GRANT continued from page 31

2019-20 school year. The grant will provide the school with essential STEAM materials intended to enhance the classroom lessons, enabling students to have a more hands-on approach in their learning. The grant also will provide material for the library that will supplement science, math and technology classes.

Volunteers needed to help students with reading

Volunteers are needed in the Madison School District to help children learn to read. The Oasis Intergenerational Tutoring Program is looking for volunteers to donate time by visiting with students once a week for an hour during the school day to help a child improve reading, writing and communication skills.

The program serves students in grades kindergarten through fourth in Heights, Camelview, Rose Lane and Simis elementary schools. A reading specialist trains tutors and the volunteers receive tutoring handbooks, supplies and other materials. Training to become an Oasis tutor takes place twice a year, with the next training events will be Sept. 23-25 from 9 a.m. to noon at Camelview Elementary School, 2002 E. Campbell Ave.

Anyone interested in becoming a literacy mentor should contact Kim Gullo at kgullo@madisoned.org or 602-664-7285.

Tutor Gayle Stuart works with fourth-grade student Kimberly Castaneda at Madison Camelview Elementary School. Stuart is one of the tutors through the Oasis Intergenerational Tutoring Program (photo courtesy of Madison Elementary School District).

OSBORN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Programs target special needs students

Two new programs have come to the Osborn Elementary School District, both housed at Montecito Community School.

The SEAS Program (Social, Emotional, and Academic Support) provides services to students with profound social and emotional needs, as identified through an evaluation. Montecito provides three, multi-grade classrooms that have a maximum of 12 children in each one. The students benefit from academic instruction and personalized support to develop resilience and social capacities.

The other new program is the Changemakers Alternative Education Program. The program educates students who have shown a need for intensive behavioral support. Changemakers is designed as an alternative to the suspension program and offers personalized instruction and support to students until they are able to safely and successfully reintegrate into their home campus.

iTeachAZ Program expanding around Valley

An innovative professional program started in Osborn School District has expanded to many other districts in the Valley.

The Osborn district was the original home of the iTeachAZ Program for imbedded teacher certification. Arizona State University has taken the iTeach model to its next form, moving away from the traditional 1:1 pairing of a lead teacher and student teacher in one classroom, to three student teachers working with a lead teacher in two classes. This decreases the student-to-teacher ratio and increases the amount of contact time students have with adults.

Begun last year in Pendergast and Avondale, ASU has reached out to many school districts in the Valley to continue the partnership in developing a strong cadre of future teachers for the state. Osborn has six Professional Pathways models in action this year at Encanto, Longiew, and Solano elementary schools and Osborn Middle School, as well as two models at Clarendon Elementary School.

Safety, technological upgrades made

It is easy to see the face changes and improvements in safety and security around the Osborn School District that came about through voter approval of $50 million dollar bond.

Just 18 months after the bond elec-

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