



WESTERN SIERRA CHARTER SCHOOLS

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MOUNTAIN HOME SCHOOL CHARTER & GLACIER HIGH SCHOOL CHARTER
Personalized Learning Public Charter Schools

Fresno Resource Center

NEWSLETTER

March 2020



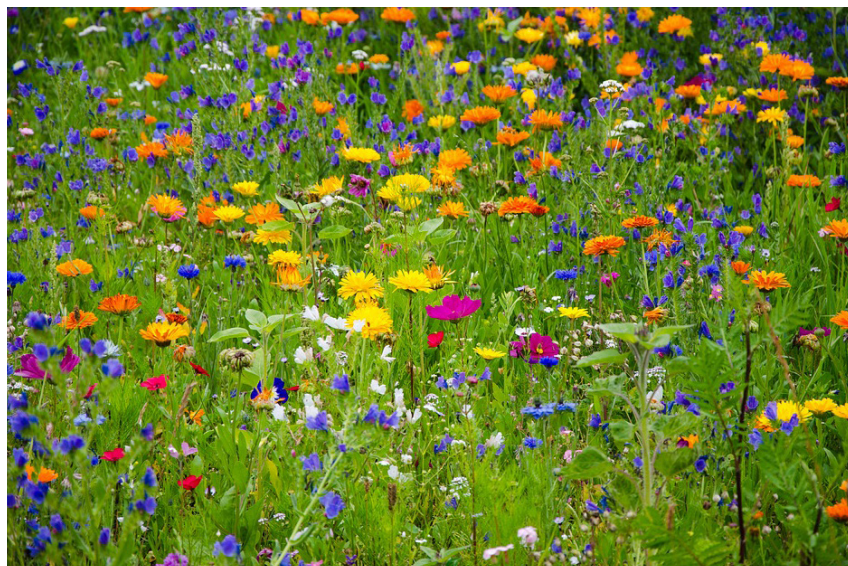
MARK YOUR CALENDAR IMPORTANT DATES

MARCH

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| Mar. 5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Talent Show• Endeavor K-12 Family Commitment Forms Due• Grad Nite final payment due (\$30) |
| Mar. 6 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MHS P.E. Day: No MHS Classes |
| Mar. 10 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deadline to purchase tickets and obtain guest pass applications for the GHS Prom• Last day to buy prom tickets for \$55 |
| Mar. 11 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final 8th Grade Catalina payment due |
| Mar. 13 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• CSUF Peach Blossom Festival |
| Mar. 14 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• GHS Enchanted Forest Prom |
| Mar. 20 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attendance #8 Due• LCAP Focus Group 1pm at Oakhurst |
| Mar. 30 - April 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MHS Curriculum Fair• Last Week of MHS Enrichment Classes |

APRIL

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| Apr. 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fresno Leadership Presentation |
| Apr. 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MHS P.E. Day |
| Apr. 4 - 10 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Costa Rica Trip |
| Apr. 6 - 13 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Spring Break: School Closed |
| Apr. 10 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SENIORS: Last day to turn in questionnaire and senior portrait |
| Apr. 15 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MHS Spring Into Fun & Test Prep |
| Apr. 16 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deadline to RSVP for May Mariposa Museum Field Trip |
| Apr. 17 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ROV Practice Competition at Yosemite High School• Attendance #9 Due |
| Apr. 20, 22, 24 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MHS State testing (CAASPP) |
| Apr. 22 - 24 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 8th Grade Catalina Trip |
| Apr. 24 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mariposa Civil War Days Field Trip |
| Apr. 27 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MHS State Testing Cont. (CAASPP) |
| Apr. 30 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leadership Mock Trial |



“The world needs all kinds of minds”
(Temple Grandin, American Professor at Colorado State University and Autism Spokesperson)

PUBLIC NOTICE

WSCS BOARD MEETING

March 10th, 2020 at 2:30pm • Oakhurst Campus

The agenda will be posted by the front door; also available @ wscsfamily.org
Teleconferencing available at Fresno Campus in Rm. 3

