



2024-25

Excellence through Personalized Learning

## FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

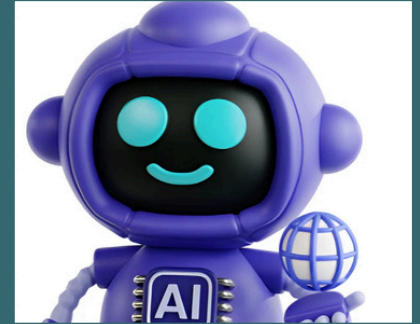
### GOAL #1: STUDENT SUCCESS



### GOAL #2: ENGAGEMENT

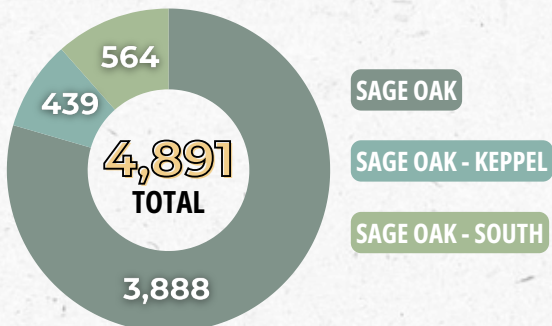


### GOAL #3: SMART LEARNING SYSTEMS

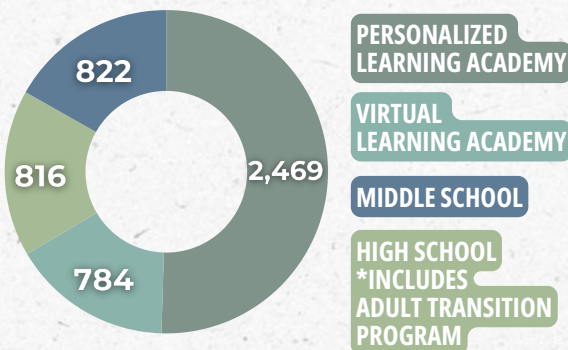


## CURRENT ENROLLMENT

### BY SCHOOL



### BY PROGRAM



## A LOOK INSIDE THIS ISSUE....

### GOAL #1 FEATURED HIGHLIGHTS:

- Enrollment for the 2025-26 school year soars, with **908 applications** - up **186%** from last year's 317.
- All three Sage Oak Charter Schools **received the Purple Star Award** for their commitment to supporting military families.

### GOAL #2 FEATURED HIGHLIGHTS:

- We are celebrating **36 team members** reaching their 1, 3, and 5-year milestones!
- 53 support staff members** joined two Coffee Talks with the Executive Team to discuss future plans, office developments, and team contributions.

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT](#)

### GOAL #3 FEATURED HIGHLIGHTS:

- The AI Committee enrolled in **San Diego State University's (SDSU) Application of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)** micro-credential course.
- The **redesigned SageOak.AI portal** features upgraded AI chatbots for improved accuracy.

### 100 and 101 Days of School Fun!



K-2 students celebrated the 100th day of school with counting activities and costumes, followed by Dalmatian-themed fun on the 101st day!

