

# The Migrant VOICE

JUNE 2016

Tulare County Office of Education

Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools

## Migrant Teacher Comments



"Mr. Johnstone is very funny and always keeps us laughing. He always keeps tutoring fun. It was nice to have him all to ourselves. He's really the best."  
-Alejandro



Mr. Johnstone

"When it was hard to focus, Mr. Johnstone helped me focus. When the work was hard, Mr. Johnstone helped me understand it. He is a kind person, when we were tired of working, he was patient and understanding. Thank you for teaching us after school!" -Juan



"Mrs. Pearson taught us how to be great reporters. She is always nice and spent a lot of days after school with us to teach us about journalism." -Regina

"Mrs. Pearson taught me about math and journalism. She taught me to use journalism strategies in my writing. I like that Mrs. Pearson is always kind and she always has a smile on her face. She always teaches us important things. Thank you for being my teacher during school and after school!" -Marco

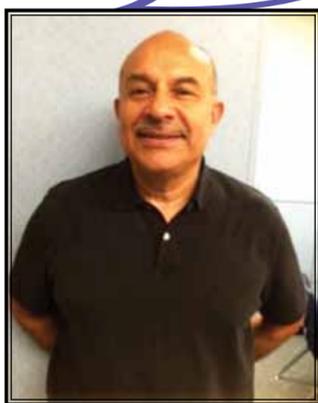


Mrs. Pearson

## Newspaper Comments – Maple

Mr. Calvillo is very helpful and smart. He helps me when I need help from him. I now write better and faster because of what I learned in the journalism program. Whenever I have a writing test I will know what to write. I learned how to make the 5 Ws tree map and how to make an organization map. Now that I learned how to write, I actually enjoy writing lots of paragraphs. It was really fun being part of the journalism program.  
-Yadira Santiago

I learned how to write an essay about the Summer Olympics with Mr. Calvillo. I learned about the 4 X 100 relay race. I learned that you need to have six sentences in each paragraph. Did you know that in the relay race you have to run four times around a track? I researched the Summer Olympics. It is fun to be in journalism. -Felipe Cabrera



Anthony Calvillo

Mr. Calvillo is nice. He was always there for me when I needed help. When I was doing the journalism he would tell me to try and think about it. Even if I would act goofy sometimes, I made it and finished. Thanks to Mr. Calvillo I love writing now more than ever. Mr. Calvillo is a teacher that tells you not give up and to keep on trying. If you do what he says, you will make it. I have always been bad at writing but now that I understand what it is all about, I love it. One day I would like to do what he is doing now. He always has a big smile on his face. When I see him around, it makes me feel good. I want to be a Migrant teacher like him. With all the help he has given me, I've gotten the courage write a lot more. I will work hard to get my scholarship and become a teacher. -Anahy Cabrera



Vicki Stewart

Mrs. Stewart helped me a lot. She helped me research a lot of things and helped us make questions. Last of all, she helped us be our best. -Gregorio

Mrs. Stewart is the best Migrant teacher. She helped us with our homework and a lot of other things. She was always there to help us. -Donna

I learned a lot when Mrs. Stewart helped me type. Mrs. Stewart helped us write articles. We also practiced asking questions about the drought. She also helped us look up information. -Alexander

Mrs. Stewart helped us use our 5 Ws. I love the field trips where we went together. We interviewed people. First, she let us research. Then, we had to come up with questions. We ask questions when we interview people. -Natalia Gomez

Mr. Calvillo helped me a lot on my writing. I also learned about sports and the drought. I learned how to use the graphic organizer. I like to ask people questions now. Most of all, I enjoyed going to the trips with Mr. Calvillo. -Dalia Cortez

## Superintendent Message:



By Clare Gist, Ed.D  
Superintendent  
Tulare City School District

In November of last year, I was invited to be interviewed by a group of third through fifth grade migrant students from Maple School who were investigating how the drought was affecting our school district. The interview was part of the Migrant Journalism Project sponsored

by Tulare County Office of Education in collaboration with several other Tulare City and Tulare County Schools. I want to express my sincerest appreciation to TCOE for providing our teachers a path to engaging and challenging our migrant students in a way that was relevant and interesting. I'm not quite sure who enjoyed the experience more, me or

the students. It was evident that these migrant students were well prepared by the insightful questions they asked. But even more impressive was the confidence they displayed during the interview. Our children are our future, so investing in them by providing them with opportunities to thrive in and out of the classroom is not just a wish, but a necessity.

