



# TJUHS D Newsletter

August 16, 2023



## Tulare Joint Union High School District

Quality Schools Preparing Exceptional  
Students

### FAST FACTS

**ESTABLISHED**  
**1872**

**NO. OF SCHOOLS**  
**8**

**GRADES**  
**9-12 & ADULT ED.**

**STUDENT BODY**  
**5588**

### [A MESSAGE FROM OUR SUPERINTENDENT](#)

### [TJUHS D ADMINISTRATION](#)

Meet Tulare Joint Union High School  
District's Administrators.

### [NEW TO OUR TEAM](#)

Welcome our new administrators.

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Stay connected and up to date with  
Parent Square

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Free Money for College

# A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

**Dr. Lucy Van Scyoc**



It is great to welcome back our students and staff to the 2023-2024 school year! Visiting our sites on the first day of school, it was great to see the excitement and positive energy on each campus. As I start my 25th year in education, I am honored to serve our District and community as Superintendent. Our first TJUHSD Newsletter consists of introducing our Principals, Directors, Assistant Superintendents and Coordinators, as well as sharing with you how we are continuing to empower our students to graduate with college, career and life-readiness skills.

TJUHSD is committed to providing our students with a safe and supportive environment that promotes academic and emotional growth. Our district is excited to announce that we received a Community School planning grant for this school year. The grant is focused on supporting our whole-child approach through partnering with community agencies and local government to align community resources and improve student outcomes. Gretchen Vander Tuig is our Community School Director and will work with each of our sites to continue to assess our needs and coordinate resources to support our students and staff. We have also continued to expand our socioemotional support at our comprehensive sites. This includes adding full-time Rehabilitation Specialists to support our students with behavior needs and increasing the support from our TCOE Social Workers. Furthermore, we continue our contract with Hazel Health, a telehealth provider that focuses on high-quality whole child healthcare for every student. Please review the article in this newsletter about Hazel Health and make sure that we have your student's consent form on file. We also continue to expand our elective offerings by offering more dance classes and adding a full-time Art Teacher to be shared between Tech Prep, Countryside, Sierra Vista and Accelerated Charter. We also added a Response to Intervention teacher at Tech Prep and Tulare Adult School is continuing to look at opportunities to support the needs of our community. This year they will be offering an Early Childhood Program, as well as a Security Guard Program.

Our Maintenance and Operation team has been very busy this summer updating and remodeling a number of our facilities. This includes remodeling classrooms and restrooms to better accommodate the needs of our students and staff. We have also added ten portables at Mission Oak High School to accommodate their increase in enrollment. Our Mission Oak Aquatic Complex is currently out for bid and we anticipate our Career Technical Education building focus on Auto and Building Trades to be ready for classes next fall.

We also want to remind our parents and guardians that we have many opportunities for involvement in our schools. Each of our sites will share these opportunities through their newsletters and ParentSquare. Please take advantage of these opportunities. Also, if you do not have a ParentSquare account please refer to the handout in this newsletter on how to create one. The district, as well as each of our sites, use ParentSquare to communicate important information about various programs and events that take place throughout the year. We appreciate our students and parents, and we look forward to a great 2023-2024 school year!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lucy".

