menorah (no candles, no fire hazard). She was denied, and so she filed a federal lawsuit against the River School and against Carmel Unified School District, seeking an order that would have blocked the Dec. 10 tree lighting from happening. She lost, in part on procedural grounds, and partly because of how darn confusing it is that religious objects are deemed secular.

The tree lighting went on, and Lyons’ child did not attend.

CUSD Superintendent Ted Knight says, “We certainly don’t want any student, any parent, and staff member not feeling a sense of belonging in their school – we want to create inclusive environments.”

This is not the first time a public institution locally has been embroiled in litigation on this topic. In 1990, a Jewish teenager in Monterey became a plaintiff in a lawsuit against the city opposing a nativity scene displayed outside of City Hall; he won.

Attorney Michelle Welsh represented 13-year-old Victor Ringel and today serves on the boards of Northern California’s and Monterey County’s chapters of the ACLU. She sees overt displays of Christianity on the rise across society: “It’s odd that Christianity is getting a lot more leeway, to have Christianity be sort of the favored religion,” Welsh says. “That’s more alarming than just accommodating religion in general.”

Welsh is watching as courts rule in a range of cases involving religious freedoms, including on vaccine mandate exemptions. “I get distressed because I have worked so hard for equality and fairness for the last 45 years and I think: What is happening?” she says. “People see their personal freedom as paramount over the other person’s safety or freedom or rights. I think it’s an atmosphere of fear that someone is going to take this from me and give it to you, and that’s not the way freedom works.”
However you're celebrating today—and whether you’re celebrating at all—I hope you find a moment to celebrate the fact that in the United States, you’re free to spend Dec. 25 however you choose.

-Sara Rubin, editor, sara@mcweekly.com

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CalSPRA President-elect
NSPRA Southwest Region Front-Runner 2021
Media Story and Herald Sign-In

From: Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org> Wed, Jan 5, 2022 at 4:12 PM PST (GMT-08:00)
To: CUSD Administrative Council Group <cusdadministrativecouncil@carmelunified.org>; CalSPRA Executive Board <calspra-executive-board@googlegroups.com>

Good afternoon,

Find here an update to the continuing story on COVID impacts to schools in the county.

Also, we have created a general log-in so you can all access Monterey Herald articles if you do not have your own account. Log-in email is [REDACTED]
Password is [REDACTED]

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NSPRA Southwest Region Front-Runner 2021
Good evening,

Brief letter to the editor in this week's MC Weekly.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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CalSPRA President-elect
NSPRA Southwest Region Front-Runner 2021
Good morning,
Please see the article on the front page of Pine Cone regarding COVID in CUSD.

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Please see article regarding county board of education election.

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NSPRA Southwest Region Front-Runner 2021
Herald Article on CUSD

From: Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org>  
To: CUSD Administrative Council Group <cusdadministrativecouncil@carmelunified.org>; CUSD Board Group <board@carmelunified.org>  
Wed, Jan 26, 2022 at 5:35 PM PST (GMT-08:00)

Good evening,

Please find here an article in the Monterey Herald. Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)  
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cell (209) 679-4858  
CalSPRA President-elect  
NSPRA Southwest Region Front-Runner 2021
Good morning,
Please see page 10A.
Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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CalSPRA President-elect
NSPRA Southwest Region Front-Runner 2021
Good evening,

Please see this week’s edition of the Pine Cone here -
http://pineconearchive.fileburstcdn.com/220211PC.pdf

-Cover story on stadium lights
-Letter to editor on 28A

--

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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CalSPRA President-elect
Good morning,

I will begin sending notifications to AC and our Board of interviews held with the media to preview stories we anticipate being published in the near future.

Yesterday, Thursday, February 10th, Ted met with two Sandpiper reporters - Shayla Dutta and Riley Palshaw - on the topics of stadium lights and late start. We anticipate these stories will both appear in the next edition of the Sandpiper.

On Wednesday, February 9th, Ted spoke with Tess Kenny from the Herald on the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council. She is awaiting interviews with Council members before writing her story. We anticipate it will be published next week.

On Monday, February 7th, Ted met with Sara Rubin from the Monterey County Weekly on the topic of public education becoming politicized. Some of the questions included:

- How does a school board create a forum in which everyone can be heard, amid allegations of bias?
- How does this discourse impact the education of students?
- How much power do boards have on curriculum? ie, can they easily add or overturn something like ethnic studies coursework?

Sara is developing the piece and does not yet have an expected publish date.

Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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CalSPRA President-elect
Good morning and Happy Valentine’s Day,

Some CUSD articles:
-Mock Trial wins again!
-CHS stadium lights story
-Letter to editor on stadium lights

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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CalSPRA President-elect
Good evening,
Please see here the Herald article on the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council.
Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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CalSPRA President-elect
Good afternoon,

We have spoken to a couple parents who are organizing a protest against masking in schools to begin on Monday, February 28th.

The parents are hoping to share their family's opinions in a respectful manner - one that does not impact their children's education and does not create more work for our educators. Students/families would simply wear yellow masks in protest of the masking requirement - that is all.

As you know, we also expect to be given a date on Monday the 28th when masking in schools in California will become optional. The group organizing this protest is aware of this and is hopeful the yellow masks won't be needed for long.

I hope you each have a happy and healthy February break.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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CalSPRA President-elect
Herald Article on Lights

From: Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org>       Wed, Feb 23, 2022 at 6:13 AM PST (GMT-08:00)
To: CUSD Administrative Council Group <cusdadministrativecouncil@carmelunified.org>; CUSD Board Group <board@carmelunified.org>

Good morning,

See Herald article on lights here.

Thank you.
Good morning,
Please see 11A in the Pine Cone featuring a fundraiser led by a River School teacher.
Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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CalSPRA President-elect
Local Media to Cover Lifting of Masking Mandate

Good morning,

Tess Kenny with The Herald reached out this morning to obtain CUSD's message to the community on the upcoming lifting of the schools masking mandate. It should be included in an article for today's paper.

Celia with the MC Weekly also contacted me for our statement and it should be included in an article for this Thursday's edition.

Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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CalSPRA President-elect
Good evening,
Please see two articles regarding the upcoming lifting of the masking mandate:

- MC Weekly
- Herald

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Good afternoon,

Ted was interviewed by Mary from the Pine Cone on the lifting of the mask mandate. We expect an article to be in this week's Pine Cone.

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CalSPRA President-elect
Good morning,

Please see MC Weekly article by Sara Rubin.

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In case you missed it, here is this week’s edition.

View this email in your browser

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ETC. Photo of the day by Daniel Dreifuss. Tracy Henderson is an attorney and the mom of a sophomore at Carmel High School. After she declined in December to address the board of Carmel Unified School District from outside, or to wear a mask or face shield, board meetings have been moved outside. Henderson is the founder of California Parents United, a parental rights group. Photographed with a Canon 5d mark IV 200mm 1/360 at F/2.8. Submit your best horizontal photos. (Please include the location where the photo was taken in the caption.)

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Education is not just about what happens within schools—it charts the course of where our society is headed.

Good morning.

Sara Rubin here, trying to sort through the myriad crises of the day. I have found myself wondering lately how to make sense of it all, how to discern which stories to read and which to skip, when the information universe is simply too vast to keep up with.

And that brings me to education. How we learn to receive and process information would seem to be the domain of school. This is the institution in which we are expected to learn skills—how to read, how to write, how to count—and, to the thinking of many of the architects of our country’s public education system, how to be a person. This ranges from the banal (how to show up on time) to the more character-oriented (how to play nicely on the playground, how to resolve conflict).

There’s no question in anyone’s mind that learning happens both in school and outside of school—it happens from our peers, from our parents, from all the pieces of culture and society we encounter. But increasingly,
Parental rights activists are asking for schools to narrow their focus to what educators call the “Three R’s,” reading, ’riting and ’rithmetic. Lessons about how to be kind, how to be compassionate, how to approach kids who are different than you—those are lessons they claim should be left to parents, not to trained educators.

**Local voices of the parental rights movement are the subject of this week’s cover story.** The movement has made waves nationally; from January to September last year, 24 legislatures across the country introduced 54 separate bills intended to restrict teaching or teacher training on issues like race, racism and gender, according to a study by PEN America.

**But it’s also made waves locally.** Educators and school board members have watched as dozens of parents and community members appear at once-sleepy meetings to talk in heated tones about a range of seemingly unrelated issues—teaching about gender identity, mask mandates and critical race theory or ethnic studies.

**They might be relatively small in number, but they are coordinated.** And their message to schools is clear: We want you to back out of our children’s lives and stick to just the Three R’s.

**Of the hours of school board meetings I watched in the course of reporting this story,** one moment stuck out to me in particular. It was after roughly an hour of heated public comment from the public, objecting to the Salinas Union High School District’s ethnic studies program. Social Studies Curriculum Specialist Mark Gomez got up to present on a civics education initiative, and he referenced the “healthy public comment session” that had just taken place as an example of why teaching civics might be beneficial.

**In making the case for the civics program, Gomez said,** “John Dewey once said, ‘Democracy has to be born anew every generation, and education is its midwife.’ It’s the role of education to help usher forth the continuing renewal of democracy in our society.”

I think that’s why this story, happening locally and nationally, is so high-stakes. Education is not just about what happens within schools—it charts the course of where our society is headed when current students become tomorrow’s leaders. As Carmel Unified Superintendent Ted Knight told me: “If you ruin public education, you crush our democracy.”

**There is a sense among some parents that they want their children to learn what they learned in school.** If I pause to think about what I learned in school, I’m glad education has evolved. On media literacy, we used to cut out newspaper articles and present to our classmates in an activity called “current events.” Today’s world includes the internet, social media and misinformation.
On social issues, kids today are learning about gender pronouns and acceptance in a way that I didn’t even hear of until I was an adult. When I was a kid, same-sex marriage felt like a far-off dream; today, it’s just another normal institution of life.

I look forward to continuing to learn from generations younger than me, as they come of age in a time that is more understanding and more inclusive than when I attended school in the ’90s. I think they have something to teach me, and all of us.

-Sara Rubin, editor, sara@mcweekly.com

Twenty-five school districts in Monterey County—each governed by an elected board—serve more than 77,000 students in 126 public schools and eight charter schools.
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Click for menu/order. 831.373.3778, 763 Wave St, Monterey

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**On the Cover**  
Local school districts are caught in the middle of the culture wars as the right tries to gain control.

**News**  
Salinas police officer JD Alvarado is killed on duty; murder suspect pleads not guilty.

**Opinion**  
FALSE EQUIVALENCY… Like all good people, Squid is outraged over Russia’s invasion of Ukraine. Note, Squid said “all good people.”  
In a time of anguish, let’s think about peace instead of battling each other.  
Letters to the Editor.

**Calendar**
Best of Monterey Bay® Real Estate

Carmel Valley: 5 Southview Lane | $2,188,000 | 4br/5ba | A contemporary masterpiece. One of a kind! Young Seon Myong, David Lyng Real Estate 883.238.4075

Complete List of Properties for Sale

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CalSPRA President-elect
Good afternoon,

Please include this message in your Friday emails to your communities. Thank you.

After more than two years of helping students cope with the challenges and complexities of the COVID-19 pandemic, comes a new hurdle for educators and families: Supporting our young people through the biggest attack on a European state since World War Two.

Some students may have been following events in Ukraine or have overheard conversations and are curious about the cause and the impacts that this may have both globally and locally. To help students better understand this event and to place it in a broader context, we're providing some links to resources you may wish to use in conversations at home:


As always, these resources are not meant to be exhaustive, nor are they an endorsement of a particular political viewpoint.

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CalSPRA President-elect
Good afternoon,

We had overlapped the AC LCAP Meeting and the COVID Update meetings tomorrow, therefore have cancelled the COVID Update meeting. We have only three small changes to discuss regarding COVID and I believe that can be done mostly through email/comments on the communication and in the first five minutes of the LCAP Meeting.

Please review this draft communication to see the three suggested changes to CUSD COVID Protocols. Questions or concerns - please share with me prior to the meeting or during the first five minutes of the meeting. Following the meeting, I will send it to all via ParentSquare.

Thank you.

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CalSPRA President-elect
Good afternoon,

Ted spoke to Mary at the Pine Cone today on the topic of the lifting of the mask mandate for schools. He shared that we have observed some students and staff still wearing masks and others choosing not to, and that no issues have arisen.

We expect the article in this week’s edition.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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CalSPRA President-elect
Good morning,

Please see front page for an article on masking in schools and editorial on 20A regarding CEQA and stadium lights.

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CalSPRA President-elect
California Public Records Act Request Notifications, New Webpages and Reminders

From: Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org>  
To: CUSD Board Group <board@carmelunified.org>; <internalcommunicationgroup@carmelunified.org>; CUSD Administrative Council Group <cusdadministrativecouncil@carmelunified.org>

Good morning CUSD Internal Communications Group and Board Members,

We have worked with legal counsel to develop a new process for the California Public Records Act Requests with the goals of making the process easier to manage and keeping transparency at the forefront of all that we do. We wanted to be sure you had a heads-up on this email that will be going to all staff at 10 a.m. this morning. Please reach out if you have any questions. Thank you.