ATTENDANCE
FORMS





FEATURED FAMILY

The Dardennes

Sonny Yang

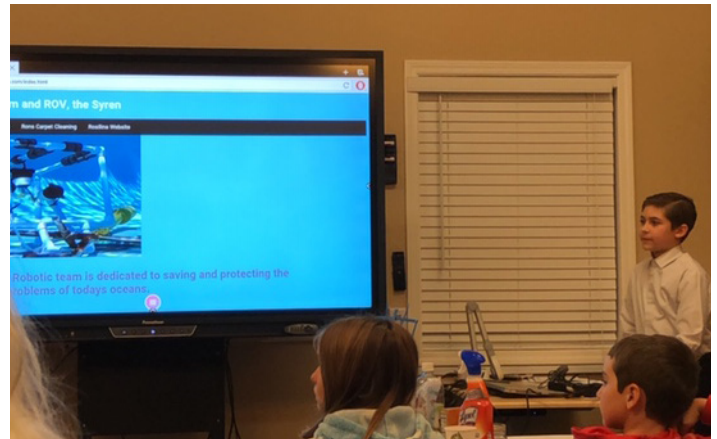


Coming to us from the Kerman area, by way of Montana and Colorado, meet the Dardenne family! Led by parents Matt and Ashli, the starting five consists of Michael (15), Madilyn (11), Seth (8), Evie (3) and Brooklyn (16 months). While siblings attend a traditional public school, Michael is accessing personalized learning.

Although the Dardennes are new to the Western Sierra Charter School family, parents Matt and Ashli have homeschooled their oldest son Michael since the 5th grade. The family felt that Michael needed a more individualized education program than what the traditional setting had offered. The Dardennes report that Michael was strug-

gling and as soon as he made the transition, a load of weight was lifted from his shoulders.

Home-schooling has allowed Michael to grow at his own pace and access curriculum that is better suited for his unique learning style. The Dardenne family has expressed much gratitude for what they describe as the “blessing home-schooling has added” to Michael’s educational journey. Ashli’s advice to new homeschoolers: “Seek the needs of your child. You are in charge and do whatever it is that you need to do so that your child can learn and grow.”



THE WESTERN SIERRA CHARTER SCHOOLS FRESNO RESOURCE CENTER 2020 STEAM FAIR CONTRIBUTORS!!

Sandra Hammond

Thank you to all who participated in the annual STEAM Fair! Pictured above are the bright and creative students who shared their passion for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math with the help of supportive family and friends!

Tulare County
Office of Education
Tim A. Hire, County Superintendent of Schools

PRESENTS

SLICK ROCK



STUDENT | FILM | FESTIVAL

SLICK ROCK CHALLENGES STUDENTS TO PRODUCE VIDEOS IN A VARIETY OF FILM GENRES FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL. STUDENTS DO NOT NEED TO BE IN A FILM PRODUCTION CLASS TO PARTICIPATE. PRIZES ARE AWARDED TO TOP SUBMISSIONS IN EACH CATEGORY.

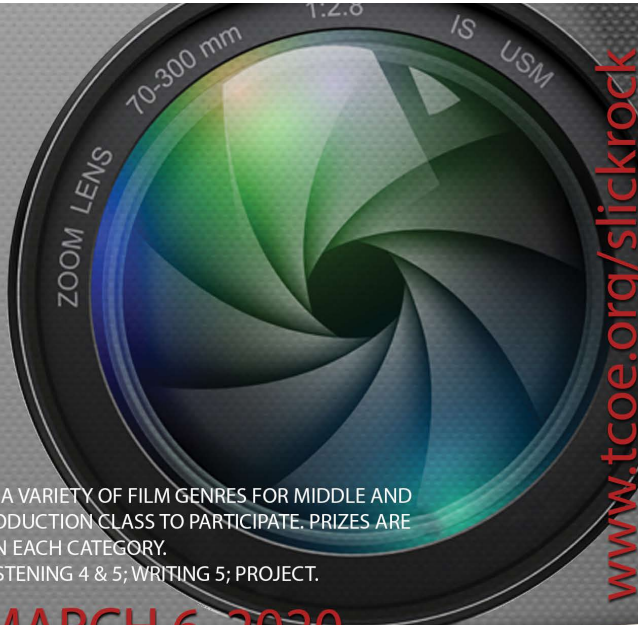
CCSS CCR ANCHOR STANDARDS: SPEAKING AND LISTENING 4 & 5; WRITING 5; PROJECT.

