



EDUHSD E-News

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Simon Lamoureux

Building Successful Partnerships with our Community

The EDUHSD's WorkAbility Grant Program provides comprehensive pre-employment job skills training, job placement and follow-up for special needs youth who are making the transition from school to work, independent living and post-secondary education or training. Our grant serves 518 special education students throughout the District. The program tailors its services to reflect not only the needs of its students, but the resources in its community. The collaborative nature of the community partnerships that the program has developed and nourished over the years with businesses and organizations all committed to helping young adults with disabilities gain work experience is one of the many reasons for the program's success. Melissa Cowan, owner of Placerville Flowers on Main, said "I have been working with a wide variety of students in the program for 10 years now. It is so rewarding being involved in such a wonderful program and knowing that we have helped many students gain resume building skills such as customer service, time management, and organizational tactics that they might not have had without the program." In appreciation for all of their involvement in EDUHSD's WorkAbility Grant Program, Placerville Flowers on Main was one of the employers recognized this year, along with Dave's Rent a Car in Cameron Park and Holiday Market in Placerville, and were presented with an *Employer of the Year Award*. Additionally, Union Mine High School (UMHS) graduate Simon Lamoureux was hired full-time this summer because of his experience previously working there from the WorkAbility Program. "I was really excited for the opportunity," Simon said. "My experience has been so rewarding." Programs such as WorkAbility give young adults with disabilities a chance to compete in this job market by helping them develop the experience, skills, and relationships they need to enter the workforce knowledgeable about their strengths, confident in their abilities, and ready to work. For more information, visit www.eduhsd.k12.ca.us/Schools--Programs/WorkAbility-I.



Melissa Cowan & Simon Lamoureux

Speech & Debate National Championship Tournament

The Ponderosa High School (PHS) Speech and Debate Team recently competed in their 20th consecutive qualification at the Speech & Debate National Championship Tournament in Birmingham, Alabama. Two students were both elected as Presiding Officers during their preliminary rounds of Congressional Debate. This honor is achieved by only 4 students in each chamber. Senior Liam Gerety became the Capitol Valley District Champion in the House of Representatives and senior Reese Springer (who recently placed 4th in the State of California in Congressional Debate) became the District Champion in the Senate. The trip was a success and the students truly enjoyed the food culture and building facades. Both young men are now preparing to debate 41 individual pieces of legislation on a wide variety of topics such as a bill to recognize Hawaii as a sovereign nation, a bill to establish mental health programs in schools, and a resolution to establish a safe zone in Syria.



Liam Gerety & Reese Springer with qualifier plaques.

Basic Military Training Graduates

Congratulations to Oak Ridge High School (ORHS) alumni and U.S. Air Force Airman, Draven Palmer, who graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas. (pictured left - photo by the Mountain Democrat)

Congratulations to El Dorado High School (EDHS) alumni and U.S. Air Force Airman, Rosch Matthieu De Jesus, who graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio, Texas. (pictured right - photo by the Mountain Democrat)



TALK TO US! DO YOU HAVE UPDATES FOR FUTURE E-NEWS AND SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS?

If you'd like us to help spread word about your High School's events, programs, clubs, awards, field trips, special projects and/or honors -- email them to sfuson@eduhsd.k12.ca.us to be included in our bi-weekly E-News and Social Media posts.

Help us celebrate the great things that our students, faculty and staff accomplish every day!