Dear CUSD Staff,

The Carmel Unified School District (CUSD) is committed to transparency and providing easy access to public records pursuant to the California Public Records Act (CPRA). The California Public Records Act gives the public the right to access records created and maintained by public agencies in the course of their normal business.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 6252(e), a public record is defined as “any writing containing information relating to the conduct of the public's business prepared, owned, used, or retained by any state or local agency regardless of physical form or characteristics.” Public records requests may be used to obtain “records,” which include a wide variety of documents and other materials (including print, photographic, and electronic formats) that were created or obtained by the organization and are, at the time the request is filed, in the organization's possession and control.

Records subject to disclosure under the CPRA may include email or other communications from members of the public or which reference them. While the District reviews all responsive records to determine if this information should be disclosed, in many cases references to members of the public, or the content of their communications to the District are subject to disclosure.

This email is a reminder that all communications on District servers and/or regarding district business on electronic communications (email, text, messenger/chat systems) may be subject to disclosure if requested by the public and/or the media.

We also wish to notify you of a new webpage on our website that outlines the CPRA process, and asks anyone seeking a public record to complete an online form in order to better manage the process.

Visitors to the page will also note that we have begun publishing all requests and responsive records by the date it was provided to the requestor and with the name of the requesting party.

If your name and/or correspondence is included in a records request from today forward, you will also receive the attached letter with the date and name of the request which contains your information.

In order to increase transparency within the district and the community, we have also created a new webpage to share with the public Board of Education correspondence. All emails sent to Board members will be shared on a monthly basis here (records for 2021-22 are currently being produced).

If you have any questions regarding this reminder and notification, please contact me at jhull@carmelunified.org or 831-624-1546 x2022.

Sincerely,

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)  
Director of Communications and Community Relations  
Carmel Unified School District  
P.O. Box 222700, Carmel, CA 93922
Attachments

- Information Contained in PRA Request 2022.pdf
Good morning,

Please see the story in the Herald listing Carmel as one of the recipients of funding.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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P.O. Box 222700, Carmel, CA 93922
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CalSPRA President-elect
Good morning,
Mock Trial was also featured in the Herald today here.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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CalSPRA President-elect

On Tue, Mar 22, 2022 at 8:27 AM Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org> wrote:
Good morning,
Please see the story in the Herald listing Carmel as one of the recipients of funding.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
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CalSPRA President-elect
Phone Lines Down at River School

Good morning River School Staff and Families,

We have experienced a hardware failure for the phone lines at River School and all phone lines are currently down. CUSD is working to restore the lines as quickly as possible and will notify you when they are back up.

In case of an emergency, you can reach the front office at 831-624-6633.

Thank you and we apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Director of Communications and Community Relations
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jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
CalSPRA President-elect
Good morning Captain Cooper School and Apple Pie Preschool Staff and Families,

We have experienced a phone line and internet failure at Cooper School and all phone lines are currently down for the site. CUSD is working to restore the lines as quickly as possible and will notify you when they are back up.

In case of an emergency, you can reach the front office emergency line at (831) 667-2760.

Thank you and we apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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Carmel Unified School District
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office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
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CalSPRA President-elect
Re: Phone Lines Down at River School

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Director of Communications and Community Relations
Carmel Unified School District
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jhull@carmelunified.org
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CalSPRA President-elect

On Mon, Mar 28, 2022 at 11:55 AM Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org> wrote:

FYI: the message below was just sent to River School staff and families.

Good morning River School Staff and Families,

We have experienced a hardware failure for the phone lines at River School and all phone lines are currently down. CUSD is working to restore the lines as quickly as possible and will notify you when they are back up.

In case of an emergency, you can reach the front office at 831-624-6633.

Thank you and we apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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CalSPRA President-elect
Re: Phone and Internet Down at Cooper

From: Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org>  
To: Site Lead Secretaries and Cabinet Assistants <cusd_ac_assistants@carmelunified.org>; CUSD Administrative Council Group <cusdadministrativecouncil@carmelunified.org>; CUSD Board Group <board@carmelunified.org>

Phone lines and internet are back up at Cooper and a ParentSquare update was just sent.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Director of Communications and Community Relations
Carmel Unified School District
P.O. Box 222700, Carmel, CA 93922
jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
CalSPRA President-elect

On Tue, Mar 29, 2022 at 9:53 AM Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org> wrote:
The following message was just sent to Apple Pie and Cooper families via ParentSquare:

Good morning Captain Cooper School and Apple Pie Preschool Staff and Families,

We have experienced a phone line and internet failure at Cooper School and all phone lines are currently down for the site. CUSD is working to restore the lines as quickly as possible and will notify you when they are back up.

In case of an emergency, you can reach the front office emergency line at (831) 667-2760.

Thank you and we apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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cell (209) 679-4858
CalSPRA President-elect
Good morning,

Please see article on front page re: late start.

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CalSPRA President-elect
Good morning,

Ted was interviewed today by Tess Kenny from the Herald on the topic of the late start board study session tomorrow. We anticipate the story will be online later today.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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CalSPRA President-elect
From: Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org>  
To: CUSD Administrative Council Group <cusdadministrativecouncil@carmelunified.org>; CUSD Board Group <board@carmelunified.org>  

Please click here for Herald article on late start.

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jhull@carmelunified.org  
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022  
cell (209) 679-4858  
CalSPRA President-elect
Good afternoon,

The following message was sent to Cooper and Apple Pie families today.

We have received notification that PG&E will be shutting power down at Cooper School and Apple Pie Preschool tomorrow, April 7th, and all phone lines will be down for the site all day. Phones are expected to be back up on Friday, April 8th.

In case of an emergency, you can reach the front office emergency line at (831) 667-2760.

Thank you and we apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)

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jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
CalSPRA President-elect
Good morning,
The planned power outage has been cancelled so phones and internet will be up today. Thank you.

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CalSPRA President-elect

On Wed, Apr 6, 2022 at 3:11 PM Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org> wrote:
  Good afternoon,

  The following message was sent to Cooper and Apple Pie families today.

  We have received notification that PG&E will be shutting power down at Cooper School and Apple Pie Preschool tomorrow, April 7th, and all phone lines will be down for the site all day. Phones are expected to be back up on Friday, April 8th.

  In case of an emergency, you can reach the front office emergency line at (831) 667-2760.

  Thank you and we apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

  Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
  Director of Communications and Community Relations
  Carmel Unified School District
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  jhull@carmelunified.org
  office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
  cell (209) 679-4858
  CalSPRA President-elect
Good morning,

Please see messages below sent to CMS and the DO this morning:

CMS

Good morning CMS Families,

As a follow up to my previous message, I wanted to notify you that this morning individuals in two vehicles got into a traffic-related argument that escalated and required law enforcement intervention. Upon initial notification of the incident CMS was placed on a school lockdown and all students on campus were ushered in doors. The lockdown was lifted by law enforcement just a few moments later. We apologize for the increased traffic and the delay to the start of school this morning. We appreciate law enforcement's quick response to deescalate the situation and allow students to continue to arrive at school while helping to keep our school environment safe. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Dan Morgan
Principal; CMS

DO:

Good morning,

As a follow up to my conversations with several of you this morning, I wanted to notify you that the incident this morning that led to law enforcement presence and a brief shelter-in-place for our building was that individuals in two vehicles got into a traffic-related argument that escalated and required law enforcement intervention. At no point in time were students or staff in danger. We appreciate law enforcement's quick response to deescalate the situation and allow students to continue to arrive at school and staff to continue their day. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Director of Communications and Community Relations

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Director of Communications and Community Relations
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Also several questions coming in about rumors regarding a gun. The update sent is as follows:

"As it is a law enforcement issue, we are unable to provide details, but can confirm it did not involve a gun."

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CalSPRA President-elect
Celebrate Tricia's Well-Deserved ACSA Award on May 6th

Good afternoon,

Each year, ACSA Region 10 recognizes leaders within our region who have exemplified leadership skills throughout the year. Members are recognized at the annual Spring Fling event in May.

Our own Tricia Zarevich has been selected as the exemplary leader in the Confidential Employee Category. We recognize her outstanding work to CUSD and its community and look forward to celebrating her on Friday, May 6th from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Embassy Suites.

If you'd like to register to attend, please use the link here.

Please let me know if you will be joining us to celebrate Tricia.
Good afternoon,

Today Ted and I met with Tess Kenny from the Herald on declining enrollment; she's localizing a story about the statewide reports on declining K12 enrollment. We anticipate the story in the next day or two.

Also, as happens after every 6-12 months, the Herald is moving Tess from the education beat so that their newest reporter Molly Gibbs will take on the entry-level education beat. We look forward to working with Molly in the future and appreciate all Tess has done to cover CUSD.

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cell (209) 679-4858
CalSPRA President-elect
Good afternoon,

This morning Karl met with The Sandpiper to discuss the 8 acre property adjacent to CMS and its history. We anticipate the story in the next edition.

This afternoon Ted met with KSBW on the topic of late start. We anticipate this story on this evening's news.

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CalSPRA President-elect
Good evening,

Please see Herald article on high school graduation planning [here](link) and KSBW report on late start [here](link).

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office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
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CalSPRA President-elect
Good morning,

Ted spoke to Molly Gibbs from the Herald this morning on mask mandates in schools. We anticipate the story in the paper later today.

Also please watch the KSBW story on Tuesday's MCOE TOY and CSEY event featuring Elaine, Dan Morgan and Carolyn Sinclair.

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CalSPRA President-elect
Congratulations to Tricia Zarevich!

Good morning,

As many of you may know, each year ACSA Region 10 recognizes leaders within our region who have exemplified leadership skills throughout the year. Members are recognized at the annual Spring Fling event in May.

Our own Tricia Zarevich has been selected as the exemplary leader in the Confidential Employee Category. We recognize her outstanding work to CUSD and its community and look forward to celebrating her tonight at the Spring Fling held at Embassy Suites.

Please join me in congratulating Tricia for this well-deserved award and thanking her for all she does for everyone in CUSD.

Congratulations, Tricia!

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CalSPRA President-elect
Good afternoon,
Please see here the Herald article on masking in schools.
Thank you and have a great weekend.

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CalSPRA President-elect
Good afternoon,

Ted was interviewed by KSBW this afternoon on the topic of school mask mandates. We anticipate the story will be on tonight's news broadcast.

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CalSPRA President-elect
Good afternoon,

Please see KSBW story on school mask mandates [here](#).

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[CalSPRA President-elect](#)
Good morning,
Please see the Herald enrollment story here.

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CalSPRA President-elect
The American tragedy of gun violence has long since become dangerously normalized.

Good afternoon.

Or not-so-good afternoon, really. Sara Rubin here, feeling again crushed by the reality of gun violence and the reality that news days like this have come to feel normal in our country.

We measure school shootings in how deadly they are compared to other school shootings. National news outlets are today reporting that a
gunman opened fire at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas. The death toll has ticked grimly upward throughout the afternoon, and the latest count is 18 children and one teacher dead. According to the New York Times, this “was the deadliest shooting at an American elementary school since the attack at Sandy Hook Elementary in Newtown, Connecticut, in 2012.”

It does not have to be like this. Children themselves are among the most outspoken in recent years asking for stricter gun laws. At some point soon, an entire generation that will have grown up with school shooting drills will hold decision-making roles—my hope is that they, finally, will implement sensible, life-saving legislation.

But meanwhile, it is like this. Just last week, an 18-year-old man drove 200 miles from his home to Buffalo, New York, and shot 13 people at a grocery store, killing 10. Buffalo families were still laying their loved ones to rest when a shooter slaughters elementary school kids in Texas.

Politicians have already begun issuing their reflexive “thoughts and prayers” statements, which only make me madder. Local school administrators—who, notably, are not in a position to legislate who can get what kind of guns, but are left trying to make their schools safe in a country that is teeming with easy-to-access deadly weapons—are also sending out thoughts-and-prayers statements. And they have to reassure parents that it’s safe to send their kids to school.

“I want to assure our community that the safety and security of students and staff while they are on MPUSD campuses is one of our top priorities,” PK Diffenbaugh, superintendent of Monterey Peninsula Unified School District, wrote to families tonight. “MPUSD has a safety plan that is specific to each site, and is reviewed and updated every year…

“While it may be difficult to digest this horrible tragedy, psychologists encourage us to create a sense of safety for our students and staff by returning to normal, predictable routines as soon as possible.”

It is, indeed, like this. We are a society that has a normal protocol for kids who live through news of mass violence against their peers.
“Our students and our staff members should be safe in their classrooms and schools,” Carmel Unified School District Superintendent Ted Knight wrote to families. Our families should feel secure that when they send their children to school, they will come home to them at the end of the day. It is difficult to understand why these tragedies continue to happen and we all may be searching for answers.”