## Journalism project impact

By Leah Sanchez  
Tulare City School District,  
ELD Curriculum Specialist

Beginning in September and concluding in December, our TCSD Migrant students were given the opportunity to participate in a specially designed journalism curriculum that exposed them to the world of newspaper journalism, while developing their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills through analyzing the structure and elements of written investigative journalistic articles.



Leah Sanchez

Our third through fifth grade Migrant students became investigative reporters researching The effects of the drought in our

community. Throughout their 10 weeks of research, students also interviewed various members of our community to get "their side of the story" in relation to the drought. These articles were published in a Tulare County Office of Education special newspaper showcasing the hard work of our Migrant students and teachers.

Because this endeavor was so successful our Migrant students, supported by their teachers, went on to investigate and research topics of their choice to be included in a second edition newspaper. It has been a privilege to work with these teachers and students and see them accomplish things that seemed very difficult and almost impossible in September. I commend the hard work and effort put forth by all involved in seeing Tulare City School District Migrant students succeed.

## Newspaper Comments – Pleasant



Helen Richardson

Mrs. Richardson is nice. She taught us all about journalism. We learned how to write an article. In journalism class we work hard. We talk and we write and we talk and we write more. Mrs. Richardson is a very good teacher. We are lucky to be with her.  
-Alexis Jones Williams

I started journalism in March. We learned how to write an article. We learned that a journalist is a person who writes or tells about news. I want to learn more about journalists. Mrs. Richardson is funny but she makes me work hard. No goofing off. In my opinion, journalism class is so much fun. -Frank Jones Williams

In journalism class I learned how to gather information and create an article. We also learned many things we did not know. I learned to do research for the articles. For example, I studied about the Mission Oak tennis team. It was fun and cool to learn these amazing things.

Mrs. Richardson is a very funny, nice, and helpful teacher. Also, one day I want to become a journalist. From what I hear, becoming a journalist can be very fun. -Carlos Valle Vega

Afterschool Fun  
This year we learned about journalism in our Migrant class. I think coming to Migrant tutoring has improved my writing skills. Mrs. Richardson taught us how to write hooks at the beginning of paragraphs. She also taught us what a journalist is. A journalist is a person who interviews people, gathers notes, and writes news. She also taught us how to interview people and take notes. Mrs. Richardson plays around with us but then we need to step up the game. She also lets us play with her materials whenever we have time. When all is said and done, I think I can write an article all by myself.  
-Isidro Gonzalez Torres



Graphic courtesy California High-Speed Rail Authority. Rendering of the high-speed train, expected to travel at 220 miles per hour between Sacramento, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego.

## The plan for High-Speed Rail – plan for water?

By Isidro Gonzalez Torres

California has thought about the high-speed rail for a long time. If the train does come to California, it will go to Sacramento and turn around in San Diego. It can catch speeds up to 220 mph. and although there is sometimes fog, the train can navigate through it. Planning began to build a high-speed rail in California in earnest because our growing population was putting a strain on the highways.

In 2002 Senate Bill (SB) 1856 was passed and a \$9.95 billion bond was posted. Then in 2008 Proposition 1 A was approved by the state's voters. It was the first time ever that voters approved for the high speed rail. In 2009 \$8 billion in federal funds was made available nationwide as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). It was to be used to help stimulate the economy, and demonstrate a new commitment of making the high-speed



Isidro Gonzalez Torres



Photo by John Chacon/California Department of Water A wheat field near Bakersfield, Calif., March 2015.

rail. Then in 2012, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. made the high-speed rail a priority for his Administration. Also, in 2012 the High-Speed Rail Authority adopted a business plan for implementing the high-speed rail.

California can use a plan for water. Agriculture requires water. Big agriculture, like in our Central Valley, uses large amounts of water. A long time ago, a hundred years, there was a lot of water in California

Now, according to the New York Times, "The depletion of groundwater

has terminally damaged California's soil, lessening its ability to reabsorb and store water in the future."

California's growing population resulted in a plan for high-speed rail so it can take people to their jobs quicker but, California needs water. We need water to plant the crops—that's where we get our food from.

