

March 2024



**News from the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools Office**  
**Scott W. Lay, Superintendent**

**TechTest 2024**

Sponsored by Sierra Economics and Science Foundation

TechTest 2024 will take place Saturday, April 27 in the Nevada Union High School Science Lecture Hall, with a three-hour (9 am—Noon) merit scholarship test of critical thinking and math skills. Participants celebrate together and receive t-shirts and prize checks at the Survivors Breakfast in Grass Valley,

Sign up by clicking [here](#).

For more information, contact Matt

Pistone: [matthewpistone@gmail.com](mailto:matthewpistone@gmail.com)

Click [here](#) for past years' tests.

**Please note, TechTest 2024 is for high school students. Non-senior students are highly encouraged to participate.** The regular prizes are limited to graduating seniors, but starting this year the highest scoring non-senior will also receive an award!

TechTest 2024  
Sign up now!

**Awards (First four are available to current seniors only.)**

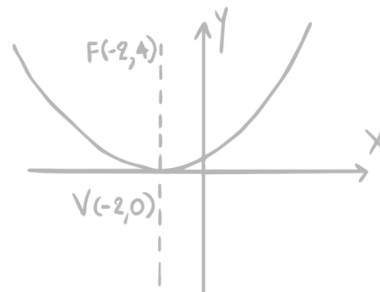
1st: \$6,000

2nd: \$4,000

3rd: \$2,000

Up to 10 Honorable Mentions: \$300

Highest scoring student from grades 9-11:  
\$300



**Nevada County**  
Superintendent of Schools

# TRAUMA INFORMED DISCIPLINE PRACTICES

We are delighted to invite you to a FREE all day training session on transforming discipline practices through trauma-informed, restorative, social-emotional learning, and behavioral approaches. This workshop is designed to provide valuable insights and practical strategies for creating a positive and inclusive learning environment.

## Key Benefits:

- Gain insights into trauma-informed practices and their application
- Learn effective restorative techniques for conflict resolution
- Explore strategies to integrate SEL
- Develop a toolbox of behavioral approaches for a positive learning environment

## Who Should Attend:

- Educators
- Administrators
- Counselors
- School Psychologists
- Those in a disciplinary role in schools
- Anyone involved in creating a positive school culture

## Meet the PRESENTERS



MELISSA  
BALDERSTON



MORGAN  
WELTY-  
GEISICK

Trauma Informed Schools: A Foundation for Creating a Safe, Supportive, and Empowering School Environment



MARLENE  
MAHURIN



STEVE  
HANSEN

A Restorative Approach to Discipline



BLAIR  
BALDWIN

Trauma Informed  
Strategies for Student  
Problem Behavior



ANNIE  
JACKSON

Building Bridges,  
Not Barriers:  
Igniting the Power of  
Social-Emotional  
Learning (SEL)

 MARCH 15, 2024

 8:00AM - 5:00PM

 380 CROWN POINT CIRCLE  
GRASS VALLEY, CA



USE THE QR CODE OR  
LINK TO REGISTER

[HTTP://NEVCO.K12OMS.ORG  
/2029-245816](http://nevco.k12oms.org/2029-245816)

FREE BREAKFAST & LUNCH INCLUDED

# SEL Corner

## March Topic: Warm Welcomes



The significance of warm welcomes should not be underestimated. A welcoming environment establishes a positive tone, fostering emotional well-being and creating a foundation for success.

Warm welcomes contribute to the creation of a safe and inclusive space where students feel valued and accepted. A friendly greeting at the beginning of each day helps establish a sense of belonging, laying the groundwork for students to express themselves authentically and engage more openly.

Setting a positive tone at the start of a class or school day promotes a mindset conducive to collaboration, empathy, and self-reflection. This creates a culture where students are encouraged to approach challenges with a growth mindset and work collaboratively with their peers.

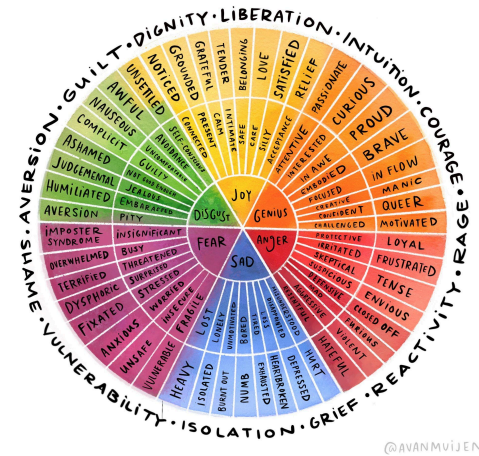
Warm welcomes contribute to emotional regulation by reducing anxiety and stress. Feeling welcomed enables students to focus on learning and social interactions, fostering emotional regulation skills that help them navigate challenges with resilience and self-awareness.