Lucy Van Scyoc Ed.D, TJUHSD Superintendent



# TJUHSD ADMINISTRATION

Meet our Administrators



**Superintendent**  
**LUCY VAN SCYOC Ed.D.**



**Assistant Superintendent**  
**Human Resources & Business**  
**TAMMY ALDACO**



**Assistant Superintendent**  
**Curriculum, Technology &**  
**Assessment**  
**KEVIN COVERT**



**Assistant Superintendent**  
**Student Services & Special**  
**Programs**  
**MARIA BUENO**



**Director I, Child Welfare &**  
**Safety**  
**DERECK DOMINGUES**



**Chief Business Officer**  
**VIVIAN HAMILTON**



**Director of Special Education**  
**ROGER ROBLES**



**Director of Facilities**  
**JASON BONDS**



**Director of Technology**  
**DONNY TRIMM**



# TJUHSD ADMINISTRATION

Meet our Administrators



**Director**  
**Tulare Adult School**  
**LORI MORTON**



**Principal**  
**Tulare Union High School**  
**MICHELLE NUNLEY Ed.D.**



**Principal**  
**Mission Oak High School**  
**ISIDRO CARRASCO**



**Principal**  
**Tulare Western**  
**High School**  
**TOU LOR**



**Principal**  
**Accelerated Charter**  
**High School**  
**WENDI POWELL**



**Principal Sierra Vista**  
**Charter High School**  
**DAN DUTTO**



**Director of Agriculture**  
**Ag Farm**  
**MICHAEL MEDEROS**



**Principal Tech**  
**Prep/Countryside**  
**JONATHAN FARLEY**



**Community Schools Director**  
**GRETCHEN VANDER TUIG**

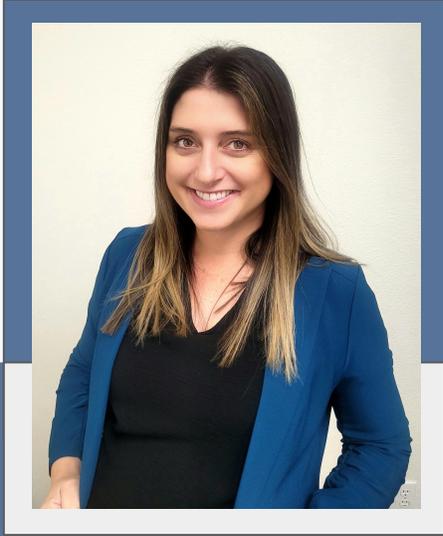


**Accounting Supervisor**  
**CRYSTAL BARTEAU**



# NEW TO OUR TEAM

## Meet our Newest Administrators



**Gretchen Vander Tuig** is taking on an exciting new role as the **Community Schools Director**. With a prior history of serving our district as a school psychologist, Gretchen is now stepping into a leadership position, bringing her passion for student services to all sites within the district.

Alongside her school psychologist credential, Gretchen holds a certification as a Board Certified Behavior Analyst. This combination of qualifications equips her for her role in the comprehensive support for the diverse needs of our students. Gretchen's new position places a strong emphasis on cultivating the well-being of the whole child. Her commitment to this approach will contribute to the academic and personal growth of our students, fostering an environment where each individual can thrive.

As we look ahead, Gretchen is dedicated to furthering our community engagement efforts. Her deep-rooted ties to both the district and the Tulare community, as an alumna of Tulare Union High School, amplify her enthusiasm for serving our students and the broader community.



**Jonathan Farley** is excited to be joining TJUHSD as the new **principal of Tech Prep/Countryside**. Jonathan was born and raised in Fowler. He attended Bullard High School for two years before taking the California High School Proficiency Exam and enrolling at Fresno City College.

Jonathan earned his Associate of Arts degree from Fresno City College prior to attending California State University, Fresno where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Economics followed by his teaching credential. While teaching social science and mathematics at Washington Union High School, he earned his Administrative Credential through National University. His first principal position was with Exeter Alternative Education. This was followed by a 13 year tenure with Fowler Unified School District as Principal of Alternative Education. He most recently served as the Director of Butterfield Charter School in Porterville.

Jonathan finds working with students in alternative education to be a very rewarding opportunity. According to Jonathan, the best part of working at Tech Prep/Countryside is seeing students grow and develop as positive citizens.

## NEW TO OUR TEAM

### Meet our Newest Administrators

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**Crystal Barteau** was born and raised in the City of Tulare. She attended Tulare schools, including Kohn, Cypress, Cherry Avenue Middle School, and graduating from Tulare Union. After high school, Crystal attended and graduated from San Joaquin Valley College's Business program with an Associates Degree. She also attended College of the Sequoias and graduated with an Associates Degree from there as well. She then transferred to California State University, Fresno and graduated in 2004 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration with an option in Accounting.

She began her career in school accounting in 2008 when she started working for Tulare County Office of Education's Early Childhood Education Program as the Budget Analyst. In 2013, she moved on to become the Director of the Sundale pre-school and after-school programs where she helped the program flourish and also expanded the preschool program with additional classrooms provided by a First 5 grant she was awarded.