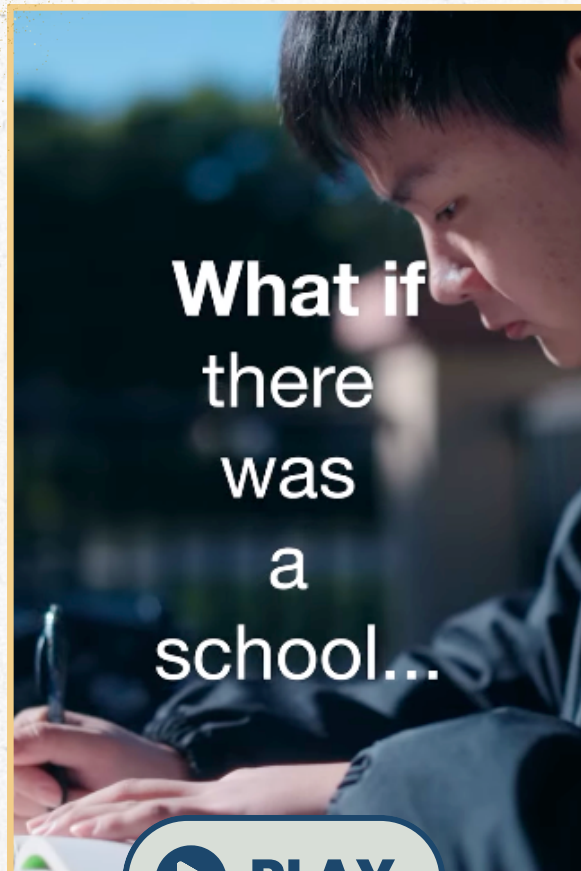


## GOAL #1: STUDENT SUCCESS



## Enrollment Soars for the 2025-2026 School Year

Enrollment for the 2025-2026 school year is starting strong! In the first week of opening on February 12th, we received an incredible **603 applications**. As of February 26th, that number has **grown to 908 applications**—a remarkable increase compared to the 317 applications we had at this time last year.



What if  
there  
was  
a  
school...

 **PLAY**

## Honoring Our Heroes: Sage Oak Receives Purple Star Award

On February 11th, all three Sage Oak Charter Schools received the prestigious Purple Star Award for supporting military families. This honor reflects Sage Oak's commitment to meeting the unique needs of military-connected students and easing the challenges of frequent relocations.

Watch this inspiring story of a military family and how Sage Oak has supported their educational journey!



 **PLAY**

## Student-Led Show "The Acorn" Debuts

The first episode of The Acorn aired on February 28th - a show created by students, for students! Led by Mrs. Shirlee Fisher, 4th-8th graders learned branding, designed a name and logo, and built a color palette. They developed recurring segments, crafted storyboards, wrote AI-assisted scripts, and refined their acting skills. Watch the first episode [HERE!](#)

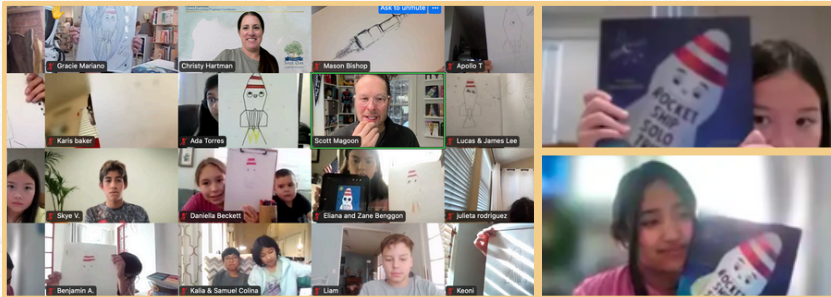




## GOAL #1: STUDENT SUCCESS

### PAGE Adventures: Creativity, Exploration & Growth

Award-winning author and illustrator Scott Magoon virtually connected with 33 PAGE students, sharing his process for illustrating children's books. He also led an interactive draw-along session, guiding students through a creative illustration exercise. Below are photos featuring students with their completed rocketship drawings and their copies of Magoon's book, *Rocket Ship, Solo Trip!*



### PAGE's First Deep-Sea Discovery



On February 24th, 30 PAGE students participated in their first field trip to the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach. Elementary students explored marine life, including plankton and other sea creatures, while middle school students took part in a hands-on squid dissection.

### Middle Schoolers Explore AI Chatbots

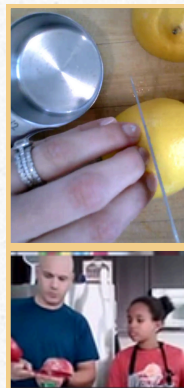
In our Oakschool AI Magic: Techy Adventures for Kids class, middle school students explored AI chatbot development using Nearpod, MagicSchool AI, and Otter.ai.