Have a warm welcome resource/idea to share? Send it to: [anniejackson@nevco.org](mailto:anniejackson@nevco.org)  
I'd love to hear from you!

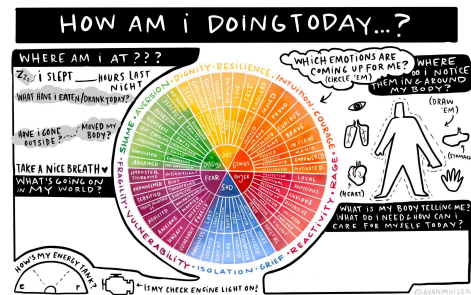
### Warm Welcome Resources:

[CASEL SEL 3 Signature Practices Playbook](#)

[The Beautiful and Powerful work of artist Abby Vanmuijen](#)

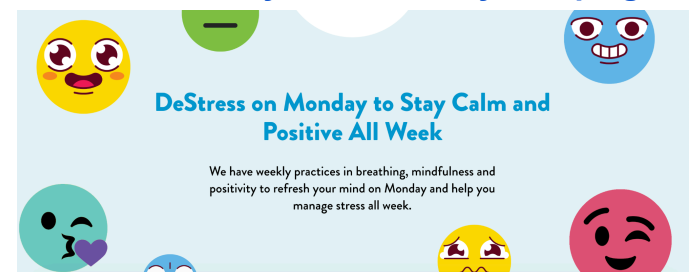


Free Download - [Emotion Wheel](#)



Free Download - [Worksheet](#)

### [DeStress Monday - The Monday Campaigns](#)



# #SELday

**The fourth annual International SEL Day is March 8, 2024!**

SEL Day is an opportunity to collectively spread the word about the importance and impact of social emotional learning. Working together, we can raise awareness for SEL, bring on new SEL stakeholders, create artifacts that demonstrate SEL in action, share SEL best practices... and more!

Join the SEL community in celebrating International SEL Day on March 8, 2024. Sign up today to attend the SEL Day Summit—your registration includes access to the free all-day, online event showcasing SEL best practices from states across the U.S. and countries around the globe.

[SIGN UP](https://selday.org/sign-up/) (click or go to <https://selday.org/sign-up/>)

This year the focus will be on *Today's Students, Tomorrow's Leaders*.



Click [here](#) to access the resource or scan the QR code below!



Click [here](#) to access the resource or scan the QR code below!



# #SELday





Join us on  
Thursday 21 March

The 'Lots Of Socks' campaign is a celebration of everything that makes all of us different, and yet the same.

Wear your brightest and boldest socks to celebrate World Down Syndrome Day!



**#LotsOfSocks**  
Join us on 21 March 2024



## Conflict Resolution Practices in Special Education

Presented by the Conflict Resolution Center of Nevada County and hosted by the Nevada County SELPA and the Nevada County Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

This event has two options for dates: Wednesday, February 21, 2024  
OR  
Thursday, March 7, 2024

Time: 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

Place: 380 Crown Point Circle, Grass Valley, CA (Training Room)

Cost: **Free! Lunch is provided.**

Attendees: Parents, Principals, Directors, Coordinators, Case Managers, Special Education Teachers, and Providers

Please use the code below to register.

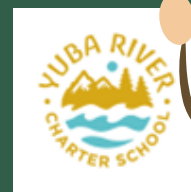
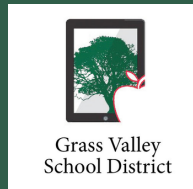
Direct questions to Megan Lukkonen, SELPA Director, [mlukkonen@nevco.org](mailto:mlukkonen@nevco.org).



# NEVADA COUNTY SCHOOLS JOB FAIR

[WWW.NEVCO.ORG/JOBFAIR](http://WWW.NEVCO.ORG/JOBFAIR)

## PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS/SCHOOLS:



**APRIL 13<sup>TH</sup>  
2024**

**FROM  
10AM-1PM**

**NEVADA COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT  
OF SCHOOLS OFFICE**

380 CROWN POINT CIRCLE  
GRASS VALLEY, CA 95945





# Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude

by Ross Gay



## Nevada County Reads High School Writing Contest

**Chose one of the following prompts**

1. Write about an emotion, how this emotion's presence in your life has helped you eventually grow or learn.
2. Write about something that makes you full of gratitude.
3. What place or places in your own neighborhood, towns, or communities bring people together by chance in meaningful ways? What are the qualities of that place or those places?
4. Describe a mistake that you or someone else made that taught you something.