We just need to wake up to the fact that we've got a problem and start working on a plan. Once California does that, we can figure out a solution to our water problem.

## Redskin mural on high school wall

By Karen Roque

Tulare Union High School's mascot has been Redskins since 1924. Then, Assembly Bill 30 required public Schools in California to drop the use of the word Redskin as a team name or mascot by January 2017. Tulare Union High School is one of three schools in the central valley that has to make this change. Tulare Union has been given more time to change things such as athletic uniforms but, the school will have to take down and change anything that uses the word "Redskin". Also, if the new mascot is not Native American, all images will have to be changed too.

Tulare Union recently reached out to the community for help in choosing a new mascot. Students, school staff, and people from the community could vote for a new name online.



Karen Roque



Redskin mural on high school wall

Some suggestions on the list included; Braves, Chiefs, Sentinels, Warriors, and Tribe, all keeping with the Native American theme. The final decision will be made at the end of the year. Tulare Union's principal Michelle Nunley said, "On June 9th the school board will take action and select the new mascot." She also said that, "It has been a lengthy and educational process for everyone involved and we are looking forward to making new traditions."

The change is going to happen. A lot of students don't like having to change names and feel that their name is being taken away from them, and they feel that the law is an attack on a tradition that was never meant to offend anyone. However, the fight is coming to an end. Last month at lunchtime seniors got their class shirts. Their final message, "They can take our mascot, but they will never take our pride!"

## Basketball

By Dalia Cortez, Yadira Santiago, Natalia Gomez, Danna Ramirez, Gregorio Ontiveros

Would you like to know about a skilled basketball player? On February 23, 2016, we interviewed a Tulare Western High School basketball player to learn about the game of basketball. His name is Bryan Paredes.

Bryan really enjoys playing basketball. He has a deep passion for the game. We interviewed Bryan because he was one of the top players on his team. Also, we learned more about basketball.

Bryan is a former Maple student and Mr. Calvillo was his fifth grade teacher. He is a varsity basketball player. He was the high scorer for the basketball team when they played Madera. He is a point guard; he brings the ball down the court. His favorite player is Kobe Bryant and his favorite team is the Lakers.

The Tulare Western High School basketball team came in second place in the



Natalia, Gregorio, Bryan, Yadira, Dalia, Danna

league. It is not easy; they need to work hard so they can be good at basketball. They have an indoor gym and they usually practice two hours a day when they do not have games.

Bryan's basketball coach is Mr. Rickard. He used to coach girls basketball. He says that they listened to his instructions. His players do drills to learn to work

together. Mr. Rickard has been coaching for 11 years. He also teaches Physical Education and coaches' golf. His favorite team is the San Antonio Spurs and his favorite player is Michael Jordan.

We learned a lot about basketball. While researching on the internet, we learned the history of the

# The history of basketball

By Alexander Aguilar,  
Natalia Gomez,  
Gregorio Ontiveros and  
Danna Ramirez

For our sports article we will be reporting on basketball. We will be telling the readers the history of the game, who invented it and the rules.

What can you do when it's

cold and snowing outside?! You can play basketball inside! There are very few sports you can play both inside and outside. Dr. James Naismith wanted young athletes to stay in good condition or shape during the winter so he invented basketball. He did this during the month of December in 1891. The doctor lived in

Springfield, Massachusetts.

They used a peach or fruit basket to shoot at. If they made it into the basket they would earn one point. The first game was played with 9 players on each team because Dr. Naismith had 18 students in his class and he just split them into two teams.

Originally you could not run with the ball. Today you have to dribble and run but you cannot dribble with both hands—it is called, "Double Dribbling". There were 13 rules, now there are over 100.

At first they used soccer balls, but they did not bounce so they were not good for dribbling. The

balls were made of leather pieces stitched together. In 1942 they first started using a mold and manufacturing basketballs out of leather or rubber with a standard size and shape.

The fruit baskets have been replaced with a net attached to a medal ring. This is connected to a board called the, "backboard." The

backboard can be used to make a shot or to stop the ball from going past the basket. The basketball net is 10 feet tall.

Basketball has been played for 125 years. Over that time there have been changes to the game we know today. We hope you have learned a lot about the history of basketball, we sure did!