SUBMISSIONS DUE MARCH 6, 2020

generous support
provided by:

Kaweah Delta
www.kaweahdelta.org

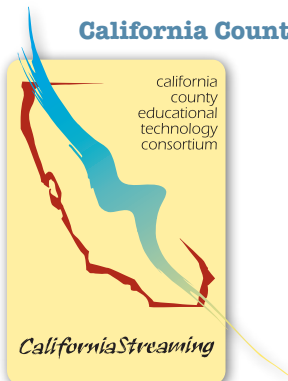


www.tcoe.org/slickrock

AWARDS CEREMONY
FRIDAY, MAY 8
VISALIA FOX THEATRE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

California County Educational Technology Consortium (CCETC) Call for Entries



CaliforniaStreaming Digital Photography Contest

CCETC invites California K-12 teachers to submit teacher and student-produced digital photographs relating to the 2020 photo contest theme:

“PHENOMENA”

**Submission Deadline:
Friday, March 6, 2020**

CaliforniaStreaming, a collaborative non-commercial service offering the highest quality multimedia from video to images, is available through most California County Offices of Education and to all California schools. CCETC invites you to join the ever-growing community of classroom multimedia enthusiasts!

For guidelines, resources, and submission information, go to:

<http://ccetc.net/photocontest>

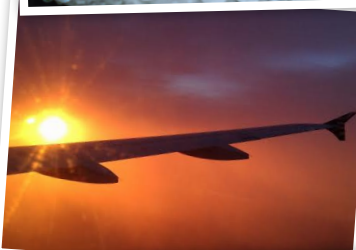
Inspire • Empower • Transform – that is the focus of CCETC’s CaliforniaStreaming community! Photography contest judges will select eight winners – at least six K-12 students and up to two teacher winners. Each winner receives a digital video camera!



Winners will have their photographs incorporated into a collectable CaliforniaStreaming art poster to be distributed to California classrooms. All participants will receive a certificate of participation. Submitted photographs may be made available through CaliforniaStreaming under a Creative Commons license.

2020 Photo Contest Theme “PHENOMENA”

PHENOMENA are facts or events that can be observed through the senses. PHENOMENA can also be things that are rare or impressive. How do you see PHENOMENA? Impress the judges with your interpretation! Each photo entry should be accompanied by a brief essay, a poem, or expanded caption. Writing should help connect the image to the theme of PHENOMENA – your words are important to create context to the theme and the photograph for the judges. Good luck and happy photographing!



www.ccetc.net • CaliforniaStreaming.org • Email: CaliforniaStreaming@gmail.com



GHS SPEAKER DAY

Diane Vaccaro

Speaker Day this year was a big success! Our speaker, Eric Boles, spoke to students and participated in small group discussions as they grappled with how high school students can take the negative messages they hear from others and themselves and turn them around into positive messages that can motivate and coach themselves forward. Here are some examples that students came up with in their groups:

“I don’t have enough time” can become, “I will make time.”

“I don’t get it so I’m not going to try” can become, “I learn the things I need to understand.”

“I’m afraid I’ll fail” can become, “I can do this. I am cared about.”