At Salinas City Elementary School District, Director of Communications Mary Duan sent a similar letter to families, guiding them on how to help children respond. “Sometimes adults can become preoccupied with disturbing events and managing their own responses,” she wrote. “They can forget that children are aware of what’s happening. Take a moment to check in with your child and let them know they can talk to you and ask questions.

“Adults should consider what information a child truly needs to know. Be aware of televisions or streaming media showing news coverage in common areas. Talk about the child’s feelings and concerns, provide reassurance and offer age-appropriate information to help reduce fear.”

I grew up in a time when we just did fire drills at school—natural disasters were what we feared. Now it’s commonplace to do active shooter training. This Thursday, more than 50 MPUSD staff members are scheduled to do a training with the San Mateo Office of Education “on the fundamentals of threat assessment, implementation of a threat assessment process, and put the training to action.” It’s the kind of training that school officials and teachers now do routinely.

My first exposure to the idea of such preparations was in 2016, when I wrote about active shooter training at CSU Monterey Bay, and CSUMB PD’s project to make a training video to share widely. “The mentality of, ‘Oh, it can’t happen here’ is not OK to accept,” CSUMB Police Corp. Carolyn Peliova told participants in a training group.
I disagree. I think it's not OK to accept that this continues to happen.

-Sara Rubin, editor, sara@mcweekly.com

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**BY THE NUMBERS**

More than 300,000 American children at 320 schools have experienced gun violence during school hours since 1999’s Columbine High massacre. This number comes from a *Washington Post* database of school shootings, last updated in April.

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**LATEST LOCAL NEWS**

CSUMB’s master plan drops greenhouse gas emissions further ahead of California State University Board of Trustees vote. The CSU Monterey Bay community has been working on two documents that will chart the university’s path into the future – one regulatory, the other aspirational. The growth and sustainability that each document respectively calls for are contradictory, but there is work being done to bring them closer together.

After years of delay, the County Board of Supervisors finally approved a compromise noise ordinance today. It transfers enforcement authority from the Sheriff’s Office to the Department of Housing and Community Development, and it strives to thread the needle between protecting the residents who are suffering from noise, while protecting others who want to host parties—a Goldilocks-style attempt to allow both types of property enjoyment, peaceful and bumping.
After 20-plus years of planning, a Highway 156 redesign is set to begin. The estimated cost of the work has proved a hindrance since 2013 (about $400 million, pre-Covid inflation levels), but some progress is being made: On May 25, the County Planning Commission will consider approving the reconstruction of the intersection of Castroville Boulevard and Highway 156 – the only signalized intersection in the corridor – with three off-highway roundabouts and a bridge over the existing road.

SPONSORED: EAT+DRINK

Estéban Restaurant Indoor, Patio Dining & Take Out daily 4:30pm. 700 Munras Ave., Monterey, 831.375.0176

Melville Tavern Indoor, Patio Dining & Takeout Mon-Fri 11:30am, Sat & Sun Brunch at 10am. Happy Hour Sun-Thur 4-6pm, 831.643.9525, 484 Washington St, Monterey

Beach House at Lovers Point Indoor and Outdoor Dining plus Takeout Daily at 4:30pm. Click for menus/order. 831.375.2345, 620 Ocean View, PG.

Abalonetti on the Wharf Indoor & Outdoor Dining plus Takeout. Everyday 11:30am-8:30pm. Monterey’s Best Calamari plus seafood, pasta & more. Click for menus/order. 831.373.1851

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LOCAL INSPIRATION

LOCAL INSPIRATION of the day. New cornhole league alert: the Del Rey Oaks Moose Lodge is launching a semi-regular Sunday afternoon indoor cornhole tournament at least through August (some weekends are booked for other events) that is open to all ages and skill levels (there is a $5 buy-in to enter that goes into prize money divided amongst winners; bags will be made available to those who don’t bring their own). Submit your Local Inspiration (digital art, music, multimedia, video, etc.; please include the medium you’ve used, and note when and where it was created).
Oncologist Nancy Rubin’s small book helps children stay connected to a parent who dies from cancer. *Mommies Are Never Gone* encourages children to reach beyond grief and include in their sadness and longing positive connections that will continue throughout their lives.

Choosing veganism isn’t just about moving to a plant-based diet, but learning how to cook all over again. While Salinas chef Maria Gonzalez always used vegetables in her cooking in some way, she has learned to see them in a different light: as the main ingredient.

**Musical Library offerings.** Did you know that you can check out a ukulele with your Monterey Public Library card? Each kit contains the instrument as well as an instruction booklet and a tuner. Get playing!

---

**BEST OF MONTEREY BAY® REAL ESTATE**

**Marina:** 3137 Seacrest Ave #31 | $579,900 | 2br/1.5ba | This quiet, gated complex. Beautiful upgrades to the main bath, plus a private back patio and detached garage. Marina Beach Real Estate 831.384.6565

**Marina:** 14303 Sherman Blvd | $869,000 | 3br/2.5ba | Monarch Collection Home on an oversized corner lot in the East Garrison neighborhood. Mae Lamb, Coldwell Banker 831.917.9857

**Seaside:** 1146 Birch Avenue #32 | $99,000 | 1br/1ba | 55+. Fixer upper that needs the “right buyer” to make this work. Great location. Doree Hyland, Mont Grove Realty 831.521.5595

**Seaside:** 1761 Hilton St | $625,000 | 2br/1ba | In good overall condition. Utility Room with washer and dryer, storage shed, 1 car garage. Ready to move in. Michael Kirch, Del Monte Realty 831.238.3488

**Click for more >>**
realestate.montereycountyweekly.com
A mass shooting at a Texas elementary school. Texas Governor Greg Abbott said 18 children and one teacher were killed in a school shooting on Tuesday.
-NPR, May 24, 2022

Gov. Newsom threatens mandatory water restrictions unless Californians use less of their own accord. “Every water agency across the state needs to take more aggressive actions to communicate about the drought emergency and implement conservation measures,” Newsom said in a statement.
-Associated Press, May 23, 2022

San Francisco has a plan to increase public transit ridership. We love the idea of short story vending machines, but we may be biased.

What do you get from the designer shoe brand Balenciaga when it comes to sneakers? An $1,850 bill and high tops that are completely worn out.
Message from Ted Re: Residency

Later today we will be sending three messages regarding new CUSD residency policies and verification:

1. Message to staff with students enrolled in CUSD schools;
2. Message to all parents/guardians, and;
3. Message to those families who currently have students that are enrolled in CUSD school(s), but through investigation reports have been identified as having student(s) who do not currently reside full-time (this does not apply to split households) within district boundaries. This/these student(s) will be required to enroll into the district in which they reside.

We want to be sure you are familiar with these messages prior to them being sent. If you have any questions, please contact Anna Medina at amedina@carmelunified.org or at extension 2041. We hope this process will help to ensure all students enrolled for the coming school year are verified to do so. Thank you for your assistance in this process.

Sincerely,
Ted Knight
Superintendent

MESSAGE 1: Subject: Residency Verification for All CUSD Students - Students of Staff Members

The recently updated Carmel Unified School District (CUSD) residency policy requires valid proof of residency from the parents/guardians of district students and this year we will be completing a full residency verification. For those of you with students enrolled in CUSD schools, later today you will be receiving a detailed explanation of what is required for residents to verify their status. As a CUSD staff member, you will only need to complete the employee residency affidavit - no additional documentation is required from you at this time. Please complete no later than Friday, June 17th. If you have any questions, please contact Anna Medina at amedina@carmelunified.org or at extension 2041.

Sincerely,
Ted Knight
Superintendent

MESSAGE 2: Subject: CUSD Residency Verification for All Students for the 2022-23 School Year

The recently updated Carmel Unified School District (CUSD) residency policy requires valid proof of residency from the parents/guardians of district students and this year we will be completing a full residency verification. Unlike most other districts in California, CUSD does not receive revenue based on student attendance. Rather, CUSD receives nearly all of its funding based on property taxes. Therefore, out-of-district students reduce the educational resources available to
resident students or increase class size without additional funding. It is also important to note that neighboring school districts which receive their funding based upon average daily attendance have their funding reduced when resident students do not attend their schools. By California Education Code 48200, all students are legally bound to attend the schools in their district of primary residence unless they secure an Interdistrict Transfer.

For these reasons, CUSD is requiring a **full residency verification** for each household (all students within the household can be verified using a single verification process). On or before Friday, June 17, 2022, all families attending CUSD schools next year must provide:

**If you own/rent the property in which you reside, you must submit these three items:**
- The most recent copy of your Monterey County Tax Bill or a Mortgage Statement or a copy of the lease/rental agreement in your name showing the residence address, signatures of lessor/lessee and names of all who reside within the property. (If you are on a month-to-month agreement, you must provide the most recent month's receipt or canceled check); and
- A recent utility bill in your name **for the current month** showing the residence address; and
- One of the items below in your name, showing the residence address:
  - Proof of residency from the Monterey County Registrar of Voters; or
  - Current DMV vehicle registration; or
  - One other recent bill mailed to you; or
  - A pay stub or bank-canceled check for the current month; or
  - Recent correspondence from a government agency, e.g., the IRS or Social Security

**If you are sharing a home with another individual/family, you must submit these four items:**
- Section B of the Residency Affidavit must be signed by the primary resident of the home, the parent or legal guardian and this affidavit must be notarized; and
- The most recent of a Monterey County Tax Bill or a Mortgage Statement or a copy of the lease/rental agreement in the primary resident’s name showing the residence address and names of all who reside within the property; and
- A recent utility bill **for the current month** showing the residence address in your name or the primary resident’s name; and
- One of the items below in your name, showing the residence address:
  - Proof of residency from the Monterey County Registrar of Voters; or
  - Current DMV vehicle registration; or
  - One other recent bill mailed to you; or
  - A pay stub or bank-canceled check for the current month; or
  - Recent correspondence from a government agency, e.g., the IRS or Social Security.

**NOTE:** If legal custody of a child is split between two parents, in addition to the documents listed below, you need to attach a certified copy of the court order or custody agreement identifying each parent’s respective award of physical custody. In the absence of a certified court order or custody agreement, or in the case of a split family household, you must sign the Custody Declaration section on page 1 in the Residency Affidavit. You are responsible to immediately inform the school of any changes to the court order or agreement, or other custody arrangements for your child(ren).

**If your child will not be attending a CUSD school next year, we ask that you let your school office know on or before June 17th.**

Please complete your residency affidavit by **June 17, 2022** as our front office staff will not be available in the summertime. If verification of residency is not completed by this date, it may hold up the registration process for your student(s) for this fall (class lists, schedules, etc.). If it is determined that you no longer reside within CUSD boundaries, you will be required to register your student(s) in your district of residence.
To provide your proof of residency, follow these steps:

- Visit the online CUSD Residency Affidavit Form
- Upload the three/four forms of residency documentation, as listed in the link
- Include all students in your household
- Digitally sign and submit the uploaded forms to the registrar of the school your child will be attending next year (if you have students in multiple schools, please submit to one of the schools and all schools will receive the verification)

Each year following the 2022-23 school year, all families will have to complete a modified residency verification process, required by Education Code.

We thank you for your support and understanding as we enforce this important policy to ensure our commitment to safeguarding and protecting our educational resources so that we can maintain the highest possible educational standards for our district’s students.

Sincerely,
Dr. E. Ted Knight
Superintendent

MESSAGE 3 - HERE

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cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Article about CUSD Employee

From: Jessica Hull <j hull@carmelunified.org>  Fri, Jun 10, 2022 at 12:50 PM PDT (GMT-07:00)
To: CUSD Administrative Council Group <cusdadministrativecouncil@carmelunified.org>; CUSD Board Group <board@carmelunified.org>

Good afternoon,

Please see Voices of Monterey Bay article on one of our CUSD employees.

Jessica Hull (she/ her/ hers)
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cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good morning,
Please see pages 3A and 31A for a story on a CUSD trip being blamed for damage on the beach. Also please note that no one contacted any CUSD school or the district regarding this matter - only the Pine Cone.

Jessica Hull (she/ her/ hers)
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cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good evening,
Please see page 3A for an article on last night's meeting -
http://pineconearchive.fileburstcdn.com/220624PC.pdf

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Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Director of Communications and Community Relations
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jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good evening,

Please note CUSD mentioned in Sara Rubin's introductory message.

---

**ETC. Photo of the day by Fran Heller.** Dramatic lightning strikes are seen over the mountains on the Big Sur coast on Wednesday, June 22. Photographed with a Pixel 5. Submit your best horizontal photos. (Please include the location where the photo was taken in the caption.)

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**Cataloging the impact of local journalism.**

Good afternoon.

**When the pandemic first forced us all to shelter in place,** we here at the Weekly had to make some changes. We developed tools to produce our newspaper remotely; we started wearing masks to interviews; our distribution team navigated around closed businesses. We started this daily e-newsletter, Monterey County NOW, to bring our readers news of the day. We also did something new with our business model to adjust to a changed environment: We began a direct appeal to our readers, asking you for your financial support to help us fund our newsgathering mission.

