

STAFF SPOTLIGHT:

Doug Green - Carlsbad High School Broadcast Journalism Teacher



Doug Green: 2016 California Teacher of the Year; 2021 Student Television Network (STN) Teacher of the Year; and creator and cultivator of two nationally acclaimed Broadcast Journalism programs at Carlsbad Unified:

- *CHSTV, Carlsbad High School's daily live news show, has garnered many prestigious STN Awards of Excellence, being named "Best in the Nation" 16 times. And, under Mr. Green's direction, Carlsbad High students have won four Pacemaker Awards (the Pulitzer Prize of student journalism) and 19 Student Emmys.*
- *VMSTV, Valley Middle School's program, has won twelve STN Awards of Excellence, and is celebrating its 22nd season of producing live broadcasts that feature school and community news. VMSTV has received the State of California's Golden Bell Award and has won multiple IViE (Innovative Video in Education) Awards. The class is a national model for middle school broadcast journalism, and is now a CTE Pathway.*

Mr. Green is retiring this month after 32 years of teaching in Carlsbad Unified. With 23 years overseeing CHSTV, racking up over 4,000 live broadcasts and impacting nearly three thousand young people, he is a CUSD celebrity.

Mr. Green began his Carlsbad Unified career as an English teacher at Valley Middle School, and then moved to Aviara Oaks Middle School when it opened in 1998. Already intrigued by the possibilities of integrating new digital media into classroom teaching, he found that his students were fascinated with appearing on a blue screen as Anne Frank or other characters from literature. He soon proposed a middle-school broadcasting

class – and the rest was CUSD history. By 2002 he had begun to build the high school program, splitting his day between Carlsbad High and Valley Middle School.

Today all CHSTV students learn every aspect of broadcast journalism in a state-of-the-art facility as they put together a daily student-run live show – editing, producing, directing, anchoring, reporting live or on tape, and operating cameras and sophisticated digital equipment such as satellite feeds and special effects. Every day is different, and the quality of their experience is stellar. Alumni students often report that their college programs were only “a lateral move” compared with the range and depth of the CHSTV classes. Mr. Green’s middle schoolers produce a monthly show, as they also learn all areas of production and reporting. A significant percentage of the middle school students continue on to join the high school program.

Mr. Green has always taught his students to seek the truth, to get out of their comfort zones, and to honor the role and responsibility of journalism. He says that his students are always eager to rise to the occasion and to pursue excellence.

Doug Green has sent students off to the top journalism programs in the country: Columbia, Missouri, Syracuse, Arizona State, USC, and many others. His former students can be found on-the-air or behind the scenes in media markets nationwide, working for major networks and video companies – one even produced a Super Bowl commercial.

Another of Mr. Green’s former students, Gary Koopsen – Creative Director of Drive Studios, a premier video production agency – recently spoke to CHSTV students. He said, “I don’t think I would have my career if it wasn’t for Mr. Green, who stayed after school and taught me linear editing with the SVHS decks, and then non-linear editing/live production with the Trinity system. I can’t thank him enough for all the hard work he has put in over the years to teach so many students the amazing art of broadcasting.”

One of the founders of the STN, Mr. Green served as long-time president and helped to put on annual national competitions that attract thousands of future broadcasters. Over 3,000 students will be competing in Long Beach this spring. After retirement he will continue to work with STN in an advisory capacity.

Mr. Green also created, produced, and co-wrote an impactful, award-winning film on the Holocaust, called *We Must Remember*. Sixteen CHS students interviewed Holocaust survivors and undertook research at the film library at the Holocaust Museum in Washington, DC. They travelled to Germany and Poland to experience concentration camps, and discussed the impact of the Holocaust with sixteen students from a German high school. The CHS students used the videos from this research to create a powerful and insightful film that told the story of the Holocaust from the perspectives of the survivors and the students, three generations later.

Above all, Doug Green impacted the lives and careers of his students.

"Mr. Green inspires students to think creatively, solve problems, and be prepared for their futures," says Ashley Crawford, K-12 Pathway Coordinator. "As a former student of Mr. Green and a current CUSD teacher, I can truly say that he goes above and beyond in the experiences he provides for students. His passion for journalism changes lives for the better."

So what's next for Doug Green? In his early years, he lived and worked in the UK and was employed as a social worker in a small city just west of London. Now he looks forward to returning to the UK after the holidays to work with underserved youth in Cardiff, Wales, teaching them the art of digital storytelling and filmmaking. He plans to use satellite technology to create a sister program with CHSTV, so students can work and grow together.