Lesley Avalos' AI-generated cockatoo named, Miko

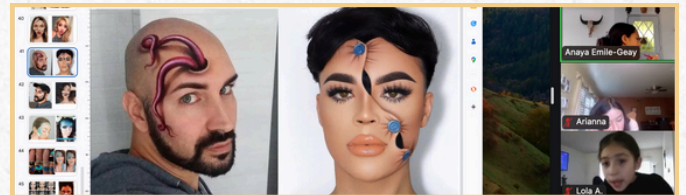
### Chef's in the Making: Culinary Creations

Mrs. Brittany Williams is equipping our 3rd-5th grade students with essential cooking techniques, kitchen safety, and food preparation skills. As they prepare treats like lemon bars, Nutella brownies, and strawberry shortcake cookies, our young chefs are gaining confidence in the kitchen and developing skills that could serve as a foundation for a future career in the culinary industry.



### Exploring the Art of Makeup: Art's Media and Entertainment Pathway

Mrs. Eliza Rogan teaches 5th-8th graders the art of makeup for film, television, and theater. In this hands-on course, students practice special effects makeup on themselves, building creativity and industry-relevant skills. This experience lays a foundation for future opportunities in entertainment and cosmetology.



The Magic of Makeup Artists

### Strengthening Instruction Through Data-Driven Collaboration

At the February Virtual Learning Academy (VLA) Professional Learning Community (PLC) meeting, the team analyzed Mastery Connect math data to track progress, identify trends, and target reteaching areas. Teachers partnered across grade levels with experienced Mastery Connect users to mentor colleagues new to the platform. This collaboration helped refine small-group instruction strategies, ultimately strengthening student support.





## GOAL #1: STUDENT SUCCESS

### Bridging the Gap

#### Accelerated Math Support for Student Success

The Curriculum team uses real-time math data to help teachers create targeted catch-up plans for students two or more grade levels behind. Focused on power standards, these plans accelerate learning while strengthening essential math skills, bridging gaps for a confident transition to grade-level math.

#### Math Interventions & IEP Goal Tracking in Special Education



The Special Education Department hosted a parent information session about math intervention groups that began in February. These groups support special education students who are near grade level but do not qualify for direct math services.



#### Hands-On Career Exploration

We had several career-focused field trips in February, giving students a glimpse into several professions, including archaeology and aviation.

At the Jurupa Mountains Discovery Center, students became archaeologists for a day, participating in a hands-on dig to uncover fossils and artifacts while exploring careers in geology and paleontology.

During the Long Beach Airport Tour, students got a behind-the-scenes look at aviation careers, but the highlight was the airport fire safety demonstration. They watched firefighters in action and learned about the specialized training required to handle aviation emergencies, gaining valuable insight into this critical field.

#### Celebrating Creativity: Cultivate & Create Contest Winners

This year's Cultivate & Create Contest saw increased participation, with **over 60 TK-12th grade students** submitting original creative works! Students explored the theme "Seed" in unique and inspiring ways, expressing their ideas through dance, music, painting, collage, photography, and more.

Awards were given in different grade categories, highlighting the diverse talents of Sage Oak students. Entries ranged from literal interpretations of nature and growth to symbolic representations of new beginnings and ideas, exhibiting creativity and imagination.



**Visual Arts:** Award of Excellence  
9th-12th Grade - Petra Sullivan,  
*"Underground"*



**Film Production:**  
Award of Excellence  
3rd-5th Grade -  
Ella Fakes,  
*"When Flowers Grow"*



**Photography:** Award of Excellence  
6th-8th Grade - Landon Pearson,  
*"Seed of Light"*





## GOAL #1: STUDENT SUCCESS

### Jumpstart to High School Webinar

Lauren Holman, Middle School Coordinator, hosted a Middle School to High School Transition Webinar on February 24 for 8th graders and their families. Additionally, all 8th-grade students were invited to Jumpstart to High School, a special Canvas course offering resources to help them prepare for the transition and explore the high school program.