Mr. Boles also talked about the importance of how we react to the situations we find ourselves in. Although we cannot always control what happens to us, we can participate in creating the outcome. It was described in this equation:

$$E + R = O \text{ (Event + Response = Outcome)}$$

Mr. Yang gave the following assignment:

1. What does that equation mean to you? Give an example.
2. Based on that equation, how can you create a great outcome?

Here is how some students answered:

“That equation means that depending on how you react to an event dictates what will happen next. You can create a greater outcome by responding optimistically to an event.”

“For me this equation means that if I have a better response to something that I don’t want to do, then the better the outcome will be. For example, there are days that I do not want to clean my room, but if I have a better attitude about it, it will take less time than if I was grumpy about it. Based on the equation, we can create a better outcome if we have a better attitude to our problems.”

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GHS SPEAKER DAY

continued

“This equation means we can take our decisions into our own hands. We have control of the r variable so if we control our reaction and we can get a positive or more positive outcome.”

- “1. The equation means to me that if I try to make a positive outcome I will have a better response.
2. I can think positive and try to focus on the good of the situation to make a better outcome.”

If you'd like to continue the conversation with your student about speaker day, here are some tips:

1. Use the equation to help your child navigate events in their life.
2. Encourage them to consider how to turn-around the negative messages they are believing into something positive. We discussed how the positive opposite will not feel true as first, but it is still valuable to focus on the positive until it does feel true.

EVENTS

Western Sierra Charter Schools Presents



Talent Show

March 5th, 2020 • 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Bullard High School

Open to both MHS and GHS

To sign up: RSVP to the Talent Show ParentSquare

Email song lyrics to Mrs. Gazenhuber at sganzenhuber@wscsfamily.org



Las Mariposa Civil War

Education Days

April 24th, 9:00 a.m.

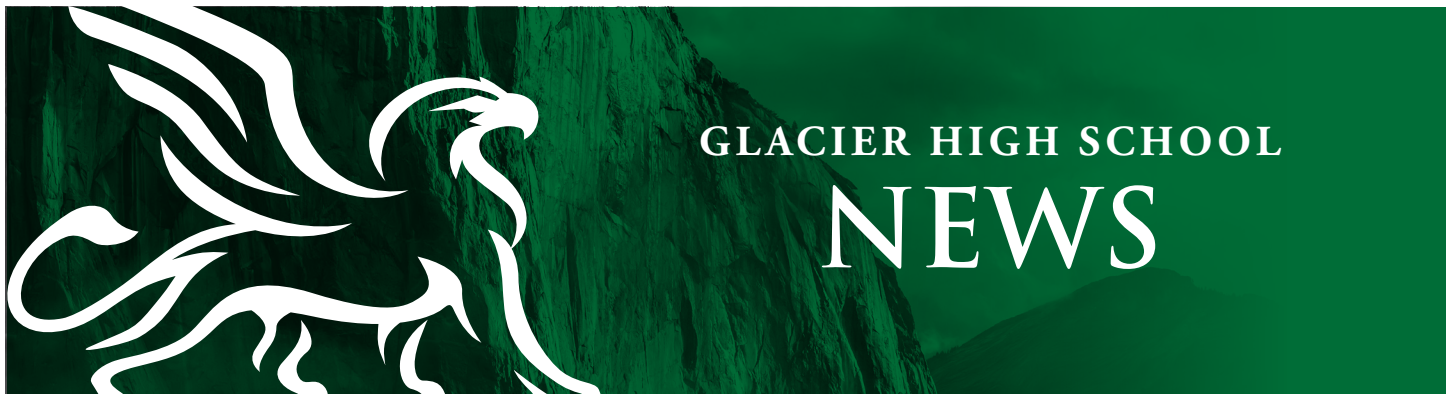
Mariposa, CA

Please join us on April 24 as we step back in time to The Civil War! Activities include costumed discussions on daily life and a Battle reenactment!