# The drought continues

By Jaime Padilla

Unless it affects you or someone you love, you don't know what people are going through. The drought continues. The ground is pumped dry. Tulare is at ground zero. Some counties still have to use water tanks.

For a century water flowed out of the Sierra Mountains and down the Central Valley. It only needed to be captured, stored and then directed. After a hundred years of diverting rivers

there is now a lot less water to work with. Now the ground is also pumped dry. It is pumped dry because wells are being dug deeper.

In some places, water tables have dropped 50 feet or more in just a few years. With less underground water to keep it up, the land surface is sinking as much as a foot a year in spots. This has caused roads to buckle and bridges to crack. Shallow wells have run dry, leaving several poor communities without water.

The withdrawals of water in the ground far exceed the replenishing. We can't keep doing this!

Scientists say that underground water-storing is critical to California's future. Our soil is layers of sand or clay and it is being permanently damaged by the excess pumping and removing water. There is nothing anyone can do to make the ground moist again and it will never again store as much water as people are pulling out.

In Porterville, California a lot of people have no water. They cannot cook, shave or even flush a toilet. They have to wait on water being delivered to them. People with brown lawns are probably without running water, while people with green lawns have running water. More than 7,000 people do not have running water. For others who have water, the water is brown because it is so dusty.

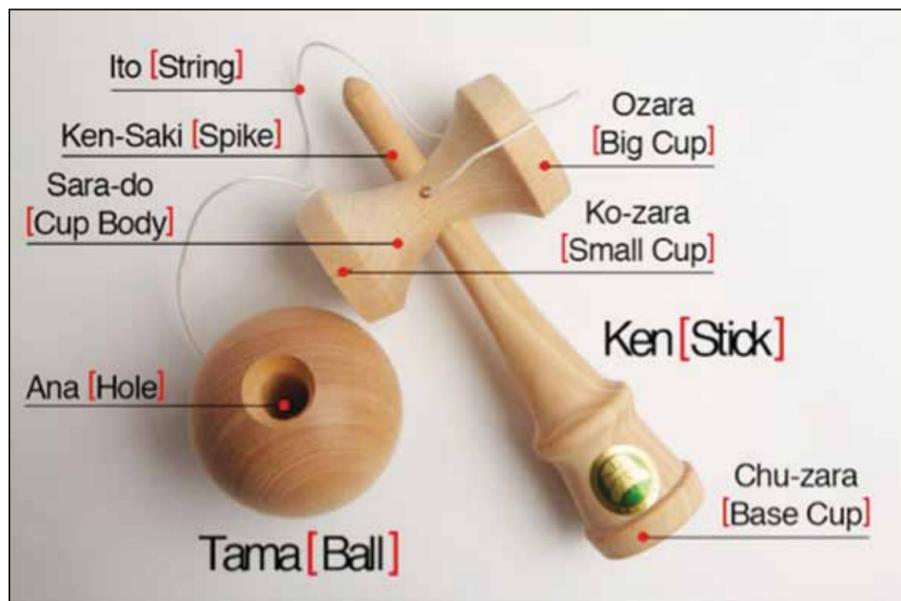
To those of us with water, maybe we should try not



turning on the water faucet for a whole day and find other ways of getting

water- to really understand the drought and what some people are going through.

# Kendama craze



Parts of a Kendama (<http://www.sakura-house.com/>)

By Regina Toscano &  
Marco Torrez

What is the new toy played with in schoolyards that kids of all ages can use to do tricks, have fun, scream, and play with? If you guessed a Kendama, you are right. No technology, electricity, or batteries

needed yet kids are fascinated with this new schoolyard craze. During recess or free play periods school yards are crowded with students trying out their skill of this simple toy. A Kendama's parts consist of a spike, string, small cup, base cup, and big cup. Kendamas

can be made out of wood or plastic, come in a variety of colors and designs, and can be big or small. The average price of this new simple toy ranges from as low as five dollars to hundreds of dollars depending on the size and style. This toy is nothing new, but youtube tech-

nology has helped to make it popular again. Although Kendamas are not sold in just any popular store and can be hard to find, students manage to find them at comic book stores, Big Five, Japanese grocery stores, online, or at the Mall.