### ROLLING AROUND With Friends!

The middle school hangout on February 21st was held at Epic Roller Entertainment in Murrieta. Seventeen students RSVP'd, along with 4 parents, for the Parent Connect event.



### Sacramento Bound: Students Tour the Capitol & CSU Sacramento

On February 26th, 14 middle school students, along with 9 high school students and 4 chaperones, journeyed north for a day trip to Sacramento to tour the capitol, meet with the representative from Redlands, visit California State University, Sacramento, and explore downtown Sacramento!



### Synchronous Strategies & High School Transition Support

Middle school teachers received training on Synchronous Instructional Strategies at the Personalized Learning Academy (PLA) and Virtual Learning Academy (VLA) PLC and also received training on resources and information to support 8th graders transitioning to high school.



### AVID's Dream Team Tutors



AVID has selected 3 student tutors based on Education Advisor (EA) recommendations, Alicia Barber (11th grade), Maison Keller (11th grade), and Alina Slaughter (10th grade). After completing their training, they are now set to lead weekly tutorial sessions every Thursday throughout the second semester, providing valuable peer support to their fellow students.



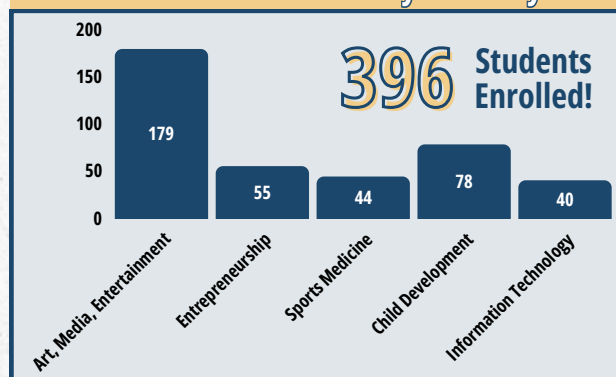
## Career Technical Education (CTE) Updates

### Celebrating CTE Month!

February is Career Technical Education (CTE) month! We have **396 students currently enrolled** in a CTE course.



#### Student Enrollments by Pathway



### Sports Medicine



Sports Medicine 2 students are leading group exercise classes, handling intake forms, safety policies, and client progress.

They also refine class structure, music selection, and engagement.

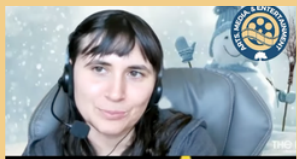


## GOAL #1: STUDENT SUCCESS

### Arts, Media and Entertainment



In the Arts, Media & Entertainment pathway, students kicked off a film and production unit by writing screenplays and creating pitch decks. Now in pre-production, they're exploring key roles and preparing questions for guest speaker Alan Luna, a casting director for film, TV, and animation.



In Animation, students experimented with stop-motion and animated light in static illustrations and studied illustrators Mucha, Arthur Rackham, and Moebius. Animation I students are also presenting on legendary animators like Tim Burton and Craig McCracken. Click [HERE](#) or the video left to watch their presentations!

### Child Development



Child Development 1 and 2 students worked with a Sage Oak TK class, leading two space-themed activities: a spacecraft and a kinesthetic exercise.



### Information Technology



Intro to Computer Science has launched into Web Development, with students learning Javascript, JQuery and Cascading Style Sheets (CSS). Advanced Placement (AP) Computer Science students have begun uploading work to the College Board website to prepare for the AP exam and re-coding "FlappyBird", a mobile game.

### Marketing and Entrepreneurship

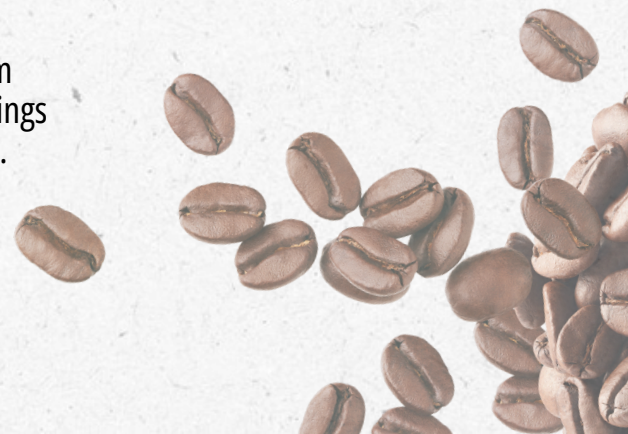


Entrepreneurship students are laying the groundwork for their semester project: creating original business plans. They started brainstorming ideas, interviewing peers to identify school-day improvements and developing creative products using the letters of their first names.

