



Mohave District Annex  
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October 2018

Dear Scottsdale Unified School District Parents and Guardians,

The next few months are going to be exciting ones for our district, and I hope you plan to be a part of it - on many fronts!

Our Governing Board has received demographic information about our five learning communities and, based on those projections, your input and recommendations from our bond consultant, will determine which SUSD schools will be the next to be rebuilt or renovated. We know you are passionate about your neighborhood schools and their surrounding communities – we are, too! That is why you need to be a key part of these important, upcoming conversations. Be sure to check the [SUSD calendar](#) for the Board's meeting schedule so you can attend, provide comments or observe online.

The Governing Board has also begun the process to find the next Superintendent. Meetings will take place in each learning community in the coming weeks, per the schedule below. It is at these gatherings that you will have the opportunity to tell us the qualities and characteristics you think are most important of SUSD's next leader. The Governing Board will use that guidance to help it narrow down the list of suitably qualified applicants for the incoming Board to consider in January 2019. We hope to see you at any or all of these meetings:

**Arcadia Learning Community**

***Tuesday, October 23***

Arcadia High School Auditorium  
4703 E. Indian School Rd., Phoenix  
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

**Chaparral Learning Community**

***Tuesday, October 23***

Cocopah Middle School Cafetorium  
6615 E. Cholla St., Scottsdale  
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

**Coronado Learning Community**

***Wednesday, October 24***

Coronado High School Auditorium  
7501 E. Virginia Ave., Scottsdale  
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

**Desert Mountain Learning Community**

***Thursday, October 25***

Mountainside Middle School Auditorium  
11256 N. 128<sup>th</sup> St., Scottsdale  
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

**Saguaro Learning Community**

***Thursday, October 25***

Saguaro High School Auditorium  
6250 N. 82<sup>nd</sup> St., Scottsdale  
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

We are also looking forward to seeing the results of your participation in the district-wide, online survey that is open through October 26. This confidential survey of parents and guardians, students in grades 4-12, all SUSD employees and community members will give us a clearer understanding of how our stakeholders think the District is doing, what we're doing well and what needs to be better. We hope you can set aside about 10 minutes to help SUSD continue to move forward. Take the survey at [susd.org/survey](http://susd.org/survey).

You may have noticed that SUSD has begun taking open enrollment applications for the 2019-2020 school year. Applications submitted by October 31 will be processed by the time we go on Winter Break, December 21.

Moving the priority open enrollment period up one month from November to October has several advantages. It allows for: earlier insight into the resources SUSD will need for next school year; earlier timeframes for parents wishing to enroll in SUSD or wanting to change their child's SUSD school; and earlier contract decisions for teachers. Better planning and earlier decision-making helps everyone.

With all of the excitement last week of wrapping up the first quarter of the school year, you may have missed that the State Board of Education issued its school letter grades for the 2017-2018 school year. The A-F letter grade system measures year-to-year student academic growth; proficiency on English language arts, math and science; proficiency and academic growth of English language learners; high school, career and higher education readiness; and high school graduation rates.

I am proud to report that SUSD fared very well, with 89% of our schools receiving either an A or B letter grade. We appreciate the hard work and dedication that our students and teachers put forth every day in SUSD classrooms that results in this strong achievement. Go to <https://azsbe.az.gov/f-school-letter-grades> to find your school's grade.

Lastly, as fall break gets underway, I want you to know that your students have been working diligently to succeed in the many arenas in which they participate. Their teachers dedicate themselves to preparing students for whatever is next – the next quiz, the next lab, the next performance, the next game, the next course, the next grade, life.

We place many demands on our children, and sometimes we forget that they are just that: children – children in need of our best guidance, our best example to follow and our best support. Enjoy the coming week with your families.

Respectfully,

Dr. John A. Kriekard  
Acting Superintendent