- **When:** April 24th, 9:00 am
- **Where:** Mariposa, CA
- **Cost:** \$2/person (capped at \$15 per family)

More information at <https://mariposacivilwardays.com/>
RSVP ASAP with Amanda Patterson at apatterson@wscsfamily.org

**Note: This field trip takes place during testing week. If you plan to attend this field trip, please schedule testing on alternate days.*



Buy a ticket to prom for just \$55!

*** See details below ***

You're invited to

The Enchanted Forest

Saturday, March 14th 2020 From 6-10

*Yosemite Lakes Park Clubhouse
30250 Yosemite Springs Parkway*

Glacier High School 2020 Prom

Buy your tickets beginning February 3! \$45 per ticket until Friday, February 14. \$50 per ticket February 15-28. \$55 thereafter. Choose your entrée when you purchase your ticket: Chicken with Mango Salsa, Flat Iron Steak with Herb Butter , or Vegetarian.

All GHS dress code and behavior guidelines apply to prom. Guest pass forms are available on the GHS website and are due by March 6. Attire for the evening is semi-formal meaning ties and slacks for the men and dresses for the ladies. If you have questions, please contact Mrs. Friesen or Mrs. Vaccaro and costumes must have prior approval.



POETRY OUT LOUD

GLACIER TAKES TOP HONORS AT MADERA COUNTY POETRY OUT LOUD COMPETITION

Four sophomores from Glacier High School Charter took first through fourth place honors at the Madera County Poetry Out Loud competition on February 12 at the Circle Gallery in Madera. The Madera County Arts Council partners with the CA Arts Council to sponsor this national recitation competition that gives high school students the opportunity to learn about, memorize, and recite poems from an anthology of over 1,000 poems. Over 4 million students have been involved with Poetry Out Loud since the program began in 2005.

Glacier's participants displayed tenacity as they continued to practice their poems since the school competition in early December as well as a willingness to push themselves to try new things to make their recitations even better. When the judge's scores were tallied, it was obvious that all of their efforts yielded tremendous results: Lilly Llanos came in first, followed very closely by Jackson Roeder, who was followed closely by Olivia Hagen, who was followed closely by Cameron Richards who tied with Abril Chavez of Madera South High School for fourth place. Llanos couldn't have been more surprised by her first-place finish in her very first year participating in Poetry Out Loud! All of the hearty congratulations from the other Glacier students, her family, teachers, and the Madera Arts Council staff helped the reality to sink in though. Llanos now moves on to the California Poetry Out Loud competition in Sacramento on March 15 and 16.

The eight participants in the County competition were from four Madera County schools: Glacier High School Charter, Liberty High School, Madera South High School, and Voyager Secondary School. Kaylene Friesen is the Lead Teacher for Poetry Out Loud at Glacier and she was assisted this year by GHS teacher, Stacey Broussard. David Opfergelt of the Madera Arts Council is the Program Coordinator and Kirk Cruz stepped in to coach

participants who moved on from their school competitions to the county competition as did Glacier parent, Julie Riley.

We wish you all the best in Sacramento, Lilly...we're rooting for you!



Pictured: Olivia Hagen, Jackson Roeder, Cameron Richards, Stacey Broussard, and Kaylene Friesen
Photo cred: Emma Hagen



Pictured: Jackson Roeder, Cameron Richards, Olivia Hagen, Lilly Llanos, Kaylene Friesen
Photo cred: Stacie Roeder



Pictured: Jackson Roeder, Lilly Llanos, Olivia Hagen

Photo cred: Stacie Roeder



ATTENTION SENIORS

Yearbook Portrait & Questionnaire

**DUE
APRIL 10TH**

Seniors please fill out questionnaire that has been sent to your school email. Please include your senior portrait that you wish to be displayed in the yearbook. If you do not provide your own senior portrait, your student ID photo will be used.

Email your questionnaire and portrait to Yearbook teacher Mrs. Tu at
jtu@wscsfamily.org

Please provide JPG format for your portrait.