## GOAL #2: ENGAGEMENT

### Coffee & Conversations: Brewing Ideas & Celebrating Our Team

In February, the Executive Team hosted two "Coffee Talk" meetings with 53 support staff members. The sessions covered organizational plans, office developments, and staff recognition through Sage Milestones and the Sage Oak Shares referral program.







## Sage Oak Hiring Flyers Hit Starbucks

In collaboration with marketing, the Sage Oak hiring team developed recruitment flyers to support the 2025-2026 hiring efforts. These flyers were distributed to staff members and will also be posted on local Starbucks bulletin boards.

## Celebrating Milestones

We're excited to highlight our team members reaching significant milestones in their journey with us! We're celebrating:

- 15 team members reaching their 1st anniversary
- 15 celebrating their 3rd anniversary
- 6 marking their 5th anniversary

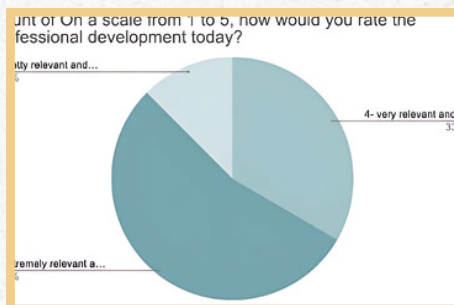
Thank you for your hard work and commitment! We look forward to celebrating even more milestones in August.



## Strengthening Team Impact with Targeted Learning

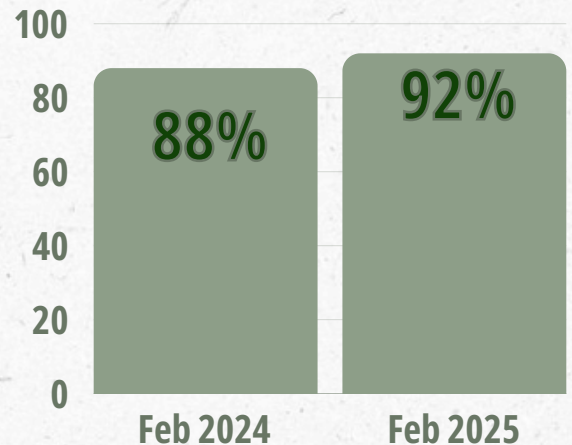
In February, our live synchronous instructors participated in professional development on technology integration. Breakout sessions explored research-based practices and innovative ways to enhance student learning.

**100% of our live synchronous instructors found the session relevant and helpful!**



## Happy Staff, High Retention

Sage Oak continues to maintain a positive and supportive work environment, as reflected in a recent pulse check survey for staff. Our **retention rate is at 92%**, up from 88% at this time last year.



As part of the February staff pulse check survey, staff were asked how they're feeling at Sage Oak right now, with **88% of participants giving it a positive rating (4 or 5)**. See survey responses below!

"I love my job, I love my students, and I love the school. I am happy with the direction we are headed as a whole and feel proud to be an employee here."

"The support, organizational goals, and mission statement make me feel that I am a part of a noble journey for our youth."

