

The Nugget

News from the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools Office

Scott W. Lay, Superintendent

It's the Holiday Season and time to take stock of what I am thankful for in our Nevada County educational community.

First and foremost, all of you. The educational staff in Nevada County have been giving their all to make education work for our students. You've dealt with masks on/masks off, ever changing spacing between students, and quarantine procedures that can leave you scratching your head. Yet through all this, and more, you have kept the doors open and learning is taking place. As I visit classrooms around the county, students are engaged in high quality lessons in amazing learning environments. That is what makes our county special.

I'm also very thankful for the amazing collaborations we have in Nevada County. Whether it is between districts and charter schools, local government agencies and our schools,

or NCSOS and schools, we keep our students first. An example of this is the Universal Design for Learning (UDL) that is found in all of our schools. I was able to sit in with a group of teachers debriefing during their UDL classes. I was so impressed with their enthusiasm and love of learning that directly impacts student outcomes. It certainly reminded my why I chose education as my path in life.

Through all this we are keeping our students at the forefront of everything we do. I am truly thankful for that and proud to be part of our educational community. I wish you and your family a very wonderful holiday season.



Scott W. Lay



Education Services

Bridgeport Bridge Reopening Ceremony

The Bridgeport Covered Bridge Reopening Ceremony was held on Thursday, Nov 4th following its decade long closure. On this historical day, fourteen Nevada county students ranging in ages from 5 – 17 were amongst the first to step foot across the restored bridge.

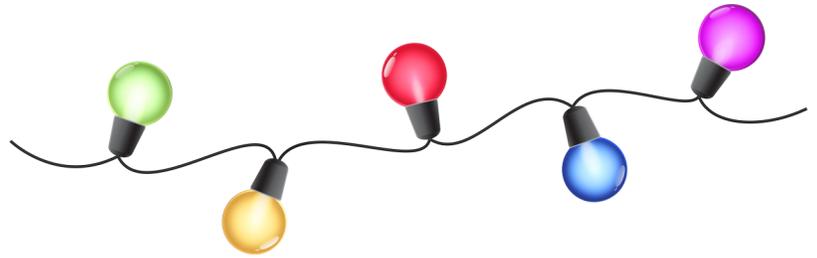
In early 2020, the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools hosted a visual and multimedia competition for students grades K-12. The challenge was to create a poster, painting, collage or 1-3 min video, depicting the history of the South Yuba River Park and the covered bridge. The competition launched in January and students were given until the end of February to create their submissions.

There was a total of twenty-one winners and over 340 entries. The grand prize for all winners was the opportunity to be the first group to officially walk over the newly restored Bridgeport Bridge at the re-opening ceremony.

On this significant day, fourteen of the winners accompanied by their parents along with Superintendent, Scott Lay, and Associate Superintendent, Teena Corker, had front row seats to the monumental ceremony and ribbon cutting which took place at the South Yuba River State Park.

The following morning, the students were also featured on the front-page of The Union commemorating the historical day for the community.

The article can be read [here](#) and the YouTube video from The Union is featured [here](#).



Nevada County student art winners in front of their work (Photography: Winding Road Imagery)



Art winners walking the restored Bridgeport Bridge (Photography: Winding Road Imagery)

Social Emotional Learning Community of Practice Update



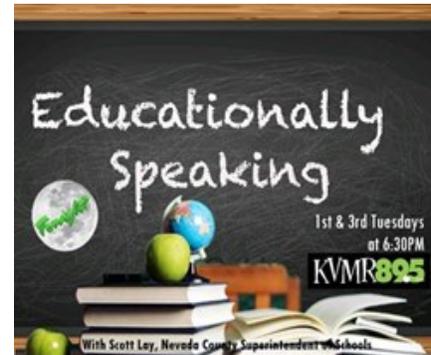
More than sixty Social Emotional Learning Community of Practice team members from ten LEAs are supporting SEL implementation at sites throughout Nevada County. Incorporating modules from UC Berkeley's Greater Good Science Center, teams provide PD in areas of self-care and emotional resilience; creating a culture of belonging; trauma and adversity; supporting SEL with diverse families and communities; teaching for social, emotional, and academic development; and committing to equity, inclusion, and cultural expansiveness. This diverse group includes classified staff, educators, administrators, counselors, psychologists, and behaviorists - all committed to supporting our students and staff.

In addition to the work done by LEA teams, four Nevada County SEL Community of Practice sessions provide continued learning for members and any other interested participants. In October, Dr. Jennifer Rogers presented "Supporting Social and Emotional Skills From Day 1" and focused on specific [strategies](#) that can strengthen relationships and engagement. On December 1,

Steve Hansen and Marlene Mahurin shared "Building and Creating Community in Your Classroom and on Your Campus" with a focus on proactive circles and affective questions/statements. On January 26, we will welcome Nicole Tucker-Smith for "Identifying Implicit Bias, Confronting Microaggressions, and Changing Practice." We invite all members of our educational community to attend; registration information is available [here](#). Ms. Tucker-Smith will return for our [final session](#) on March 2 for "Attending to How Identities are Represented in the Learning Space."

Finally, the November SEL CoP [newsletter](#) focused on two SEL core competencies: social awareness and relationship skills. January's focus is on responsible decision-making.

For any questions related to the SEL Community of Practice, please contact Meghan Salter at msalter@nevco.org or 530-478-6400 ext. 2054.



Educationally Speaking is a bi-monthly radio talk show on **KMVR 89.5** with hosts Superintendent, Scott W. Lay and Kimberly Ewing. Featuring teachers, students, and Nevada County community members discussing various topics and themes.

