



May 28, 2021

Hello, Scottsdale Unified Parents and Guardians!

The 2020-2021 school year officially came to a close yesterday, and there is just one more graduation ceremony to go, tomorrow night's Arcadia High School celebration at Salt River Fields. If you were not able to attend one of the high school ceremonies, watch videos of the events at your convenience at www.susd.org/Graduation. In addition to high school festivities, drive-through promotion ceremonies were held throughout the district this week for our fifth and eighth grade students who, respectively, are moving up to middle and high schools in August. That's exciting, too!

All of these celebrations are special every year, but to be able to top off this school year in particular with SUSD traditions is especially rewarding. We could not have achieved this without you, and we offer our sincere thanks for your support, guidance and investment in SUSD!

Summer Learning in SUSD

We're looking forward to kicking off a variety of summer learning programs for SUSD students in June! From our usual Summer School program for high school students, programs to ensure elementary and middle school students are ready for their next grade level, Community Education and school-specific, programs, SUSD is on-task in Summer 2021 to support your students' learning needs.

- For information regarding high school Summer School, visit www.susd.org/SummerSchool, email summerschool@susd.org or call 480-484-7900.
- For information about middle and high school Summer Bridge math programs, email Lindsay Gilbert at lgilbert@susd.org.
- For information on elementary school Summer Boost programs, email Melissa Faeh at mfaeh@susd.org.
- For information on summer English Language Development programs, email Christina Dias at cdiaz@susd.org.
- For school-specific programs, please call the [school's front office directly](#).
- Community Education is offering summer programs at [Desert Canyon Elementary School and the Oak Campus](#) from June 1-30 and July 1-30. Please direct your questions to 480-484-7900.

Middle School and High School Supplemental Novels

Middle and high school English Language Arts (ELA) teachers enhance instruction by selecting novels from an approved list of supplemental books organized by grade level. The list is updated yearly, utilizing an approval committee to vet and recommend additional texts. This year, three novels are being recommended to add to the middle school supplemental reading list. One high school novel is recommended for use in the Desert Mountain High School International Baccalaureate program.

The middle school committee reviewed and recommended these texts to be added to the ELA Middle School Supplemental Book List:

- *Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus* - Dusti Bowling
- *Percy Jackson: Lightning Thief* - Rick Riordan
- *Legend* - Marie Lu

The high school committee reviewed and recommended this text to be added to the ELA High School Supplemental Book List:

V for Vendetta - Alan Moore (International Baccalaureate Program)

If you would like to be involved in the novel selection process next school year, please check the [district's committee hub on the SUSD website](#) during the month of June, when we will seek additional stakeholder representation for next year.

Nutrition Services

Starting next Wednesday, June 2, and through the summer, SUSD Nutrition Services moves its weekly, curbside meal distribution site to Pima Traditional School, 8330 E. Osborn Rd., Scottsdale. Families can pick up a week's worth of yummy and nutritious student breakfasts and lunches, drive-thru style, every Wednesday from 7 – 9:30 a.m.

Community COVID-19 Vaccination Opportunities

Free COVID-19 vaccinations will continue to be offered throughout the summer by public and community health organizations to those ages 12 and older around our community. For your convenience, we have compiled a list of upcoming, local events [here](#) on the SUSD website, including one at Saguaro High School on June 5, offered by NOAH, in partnership with SUSD.

Hohokam Rebuild

Despite the pandemic, work has continued this school year on 2016 Bond projects. Cherokee Elementary School students have watched their [new school](#) be built around them during the past two years and Hohokam Elementary students, along with their Yavapai Elementary friends, will occupy the rebuilt Hohokam campus in August. Hohokam Principal Chuck Rantala and SUSD Superintendent Dr. Scott Menzel recently hosted some students on a tour of the new Hohokam. Take a look at what they saw [here](#)!

Construction of the [new Kiva Elementary](#) will get underway in the coming months, and the 2016 bond program will close out at Pueblo and Tavan. SUSD remains grateful for your support of the 2016 bond that continues to bring exciting, new facilities and learning and growing opportunities to SUSD students.

Goodbye for now!

This is our 39th, and final, parent letter of the 2020-2021 school year. We wish you a terrific summer with your families, and look forward to seeing your students again on Wednesday, August 4, to begin the next chapter of their educational journey!

Thank you,

Scottsdale Unified School District [Cabinet](#) and [Leadership Team](#)