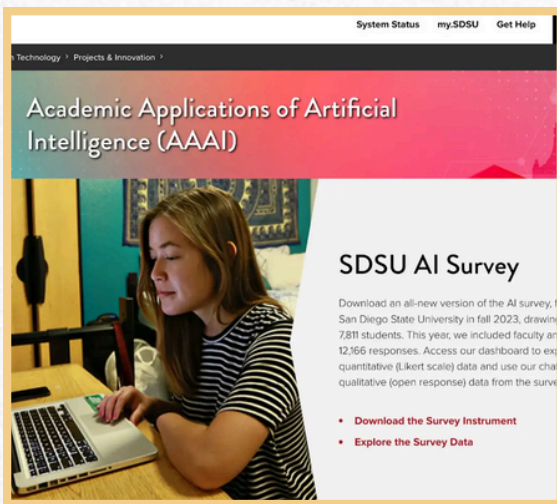


## GOAL #3: SMART LEARNING SYSTEMS

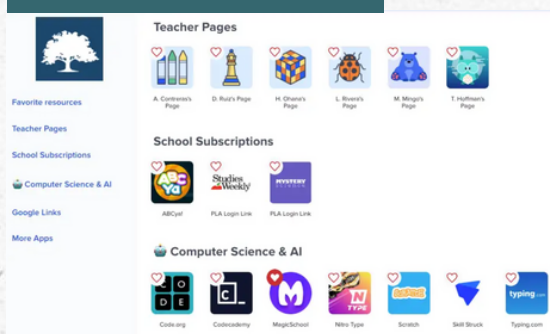


## AI IN ACTION: SAGE OAK COMMITTEE LEVELS UP WITH SDSU

The AI Committee is expanding its knowledge of AI and its impact on education by enrolling in the San Diego State University (SDSU) Application of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) micro-credential course. The committee plans to complete the modules and debrief weekly.



## CODING & AI IN CLEVER



## A SMARTER, MORE USER-FRIENDLY CHATBOT EXPERIENCE

The SageOak.AI portal has been redesigned to make it easier than ever for our staff to get quick and accurate answers to their questions. Our AI-powered chatbots have received a major upgrade, providing more control over chats, better access to past conversations, and improved accuracy in responses.

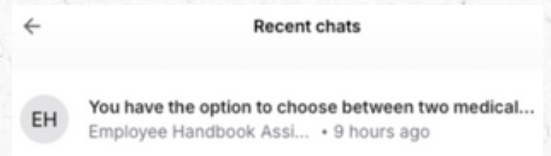
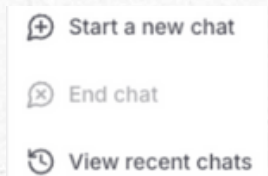
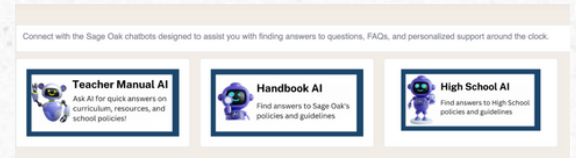
### What's New?

**A Fresh Look** – The updated SageOak.AI portal now features a cleaner, more modern design, making navigation seamless and intuitive.

**More Chat Control** – You can now easily start a new chat, end a conversation, and revisit previous chats whenever needed. This gives you full control over the chatbot experience.

**Chat History Access** – Never lose track of important information! Staff can now view your recent chatbot conversations to refer back to previous answers and responses.

**Smarter AI Responses** – Our team has been actively improving all existing chatbots to ensure they provide the most accurate and helpful information possible. Whether you're asking about school policies, curriculum, or HR-related topics, the Sage Oak chatbots are more reliable than ever.



### Employee Handbook Assistant

What is the leave policy

Sage Oak offers various types of leave, each with specific policies:

**FMLA/CFRA Leave** : Employees must contact HR as soon as the need for leave is realized. For foreseeable leave, such as birth or planned medical treatment, notify the school at least 30 days in advance.

**Baby Bonding Leave** : Must be taken in two-week increments, with exceptions for shorter increments on at least two occasions. A 30-day notice is required if the leave is foreseeable.

**Military Leave** : Provide written notice of your obligation or intention

The IT team added three new computer science applications, (Code.org, Codecademy, and Scratch) into Clever to improve access to free computer science and AI resources aligned with the CSTA K-12 standards.