At Heritage Elementary School where we attend, students are able to play with Kendamas during their recess time. After interviewing a few Heritage students, we discovered that the majority of them liked Kendamas because of the variety of tricks. The most popular trick for beginners was Swing Spike. This trick consists of swinging the ball while trying to land it on the top spike of the Kendama. Students of all grade levels enjoy challenging themselves as well as their classmates with the task of completing as many different tricks as possible. Many students said that they learned Kendama tricks by watching their family and friends or trying tricks that they searched on

the internet. Students stated that they paid from 8 to 21 dollars for their Kendamas. We also found that the older students liked wearing a Kendama around their neck as a fashionable or cool way to carry it everywhere.

Posture plays a very important role in mastering a Kendama move. It is important to keep your center of gravity forward, relax your shoulders, and stand naturally with one foot in front of the other in order to

perform the intended trick correctly. Furthermore, a benefit of Kendama tricks is that it can strengthen hand and eye coordination as well as help with balance and reflex skills.

A Kendama is a remarkable toy that has a variety of benefits. If you are lucky enough to have one, you might want to search the internet to view some cool moves that you could learn and impress your friends at school or home.



Students at Heritage play with Kendamas at recess.

# Summer Olympics

What are you doing this summer? Well, you could go to the Summer Olympics! The Olympics are being held in Brazil. The Olympics are different sports played by athletes from different countries. The Olympics started out as a religious festival the Greek god Zeus. Now athletes compete to see who the best in the world is. We are going to be giving some information about some of the sports.

Would you like to jump backwards?! Do you like jumping? The first woman that earned the gold medal was Ethel Catherine from Canada in 1928. The high jump is accomplished by jumping backwards over a bar and landing in the pit. You don't want to knock the bar over. I hope you learned a lot about the sport of high jump!

By Natalia Gomez Tello

Wow! Would you like to be in the Pole Vault?! You are given three tries at any one height to make it over the bar. Competition is eliminated or dropped as soon as they have tried three times and not made it.

First, the pole vault has been an Olympic event for men since the first modern games in 1896 held in Olympia, Greece. The pole vault event for women was added when it was held in Sydney, Australia. In addition, William Holt was the first Olympic gold medalist.

I hope you have learned about the pole vault. Did you know the Olympic record for the men is twenty feet and two and one half inches?! Wow! I wonder how many tries it

took him?

By Anahy Cabrera

Did you know that some people run really fast? In the relay the first runner should be good at running fast and blasting out to the blocks! The first relay race was in Stockholm, Sweden in 1912. Also, the first gold medalist team in the Olympics was Mel Sheppard, Edward Lindberg, Ted Meredith, Charles Reidpath. A runner in the relay race should be passing a baton to the next runner. An interesting fact about the relay race is that a relay race is a track and field event. I hope that you like the relay race. Now you know a lot about the relay race.

By Felipe Cabrera

Do you want to know about the 100m men's race? Would you like to know how the 100m men's race is ran? Well, here is some information. At first it was called the, "Foot Race". You use your feet to run and there is no pushing. The first 100m men's dash was held in Athens, Greece. Thomas Burke won the first gold medal. The 100m men's dash was first ran on April 6, 1896. They made this sport so you could have fun running and getting medals. The whole point is to have fun. I hope you learned a lot about the 100m men's dash and running the events.

By Edwin Aguilar

Would you like to learn how to jump a long distance? How about jumping in the summer Olympics! The long jump was part of the first modern Olympics in 1896. Ellery Cark was the first Olympic gold medalist that year. The first time they had the long jump was in Athens Greece! They created the long jump to see who could jump the farthest. I was very excited to tell you about the long jump!

By Alexander Aguilar

Do you know what a long jump is? The long jump is a track and field event in which athletes combine speed, strength and agility in attempting to leap as far as possible from a take-off point.

To begin with, it's measured from the front edge to where you land. Whoever wins the long jump gets a gold medal for the first place and for second place they get a silver medal.

Olga Gyarmati was the first woman to win the long jump in the Summer Olympics. She jumped very far and tried her best. Some people practice so they can get better and better at jumping.

One thing is the long jump has been present at the Olympics program since the first modern Summer Olympics in 1896. The long jump was part of the first Olympics in ancient Greece.

An interesting fact about the long jump is that the long jump is a sport in which athletes compete by comparing the

# The world of soccer

By Alejandro Sanchez and Juan Olivares

Soccer is a fun game played all over Tulare, the United States, and Europe too! Soccer is the most popular sport in the world played by both girls and boys. There is no answer from where it was started, but once you start playing you just can't stop.