**Sara Rubin here, happy to report that two years in, thanks to you, our readers, it is working.** You have always been a critical part of our mission, and now you are also a critical part of our enterprise. I want to share with you some of the impacts of your investments in our first-ever
impact report. (You can also pick up a hard copy of this impact report on newsstands this week.)

While this school year just ended, Mary Simon is already busy preparing for the next. Out of her house in Monterey, she’s been running a classroom supply store—where all the goods are free to teachers—since 2021.

Over 70 new donors have made contributions to Simon’s project, called The Sandbox, since they read a feature story by Pam Marino in the Weekly that was published on May 12. “It’s been very fun, and so gratifying,” Simon says.

This is the kind of impact that is incredibly gratifying to us, too.

We are local journalists who are members of the same communities our readers live in, and every day we are reminded that it’s our readers who we serve. Part of what is so satisfying about journalism at the local scale is that we can see the impact our stories have. Associate Editor Tajha Chappellet-Lanier recently wrote about the thrilling first Shakespeare production by New Canon Theatre Company, and it sold out (I know because I couldn’t get in). After we reported on a bizarre lawsuit filed by Carmel Unified School District against a man for seeking public records, the district dropped the suit.

There is a special kind of gratification that comes to us as journalists with that feedback, knowing our work is making a tangible difference for people.

It’s a bonus when we get recognition from professional colleagues as well, and we are proud to have been recognized last month with 12 California Journalism Awards for our work in 2021.

I’m especially proud of two first-place recognitions we received. One is for our coverage of the Covid-19 pandemic. “The gold standard for this competition,” the judges wrote. “Nice reporting and writing throughout. Puts a face on the impact of Covid throughout all segments of society;
obviously a tremendous amount of time and effort went into this, and it was well worth it.”

The other is in the category of public service journalism, for our years-long effort to mobilize the community to take a stand against anti-Asian hate. “This is journalism in action,” the judges wrote. “By consistently beating the drum and shedding light on a divisive festival, this news organization helped make positive change. This was well-researched. Really solid, comprehensive journalism.”

One of the things that I love about journalism on this scale is that all of us can make a difference. Election outcomes may be decided by a handful of votes, as is the case in two important elections in the June 7 primary—the results are expected to be certified tomorrow, and we are watching to see the outcome in Del Rey Oaks where the fate of Measure B determines the future of a 28-mile regional trail network. The official vote tally as of June 23 shows the trail, known as FORTAG, surviving by just 15 votes. In the race for county supervisor in District 2, Glenn Church is headed to a runoff with either Kimbley Craig or Regina Gage; Gage currently leads by 21 votes. (You can view these results and others on our tracker, created by staff writer Christopher Neely.)

There’s an opportunity to be heard at this level, and we strive to inspire our readers to make themselves heard. One reader recently wrote in to tell us that because of our coverage of the collapse of a would-be Homekey project in Pacific Grove, they are inspired to begin attending and speaking up at City Council meetings.

Thank you for reading, and thank you for supporting local journalism. I am proud of the impact of the Weekly and Monterey County NOW, and we appreciate your support.

-Sara Rubin, editor, sara@mcweekly.com
The number of subscribers to this very newsletter. As part of our relatively new direct appeal to readers, we hope at least 250 of you will join us with a direct financial contribution to support our goal for our *Weekly Insider* program.

A Greenfield police officer arrested for assault and dissuading a witness. Christopher Tapia was off-duty when he allegedly walked into a backyard party and assaulted a man.

Swimmer is recovering after shark bite at Lovers Point. Part of the success of life-saving measures is thanks to the swift response of bystanders who got the injured swimmer to shore as emergency responders arrived.

Desalination can now be owned and operated by private entities in Monterey County. Previously, desalination facilities were limited to public ownership, a rule that was criticized as more of a political decision than anything else. The decision to overturn the law and allow private ownership and operation passed 4-1 on June 21, with Supervisor Wendy Root Askew dissenting.

**SPONSORED: EAT+DRINK**

**Estéban Restaurant** Indoor, Patio Dining & Take Out daily 4:30pm. With a New Fresh Seasonal Menu. 700 Munras Ave., Monterey, 831.375.0176

**Melville Tavern** Indoor, Patio Dining & Takeout Mon-Fri 11:30am, Sat & Sun Brunch at 10am. Happy Hour Sun-Thur 4-6pm, 831.643.9525, 484 Washington St, Monterey.
Whaling Station Steakhouse Dining & Takeout Daily from 4:30pm. Click for menu/order. 831.373.3778, 763 Wave St, Monterey

The Sardine Factory Open for dinner nightly at 5pm. Click here for menus, details and reservations. 701 Wave Street, Monterey, 831.373.3775

Advertise here for $49 for 12 words / +$10 xlarge / +$1 add'l. word Email sales@mcweekly.com or call 831-394-5656.

LOCAL INSPIRATION

LOCAL INSPIRATION of the day. In honor of Altzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month (June), Madonna Gardens in Salinas is hosting an art show showcasing beautiful paintings and other works of art created by Madonna Garden's Assisted Living and Memory Care residents. The exhibit features paintings made by residents like George, seen working on a painting above. It happens Saturday, June 25 from 11am-1pm. RSVP in advance at 741-4638. Submit your Local Inspiration (digital art, music, multimedia, video, etc.; please include the medium you’ve used, and note when and where it was created).

WITCH brings the sound and history of Zamrock to the Henry Miller Library stage. “Zamrock” is its own kind of mixture—a sound that emerged in a place newly liberated from Western colonization but still influenced by Western culture. WITCH’s local concert happens tonight, June 23 at the Henry Miller Memorial Library.

Would you like to improve your photography or painting skills in about an hour? You can do it online or in person. Vancouver-based photographer Paul Fremes has been giving photo workshops for over 20 years. Now, he presents a workshop titled “Secrets to Famous Images: A Journey of Discovery.” It happens frpm 7-8pm on Thursday, June 23.

Parents of kids 0-12 years old can weigh in via an online survey with their input on the way childcare and preschool programs are funded in California. The last day to complete the survey is Thursday, June 23.
Marina: 14303 Sherman Blvd | $869,000 | 3br/2.5ba | Monarch Collection
Home on an oversized corner lot in the East Garrison neighborhood. Mae
Lamb, Coldwell Banker 831.917.9857

Seaside: 1146 Birch Avenue #32 | $89,000 | 1br/1ba | 55+. Fixer upper
that needs the “right buyer” to make this work. Great location. Doree
Hyland, Mont Grove Realty 831.521.5595

Monterey: 570 Archer St | $2,750,000 | 4br/2ba | The Lou Ellen Parmelee
House, a unique Queen Anne Victorian, sitting high on the hill overlooking
Monterey Bay. Michael Kirch, Del Monte Realty 831.238.3488

Click for more >>
realestate.montereycountyweekly.com

IN CONTEXT

Note: The links below may take you to an external site, which may require
registration or a subscription.

Supreme Court strikes down New York’s concealed-carry handgun
law. The decision will mean more guns in public places.
-Gothamist, June 23, 2022

Asking for pronouns has become standard. But who does it serve? “We
all became nonbinary to escape gendered expectations, and now we’re stuck
again.”
-The Cut, June 22, 2022

HELPFUL DISTRACTIONS

We know you have favorites. Nominate your faves (in all sorts of categories,
from Best Cappucino to Best Singles Bar) for Best Of Monterey County.
What's your sign? Libra, Taurus, Capricorn or beyond, your horoscope for the week ahead is here.

PLEASE SUPPORT LOCAL & INDEPENDENT JOURNALISM

Yes, I'd like to support

We welcome your tips, comments and feedback.

Tip Line

Read It

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Director of Communications and Community Relations
Carmel Unified School District
Good evening,

Ted and I spoke with Mary from the Pine Cone this afternoon on the numerous CPRA requests the District has received. We anticipate a story this week or next.

Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
Carmel Unified School District
4380 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923
jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Pine Cone Article and Editorial

Good evening,

Please find in this week's edition of the Pine Cone a front page story on CPRA requests and an editorial on page 26A on the same topic.

Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
Carmel Unified School District
4380 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923
jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good afternoon,

Our CUSD homepage has been updated to once again include a direct link to our Districting information webpage.

Included in the information is a link to our new "Draw Your Own Trustee Area Map" page with detailed instructions on how to provide feedback to the district and our demographers.

I am currently out of town presenting and attending two different conferences, but will return on Monday and will begin the outreach for this project including an ad in the Pine Cone, story pitches to the local TV and newspapers, posts on social media, and other messages to our staff, families and community members.

Board and AC, I will be asking for your help to share these messages through your channels of communication as well and will be providing talking points, messages and graphics in the coming weeks.

Please reach out to me if you have any questions. Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
Carmel Unified School District
4380 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923
jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good morning,

Please see three editorials related to CUSD on pages 22A and 25A in this week's edition of the Carmel Pine Cone.

Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)

Chief Communications Officer

Carmel Unified School District

4380 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923

jhull@carmelunified.org

general (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022

cell (209) 679-4858

President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Apologies for my error - three letters to the editor are included in the edition - not editorials.

On Fri, Jul 22, 2022 at 8:02 AM Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org> wrote:
   Good morning,
   Please see three editorials related to CUSD on pages 22A and 25A in this week's edition of the Carmel Pine Cone.
   Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
Carmel Unified School District
4380 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923
jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good morning,

If you have iHealth COVID Rapid Tests at your site and they list an expiration that has passed or is soon approaching, please refer to the attached extension of expiration dates authorized by the FDA.

Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
Carmel Unified School District
4380 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923
jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
(cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)

Attachments

Good evening,

Please see attached our new CUSD Staff Communications Guide which will be reviewed during tomorrow’s AC Retreat.

Looking forward to seeing you all in the morning.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
Carmel Unified School District
4380 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923
jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)

Attachments

- CUSD Staff Communications Guide.pdf
Good morning,
Please see story on Page 13A regarding masking in schools and story on a CHS student on 24A in this week's edition of the Pine Cone.
Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
Carmel Unified School District
4380 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923
jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Fwd: Pine Cone bulletin: P.G. school district cancels mask requirement

An update on the masking story shared earlier.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
Carmel Unified School District

BREAKING NEWS FROM THE CARMEL PINE CONE

July 29, 2022, 8:50 a.m.

PACIFIC GROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT CANCELS MASK MANDATE

Just days before it was to go into effect, the Pacific Grove Unified School District board of trustees has lifted a requirement that students and teachers wear facemasks at school. Classes in the school district begin Aug. 4.

The Thursday night vote to lift the indoor mask mandate was 3-2, according to a school board member Carolyn Swanson. Instead, Swanson said masks will be “strongly recommended.”

Swanson and board member Frank Rivera voted against removing the mask mandate, while Cristy Dawson, John Paff and Brian Swanson voted in favor of eliminating the rule.

Dozens of parents and others attended the meeting in person and online, and many of them were in favor of abandoning the mask requirement.

Pacific Grove Unified was the only school district in the Monterey Peninsula — and one of just a handful in the state — that had planned a mask mandate for the fall term. It did so based on its own thresholds for Covid-19 case rates. The vast majority of California school districts follow guidance from the California Department of Public Health, which does not require masking.

Meanwhile, Los Angeles County has also canceled an indoor mask mandate that seemed likely to go into effect in the next two weeks. If the rule had been implemented, the county would have been the only major metropolitan area in the country to have such a rule, according to the Wall Street Journal.

While much of the country has experienced a surge in Covid-19 cases over the summer, key metrics, such as hospitalizations, are declining, the WSJ said.

In Monterey County, this summer’s peak of hospitalizations, 50, occurred in early July, according to data from the county health department. Today, that number in Monterey County is 43. The all-time high was January 21, 2021, when 201 Covid patients were being treated in the county’s four hospitals.

We will send you another bulletin whenever breaking news warrants.

Paul Miller, Publisher
paul@carmelpinecone.com

Kelly Nix reported this bulletin.
Happy weekend,

Sharing with you all our final version of the CUSD Communications Guide.

Thank you to our AC Team for providing helpful feedback

I will be sharing this out to all staff this week.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
Carmel Unified School District
4380 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923
jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858

President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)

Attachments

- CUSD Staff Communications Guide.pdf
Good afternoon,

Ted spoke with Molly Gibbs from the Monterey Herald this afternoon on a story about preparing for the start of the school year and COVID protocols.

Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
Carmel Unified School District
4380 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923
jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good morning,
Please see article here.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
Carmel Unified School District

On Mon, Aug 1, 2022 at 12:36 PM Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Good afternoon,

Ted spoke with Molly Gibbs from the Monterey Herald this afternoon on a story about preparing for the start of the school year and COVID protocols.

Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/ her/ hers)
Chief Communications Officer
Carmel Unified School District
4380 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923
jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good morning,
Please see Herald article [here](#) on districts heading back to school which includes CUSD.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
Carmel Unified School District
4380 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923
jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good afternoon,

This email is informational only as discussions/mailers are happening in the community related to the stadium lights project. Attached to this email are a:

- flyer mailed to many throughout the community
- a Facebook post shared on the Carmel Valley Locals page

Please do not reply or forward this email. Questions on the content? Please call me.

Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
Carmel Unified School District
4380 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923
jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)

Attachments

- IMG_7339.jpg
- IMG_7340.jpg
- IMG-8018.PNG
Good afternoon,

Please see the following from this week's edition of the Pine Cone:
- Page 14A: Districting ad
- Page 29A: Letter to the editor re: public education

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
Carmel Unified School District
4380 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923
jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good afternoon,

Ted spoke with Molly from the Herald today on the start of school and the various projects CUSD has for the fall.

We expect the story later today.

--

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)

Chief Communications Officer
Carmel Unified School District
4380 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923
jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858

President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good afternoon,

Please see the article [here](#).

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
Carmel Unified School District

On Mon, Aug 8, 2022 at 12:06 PM Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Good afternoon,

Ted spoke with Molly from the Herald today on the start of school and the various projects CUSD has for the fall.

We expect the story later today.

--

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
Carmel Unified School District
4380 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923
jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
[President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)](mailto:jhull@carmelunified.org)
As a reminder, here is our log-in for Herald stories.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
Carmel Unified School District

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org>
Date: Wed, Jan 5, 2022 at 4:12 PM
Subject: Media Story and Herald Sign-In
To: CUSD Administrative Council Group <cusdadministrativecouncil@carmelunified.org>, CUSD Board Group <cusdboard@carmelunified.org>

Good afternoon,

Find here an update to the continuing story on COVID impacts to schools in the county.

Also, we have created a general log-in so you can all access Monterey Herald articles if you do not have your own account.

Log-in email is [REDACTED]
Password is [REDACTED]

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Director of Communications and Community Relations
Carmel Unified School District
P.O. Box 222700, Carmel, CA 93922
jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
CalSPRA President-elect
NSPRA Southwest Region Front-Runner 2021
Good morning,
Please see the following in this week's edition of The Pine Cone:

- Letter to editor on 26A re: school safety
- Districting ad on 30A
- CHS Cheer feature on 38A

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
Carmel Unified School District
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jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Fwd: Pine Cone bulletin: Three CMS students and their mother killed in car accident

From: Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org>
To: CUSD Board Group <board@carmelunified.org>; CUSD Administrative Council Group <cusdadministrativecouncil@carmelunified.org>; Site Lead Secretaries and Cabinet Assistants <cusd_ac_assistants@carmelunified.org>

FYI

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
Carmel Unified School District

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: The Carmel Pine Cone <paul@carmelpinecone.com>
Date: Mon, Aug 15, 2022 at 10:27 AM
Subject: Pine Cone bulletin: Three CMS students and their mother killed in car accident
To: <jhull@carmelunified.org>

BREAKING NEWS FROM THE CARMEL PINE CONE

August 15, 2022, 10:24 a.m.

THREE CARMEL MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS AND THEIR MOTHER KILLED IN VEHICLE CRASH

A HORRIFYING car accident Sunday killed twin girls, their brother — all Carmel Middle School students — and their mother, the principal of the school informed parents this morning.

Lucy, Leigh and Ben Biakanja were killed in the vehicle accident, though details of the crash, including where it occurred, have not yet been disclosed by the California Highway Patrol.

“They were all enrolled in Carmel Middle School and attended Tularcitos before joining CMS,” Carmel Middle School principal Dan Morgan told parents Monday morning via email.

“We are saddened by this tragic loss to our school community and we will make every effort to help you and your child,” Morgan said.

We will send you additional bulletins whenever breaking news warrants.

Paul Miller, Publisher
paul@carmelpinecone.com

Kelly Nix reported this bulletin.

To read past bulletins, please click here. To read the complete edition of this week’s Carmel Pine Cone, click here. To subscribe (it's free and easy), please click here.

This email was sent to jhull@carmelunified.org. If it ended up somewhere else, please let us know. To update your
Re: Pine Cone bulletin: Three CMS students and their mother killed in car accident

From: Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org>  
To: CUSD Board Group <board@carmelunified.org>; CUSD Administrative Council Group <cusdadministrativecouncil@carmelunified.org>; Site Lead Secretaries and Cabinet Assistants <cusd_ac_assistants@carmelunified.org>

Also, KSBW has a story online here.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)  
Chief Communications Officer  
Carmel Unified School District

On Mon, Aug 15, 2022 at 10:27 AM Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org> wrote:

FYI

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)  
Chief Communications Officer  
Carmel Unified School District

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: The Carmel Pine Cone <paul@carmelpinecone.com>  
Date: Mon, Aug 15, 2022 at 10:27 AM  
Subject: Pine Cone bulletin: Three CMS students and their mother killed in car accident  
To: <jhull@carmelunified.org>

The Carmel Pine Cone

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paul@carmelpinecone.com
Kelly Nix reported this bulletin.

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This email was sent to jhull@carmelunified.org. If it ended up somewhere else, please let us know. To update your email address, use the "change email address" link just below.

Sent to jhull@carmelunified.org. Unsubscribe | Change email address | Forward to a Friend
Re: Pine Cone bulletin: Three CMS students and their mother killed in car accident

From: Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org>  
To: CUSD Board Group <board@carmelunified.org>; CUSD Administrative Council Group <cusdadministrativecouncil@carmelunified.org>; Site Lead Secretaries and Cabinet Assistants <cusd_ac_assistants@carmelunified.org>

And KION here.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)  
Chief Communications Officer  
Carmel Unified School District

On Mon, Aug 15, 2022 at 10:42 AM Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org> wrote:  
Also, KSBW has a story online here.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)  
Chief Communications Officer  
Carmel Unified School District

On Mon, Aug 15, 2022 at 10:27 AM Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org> wrote:  
FYI

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)  
Chief Communications Officer  
Carmel Unified School District

---------- Forwarded message ----------
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Date: Mon, Aug 15, 2022 at 10:27 AM  
Subject: Pine Cone bulletin: Three CMS students and their mother killed in car accident  
To: <jhull@carmelunified.org>  

The Carmel Pine Cone

BREAKING NEWS FROM THE CARmel PINE CONE

August 15, 2022, 10:24 a.m.

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Paul Miller, Publisher
paul@carmelpinecone.com

Kelly Nix reported this bulletin.

To read past bulletins, please click here. To read the complete edition of this week's Carmel Pine Cone, click here. To subscribe (it's free and easy), please click here.

This email was sent to jhull@carmelunified.org. If it ended up somewhere else, please let us know. To update your email address, use the "change email address" link just below.
BREAKING NEWS FROM THE CARMEL PINE CONE

August 15, 2022, 11:50 a.m.

HOLLISTER CRASH KILLED CMS STUDENTS AND THEIR MOTHER

THE THREE Carmel Middle School students and their mother who died in a car crash Sunday night were killed in a head-on collision with a Freightliner truck on Highway 156 in Hollister, according to California Highway Patrol public information officer Alfredo Uribe.

Shortly after 8 p.m. Sunday night, a 2015 Tesla driven by the 55-year-old Carmel Valley woman "made a left-turning movement" that caused it to cross into the oncoming lane and hit the semi head-on. It’s unknown why the Tesla driver veered into the wrong lane, according to the CHP, but the driver and her three children — Carmel Middle School students Lucy, Leigh and Ben Biakanja — died at the scene.

"At this time, it is unknown if drugs and/or alcohol impairment was a factor to this collision," the CHP said. It’s also unknown whether the Tesla was on autopilot, and any witnesses are requested to contact CHP officer N. Stewart, ID 22339 at (408) 848-2324.

The CHP has not officially identified the victims, but Carmel Middle School principal Dan Morgan sent a letter to parents telling of the sad news and naming the three students who had died. We will send you additional bulletins whenever breaking news warrants.

Paul Miller, Publisher
paul@carmelpinecone.com

Mary Schley reported this bulletin.

To read the complete edition of this week's Carmel Pine Cone, click here. To subscribe (it's free and easy), please click
here. And for our archive, click here.

This email was sent to jhull@carmelunified.org. If it ended up somewhere else, please let us know. To update your email address, use the "change email address" link just below.
Good afternoon,

Ted was interviewed on camera by KSBW and KION today. We provided the family message sent by CMS to those stations as well as Univision and the Monterey Herald.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
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jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good afternoon,

I have also been contacted by the MC Weekly and KRON 4 (out of San Francisco) for the CMS Family/Staff statement on the accident. You may see additional stories from them in the coming hours/days.

Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good evening leaders,

I’m attaching to this email the Hanover Research Brief on Late Start that Ted mentioned during tonight’s board meeting. I’ll be included in tomorrow morning’s Board Briefs and is available on our Late Start page as well.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)

Attachments

- Research Brief School Start Times in Rural Districts.pdf
Good afternoon AC,

Next week we launch the CUSD Leadership Academy and the CUSD Staff Advisory. Leadership Academy meets Wednesday, August 24th from 5 to 7 p.m. and Staff Advisory meets Thursday, August 25th from 4 to 5 p.m.

For your information, these are the individuals selected for each group:

**Staff Advisory (in no particular order)**
Barbara McBride, CHS
Josh Leigh, CHS
Lindsay Terry, Tularcitos
Suzanne Marden, CHS
Geri Simmons, HR
Alisa Ibsen, Cooper
Hans Schmidt, CHS
Adam Masten, MOT
Anna Medina, IT
Cristina Hernandez, Apple Pie
Neva Petersen, Tularcitos
Sarah Greco, CMS
Erica Daniels, CCDC
Veronica Craft, River

**Leadership Academy (in no particular order)**
Robin Voss, Business Department
Jen Martin, Educational Services Department
Melissa Beltran, CHS
Leigh Cambra, CHS
Caton Avilla, Tularcitos
Rachelle Bellanger, Cooper
Erinn Barca-Hall, River
Michelle Mahaney, Educational Services Department
Adam Richards, MOT
Amy Bullas, Tularcitos
Kenna Little, CMS
Gina Wolcott, CCDC
Marc Rodriguez, IT

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good afternoon,

This week’s Pine Cone contains the following of note:

- Cover story on CMS losses
- 34A Fundraiser for CHS Mock Trial

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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jhull@carmelunified.org
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cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good afternoon,

- People Magazine reached out today on the CMS student/family losses story. They were not able to confirm which week the story will run.
- MC Weekly editor Sara Rubin contacted us regarding CPRA requests and Word on the Street. Ted and I will be speaking with her on Monday for a story in next week’s edition.

Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good evening,

I was just contacted by the SF Chronicle for the statement as well. They are posting a story this evening.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
Carmel Unified School District

On Fri, Aug 19, 2022 at 4:45 PM Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Good afternoon,

- People Magazine reached out today on the CMS student/family losses story. They were not able to confirm which week the story will run.
- MC Weekly editor Sara Rubin contacted us regarding CPRA requests and Word on the Street. Ted and I will be speaking with her on Monday for a story in next week's edition.

Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good afternoon,

Craig spoke with reporter Shayla Dutta on CUSD staffing including new staff, substitutes, etc. The article is expected in the next edition.

Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
*Chief Communications Officer*
Carmel Unified School District
4380 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923
jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
*President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)*
Good evening,

The Revised Draft EIR has been posted to our homepage and our CHS Stadium Lights Page. We also have hard copies available for viewing, by appointment only, at the District Office and a copy for review is also available at the Carmel Public Library (Harrison Memorial).

Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
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office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Sandpiper and Herald Interviews

From: Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org>  Thu, Aug 25, 2022 at 11:56 AM PDT (GMT-07:00)
To: CUSD Administrative Council Group <cusdadministrativecouncil@carmelunified.org>; CUSD Board Group <board@carmelunified.org>

Good morning,

Dan Paul is speaking with Shayla with The Sandpiper today as a follow-up to Craig's conversation on staffing.

Ted spoke with Molly Gibbs with The Herald on bus driver shortages today. The article should be out later today and in tomorrow's paper.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good evening,

Please see page 4 of the MC Weekly for a blurb on free speech.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good afternoon,

Please find here the Herald article on bus transportation for Central Coast school districts.

Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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4380 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923
jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good afternoon,

Ted and Dan spoke with Molly Gibbs with the Herald and Celia Jiminez with the MC Weekly today on the topic of the EIR.

The Herald story is anticipated for later today and the MC Weekly story for this Thursday's edition.

Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good evening,

Please find here the Herald article on the EIR noted in my earlier email about interviews.

This article will also be posted on our new CUSD in the News page.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good morning,

Please see MC Weekly article on stadium improvement project.

Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good evening,

Please see the following in this week's edition of the Pine Cone:

- Front page story on EIR
- 26A Letter to the editor on CHS stadium lights/improvement project
- 42A Reissued notice of completion

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Stadium Stories

From: Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org>  
To: CUSD Board Group <board@carmelunified.org>; CUSD Administrative Council Group <cusdadministrativecouncil@carmelunified.org>  

Wed, Sep 7, 2022 at 8:59 PM PDT (GMT-07:00)

Good evening,

Please see the following stories on the stadium lights/improvement project special meeting:

- Neighbors fight proposed school stadium lights for Carmel High School - KSBW
- Carmel community pushes back against high school stadium improvement project - Monterey Herald

As a reminder, CUSD has a general log-in so you can access Monterey Herald articles if you do not have your own account: Log-in email is: [REDACTED]; Password is: [REDACTED]

Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/ her/ hers)  
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jhull@carmelunified.org  
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cell (209) 679-4858  
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good afternoon,

Please see the articles below in the newest edition of The Sandpiper:

- CUSD continues push for transparency with public records requests, new online forum
- CHS to revisit hostile intruder precautions amid national campus safety conversation
- CUSD taking measures to combat effects of statewide staff shortages
- Carmel residents could be more accepting of the town’s younger generation

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good evening,

Please see the following in this week's edition of the Carmel Pine Cone:

- Front page - Board gets earful from anti-lights neighbors
- 26A - Letter to the Editor - How to comment on lights

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good evening,

In this week's Pine Cone there is a letter to the editor on page 26A titled "Time to grow up" on the stadium lights project.

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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good evening,

Please see the following in *this week's edition of the Pine Cone*:

- 6A - CUSD board creating districts to satisfy state voting laws
- 17A - Ad
- 26A - Editorial: No more nominations, please

Jessica Hull *(she/her/hers)*  
*Chief Communications Officer*  
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office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022  
cell (209) 679-4858  
[President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)](mailto:jhull@carmelunified.org)
Good evening,

Please see the Monterey Herald article on the Marina High stadium project which mentions CUSD's stadium improvement project.

Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good evening,

In this week's edition of the Pine Cone:

- Page 11A - Full page ad against stadium lights
- Page 19A - Letter to the Editor - Disappointed
- Page 24A - Padres' new cross country coach hopes to end 14-year drought
- Page 29A - Letter to the Editor - Author supports lights
- Page 29A - Letter to the Editor - 'Let them deal with it'
- Page 29A - Letter to the Editor - 'Sense of community'

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Apologies, the original link didn't work. This week's Pine Cone can be found here.

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cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)

On Thu, Sep 29, 2022 at 9:54 PM Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Good evening,

In this week's edition of the Pine Cone:

- Page 11A - Full page ad against stadium lights
- Page 19A - Letter to the Editor - Disappointed
- Page 24A - Padres' new cross country coach hopes to end 14-year drought
- Page 29A - Letter to the Editor - Author supports lights
- Page 29A - Letter to the Editor - 'Let them deal with it'
- Page 29A - Letter to the Editor - 'Sense of community'

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
In this week's edition of the Pine Cone:
26A - Letters to the Editor - Impacts from lights
28A - Letters to the Editor - More to the story

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good afternoon,

Please see the following in the October issue of The Sandpiper:
Front page - CUSD proposes switch to by-trustee-area elections for 2024; reactions mixed
Page 4 - Opinion - Please, don’t forget the students
Page 5 - Anti-stadium lights advocates find host of problems with latest EIR report

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cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good morning,

Please see the following from last week’s edition of the Pine Cone:

- 30A - Letter to the Editor - ‘Intelligent, unbiased thinking’
- 31A - Letter to the Editor - ‘Must vote’ for Lawrence Samuels'

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
This Week's Pine Cone

Good evening,

Please see the following in this Week's Pine Cone:

- 12A - Carmel gives $5K to CHS mock trial
- 26A - Letter to the Editor - 'Misinformed and divisive'

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Monterey Herald:

- Carmel Unified School District considers late start's impacts to sports teams
- Letters to the Editor - 'Children deserve to learn true United States history'; and 'Fear and distrust shouldn't be passed on to our kids' in response to 'In support of Lawrence Samuels'

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Monterey Herald Article on Districting

Good evening,

Please see Herald article on Districting published online today.

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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
One additional article in Monterey Herald featuring a CHS grad! Books: A story of honesty, humility and hope.

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cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good morning,

Please see the following in this week's edition of the Pine Cone:

- 3A - School board approves new districts
- 20A - Knight complains of bullying with emails, etc.
- 26A - Letters to the Editor - 'What school board lacks'
- 28A - She saw the writing on the wall and knew she was doing just fine
- 30A - Letters to the Editor - 'Community needs and equity'
- 30A - Letters to the Editor - 'Creeping Marxism'

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good morning,

Please see highlight of today's Art Show in yesterday's MC Now Daily Newsletter - 'Carmel High Visual Arts hosts its fifth annual Art Expo tomorrow, Friday, Nov. 4'.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)

From: MC Weekly NOW <mcnow@mcweekly.com>
Date: Thu, Nov 3, 2022 at 5:31 PM

ETC. Photo of the day by Gail Bower. Unusual clouds loom over Point Lobos on Oct. 28. They are called mammatus clouds, which have distinctive bulges or pouches emerging from the base. They are associated with the coming of rain—which did come, on Tuesday, Nov. 1. Photographed with an iPhone 7. Submit your best horizontal photos. (Please include the location where the photo was taken in the caption.)

Some people with epilepsy might feel alone. An awareness campaign is aiming to change that.

Good afternoon.

It's Epilepsy Awareness Month and I have to admit I have a limited amount of knowledge about epilepsy. That's true for most of us, as one
mom of a young man with epilepsy tells me.

Pam Marino here, after talking to Wendy, who says there are a lot of misconceptions, outdated information and workplace discrimination that people with epilepsy regularly face. (She asked that the family’s last name not be used to protect her son’s medical privacy.)

According to the Epilepsy Foundation, epilepsy is “a brain disorder that causes recurring, unprovoked seizures.” The seizures are triggered by surges of electrical activity across the brain. There are several causes of epilepsy that range from infections to genetics, but the cause is unknown in about half the cases.

“It’s a tough disease,” Wendy says. It’s often misdiagnosed. The suicide rate among people with epilepsy is higher than for the population on average, as are depression and anxiety. People live in fear they will have a seizure in public. They often feel isolated.

That’s probably in part because it’s not a common disease. The Centers for Disease Control estimate that just over 1 percent of the nation’s population has epilepsy. In California, there are more than 425,000 people with active cases.

Austin, Wendy’s son, is one of them. Now 25, he had a seizure when he was just a year old. Wendy was told he may grow out of it. After Austin had another seizure in elementary school, the doctor again suggested he would grow out of it.

In the meantime, Austin was experiencing “absence” seizures (pronounced “ab-sonce”), momentary seizures where people may appear as if they are staring out into space. Wendy says teachers thought he had a “crappy attitude.” A neurologist dismissed the family’s concerns, chalking up Austin’s symptoms to anxiety. Austin finally received an accurate diagnosis at age 18.

Austin, now 25, wants to have independence, but it’s a challenge, Wendy says. It’s tough holding onto a job sometimes. He must not drink and he must get adequate sleep. One worry is what’s known as SUDEP,
sudden unexpected death due to epilepsy. “I literally can’t lay next to him in bed all the time. I could, but he wouldn’t like it,” Wendy says. Monitors have been developed that could alert medical providers and caregivers. Some people have trained seizure alert dogs. There’s also a new stimulator, sort of like a pacemaker, that has promise.

Wendy says she’s only met one other family locally living with epilepsy but she knows more are out there. She wants to find those other families and start a supportive community of people who can help them not feel so alone. As a way to jumpstart the search, the Epilepsy Foundation of Northern California is hosting “The Walk for Epilepsy Monterey Bay” from 8:30am-noon this Sunday, Nov. 6, at El Estero Park in Monterey. It’s the first local walk to bring attention to the illness, among many others the foundation hosts in other places.

Families and interested people who come to the walk will find information from medical professionals and others. Wendy will be there to hear people’s thoughts on how they might form a support group in Monterey County.

To find out more about epilepsy visit epilepsynorcal.org. You can find details about the awareness walk at bit.ly/EpilepsyWalkMB.

-Pam Marino, staff writer, pam@mcweekly.com
Citing record profits announced in quarterly reports by Exxon, Chevron and Valero, Gov. Gavin Newsom plans to propose price-gouging penalty in the coming weeks. “Big oil is ripping Californians off, hiking gas prices and making record profits. As Valero jacked up their profits by over 500 percent in just a year, Californians were paying for it at the pump instead of passing down those savings,” Newsom said in a statement.

With your help, we will never settle.
We love this advice from reader Monica Ballard in Brezny’s astrology: ‘If you don’t vividly ask for and eagerly welcome the gifts the Universe has in store for you, you may have to settle for trinkets and baubles. So never settle.’ Unlike other newspapers we don’t settle for sloppy journalism, misinformation or commercial bias because our community needs free, independent, quality local news. We vividly ask for our readers to support our mission, and we eagerly welcome every gift from you. Please join our community of supporters today.

LATEST LOCAL NEWS

State-issued trailers for Covid isolation are getting a new life. County Homeless Services Director Roxanne Wilson saw potential in 20 trailers previously used for Covid isolation at San Lorenzo County Park. The campground has been refurbished, and reopened to the public on Nov. 1.

The trail to San Jose Creek is finally open after a long delay. Just 15 permits a day of up to four people each will be made available, but the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District opened one of the most breathtaking trails in the area to the public today, Nov. 3.

Voter turnout is usually pathetically low. Let’s show we have a say in local issues and vote. “The world is watching America and wondering if we really support our democracy,” retired local congressman Sam Farr writes in an
opinion piece. “You can do something to improve turnout by making sure everyone in your workplace, family and neighborhood who has a ballot turns it in.”

**Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 8.** Get up to speed on a range of local issues with the Weekly’s election coverage, at mcweekly.com/election2022.

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**SPONSORED: EAT+DRINK**

**Estéban Restaurant** Indoor, Patio Dining & Take Out daily 4:30pm. Thanksgiving Dine-In or To-Go Dinners Thurs. Nov. 24, 2-8pm. Reserve Now 700 Munras Ave., Monterey, 831.375.0176

**Melville Tavern** Indoor, Patio Dining & Takeout Mon-Fri 11:30am, Sat & Sun Brunch at 10am. Happy Hour Sun-Thur 4-6pm, 831.643.9525, 484 Washington St, Monterey.

**Whaling Station Steakhouse** Open Daily for Dinner at 4:30pm. [Click for menus](#). 831.373.3778, 763 Wave St, Monterey

**The Sardine Factory** Open for dinner nightly at 5pm. [Click here](#) for menus, details and reservations. 701 Wave Street, Monterey, 831.373.3775

Advertise here for $49 for 12 words / +$10 xlarge / +$1 add'l. word
Email sales@mcweekly.com or call 831-394-5656.

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**LOCAL INSPIRATION**

**LOCAL INSPIRATION** of the day. New cocktails at Haute Enchilada are more seasonal than spooky. Golden Midnight begins with marigold petals that cover the bottom of the glass like fallen leaves. Only the black, salted rim lends an ominous tone to the fruity, floral, almost gleeful cocktail. Photographed by Dave Faries. [Submit your Local Inspiration](#) (digital art, music, multimedia, video, etc.; please include the medium you’ve used, and note when and where it was created).

Defying stereotypes and monopolies of any kind, *Artista Invisibile* is a
theatrical production meant to highlight female agency in art. Think of Elizabeth Siddal, a 19th-century model, best known for posing for John Everett Millais’ 1852 painting “Ophelia.” “She wanted to be an artist herself,” says producer Janice Rocke. “But men wanted to paint her.” The show opens tomorrow, Nov. 4.

50K for 50 years. Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District is celebrating its 50th with a challenge—log 50 kilometers (about 30 miles) of running, hiking or walking during the month of November and you could get some free swag. Details here.

Carmel High Visual Arts hosts its fifth annual Art Expo tomorrow, Friday, Nov. 4. The exhibition connects dynamic advanced art students from across Monterey County to community artists, college representatives and professionals working in the visual arts. Take a look at the schedule/slide show and a short video from 2018.

BEST OF MONTEREY BAY® REAL ESTATE

Monterey: 570 Archer St | $2,750,000 | 4br/2ba | The Lou Ellen Parmelee House, a unique Queen Anne Victorian, sitting high on the hill overlooking Monterey Bay. Michael Kirch, Del Monte Realty 831.238.3488

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realestate.montereycountyweekly.com

IN CONTEXT

Note: The links below may take you to an external site, which may require registration or a subscription.

No longer in the mood to fight. Historians say there are several reasons why an army collapses. It’s possible Putin might learn a few of them.
A Republican Congress will be out to destroy Biden’s climate wins. The party’s own voters will suffer the consequences.

-The Atlantic, Nov. 2, 2022

"Would you still love me if I was a worm?" If you’re Heidi Klum, the answer is yes. The model/celebrity outdid everyone at her Halloween party this year by showing up in a highly elaborate worm costume.

