



Chino Valley Unified School District retirees and service award recipients pack the Chaffey College Chino Community Center on May 23 for the 2016-2017 Employee Retirement and Recognition Reception.

Chino Valley Unified honors retirees, milestone service employees

Chino Valley Unified School District's retiring employees and staff members who hit service milestones were honored May 23 at the 2016-2017 Employee Retirement and Recognition Reception at Chaffey College Chino Community Center.

At the urging of Board of Education members, the dinner reception was brought back after several years' absence.

More than 90 retirees were invited to the event, as well as employees completing 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, and more than 35 years of service to the District.

A buffet dinner was served and entertainment provided by the Ayala High Chorale Ensemble, directed by Tiffany Fernandez.

Speakers included Board of Education President Sylvia Orozco, Superintendent Wayne M. Joseph, and Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Lea Fellows.

Retirees with 20 years or more service received an engraved clock. Retirees with less than 20 years of service received an engraved mug. Service honorees received a pin denoting their years of service.

Many of the retirees said they plan to continue serving after retirement. Canyon Hills Junior High math teacher Debora Simon and her husband have already hired on to be ushers at Angels Stadium in Anaheim. Canyon Hills history teacher Donna McNair plans to serve as a museum docent. Michele Bennett, an accountant from the District's Maintenance and Operations department, plans to work in an orphanage in Africa.

Some of the retirees have offered to come back and help out at their schools after retirement, their principals said.

Cattle Elementary Principal Sara Peckham said that when first grade teacher Darlene Boyle retires, the school will also lose her husband Roger, who was a dedicated volunteer at the Chino campus.

Little known details about the retirees came to light during the presentation.

Cortez Elementary teacher Robin Chaney has taught all grades at the Chino campus. Chino Hills High science teacher Dan Marshall has been a water polo referee for several years. Bus driver Alicia Landry is known for putting together care packages for other drivers when they are sick, and holding fundraisers for fellow workers in need. Walnut Avenue Elementary School teacher Martha Munoz-Rodriguez only missed work twice at the Chino school: when she had to drive her son to the airport for a band trip because the airport shuttle didn't show up, and when she went to file for retirement. When Glenmeade Elementary Principal Denise Sunderland asked teachers for two words to describe retiree Tamera Hagelberg, one confused her by saying "free lunch." While dining out one day at a local restaurant, a former student of Hagelberg's who was also a restaurant employee, recognized her and gave the teacher and her fellow educators free lunch.

A few of the retirees shared about their careers. Ayala High teacher Kit Flores said she was encouraged to get her special education credential after a supervisor

noticed how well she worked with special needs students. Ayala High chemistry teacher Stephen Iverson, who followed in his father's career steps, described the great students he's had over the years and how proud he is when they share where they plan to go to college.

Retiree Susan Ramsey, a fifth-grade teacher at Hidden Trails Elementary in Chino Hills, was named Elementary Teacher of the Year in May by Associated Chino Teachers, the bargaining unit for teachers and other credentialed staff members in the District.

Among the retirees are Bob Whale, Principal at Dickson Elementary School in Chino; Sue Pederson, Principal at Woodcrest Junior High in Ontario; and Dan Mellon, Director of Risk Management.

The Retirement and Recognition Reception was coordinated by Assistant Superintendent Fellows, and Jane Sousa, Personnel Technician. Assisting were staff members of the Human Resources Department.

Contributing to the event were Don Lugo High floricultural teacher Christine Dominguez and her Floriculture Class, Ayala High Vocal Ensemble and its director Tiffany Fernandez, Associated Chino Teachers, California School Employees Association, Chino Association of Management Personnel, and Superintendent Joseph.