CLASS OF

2020



COUNSELOR'S CORNER

with
Greg Hill

Important dates/deadlines:

Local Community College Applications

Time is ticking....Seniors interested in attending one of our local community colleges should apply with priority registration through the "Registration To Go Program": SCCC (Fresno City, Oakhurst Center, Madera Center, Clovis Community, Reedley College)

Local Community College "Registration To Go" Steps

1. Application: Do ASAP (Should be completed by now)
2. Online Orientation: December
3. Counseling / Advising with Student Educational Plan: March
4. Registration for classes: April if above steps are completed
5. *Community College is free when you enroll in at least 12 units and fill out the FAFSA.

FAFSA AND MONEY MATTERS

All seniors planning on attending any college or a career technical school:

FAFSA application opened October 1st, 2019.

www.fafsa.ed.gov

SENIORS: COMMUNITY AWARDS APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE Go to <http://www.glacier-highcharter.org>, then resources/college/career/community awards to access the list, application, and steps. There are also hard copies of everything as well. See Mr. Hill for more details. I encourage all seniors to apply. *Deadline for most awards is March 24, 2020.* See cover sheets for exact due dates.

JUNIORS: SAT REGISTRATION It's time for juniors to register for the SAT Test if interested in attending a 4-year university directly after high school. It is a required admissions test. Collegeboard recommends Juniors take it in the Spring and Seniors take it in the Fall. Go to collegeboard.com to register.





MATH COUNTS 2020



Great Job all who participated in the MathCounts competition on Feb. 13. We hope to have a few more participants next year, so if you love math and will be in 6th, 7th, or 8th grade, see Mrs. Patterson to get more information.



EVENTS



The Mountain Home-School Curriculum Fair March 30 - April 3

Monday, March 30th through Friday, April 3rd
The Mountain Home-School Curriculum Fair

Plan to stop in and begin the selection process for the upcoming school year!

Samples of most of our curriculum will be displayed in the East building between the hours of 9:00 and 3:00. Staff will also be available for questions.



The Mariposa Museum & History Center & The California State Mining and Mineral Museum Field Trip May 22, 2020 • 8:45 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Mariposa, CA

Field Trip! MHS K-8 Students and Parents - Join us in historic Mariposa where we will visit two history museums on Friday, May 22nd, 2020. The Mariposa Museum & History Center & The California State Mining and Mineral Museum.

Activities Include:

- **Stamp Mill** - A live demonstration of the machine that crushes ore, releasing gold from the quartz
- **Blacksmith Shop** - A real blacksmith demonstrates general metal work and wagon/wheel repair
- **Gold Panning** - Each student will be taught to gold pan and keep the gold they find
- **Scavenger Hunt** - Students search in pairs
- **Museum Tours** - Learn about the rock cycle and gold mining - See artifacts and displays covering the time of Native Americans, Spanish and Mexican influences, the Gold Rush, and into the early 20th century

Sign up with Rosanna by Thursday, April 16th

Please Note: This event is limited to 64 MHS K-8 students only - no younger siblings . (Space limit set by museum).

- **When:** Friday, May 22nd, 8:45 - 2:30 (tour begins at 9:00)
- **Where:** Mariposa
- **Cost:** *Student Reduced Cost:* \$3.00
(actual cost per student \$9.00; WSCS covering \$6.00 per student)
Parents/Guardian Cost: \$4.00

Bring your picnic lunch!

For more information contact Margaret Den Hartog at mdenhartog@wscsfamily.org



TIP OF THE MONTH

Disabilities and Special Education

Christine Neptune



Did you know that according to the 2017 disability statistics report, 12.8% of the U. S. population has a disability? In the world of education, Special Education services are designed to help students with disabilities access instruction and other school activities. Special Education is at times, a misunderstood part of education, with many stereotypes and misconceptions. Let's take a moment to clarify a few important points about Special Education, and disabilities.