Find your purpose. If you’re searching, this 15-minute exercise might help.

We welcome your tips, comments and feedback.
For war
Good afternoon,

Ted just had a brief interview with Molly Gibbs at the Monterey Herald on CUSD's CAASPP data. We expect the story this weekend.

Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
Carmel Unified School District
4380 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923
jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good morning,

Please see Herald article on local test scores - As expected, test scores suffered at Peninsula districts as schools recover from pandemic distance learning

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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cell (209) 679-4858

President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
CUSD in the News

Carmel Pine Cone:
Front page - Monterey High also has stadium lights controversy
19A - Nieto dominates sheriff's race, CUSD board incumbents reelected

MC Weekly - Learning to read is a lengthy process - so joy and curiosity are important ingredients

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good afternoon,

As a reminder please complete the Portrait of a Graduate survey by the end of today.

Thank you!

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
This Week's Pine Cone

Please see the following in this week's edition of the Pine Cone:

- Front page - State to take over stadium lights permits
- 11A - Full page ad against stadium lights
- 26A - Editorial: Gumming up the works; Letter to the Editor: Chicken Littles; Letter to the Editor: Personal environments

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good morning,

Ted met with Shayla with The Sandpiper on Friday on the topic of the CHS mascot. Today, Sara and Tess meet with Sophia from The Sandpiper on their reelection. Stories are expected in the next edition.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good morning,

Please see the following in this week's edition:

- Front page - CHS frustration with neighbors: ‘They bought next to a high school, so what do they expect?’
- 11A - half-page ad against lights from Robert Kahn
- 17A - full-page ad against lights from anonymous
- 22A - Letter to the editor - ‘Missed the mark’
- 22A - Letter to the editor - School district's permit process
- 26A - Letter to the editor - 'Save our schools'
- 26A - Letter to the editor - Tourists are worse

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good afternoon,
Today Ted spoke with Molly Gibbs from the Monterey Herald on the topic of the Stadium Improvement Project Special Meeting. We anticipate the story today or tomorrow.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Monterey Herald Article

Good morning,
Please see Herald article - Carmel Unified prepares to vote on Stadium Improvement Project.

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cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good afternoon,

Felix Cortez will be live at 5 and 6 from CHS tonight for a preview story on the stadium improvements meeting tomorrow. He spoke with Ted and two high school students this afternoon. KSBW does plan to also attend tomorrow’s meeting and will be interviewing Ted at 3:45 p.m.

KION has this story online and plans to send a reporter to the meeting as well. Please note the KION story was published with information about the project including removal of trees and it has since been corrected.

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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
CUSD in the News

Monterey Herald - Carmel Unified board approves high school Stadium Improvement Project

KION - Carmel Unified School District unanimously approves stadium lights

KSBW - Carmel school board unanimously approves Carmel high stadium lights project

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
One additional story:
MC Weekly - Stadium lights at Carmel High get school board approval, despite neighbor opposition.

Jessica Hull (she/ her/ hers)
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cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
This Week's Pine Cone

Good morning,

In this week's edition of the Pine Cone:

- Front page - School board unanimously embraces CHS lights
- 3A - County finalizes election results
- 26A - Letter to the editor - Let the students outside

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Please also see 26A's Editorial - Beatdowns - which mentions stadium lights.

Thank you.

On Fri, Dec 2, 2022 at 8:45 AM Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Good morning,

In this week's edition of the Pine Cone:

- Front page - School board unanimously embraces CHS lights
- 3A - County finalizes election results
- 26A - Letter to the editor - Let the students outside

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Monterey Herald Article

From: Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org>  
To: CUSD Administrative Council Group <cusdadministrativecouncil@carmelunified.org>; CUSD Board Group <board@carmelunified.org>

Good afternoon,

Please see the following article which mentions CUSD - Shorter days, fewer opportunities for Monterey soccer players.

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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good morning,

If you receive an email request from independent journalist Ari Kaufman, please refer them to me. Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Thank you, Sharon! Slide 18 on last year's budget road show was similar. Very important data to include.

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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)

On Mon, Dec 5, 2022 at 4:15 PM Sharon Ofek <sofek@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Hi All,

The attached graph is the one that I was referring to when we met last week. This was run for CUSD and reflects data through 2019.

Sharon

Sharon Ofek
Deputy Superintendent, Educational Services
Carmel Unified School District
4380 Carmel Valley Road
Carmel, CA 93923
(831) 624-1546 ext. 2030

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Good evening,

Please see the following in this week's edition of the Pine Cone:

- 22A - Letters to the editor - School days

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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Apologies. The letter is on 24A.

On Thu, Dec 8, 2022 at 9:30 PM Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Good evening,

Please see the following in this week's edition of the Pine Cone:

- 22A - Letters to the editor - School days
Good morning,

Please see an article in Education Week "Celebrating Holidays at School: Legal Guidance for Administrators" which mentions CUSD.

Thank you and have a wonderful day.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good morning,

Please see:

- MC Weekly Letters to the Editor - Lights (3 comments)
- Herald Letters to the Editor on the topic of stadium lights in general here, here and here

Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good morning,

Please see the following in this week's edition of The Pine Cone:

- Front page - School board to consider late start next month
- Front page - CHP: Driver error to blame for quadruple-fatal Tesla crash
- 24A - Obituary for CUSD parent killed on Carmel Valley Road

Also, please be sure to read the following stories/opinion pieces from The Sandpiper:

- Board approves stadium lights project with unanimous vote; district anticipates lawsuit
- Mascot discussion prompts district-wide changes, yet Padres stay for now
- District transportation changes routes in response to overcrowding on valley-bound buses
- Board members Arthur and Hinds promise consistency, stability in second term
- Chemistry teacher departs from position after one semester, leaving district to fill role
- District should work more creatively to prevent break beginning Christmas Eve

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good afternoon,

Ted is meeting today with Emma from The Sandpiper on the topic of the CHS principal's leave.

Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Please see the following:


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jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good evening,
Please see the following:

- Monterey Herald - Survey shows Carmel Unified community is conflicted over late start
- MC Weekly - Carmel High School principal has been placed on leave

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Re: CUSD in the News

Please also see in this week's edition of the Pine Cone:

- 3A - Mystery Over Sudden Departure of Carmel High Principal
- 33A - Dance team brings energy, enthusiasm and plenty of skill to CHS sports

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)

On Thu, Dec 22, 2022 at 7:16 PM Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org> wrote:
Good evening,
Please see the following:

- Monterey Herald - Survey shows Carmel Unified community is conflicted over late start
- MC Weekly - Carmel High School principal has been placed on leave

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
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jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good evening,

Please see the following in this week's edition of the Pine Cone:

- 5A - New state law goes after those who ‘disrupt’ public meetings
- 20A - Judge’s ruling slows Monterey High lights
- 26A - Editorial - Veto points
- 26A - Letters to the editor - Stadium concerns
- 28A - ‘Save Carmel’ sues school district over Carmel High stadium lights

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jhull@carmelunified.org
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cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good evening,

Please see the following story in the MC Weekly - Carmel residents file a lawsuit against Carmel Unified over stadium lights project at CHS.

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jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good morning,

Please see the following mentions of CUSD in the news:

- Monterey Peninsula schools cancel activities in preparation for winter storm - Monterey Herald
- Letters to the Editor - Lights, Action (2 letters)

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good morning,

Please see the following in this week's edition of the Pine Cone:

- Front page - Flooding, waves trigger evacuations
- 18A - Letter to the editor - Road hazards
- 20A - Letter to the editor - Wasted money

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)

Chief Communications Officer

Carmel Unified School District

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cell (209) 679-4858

President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good afternoon Board Members,

As we are primarily focused on the weather events today, we'll be postponing tomorrow's Board Update to next Tuesday the 17th.

Please reach out with any questions. Thank you and be safe.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Fwd: Bulletin: Evacuation order for Big Sur River canceled, CUSD schools face uncertainty

From: Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org>  
To: CUSD Administrative Council Group <cusdadministrativecouncil@carmelunified.org>; CUSD Board Group <board@carmelunified.org>  

FYI

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)  
Chief Communications Officer  
Carmel Unified School District  
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022  
cell (209) 679-4858  
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)

---------- Forwarded message  ---------
From: The Carmel Pine Cone <paul@carmelpinecone.com>  
Date: Tue, Jan 10, 2023 at 7:50 PM  
Subject: Bulletin: Evacuation order for Big Sur River canceled, CUSD schools face uncertainty  
To: <jhull@carmelunified.org>

BREAKING NEWS FROM THE CARMEL PINE CONE

January 10, 2023, 7:45 p.m.

EVACUATION ORDER FOR BIG SUR RIVER CANCELED

In what promises to be a string of similar cancellations as some local rivers recede from yesterday's flood levels, the Monterey County Office of Emergency Services announced this evening that there is no longer an evacuation order for the Big Sur River. To read the announcement, click here.

For a detailed map of the Big Sur evacuation area, click on the image below.

Meanwhile, as remarkable as it may seem, there is still no announced time from Caltrans for the reopening of Highway 1 through Carmel.

• Uncertainty about CUSD schools Wednesday

Tonight the Carmel school district made a detailed announcement about the status of the district's schools and the possibility of the various campuses being open tomorrow. To read the announcement, click here.

We will send you additional bulletins as events warrant.

Paul Miller, Publisher  
paul@carmelpinecone.com
To read the complete edition of this week's Pine Cone, click here. To subscribe (it's free and easy), please click here. And for our archive, click here.

This email was sent to jhull@carmelunified.org. If it ended up somewhere else, please let us know. To update your email address, use the "change email address" link just below.
Good morning,
Not 100% accurate info, but we are mentioned in EdSources's piece [here](#).

Jessica Hull *(she/ her/ hers)*
*Chief Communications Officer*
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*President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)*
CUSD in the News

From: Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org>  Sat, Jan 14, 2023 at 9:52 AM PST (GMT-08:00)
To: CUSD Administrative Council Group <cusdadministrativecouncil@carmelunified.org>; CUSD Board Group <board@carmelunified.org>

Good morning,

Please see the following articles:

This week's edition of the Pine Cone:

- 22A - Letter to the Editor - Don't be surprised

Thousands under evacuation orders and warnings in Monterey County as storms persist - Monterey Herald

School closures continue for a third day following storm and flooding

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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jhull@carmelunified.org
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cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good evening,

Please see the following in this week's edition of The Pine Cone:

- Front page - Interim CHS principal appointed, Lyons’ absence still a mystery

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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jhull@carmelunified.org
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cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good morning,

As a reminder we look forward to hearing from you later today at 5 p.m. for the Elementary Collaboration Input Session. This session will be recorded and will be shared out with all elementary staff members. We'll also keep our input tool (ThoughtExchange) open for a short time to allow for additional input.

Thank you and have a wonderful day.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
Carmel Unified School District

On Wed, Jan 18, 2023 at 1:00 PM Ted Knight <tknight@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Dear CUSD Elementary Colleagues,

Thank you for your patience as we had to reschedule the elementary collaboration time input session due to the weather. Although I have been advocating for elementary schools to implement an early release, in the same manner that our secondary schools are afforded, my understanding is that not everyone is in favor of this action. Therefore, I want to explain a little bit about why collaboration time is so important and how we will need it to implement the strategic plan, as well as take your feedback about how best to accomplish this work.

Therefore, I am offering this opportunity to give input, through Thought Exchange, on other ways that we could achieve the cross-district collaboration that is needed to achieve the strategic plan. Please join me for an optional Zoom meeting on Monday, January 23, 2023, from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.:  

Join Zoom Meeting: 
ID: [REDACTED]  
Passcode: [REDACTED]  

Thanks for all you do, Ted

--

E. Ted Knight, EdD
de/him/his
Superintendent Carmel Unified School District
4380 Carmel Valley Road
Carmel, CA 93923
(831) 624-1546 ext. 2020

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Link to CUSD Nondiscrimination Notice
CUSD in the News

Good evening,

Please see the following article on CUSD's conversation on school schedules:

Carmel Unified will make late start decision in February - Monterey Herald

Thank you.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good evening,

Please see the following in this week's edition of The Carmel Pine Cone:

- Front page - Lawsuit says OK of CHS lights was illegal
- 18A - Letters to the Editor - Let there be (less) light

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
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jhull@carmelunified.org
office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Morning,

Good article to read.

https://www.edweek.org/leadership/divisive-politics-are-harming-schools-district-leaders-say/2023/01?_cldee=d9Pb44ONbjYp_0PwSfHZdfuqGTIXmrHvzXwzFYNt_mBeNPlRfo0WCVuN-KsgbDIs&recipientid=contact-145d403e8111e611b8df8851fb5e4a74-704d6f5ae5124c42ad8b60db981cdde2&esid=d873b505-5c9e-ed11-8157-005056b02a09

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cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good morning,
First story is an important read.