In the game of soccer the rules are very easy. The idea is to put the ball in the other team's goal. It is played with teams of eleven people on

each side. The field is one hundred meters long with two goal posts. Back in medieval time punching, kicking, biting, and gouging was allowed. Since then, a soccer association formed called The Football Association and came up with seventeen basic rules of (futbol) soccer for everyone around to the world to enjoy the game.

On a Tuesday afternoon we had the opportunity to visit Mulcahy School to watch a soccer game. After the game we interviewed an

eighth grade player named Vidal Ramos Salazar. He was one of the defensive players for the stallion team.

We asked Vidal who inspired him to play soccer? "Lionel Messi and Neymar Jr. are my two favorite players at this time."

We then inquired why he chose soccer over other sports "I started playing soccer just for fun and to try it out."

Part of loving soccer means loving the professional players. Our favorite

player in the professional soccer leagues is Lionel Messi. By the age of 21 Messi had received many awards through his years of dedication; Ballon d'or and FIFA's world player of the year nominations. His personal best to date was the 2011-2012 season in which he set the Liga and European records for most goals scored in a single season. He still had an injury during the following two seasons. Messi had his best form during the 2014-2015 season breaking the all time goal scoring



records in both La Liga and the champions league and led Barcelona to a historic second treble.

Soccer plays a huge role

for kids here in Tulare and people all over the world. The equipment, the awesome players, and love of the game keeps people playing.

# Meet Our Journalists



Karen Roque

**ARTICLES:**  
Redskin mural on high school wall



Isidro Gonzalez Torres

**ARTICLES:**  
The plan for High-Speed Rail – plan for water?



Alexander Aguilar

**ARTICLES:**  
The history of basketball



Jaime Padilla

**ARTICLES:**  
The drought continues



Regina Toscano

**ARTICLES:**  
Kendama craze



Dalia Cortez

**ARTICLES:**  
Basketball



Natalia Gomez

**ARTICLES:**  
Basketball  
The history of basketball



Marco Torrez



Yadira Santiago



Gregorio Ontiveros



Danna Ramirez



Alejandro Sanchez



Juan Olivares

**ARTICLES:**  
The world of soccer

## BASKETBALL

Continued from page 2



Mr. Calvillo, Bryan Paredes

sport. To understand the game better, we even went out on the court and dribbled the ball. Inter-

viewing Bryan helped us understand that it is not easy to play basketball.

# Thank You



Gloria Davalos



Maria Villarreal

Ms. Davalos and Ms. Villarreal were instrumental in the success of the Journalism Project. They supported the teachers and without them, this project would not have been the same. Thank you; awesome Journalism Coaches.

## OLYMPICS

Continued from page 3

length of their jump. Athletes try to jump as far as they can go. For this, athletes run down the runway to the jumping pit which is made of sand.

Now that you've learned what a long jump is you might want to be interested in being in the long jump.

By Yadira Santiago

Would you like to be on a championship team? If you do then you need to do the 400m relay race. Fanny Rosenfeld, Ethel Smith, Jane Bell and Myrtle Cook were the first gold medalists. Each runner must hand the baton to the next

runner within a certain zone, usually marked by triangles on the track. The initial runner in the 4x100 relay begins the race in the starting blocks. The next three runners receive the baton exchanges. The 4x100 meter relay was held at Amsterdam. The woman's world record stands at 40.82 seconds set by the USA team in 2012. Now you know the 4x100 meter relay race takes a lot of practice.

By Danna Ramirez

The Summer Olympics will be held in Tokyo in the year 2020. It has been a long time since it started in 776 BC. The winner then received an olive branch when they won but we would rather have the medals they earn now. We hope you enjoyed reading the information we wrote about.

# Acknowledgments

We couldn't have done this project without the support of visionary leaders: Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools; Celina Torres, Migrant Education State Director; Tony Velasquez, Migrant Education Director; Clare Gist, Ed.D., Superintendent Tulare City School District; Paula Adair, Assistant Superintendent Student Services; Elaine Sewel, Principal Heritage Elementary School; Valerie Brown, Principal Maple Elementary School; David Freitas, Principal, Pleasant Elementary School; and Anthony Felix, Principal, Roosevelt Elementary.