We would love to have you and your teachers/students on the show, showcasing and sharing out. Send Kimberly an email with your topic or event at:

kewing@nevco.org

Nevada County Community Library Winter Reading Challenge



Begins December 1st!

Sign up [here](#) to begin earning badges toward the winter reading prize drawing.

Log minutes you read, watch or listen to; complete Winter Reading Bingo activities, write and draw reviews.

All youth receive a free book, stop by your local library to pick up at the end of the program.

Click [here](#) for more information.



PARTNERS
Family Resource Centers

Family Resource Centers (FRC) offer playgroups, parenting support, and help finding and navigating community resources.

With locations in Grass Valley, Penn Valley and San Juan Ridge, Partners FRC's are open to all families in Western Nevada County.

Check out the FRC website [here](#) for a list of core services or reach out to **Laurie DeMartini (530) 432-1118 x.2249** or

Email: ldemartini@nevco.org

to learn more about our services, activities, clothes closet hours, and our ongoing Parent Support Workshops for all ages and stages.



Nurturing Parenting



Winter 2022 Virtual Seminar

Who: Parents of School-Aged Children up to 12 Years Old

Nevada County Residents

When: Morning series
Weds, 10-11:45am Jan. 12 - March 2, 2022

Evening series
Thursdays 6:30-8:15pm Jan. 13 - March 3, 2022

Where: Live Zoom calls in the comfort of your own home. Handouts sent to your email.

One-on-One: Coaching call per family

FREE TO PARTICIPANTS!

For more information or to register:

530.238.5608 janderson@nevco.org



Take the stress out of parenting with Nurturing Parenting's easy-to-understand, practical approach. For 35 years, this program has helped parents to deepen and strengthen their family relationships in all types of situations. Nurturing Parenting is one of the only programs in the world that is based on evidence from clinical research.

Presenter: Jinnae Anderson, Parenting Specialist

Nevada County Superintendent of Schools

530.238.5608 janderson@nevco.org

www.nurturingparenting.com



Nurturing Parenting Programs

PARTNERS COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP



Toddler/Preschool activities for you and your child. Babies are always welcome!

Story Time, Sharing, Music, Instruments, Art, and Free Play



Independent Living Program

Congratulations to our pumpkin carving contest winner! A talented carving with ghosts galore. We are happy to announce that we had seven participants and a total of thirty-six staff of the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools Office vote on the entries. Our winner received an Amazon gift card and a pie.

'Tis the season, for gathering in a virtual place, celebrating with kindness and gratitude, and GIVING. In December, the Independent Living Program celebrates with students past and present. We partner with our local Twin Cities Church and the caring community that gives our students handmade stockings FULL of gifts. The Independent Living Program staff are given the privilege of delivering these fantastic presents to EACH student. Our Twin Cities partners will also gift baskets of food to our families and students. We are pleased to continue our traditions in hosting a holiday party. We will read "*The Night Before Christmas*", have a gingerbread decorating contest and so much more.

We are working closely with our participants of the Independent Living Program, Transitional Housing Plus program and Foster Youth Services to complete the California Rent Relief applications for those who are interested in participating in that program.



WINNING PUMPKIN





*Invites Current 8th Grade Students in Nevada County:
Future Miner Invitational*

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10th, 2022

12:00 PM—2:30 PM

NEVADA UNION HIGH SCHOOL

This event is coordinated by Nevada Union and local Junior High Schools. Students from most of our Junior High Schools in Nevada County participate in this event. Students are transported to Nevada Union via Durham Bus Services or by private transportation with their school student group. Teachers from the schools are chaperones. Buses return students to their own school in time to catch buses home. Lunch will be provided for students.

*Invites Current 8th Grade Parents/ Guardians and Students:
NU Preview Night*

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10th, 2022

This event is for incoming 8th grade students and their parents. All parents/guardians and students should plan to attend the event from 5:30—7:00 pm. The starting location will be assigned by school and will either be in the Theatre for performances/presentations or the Cafeteria for club booths, sports, team booths, academic booths, parent club, meeting your counselors and registrars who can help you in the enrollment process.

Questions: Contact **Debie Ogden, Principal's Secretary** at Nevada Union High School.

Phone calls are preferred: (530) 273– 4431 x. 2004

Email: dsogden@njusd.com



DATE	DESCRIPTION	TIME
Wednesday, December 1, 2021	Social Emotional Learning—COP “Building and Creating Community in your Classroom and On Your Campus” Click to register	3:30—5:00 PM
Thursday, December 2, 2021	Pediatric Plus CPR, AED, First Aid for Child/Infant/Adult Click to register	3:45 —5:45 PM
Thursday, December 2, 2021	Math Matters—Session II: Math Literary & Math Talks	8:30—3:00 PM
Tuesday, December 7, 2021	KVMR 89.5 Radio Show with Hosts: Scott Lay and Kim Ewing talk w/school principles from Ready Spring, Deer Creek, and Seven Hills about their MAKER Spaces and STEAM Projects	6:30 PM
Wednesday, December 8, 2021	Basic Plus CPR, AED, Adult Click to register	3:45 —5:45 PM
Tuesday, December 17, 2021	KVMR 89.5 Radio Show with Hosts: Scott Lay and Kim Ewing	6:30 PM
Monday, December 20—31, 2021	WINTER BREAK	
Saturday, December 25, 2021	MERRY CHRISTMAS!	
Friday, December 31, 2021	NEW YEAR’S EVE!	

Submissions for future Nugget issues:

Please submit your request by the 15th of the preceding month. Not all content received will be published as approval will be required for publication.

Email: ocarson@nevco.org Prior issues of *The Nugget* can be found [here](#).