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
Chief Communications Officer
Carmel Unified School District
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cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)

--------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Education Slice <principalnews@principalnews.us.com>
Date: Tue, Jan 31, 2023 at 5:55 AM
Subject: Lafayette middle school principal placed on leave
To: <jhull@carmelunified.org>

Lafayette middle school principal placed on leave
Nicole Chaplan, the new principal of Stanley Middle School is on leave, while the Lafayette School District investigates her previous role at San Ramon Valley High, where she is said to have failed to sustain harassment complaints against a teacher now accused of child molestation. An investigation in the 2021-2022 school year, led by Chaplan, accepted Nicholas Moseby’s denial when girls first accused him of inappropriate behavior, including harassing remarks and unwanted physical contact. The Contra Costa District Attorney’s case against Mr. Moseby includes misdemeanor charges for some of the same alleged conduct Ms. Chaplan reviewed, raising questions as to how district officials could have found no wrongdoing when prosecutors and a judge reached a different conclusion. Lafayette Superintendent Brent Stephens said he has made no decision on whether Ms. Chaplan did anything wrong, but wants to conduct a district investigation as to what took place at the time.
San Diego USD sees spike in students missing school

San Diego USD students are missing school at a dramatically growing rate. Many students are now considered chronically absent, meaning that have missed at least 10% of the school year. In 2019 before the pandemic, 12.4% of the district's students were chronically absent but that has jumped to 36.7% this school year, according to the California School Dashboard. San Diego USD said it is working to find solutions and ways to support families so that students can regularly attend school and thrive. Last summer the district created 14 family services positions. Those employees are working with families and the schools to cut down on absenteeism.

Sanger Super set to retire

Sanger USD Superintendent Adela Jones has announced she is to retire at the end of the current school year, after 36 years with the district, five of which were spent as its leader. “It felt like now was the time,” she said. “It was a difficult decision to make because I love my district and the career I've had here.” During her tenure, Sanger has had three California School Boards Association Golden Bell awards, which recognize outstanding programs; two administrators named Fresno County Administrator of the Year, including the 2022 recipient; an educator named Fresno County Teacher of the Year; and all its middle schools recognized as Schools To Watch.

Experiential learning 'key' to tackling early disparities in science and math

Educators can help young students to counter early educational inequities in math and science skills through curriculum enhancements. "With young students, teachers can start building experiences into the school day through small field trips that can help motivate and spark interest in students by connecting them to the world around them," says Emily Adah Miller, an assistant professor at the University of Georgia's Department of Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies Education and one of the co-authors of the Next Generation Science Standards. That may mean something as small as having students explore squirrels jumping in the neighborhood, and then measure their own jumps, integrating math into the activity. Miller said these experiences and experimental play are often cut from lower-income schools, with emphasis instead on adding more time for reading and math. “Instead, add experiences into science and math. The integration gives you more for the same number of minutes and brings more meaning to science.”
Gifted and talented programs have little effect on segregation data, academic argues

Owen Thompson, an associate professor at Williams College, argues that impacts of gifted and talented programming on racial segregation at the elementary-school level are likely minimal. Gifted and talented programs do contribute to racial segregation, he acknowledges, but not by very much. In looking at school districts that have gifted and talented programs, which includes about 70% of the total dataset, his analysis indicates that if these programs were ended and gifted students were returned to non-gifted classrooms, the value of the dissimilarity index would decline by about 0.03, or approximately 18% of its mean value. The questions facing school and district leaders then, he suggests, are whether these selective programs benefit those young students identified as gifted or harm the students who are not.

First Latina selected to lead national principals group

Raquel Martinez, a principal in Washington state, will take over this month as the president-elect of the National Association of Secondary School Principals. The first Latina to lead the organization as its president, Martinez is the daughter of farm workers who moved from Mexico to Washington state. She hopes she'll be an example for Latino students and other students of color as well as Latino and Latina educators and other educators of color.

Post-pandemic academic loss persists globally

The pandemic’s disruption of education persists for students around the world, according to the first meta-analysis of global learning loss. Researchers analyzed results from 42 studies of primary and secondary students in 15 high- and middle-income countries, including the United States, conducted from the start of the pandemic in 2020 through March 2022. Students in all of those countries experienced both delays in their expected academic progress compared to prior years and loss of their existing skills and knowledge, particularly in math. Gaps between low-income children and their wealthier classmates also have widened worldwide since the pandemic began. “Children still have not recovered the learning that they lost at the start of the pandemic, and this means that government programs seem to have been successful in avoiding further learning deficits as the pandemic continued, but they did not succeed in recovering the learning deficits that arose early in the pandemic, to this point, at least,” says Bastian Betthäuser, an assistant sociology professor at the Sciences Po Center for Research on Social Inequalities in France and associate researcher in public policy at the University of Oxford, England, and lead author of the study, which found evidence of worsening academic inequities across every grade as recently as March 2022.
Rex Fortune, who spent his life advocating for better education for Black children, died Sunday. He was 81. Fortune founded the Fortune School of Education in Sacramento in 1989 to prepare a more diverse group of teaching candidates for public schools, especially in the subject areas of science and mathematics instruction, where there were large shortages, according to the school's website. After his daughter, Margaret Fortune, joined Fortune School of Education as its president and CEO in 2008, the organization expanded to include a system of charter schools in San Bernardino and Sacramento counties. Rex Fortune was a school superintendent in public schools for 20 years before founding Fortune School of Education. He holds a doctorate in education from Stanford University.
Good morning,

Please see articles in the newest edition of The Sandpiper including:

- Front page - Interim principal hired, Lyons remains on leave
- 2 - CUSD faces lawsuit from anti-lights group

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jhull@carmelunified.org
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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Happy Friday,

Please see note on CHS award in this week's Monterey County Weekly.

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Media Reports Thus Far

From: Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org>  
To: CUSD Administrative Council Group <cusdadministrativecouncil@carmelunified.org>; CUSD Board Group <board@carmelunified.org>

02.06.23 - Monterey Herald - Carmel Unified to hold special board meeting Tuesday morning

02.07.23 - KION - Carmel High Principal put on administrative leave until end of 2023

02.07.23 - KSBW - Carmel High School principal loses job, will remain on administrative leave

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office (831) 624-1546 ext. 2022
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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Re: Media Reports Thus Far

From: Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org>  
To: CUSD Administrative Council Group <cusdadministrativecouncil@carmelunified.org>; CUSD Board Group <board@carmelunified.org>

02.07.22 - Monterey Herald - District reassigning Carmel High principal

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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)

On Tue, Feb 7, 2023 at 1:47 PM Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org> wrote:

02.06.23 - Monterey Herald - Carmel Unified to hold special board meeting Tuesday morning

02.07.23 - KION - Carmel High Principal put on administrative leave until end of 2023

02.07.23 - KSBW - Carmel High School principal loses job, will remain on administrative leave

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Re: Media Reports Thus Far

From: Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org>  
To: CUSD Administrative Council Group <cusdadministrativecouncil@carmelunified.org>; CUSD Board Group <board@carmelunified.org>  

02.07.22 - Monterey Herald - Carmel High School principal to be reassigned pending investigation

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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)

On Tue, Feb 7, 2023 at 2:33 PM Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org> wrote:

02.07.22 - Monterey Herald - District reassigning Carmel High principal

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Chief Communications Officer
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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)

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02.07.23 - KSBW - Carmel High School principal loses job, will remain on administrative leave

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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Re: Media Reports Thus Far

From: Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org>  
To: CUSD Administrative Council Group <cusdadministrativecouncil@carmelunified.org>; CUSD Board Group <board@carmelunified.org>

02.07.23 - MC Weekly - Carmel High School principal removed from his position, amid uproar from parents.

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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)

On Tue, Feb 7, 2023 at 3:25 PM Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org> wrote:
02.07.22 - Monterey Herald - Carmel High School principal to be reassigned pending investigation

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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)

On Tue, Feb 7, 2023 at 2:33 PM Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org> wrote:
02.07.22 - Monterey Herald - District reassigning Carmel High principal

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)  
Chief Communications Officer  
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On Tue, Feb 7, 2023 at 1:47 PM Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org> wrote:
02.06.23 - Monterey Herald - Carmel Unified to hold special board meeting Tuesday morning
02.07.23 - KION - Carmel High Principal put on administrative leave until end of 2023
02.07.23 - KSBW - Carmel High School principal loses job, will remain on administrative leave

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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good morning,

Important relevant article to review - https://voiceofoc.org/2023/02/will-the-oc-board-of-education-investigate-sexual-abuse-claims-at-a-prominent-arts-school/

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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good evening,

Please see the following in this week's edition of The Carmel Pine Cone:

- Front cover - CHS principal fired but reason still a mystery
- Front cover - Unimaginable loss of mom and kids leads to reflection, appreciation
- 7A - CHS Student Honor Roll
- 18A - Editorial - Getting ridiculous
- 20A - Letter to the Editor - Bigger problems
- 23A - Letter to the Editor - Principal on leave

Please also see:
02.09.23 - Monterey Herald - Carmel Unified parts ways with employee named in investigation

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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
02.13.23 - Monterey Herald - Carmel High rolls on as mock trial champs

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cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
CUSD in the News

From: Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org>  
To: CUSD Administrative Council Group <cusdadministrativecouncil@carmelunified.org>; CUSD Board Group <board@carmelunified.org>

Good morning,

Please see the following:

02.15.23 - Controversy on tap at Carmel school board meeting - Monterey Herald

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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good evening,

02.15.23 - Carmel shocker: School board president starts meeting by resigning, then leaving - Monterey Herald

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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good evening,

News stories below:

- 02.16.23 - Carmel Unified School District still under fire, board president resigns - KSBW
- 02.16.23 - ‘We are fractured’: Carmel Unified School District board meeting sees president step down, public speak up - Monterey Herald
- 02.16.23 - Carmel principal still confused over administrative leave - Monterey Herald
- 02.16.23 - Carmel Unified board president resigns amid a divided community and a scandal at Carmel High - MC Weekly
- 02.16.23 - Board President resigns and Superintendent being investigated at Carmel Unified School District - KION
Re: CUSD in the News

Also, in this week's edition of The Carmel Pine Cone:

- Front page - Lyons pleads for job
- 15A - Tess Arthur abruptly resigns from school board
- 20A - Editorial - Curiouser and curiouser
- 20A - Letters to the editor - Education should be focus - and - Social media's outsized role

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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)

On Thu, Feb 16, 2023 at 8:49 PM Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org> wrote:

Good evening,

News stories below:

- 02.16.23 - Carmel Unified School District still under fire, board president resigns - KSBW
- 02.16.23 - 'We are fractured': Carmel Unified School District board meeting sees president step down, public speak up - Monterey Herald
- 02.16.23 - Carmel principal still confused over administrative leave - Monterey Herald
- 02.16.23 - Carmel Unified board president resigns amid a divided community and a scandal at Carmel High - MC Weekly
- 02.16.23 - Board President resigns and Superintendent being investigated at Carmel Unified School District - KION

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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good afternoon,

Please see the following:

02.23.23 - As chaos unfolds in Carmel Unified School District, everyone is on defense - MC Weekly

Jessica Hull (she/her/hers)
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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Important Article

From: Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org> Fri, Feb 24, 2023 at 10:03 AM PST (GMT-08:00)
To: CUSD Cabinet Members Group <cusdcabinet@carmelunified.org>; CUSD Board Group <board@carmelunified.org>

Please see - Rialto school officials accused of not reporting sexual assault avoid trial, accept diversion

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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
CUSD in the News

Good morning,

Please see the following in this week's edition of The Carmel Pine Cone:

- 22A - Editorial - Dumbest story ever?
- 24A - Letters to the Editor - Evaluating school leaders; Wants Lyons back; CUSD needs to ‘move forward'
- 27A - Letters to the Editor - High school campus ‘not safe'

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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good afternoon,

02.24.23 - Former Carmel High School principal requests board reconsider decision - Monterey Herald

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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good morning,

Please see the following in this week's edition of The Carmel Pine Cone:

- Front page - Lyons formally asks for his CHS job back

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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Re: CUSD in the News

From: Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org> Fri, Mar 3, 2023 at 11:17 AM PST (GMT-08:00)
To: CUSD Administrative Council Group <cusdadministrativecouncil@carmelunified.org>; CUSD Board Group <board@carmelunified.org>

Apologies. Link is fixed below.

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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)

On Fri, Mar 3, 2023 at 10:50 AM Jessica Hull <jhull@carmelunified.org> wrote:
Good morning,

Please see the following in this week's edition of The Carmel Pine Cone:

- Front page - Lyons formally asks for his CHS job back

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President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good evening,

Please see the following article:

Carmel Unified's governing board will vote on late start Wednesday - Monterey Herald

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cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good afternoon,
Please see the following article: 03.09.23 - Carmel Unified board of education picks new president, votes on how to fill vacant seat - Monterey Herald

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cell (209) 679-4858
President, California School Public Relations Association (CalSPRA)
Good evening,

Please see the following in this week's edition of The Carmel Pine Cone:

- 8A - Amid controversies, school board taking applications to fill vacant seat
- 25A - Letters to the editor - School board issues

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