In July of 2017, Crystal joined Tulare Joint Union High School District as an Account Clerk II where she learned how our Business Department and school district operates. In 2021, she moved to our payroll department as a Payroll Clerk learning another aspect of the department. In January of this year, she was promoted to the new position of **Accounting Supervisor** to learn about our different funding sources, budgets and everything in between. Crystal enjoys working in her hometown and hopes to spend many years helping make a difference in our students' lives.

Crystal has been married to her husband, Dominic, for 22 years. He is a Police Captain, and they have three beautiful children. Karsyn, 19, graduated from Mission Oak last year and is now attending Orange Coast College and playing water polo. Maguire is a junior at Tulare Union and Kerrigan an 8th grader at Sundale.

# PARENT SQUARE

Register Today

## Our School is Using ParentSquare!

ParentSquare is a simple and safe way to connect and communicate.

### Register now so you can:

- customize email, text and/or app notifications,
- RSVP for classroom and school activities,
- sign permission slips, and
- securely receive important student documents.

## ¡Nuestra escuela está utilizando ParentSquare!

ParentSquare es una forma sencilla y segura de conectarse y comunicarse.

### Regístrese ahora para que pueda:

- personalizar las notificaciones de correo electrónico, texto y/o aplicación,
- RSVP para actividades en el aula y la escuela,
- firmar los formularios de permiso, y
- recibir de forma segura documentos importantes de los estudiantes.



*Register Your Account*



Registre Su Cuenta

*Then Download the App*



Luego Descargue la Aplicación



# HAZEL HEALTH

## TJUHSD Partners with Hazel Health

The **Tulare Joint Union High School District** has partnered with **Hazel Health** to provide access to quality health care services for all students, at **no cost** to families, this school year. A school health representative can initiate a video visit with a Hazel health care provider while at-school to provide either physical or mental health services. Therapy sessions with Hazel Health are private and confidential.

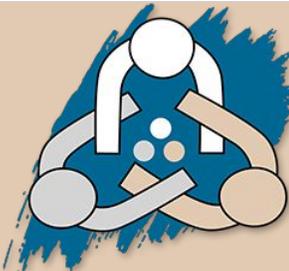
Hazel is available to our students at home. When a student needs health services, the parent can connect directly with a Hazel provider over live video. Hazel is also available at school, during regular school hours. When a student is in school and needs health services, the school nurse or designated staff uses an iPad to help connect your child directly with a Hazel provider over live video.

- **Hazel visits are available at school during regular school hours**
- **Hazel at Home services for mental health are available Mon-Fri 7AM-7PM**
- **Hazel at Home services for physical health are available Mon-Fri 7AM-5PM**

Children are experiencing mental health issues more than ever before, and finding support can take as long as six months. Hazel is making ongoing support for students available immediately. Expert therapists can help with stress, bullying, relationship issues, anxiety, depression, grief, trauma, and more. They can also recommend care management to local resources and make referrals to mental health services to ensure students receive the long-term support they need.

With Hazel, students can immediately speak with a doctor or mental health clinician from school or home. Hazel offers on-demand virtual care, including over-the-counter or prescription medicine, care coordination with the student's family doctor, and communication with the school nurse. Hazel visits are simple, secure, and convenient, and each in-school visit saves an average of 3 hours of instructional time. Hazel can help with stomach aches, headaches, sprained ankles, asthma concerns, pink eye, and everything in between by providing same-day pediatric care. Hazel coordinates with local providers, including primary care providers and specialists to ensure continuity of care.

**Sign up now: <https://my.hazel.co/tjuhsd/info>**



# CalKIDS

Program

**CalKIDS  
can help  
kickstart your  
children's college  
savings.**

**With free  
money for  
college!**



CalKIDS is a new program from the State of California that provides eligible families with free money for college. California newborns can receive up to \$100 and eligible California public school students can receive up to \$1,500.\* CalKIDS was created to help families kickstart their college savings plan and increase access to higher education.



**To learn more and to find out if your child qualifies, visit [CalKIDS.org](https://CalKIDS.org) today!**



**CalKIDS**

The first step toward college

\*Eligibility is defined by the Local Control Funding Formula.

