



Mohave District Annex
8500 E. Jackrabbit Road
Scottsdale, Arizona 85250

Telephone: 480-484-6100
Website: www.susd.org

November 2018

Dear Scottsdale Unified School District Parents and Guardians,

As we welcome family members and friends for the Thanksgiving holiday, I want to make sure you are up to date on some major activities in which your school district is engaged.

Navajo Elementary School – The Governing Board voted to use insurance money to restore the areas of Navajo Elementary School that were damaged by fire in August. We hope to hear soon what the cost of the repairs will be. The Board also asked for an estimated cost of bringing Navajo's mechanical and security systems up to code. If approved, that work would be undertaken at the same time as the restoration. Any system upgrades would be paid for with voter-approved 2016 bond money.

While a return date to Navajo is impossible to pinpoint right now, we hope Navajo students will be able to return to their beloved campus before Winter Break 2019. I want to thank Navajo's parents for their passion to bring the school back to its Granite Reef Road home. I, too, look forward to Navajo's restoration, and want to commend parents and the school's PTO for their stalwart support of Navajo's students, teachers and staff, and principal, Matt Patzlaff.

Cherokee Elementary School – The Governing Board and my top advisors agree that Cherokee Elementary School, located at 8801 N. 56th Street in Paradise Valley, should be the next SUSD school to be redeveloped. Whether that means new construction or a major renovation has not yet been decided. We will be listening closely to the Cherokee community's thoughts on that at a meeting to be held at 6:30 p.m., Monday, December 17 in the school's cafeteria. The project's architect will be there to listen, as well. No design proposals will be presented that evening, as we need to hear what the community favors first.

The process of selecting SUSD's next Superintendent continues; the application deadline is next week. On December 20, the Governing Board will meet to review candidates' applications and choose the finalists who will be invited to interview for the position in late January. While the details are yet to be worked out, you will have the opportunity to meet the finalists before the Board makes a final decision. Be sure to monitor the district website, susd.org, for that information. If you attended one of last month's public meetings or took part in the online survey to gather information on what you think is important in the next superintendent, thank you for your invaluable insights. You can read the consultant's report to the Board [here](#). We encourage you to continue to be involved in charting SUSD's future.

Lastly, while it is too late to do anything about this year's school calendar, the Governing Board has amended the District's 2019-2020 calendar so that school ends the week before Memorial Day. We know that had been an issue for many of you.

Best wishes for a wonderful and safe Thanksgiving!

Dr. John A. Kriekard
Acting Superintendent