



January 5, 2021

Dear SUSD Families,

With the second half of the school year now underway, we want to be sure that you understand our plan for the Wednesday Early Release days, the first of which is tomorrow. Every Wednesday through the end of the school year will be an Early Release day for all Scottsdale Unified students.

We are pleased to inform you of exciting, new opportunities SUSD is providing to students to extend their learning time after school gets out for the day on Wednesday afternoons - or any time! We know that this school year and the end of the last one have weighed heavily on our students' emotional well-being. We strongly encourage students to engage in the District's new offerings that center specifically around social/emotional growth, career pathway planning and academic skills support.

They are easy to find: When students go to Single Sign On, they will see the Wednesday Learning Opportunities icon under the Student Apps. When they click on the icon, they will be taken to a page where they can choose from a variety of learning experiences based on grade level. These opportunities include:

- Nearpod: Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) lessons to help students develop skills in the areas of self-management, self-awareness, social awareness, relationship skills and responsible decision-making.
- SUSD Oasis: A virtual calming space to help decrease stress and regulate emotions
- Minecraft: An interactive game that encourages self-awareness and management of emotions through a series of quests
- Vaping Prevention: The Stanford Vaping Prevention curriculum provides students the opportunity to learn about the health risks associated with using e-cigarettes/vapes and marketing tactics used by nicotine companies to target young people, and helps students gain skills to refuse experimentation and use.
- Naviance: A college and career readiness program that helps students reach their goals by developing skills critical for college, career and life

We believe students will benefit from these new learning opportunities and, with your crucial support at home, help them continue to weather the upheavals of COVID-19.

Thank you,

Scottsdale Unified School District [Leadership Team](#)