The California Kids Investment and Development Savings Program (CalKIDS) is a children's savings account program, administered by the ScholarShare Investment Board, an agency of the State of California. CalKIDS will provide eligible participants with college savings accounts, including seed deposits and other potential incentives, to help pay for future qualified higher education expenses. To learn more about CalKIDS or opt out of the program entirely, please see the Program Information Guide at [CalKIDS.org](https://CalKIDS.org). CalKIDS participants may also establish individual accounts with ScholarShare 529, California's 529 College Savings Plan.

**To learn more about California's ScholarShare 529 College Savings Plan, its investment objectives, tax benefits, risks, and costs, please see the Plan Description at [ScholarShare529.com](https://ScholarShare529.com). Read it carefully. Check with your home state to learn if it offers tax or other benefits such as financial aid, scholarship funds or protection from creditors for investing in its own 529 plan. Consult your legal or tax professional for tax advice. Investments in the Plan are neither insured nor guaranteed and there is the risk of investment loss. If the funds aren't used for qualified higher education expenses, a federal 10% penalty tax on earnings (as well as federal and state income taxes) may apply. Non-qualified withdrawals may also be subject to an additional 2.5% California tax on earnings.** TIAA-CREF Tuition Financing, Inc. (TFI), Plan Manager. TIAA-CREF Individual & Institutional Services, LLC, Member FINRA, distributor and underwriter for California's ScholarShare 529. FBR-2577235PR-E1224P

# CalKIDS

Program

**CalKIDS  
puede ayudar  
a impulsar  
los ahorros para  
la universidad  
de sus hijos.**

**¡Con fondos  
gratuitos  
para la  
universidad!**

CalKIDS es un nuevo programa del estado de California que brinda fondos gratis para la universidad a las familias elegibles. Los recién nacidos de California pueden recibir hasta \$100, y los estudiantes elegibles de escuelas públicas de California, hasta \$1,500.\* CalKIDS se creó para ayudar a las familias a impulsar su plan de ahorro para la universidad y mejorar el acceso a la educación superior.



**Para obtener más información  
y enterarse si su hijo cumple con  
los requisitos, visite [CalKIDS.org](https://CalKIDS.org)  
hoy mismo.**



**CalKIDS**

El primer paso hacia la universidad

\*La elegibilidad está definida por la Fórmula de Control Local del Financiamiento.

California Kids Investment and Development Savings Program (CalKIDS) es un programa de cuentas de ahorro para niños, administrado por ScholarShare Investment Board, una agencia del estado de California. CalKIDS brindará a participantes elegibles cuentas de ahorro para la universidad, incluidos depósitos iniciales y otros incentivos potenciales, con el fin de ayudar a pagar gastos futuros de educación superior calificados. Para obtener más información sobre CalKIDS o elegir no participar en el programa en absoluto, consulte la guía de información del programa en [CalKIDS.org](https://CalKIDS.org).

Los participantes de CalKIDS también pueden crear cuentas individuales con ScholarShare 529, el plan de ahorros universitarios 529 de California.

**Para obtener más información sobre el plan de ahorros universitarios ScholarShare 529 de California, sus objetivos de inversión, beneficios impositivos, riesgos y costos, consulte la descripción del plan en el sitio web [ScholarShare529.com](https://ScholarShare529.com). Léala con atención. Consulte con su estado de residencia para saber si este ofrece beneficios impositivos o de otro tipo, como ayuda financiera, becas o protección de acreedores por invertir en su plan 529. Consulte a su asesor legal o fiscal para recibir asesoramiento impositivo.**

Las inversiones en el plan no están aseguradas ni garantizadas, y existe el riesgo de pérdida de la inversión. Si los fondos no se usan para gastos calificados de educación superior, se puede aplicar un impuesto federal de multa del 10% sobre las ganancias (además de los impuestos federales y estatales a los ingresos). Los retiros no calificados también pueden estar sujetos a un impuesto adicional sobre las ganancias de California del 2.5%. TIAA-CREF Tuition Financing, Inc. (TFI), gerente del plan. TIAA-CREF Individual & Institutional Services, LLC, miembro de FINRA, distribuidor y suscriptor del plan ScholarShare 529 de California. FBR-2577235PR-E1224P