Retirees are:

Randy Angeles, Kathy Avgerenos, Patricia Bain, Melinda Banchich, Thomas Beckman, Marilyn Begue, Michele Bennett, Nazmi Berisha, Sharon Bernard, Antonio Bettencourt, Darlene Boyle, Martha Buckley, Jody Bunch, Curtis Burnath;

Debra Campbell, Linda Cannone, Debra Carey, Robin Chaney, John Chavez, William Childress, Florence Christos, Luz Conner, Tina Costantino-lane, Karen DaDeppo, Rugere De Partee, Sharon Debie, Karen Diaz, Debora Dokter, Martin Dwyer, Kit Flores, Mary Lou Flum, Alana Forbes, Carol Yvonne Friar, Gerald Garcia;

Christyne Garkow, Susan Gass, Loretta Gonzales, Gloria Gonzalez, Arthur Gray, Sharon Gray, Diane Gutierrez, Tamera Hagelberg, Loren Haun, Carol Hofmann, Stephen Iverson, Barbara James, Colleen Jenkins, Lori Kaden, Donna Keeling;

Renee Kelly, Karen Kimes, Jeanne King, Kathy Kinnick, Jane Krall, Alicia Landry, David A. Lopez, Manuel Lopez, Dan Marshall, Terry Lynn Martinez, Bonnie McCool, Diane McEvelly, Donna McNair, Daniel Mellon, Patricia Memovich, Barbara Monroe, Lynece Moore, Anita Moreno, Maria D. Moreno;

Martha Munoz-Rodriguez; Kathleen Nagle, Cynthia Olvera, Molly Opatkiewicz, Ann Lynne Parsons, Donald Parvin, Susan Pederson, Barbara Pollack, Patricia Ramirez, Susan Ramsey, Janis Reddin, Partorina Rocke, Deanna Rodriguez;

Debora Simon, Karen Simon, Lezlie Smart, Marcia Staunton, James Sylvia, Nelvina Thibodeaux, Julie Thompson, Justin Tirabasso, Linda Toth, Cynthia Veltman, Robert Whale, Susan Winans, Terri Wood, Melanie Woods, Helga Zaokopny, and Karen Zuk.



Employees line up for the buffet dinner.



Lea Fellows, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources (second from right), gives a pin to a service award recipient. Waiting her turn to congratulate the recipients is Denise Arroyo (right), president of the local chapter of the Classified School Employees Association.



Music teacher Tiffany Fernandez leads the Ayala High Vocal Ensemble in the National Anthem at the reception.



Denise Arroyo (right), President of the local chapter of the Classified School Employees Association, hugs a service pin recipient.



Board President Sylvia Orozco (second from right) and Board Clerk James Na congratulate service pin recipients.



Superintendent Wayne M. Joseph (right) congratulates an employee for meeting a milestone year of service.



Service pin recipient Borba Fundamental School teacher Gracie Arvizu (left) shakes hands with Pamela Feix, Board of Education Vice-President.



Superintendent Wayne M. Joseph congratulates Don Lugo High teacher Audrey Rohrer on her service milestone. With Audrey is Kahuna, the Golden Retriever puppy she is raising for the Guide Dogs of America program.



Service pin recipients, including District custodian John Mello, line up to receive their pins.



These Chino Valley Unified School District employees have served the District 35 years or more.



Director of Business Services Liz Pensick (right) talks about the accomplishments of District Attendance Specialist Diane McEvilly (left).