- March 18-Submissions Due
- April 10-Finalists Announced
- April 13-Winners Announced at Author Event

\$500 First Prize

\$250 Second Prize

\$175 3rd Prize

\*Cash prize donated by Friends of the Nevada County Library

**Submit your original work in any written medium to [ncwriting24@gmail.com](mailto:ncwriting24@gmail.com).**

**Include prompt number in subject line.**

**Entries not to exceed 3000 words with no minimum word count. One entry per person.**





# Parenting the Love and Logic Way®

An 8-week series for parents and care-givers



Imagine a calmer, happier home that's free from power struggles, yelling and nagging, and filled instead with love, caring, and mutual respect. Love and Logic is a world-renowned approach that provides simple solutions, tips and practical techniques to help adults with kids of all ages. Tested and trusted for over 45 years, Love and Logic is your long-term companion for raising responsible, happy, and well-adjusted kids—and having more fun doing it!



Free pizza and Childcare!

## Learn answers to:

- How do I get my kids out of the house peacefully in time for school?
- How do I stop my kids from bickering and fighting?
- How do I get my kids to help with chores?
- How do I set and keep limits without losing my child's love?
- How do I get my teen to come home at an agreed-upon time?
- How do I relax and have more fun in my parenting role?
- And many other day-to-day parenting challenges



*Jinnae Anderson is the Parenting Specialist for the Family Resource Centers, a Love and Logic Certified Trainer, and, most importantly, a mom! She teaches with heart and humor, supporting parents to enjoy and get the most out of family life.*



Thursdays 5:30-7:30pm 4/4-5/23/24  
5:30-7:30pm  
Seven Hills Middle School 700 Hoover Lane,  
Nevada City  
\$50 includes all classes, childcare and pizza  
FREE to Bearcat Discovery and GVSD families

*Scholarships available*

To register or for questions:  
[jinnaeanderson@nevco.org](mailto:jinnaeanderson@nevco.org) or 530.238.5608



Or: Register with QR code







# NUTRITION CLASSES

Hosted by Partners Family Resource Center

Taught by Shauna Shultz, RD,

Nutrition Educator with Nevada County Public Health Department  
CalFresh Healthy Living Program



## Food & Mood

March 13



## Reducing Sugar Intake

March 20

CHILDCARE  
PROVIDED

Classes held  
Wednesdays

5:30 – 6:30

at

The SDA Church - Fellowship Hall building  
12889 Osborne Hill Road  
Grass Valley CA 95945

FREE



RSVP by March 11th to  
[angellyfigarella@nevco.org](mailto:angellyfigarella@nevco.org)



**PARTNERS**  
Family Resource Centers



NEVADA  
COUNTY  
CALIFORNIA

Public  
Health



# Grant opportunity: Building California's Next Education Workforce™

Build team based staffing models that can support equity, improve learning outcomes and boost morale



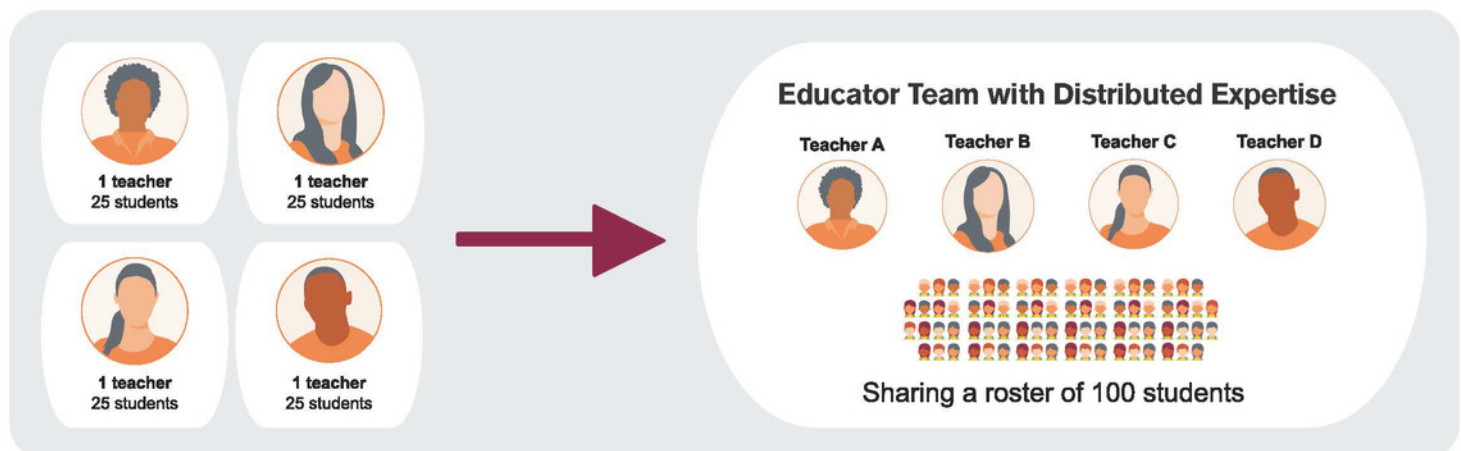
Mary Lou Fulton  
Teachers College

Arizona State  
University



**Why:** We must meet the challenge of our times. Our education system does not reliably deliver quality learning experiences for nearly enough people. In fact, it systematically underdelivers for students of color and for students from low-income backgrounds. This challenge is exacerbated by teachers leaving the profession, while others are choosing not to join the profession. As schools struggle to staff adequately and provide high-quality experiences, consider: **What if we don't have a teacher shortage or preparation problem, but rather, a workforce design problem?**

**What:** A new grant will provide direct assistance, coaching and professional learning to California schools interested in exploring and launching team-based models that can provide personalized and deeper learning for students.



