Seniors Plan to Pursue their Purpose After Graduation

Bonita Unified prepares students to live their purpose by providing a variety of options to explore. After graduation, seniors will follow a variety of paths, and we wish them all well on their journeys.

TANNER

Tanner, who has attended Chaparral High since the first semester of his junior year, has been active in the Karescure Leadership class, event planning and our sports programs, and he has maintained perfect attendance this year. Tanner will be attending Mt. San Antonio College following graduation. He is taking advantage of Chaparral’s partnership with Mt. SAC and their High School Outreach Program to explore a variety of major fields available to him to find the perfect course of study to prepare him for his future.

SAGE

Sage, a San Dimas High senior, was accepted into The American Musical and Dramatic Academy, a performing arts college for musical theatre, where she wants to pursue a bachelor’s degree in fine arts. After college, Sage has her sights set on owning a theatre and theatre company in Pasadena.

AMANDA

When Amanda started at Bonita High, she wasn’t sure what future path she wanted to pursue. Once she enrolled in hospitality, she realized her talent and passion for culinary arts. After graduation, she plans to attend Mt. San Antonio College to further her education in the culinary field.

DOMINICK

Throughout high school, Dominick, a Bonita High senior, has been active in choir, theater, dive, and CSF, and he has volunteered with the Music Express choir. He has been accepted to Harvard University and plans to focus his education on the biological sciences. Dominick seeks to create his own area of study focusing on global health, which will create a path for achieving his career goal: working at the World Health Organization and helping people across the globe.

JENNIFER

Jennifer, a San Dimas High senior, is headed to the United States Air Force Academy (USAF) in hopes of becoming an air support officer and majoring in aerospace engineering. She chose the USAF to help serve her country, become a great leader, and get a premier education.

Saints Soccer Scores Championship Title

San Dimas High School’s varsity boys soccer team has made school history by taking home the CIF-SS Division 7 Championship Title. The Saints dominated early in the Division 7 playoffs with 15 goals in the first two rounds. With a 5-4 victory over The Thatcher School of Ojai in the final round, they came away with their first championship.

District Expands Mental Wellness Programs for Students

Bonita Unified will add eight licensed mental health professionals to its staff in the 2019-20 school year. These professionals will offer both individual and group counseling and therapy sessions for students in need of all 13 schools and will build on an already robust, school-wide student support system that includes school counselors, school psychologists, mental health counselors, crisis intervention, and social workers. The district also partners with McKay Children’s Hospital and the City Mental Health Services, which provide additional mental health counseling directly to schools.

“By proactively identifying students in need of support, the district is able to be proactive and address the needs of students,” Superintendent Gail M. Cail said. “The commitment is vital.”

District Pays SAT Exam Cost for Juniors, Participation Soars

As part of Bonita Unified’s commitment to prepare every student to live their purpose, the District offered to pay the $55 SAT exam fee for all juniors at Bonita High and San Dimas High. Resulting in a 43 percent increase in the number of students who took the exam. Since taking the SAT is an essential part for students seeking admission to a four-year college or university, the District wanted to ensure financial barriers were not a factor.

More than 600 students’ test fees were paid for by the District. The move demonstrates how Bonita Unified’s core value of equity informs every decision. The District plans to continue this program and is committed to ensuring every avenue to ensure equity for all students.

Culinary Arts Students Take Top Honors at Statewide Competition

Bonita and San Dimas High culinary arts students cooked up a recipe for success during the 2019 California ProStart Cup, with four student teams earning accolades and scholarships ranging from $1,000 to $4,000 for their kitchen, management and innovation skills.

The ProStart Cup, held at the Sheraton Fairplex Hotel & Conference Center, brought more than 200 students from across California to compete in three contests: the Wedgwood Innovation Cup, the B&I’s Restaurant Culinary Cup and the B&I’s Restaurant Management Cup.

“The ProStart Cup is a game-changer for me,” San Dimas High School senior Christian Kavak said. “The camaraderie of both schools, working so hard to support each other, makes me want to continue my education in the culinary arts field.”

San Dimas senior Marine Wilson and junior Lauren Smith took first place in the Innovation Cup for their app, Star Box, which allows customers to order food via smartphone and then travel to a drive-thru or pick up their order, which is served in an eco-friendly, climate-controlled container.

