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EDUCATION

PG students experience drop in test scores

By Molly Gibbs
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PACIFIC GROVE • Students in the Pacific Grove Unified School District experienced a drop in English language and mathematics skills, according to 2022 state testing data.

The district's director of curriculum and special projects, Buck Roggeman, presented the 2022 state testing results to the Board of Education at last week's board meeting. The data compared students' testing results from the 2019-2020 school year with data from the 2021-2022 school year.

"I think that one of the things that these testing results are going to show is the incredible amount of effort that went into

educating the students of Pacific Grove by our staff, by our families and ultimately — by our students," explained Roggeman.

"The testing came at the point in the year when everyone was absolutely exhausted and I don't think that can be understated. Fatigue had set in because there were a lot of things about last year that were even more difficult than distance learning."

The district tested 627 students in May 2022, the first time the test had been administered in two years due to the pandemic. Previously, the district tested 1,032 students in 2019.

Students in grades 3-8 and grade 11 took the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium tests in English language and

mathematics, while students in grade 5, grade 8 and grades 11-12 also took the California Science Test. All of the district's English learners must also take an English Language Proficiency Assessment — which tests a student's listening, speaking, reading and writing skills — every year.

The SBAC English and mathematics tests were computer-adaptive tests, meaning students received an initial question of medium difficulty and the software selected additional questions based on the student's answers. Students were also tasked with completing additional written responses and math tasks that required more complex thinking and assessed multiple standards.



Robert Down school in Pacific Grove. TOM WRIGHT — MONTEREY HERALD

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WHARF CELEBRATION

LONG AND TALL



Silk walkers were strolling near Fisherman's Wharf in Monterey Sunday as the local businesses celebrated the Wharf's 177th birthday. CONTRIBUTED BY WENDY BRICKMAN

THIS WEEKEND

A reenactment of 1849 California Constitutional Convention

By Tess Kenny
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MONTEREY • This weekend — almost exactly 173 years after California's first constitution was completed and signed in Monterey — the city is bringing back an annual testament to the landmark accomplishment not held since 2019.

On Sunday, Monterey's Museums and Cultural Arts Division is hosting a live reenactment of the 1849 California Constitutional Convention at Colton Hall from 2-4 p.m. Though usually held as part of the city's yearly History Fest, which is not returning this year, the convention reenactment is resuming as a standalone event.

"With the reenactment, we're excited to have it back... It means a lot to us," said Jordan Leininger, artifacts specialist with the city of Monterey. "All of our museums are not open as often as they were before the pandemic... We love having these events that get a lot of people into the museums. We're excited to have some of that normalcy, especially with Colton Hall as one of the most historical sites in California."



Colton Hall was the site of California's first Constitutional Convention held in 1849. The historic building was the birthplace of the state and remains an important landmark in Monterey. JAMES HERRERA — MONTEREY HERALD

For a month and a half in 1849, Colton Hall was the site of arduous debate that ultimately formed the foundation for California's statehood. The 48-day fall convention brought together 48 delegates of varying interests and backgrounds to draft the document needed to govern newly acquired western land after the Mexican-American War.

Key issues that came up dur-

ing the convention included slavery, suffrage, who could hold an elected office, education and women's property rights. The final constitution was signed on Oct. 13, 1849. It was published in

both English and Spanish. Leininger said the convention is important for the city to commemorate because "it goes over our cultural diversity and shows how California was started as a

progressive state."

"This event showcases... different cultures, different people (and) different countries coming together as a unified front to

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ELECTION PREVIEW

Addis, Nohrden face off in State assembly District 30 race

By James Herrera
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SALINAS • Democrat Dawn Addis will face off with Republican Vicki Nohrden in the State Assembly District 30 race in the Nov. 8 general election, having been the top two vote recipients in this year's June primary.

Addis rose above the field of four Democrats and one Republican with 41% of the vote to Nohrden's 31%, according to final results from the Monterey County Elections Office.

After the 2020 census, District 30 was reconfigured and covers an area that includes the California coastal area from Santa Cruz to Monterey and the Big Sur Coast, then inland to south Monterey County and San Luis Obispo County ranchlands and vineyards.

Addis, a Morro Bay councilwoman, has been involved in her community including co-founding the Women's March in San Luis Obispo, which grew into a successful nonprofit. She has been a teacher and educational program developer and worked for the San Luis Coastal Unified School District.

Nohrden has been a family advocate and community leader for more than 20 years. She has a background in real estate, as well as serving as a youth director at the Presbyterian Church in Carmel, a Court Appointed Special Advocate for children, and a family liaison in the juvenile justice system.

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Addis



Nohrden