**How:** The Next Education Workforce initiative of Arizona State University's Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College and Thrive have joined to help your school pilot, design and implement innovative staffing models by launching at least one educator team. Pairing relevant learning with 1:1 coaching increases success and satisfaction when committing to transformational work. **Grantees receive support from ASU and Thrive in two ways:**

- 1. Professional learning:** ASU will provide virtual learning cohorts, access to tools and resources, and other professional learning opportunities for system-level leaders, school-level leaders and classroom educators to explore, plan and launch team-based staffing models.
- 2. Local, personalized coaching:** Thrive will provide both virtual and on-site personalized support to each school based on their local context.

## Questions?

Reach out to Nicole Assisi:  
[nassisi@thriveps.org](mailto:nassisi@thriveps.org)



To apply, fill out this application











[forms.gle/8LCZQNNR4i3uLeVF8](https://forms.gle/8LCZQNNR4i3uLeVF8)

(Schools selected on rolling basis)



# The Next Education Workforce school partner journey

Over 90 schools have successfully implemented Next Education Workforce team-based models and developed innovative staffing models in order to support equity, improve learning outcomes and increase teacher satisfaction. Over a two year period, a new wave of schools in California will join them. Below is an outline of what that journey may look like for system and school leaders.

		 <b>ASU provides</b>	 <b>Thrive provides</b>
YEAR 1	<b>Step 1</b> <b>Explore Next Education Workforce models</b>	 <b>Explore Experience</b> Learn about Next Education Workforce models and determine if they make sense in your local context.	 <b>Virtual Coaching</b> Four hours of virtual support between Learning Cohort sessions, including navigating the process and thinking through building buy-in
	<b>Step 2</b> <b>Plan your Next Education Workforce pilots</b>	 <b>Design Experience and additional professional learning</b> Virtual sessions for school-level leaders and colleagues to plan Next Education Workforce models   <b>Strategic School Staffing Summit</b> This virtual event connects educators implementing innovative staffing models with each other and national experts	 <b>On Site Planning</b> Full-day, on-school-site planning meeting to support schools designing team-based models   <b>Virtual Coaching</b> Eight hours of virtual support to help prepare for implementation
YEAR 2	<b>Step 3</b> <b>Implement your Next Education Workforce team-based models</b>	 <b>Summer Institute</b> Virtual three-day cohort for teams of educators piloting team-based models (schools are responsible for covering out-of-contract professional learning costs)	 <b>On-Site Planning and Implementation</b> Two, full-day, on-site, planning meetings to support educators designing team-based models   <b>Virtual Implementation Coaching</b> Monthly implementation support with school leader and/or educator teams

## Questions?

Reach out to Nicole Assisi:  
[nassisi@thriveps.org](mailto:nassisi@thriveps.org)



## To apply, fill out this application

[forms.gle/8LCZQNnR4i3uLeVF8](https://forms.gle/8LCZQNnR4i3uLeVF8)

(Schools selected on rolling basis)

# Schedule of Events

DATE	DESCRIPTION	TIME
Friday, March 8, 2024	Speech Tournament Prelims (Calvary Bible Church)	8:30 AM—3:45 PM
Monday, March 11, 2024	HSI Pediatric Infant, Adult CPR, First Aid <a href="#">Click here to register</a>	3:45—6:45 PM
Monday, March 11, 2024	Speech Tournament Finals (Miner’s Foundry)	6:15—8:30 PM
Tuesday, March 12, 2024	Young at Art Ice Cream Social The Rood Center Lobby	4:00—5:15 PM
Monday, March 18, 2024	HSI Pediatric Infant, Adult CPR, First Aid <a href="#">Click here to register</a>	
March 25—29, 2024	Spring Break	

**Submissions for future Nugget issues:**

**Please submit your request by the 15th of the preceding month.** Not all content received will be published as approval will be required for publication. To also be added as a subscriber, please email the below address.

Email: [ocarson@nevco.org](mailto:ocarson@nevco.org)

Prior issues of *The Nugget* can be found [here](#).

**NCSOS Employment Opportunities — [Click here](#)**

**Nevada County School District/ Charter Employment Opportunities** (Choose California then Nevada County to see school jobs in our area.)— [Click here](#)