Bonita senior Sarah Martinez and junior Shaylene Morgan took second place in the Management Cup for their food truck business, Waffles on Wheels (WOW), a mobile restaurant that partners with municipalities and colleges to provide low-cost breakfast fare.

San Dimas seniors Amy Bishop and Michael Miranda placed third in 15th place.

“We are learning the fundamentals of the restaurant industry, what is acceptable, and what you should know to run your own restaurant,” Martinez said.

Kavak, San Dimas senior James Sakul and junior Brianna Cruz took third place in the Culinary Cup with a three-course meal of shrimp and rice-and-mushroom cappellacci, pork chop with Pastrami garnish, and expressive Bavarian cream topped with mousse andTemperado chocolate.

“We are so proud of our students, who have spent long hours preparing for this competition,” said Bonita High culinary arts teacher Laurie Brandt, whose husband, Nick Brandt, is her counterpart at San Dimas High. Both Brandts teach the ProStart curriculum required to participate in the Cup and act as advisors for the students.

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SUPERINTENDENT’S MESSAGE

Dear Bonita Unified Families,

As we approach the end of the school year, I want to thank our staff for their hard work and congratulate our students as they take the next step in their educational journey. Through our care, we have witnessed the growth and success of our students. Our dedicated staff members have worked tirelessly to support our students and their families. We are honored to serve our community.

The State of the District Highlights Successes

Bonita Unified Superintendent Carl J. Coles shared the District’s successes, outlined award-winning programs and discussed the outlook for the next few years during the State of the District on Feb. 26. Students from the District’s band assembly and middle school choir group looked off the stage with lively instrumental numbers and four long-standing show classics.

Carl J. Coles
Superintendent

‘Every 15 Minutes’ Event Provides Powerful Lessons

In a coordinated, community-wide effort, the ‘Every 15 Minutes’ program brought awareness of the dangers of drunk driving to San Dimas High School students across two days of in-depth, dramatic demonstrations. A staged vehicle crash with a response from local emergency personnel was followed by a mock memorial service in which students heard from a speaker who lost his family in a drunk driving tragedy. The events and activities challenged students to think about driving, drinking, personal safety, the responsibility for making safer decisions and why the impact of their decisions have on family, friends and others. Thank you to our community for working together to encourage our youth to make responsible, thoughtful choices.

State of the District

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San Dimas High Senior Named National Merit Finalist

Thanks to exemplary scores on the Preliminary SAT, San Dimas High School senior Anthea Stotwell has been named a National Merit Scholarship Finalist, a distinction awarded to only about 15,000 students nationwide.

“Being a final has not only increased my confidence, but it has also opened up a lot of scholarship opportunities for me at various schools,” Stotwell said. “In fact, I’m visiting Stony Brook University in New York and may consider attending there.”

Stotwell plans to pursue a degree in either computer science or environmental science. She credits the wide offering of Advanced Placement classes at San Dimas High School for helping her to explore her interests and ultimately inspiring her to seek a science-based career. Involvement in both the STEM Club and Science Olympiad served to further help her hone in on her purpose.

Stotwell has been placed in the running for the prestigious National Merit Scholar award, which is given annually to about 7,500 students across the nation.

Bonita Unified congratulates Stotwell for earning this tremendous honor and wishes her all the best on her future endeavors.

San Dimas High School’s Spiritline won first place at the USA Spirit Nationals and won the Championship title for the CIF-SS Division 2A.

First place spots were earned in the USA Spirit Nationals for the small variety pom routine and the small variety show cheer competition. CIF-SS included competitive cheerleading as an interscholastic sport since the 2017-18 school year.

Educational Foundation Hosts Successful Golf Tournament

The La Verne San Dimas Education Foundation hosted its 14th annual Edison Memorial Golf Tournament on April 26 at the San Dimas Country Club. This year’s tournament was named Golf A Cause and is a component of the Foundation’s fundraising strategy in support of Student Wellness. Bonita Unified is grateful to have such a strong show of community support towards our vision of preparing every student to live their purpose.

BHS Stadium Project Nears Completion

Thanks to community support for Bond Measure AB and the dedication of our staff, the Bonita High School Stadium Project is in its final stages before completion. The renovations include upgrading bleachers from wood to aluminum, increasing accessibility, installing of new turf and adding a new restroom building, press box and pole vault pit. The upgraded stadium will not only improve the experience for our athletes and marching band but also for the community that supports them.