Disability Vs. Need of Services

It is important to understand that the presence of a disability does not always equal a referral to Special Education services. Special Education services are intended to help those with a disability that is impacting them in a way that prevents access to instruction without some support. Many children with disabilities can access curriculum and instruction without the need of Special Education services. For those with only minor accommodation needs, a 504 plan that alerts staff to accommodations they may need might be the more appropriate path.

To illustrate, a child with significant asthma may need a 504 to alert staff that the student needs to carry an inhaler, and be allowed to skip intense aerobic activities in P.E. However, children with disabilities that impact them to the point that they need support from specialized staff, such as Speech, Occupational Therapy, and Resource Specialist Program (RSP) instruction, need Special Edu-

cation services that are outlined by a customized written plan called an Individual Education Plan (IEP).

Qualifying for Special Education

Many parents think that by making a request for special education services, a student is simply placed into services with a diagnosis from a doctor. This is not the case. It needs to be determined that the student's disability is impacting their access to education. For this, observation and testing is needed to make a determination, and a process of referral needs to be followed. This process starts with a Student Study Team (SST) meeting that includes a general education teacher, an administrator and the parent to discuss interventions that have already been provided and whether any other interventions can be tried. If a trial period passes with interventions implemented without any progress, another meeting can be held to refer to test for Special Education. Even if all of this is tried, it also needs to be determined if the student would benefit from services. Qualifying for special education services can take time. Just as all adults with disabilities do not need to have services, not all children with a disability need Special Education. Western Sierra Charter Schools, a public charter school, is dedicated to finding the appropriate path for all of our students and available for consultation. For more information you can speak with your charter teacher or contact me directly at cnep-tune@wscsfamily.org.

STAFF DIRECTORY

Fresno Resource Center

777 Shaw Ave • Fresno, CA 93704

Phone 559-248-0471 **Fax** 559-248-0482

NAME	EXTENSION	PRIMARY ASSIGNMENT
Eric Hagen	203	Fresno Principal/Tech Admin
Nancy Garcia	202	Co-Principal Fresno
Marianne Lord	200	WSCS Admin Secretary
Rosanna Carrasco	222	WSCS Receptionist
Amanda Patterson	216	Mountain Home Teacher
Brandon Mallard	229	Adjunct Teacher - MHS and GHS
Brook Hirata	204	Mountain Home Teacher
Christine Neptune	210	Mountain Home Teacher/Special Ed
Diane Vaccaro	206	Mountain Home and GHS Leadership
Grace Reeve	201	Glacier High Teacher and MHS Science
Greg Hill	220	Guidance Counselor
Irina Buca	205	Glacier High Teacher
Kathy Specht	225	Mountain Home Teacher
Margaret Den Hartog	207	Mountain Home Teacher
Nancy Flynn	228	Math Adjunct Teacher/Tutor
Nancy Turner	217	Mountain Home Teacher
Phil Blas	218	CTE Teacher/IT Coordinator
Sandra Hammond	215	Mountain Home Teacher
Sonny Yang	208	Glacier High Teacher
Stacey Broussard	224	Glacier High Teacher
Stephanie Ganzenhuber	209	Mountain Home Teacher
Susan Huey	226	Mountain Home Teacher
Michael Cox	(559) 642-1422 ext. 102	WSCS Director
Jody Jeffers	(559) 642-1422 ext. 117	Chief Business Officer
Cheryl Wilhite	(559) 642-1422 ext 100	Administrative Secretary
Machelle Arrington	(559) 642-1422 ext 120	Special Ed Administrator
Sarah Zimmer	(559) 642-1422 ext 123	Speech

Email addresses for all staff are: first initial and last name @wscsfamily.org (no spaces)

SUPPORT STAFF

Mrs. Gaviria - Spanish • Mrs. Llanos - K Teacher • Mr. Mena - Music

Ms. Kelly Lord - Office and TA • Mr. McGough - Integrated Drawing/Art • Bee Lor- Custodian