

Rotary



Club of Concord

10/30/2020 Club Meeting Report

by **Tony Akins**

President **Brad Prescott** started the meeting with a song from Lee Greenwood, and rolled into introducing our guest - this week it was speaker **Dr. Adam Clark**.



Dr Adam Clark is the current Mt Diablo Unified School District Superintendent. He started his career in education as an elementary school teacher in the MDUSD, became a vice principal then principal, then accepted a job as superintendent in a nearby district before moving back to MDUSD.

Dr. Clark shared current issues regarding how to teach in the COVID-19 era. He examined how distance learning and its issues are all different for each age group and their ability to sit at a computer for extended periods of time. The district has given out over 15,000 Chromebooks and laptops, and over 1,000 hot spots. One major issue is connectivity. While the hot spots help, they do not make anything go faster. A poor connection is still a poor connection. But the district has been successful in getting access to all students except those living in the Morgan Territroy area, as there just isn't connectivity in this locale.

The state just recently said schools can open in Contra Costa. The district is now working on implementing the state's guidelines to insure everyone's safety. Dr Clark says the district is setting up a hybrid system where both at-school (face to face) and internet (distance learning) will be implemented for the second semester starting in February 2021.

Stress levels for both parents and teachers was discussed, as it is a major problem for families. Certainly all of us in the community empathize. Thank you to Dr Clark for helping us to understand some of the challenges in educating our youth, and the steps the district is taking to try to mitigate those issues.

Club Business:

Tina and Tony Akins are celebrating 20 years of wedded bliss and volunteered a hefty fine in celebration of the event.



Bill Bobetsky shared that even in the Covid era, our club still met with school officials and handed out over 450 third-grade dictionaries.

Dianne Ernst shared that her house is filling up with all of the donations she asked for in regards to putting together Thanksgiving food bags for the Monument Crisis Center. Great job to all who donated and especially to **Rick and Dianne Ernst** for leading the way. And Rick, always a salesman, is working on getting the manager of the Grocery Outlet, who they met while shopping for groceries, to join the club!



Memory Woodard shared photos of the recent map re-painting event at Cambridge Elementary.

Brad Prescott shared photos of his first trips in his newly-purchased trailer. **Brad and Stephanie** traveled to Chabot Observatory in Oakland and to Bodega Dunes. Brad also told us that their son, Vance, has finished his 3,166 mile trek of the Continental Trail. Vance will be sharing this adventure with the club in a few weeks.

Rita Corbinook also bought a new trailer. Hers only weighs 1200 lbs, making her the only one I know who hasn't had to buy a new truck as a result of buying a camper/trailer. Rita did ask for a class on backing up trailers - and while there are so many sexist driving jokes to choose from, I will refrain.

Rita shared some closing thoughts and we ended another meeting.