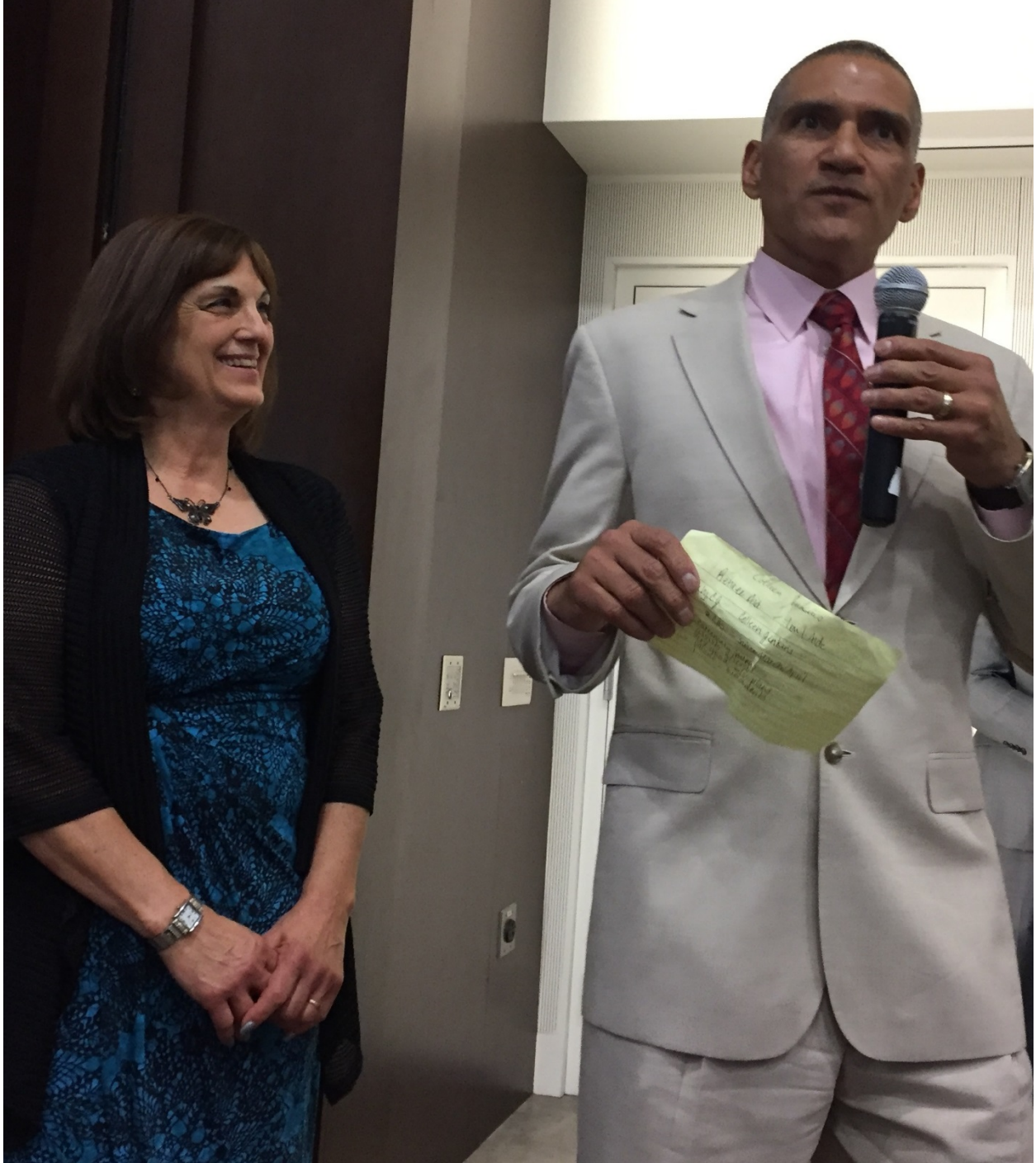
Chino Hills High Principal Isabel Brenes talks about retiree Dan Marshall, a science teacher at the school.



Cortez Elementary Principal Yvette Farley (right) congratulates retirees (from left) teachers Maria Moreno, Marcia Staunton, and Robin Chaney; and Special Education Instructional Aide Debora Dokter.



Country Springs Elementary Principal Tom Mackessy (right) describes how teacher retiree James Sylvia started out as a banker and left that profession to do something he thought more meaningful: teaching. Sylvia is known as “Gentleman Jim” at the school because he teaches his students to behave like gentleman and gentlewomen, the principal said.



Chino High Principal Felix Melendez said that when he asked colleagues of counselor retiree Karen Zuk (left) to describe her in two words, “you would have thought I was giving them an Algebra test; they wanted more words.”



Superintendent Wayne M. Joseph (right) describes Director of Risk Management Dan Mellon (second from right) “unflappable” in the face of emergencies and challenges. The Superintendent also lauded retirees Sue Pederson, Principal of Woodcrest Junior High; and Bob Whale, Principal of Dickson Elementary, for their dedication to their students and staff.



Hidden Trails Elementary teacher Susan Ramsey (left) and Hidden Trails Principal Lisa Sura share a hug at the Retirement and Recognition Reception. Ramsey, who is retiring, was named the 2017 Elementary Teacher of the Year this spring.



Members of the Human Resources Department who coordinated and worked on the 2016-2017 Employee Retirement and Recognition Reception are (front, from left) Lea Fellows, Elizabeth Kirves, and Laurie Griego (Risk Management); (second row, from left) Jeannette Walsh, Suzanne Hernandez, Melissa Martinez, Jane Sousa, Stephanie Uehle, and Wendy Randall; and keeping the balloons in check, Richard Rideout.