From the Desk of the Superintendent

Falling Into Place

The school year is off to a running start. As the students were off enjoying their summer break, our District personnel were hard at work making sure that the facilities and grounds were updated and ready to receive the nearly 23,000 students across our 29 campuses. A few days before school began, I had the honor of welcoming our new teachers. This year, we had a great mix of teachers who are coming to us as a second career with a desire to serve students. We also welcomed a cohort of teachers new to the profession. We honor their choice to be a teacher and we applaud them for selecting Scottsdale Unified to launch their careers. The energy and excitement from this group was inspiring. As the new teachers readied their classrooms and received coaching and support, the cabinet members, Governing Board and I held two “Welcome Back” rallies for returning employees. The program for these rallies focused on the District’s values and core purpose. After sharing a moving story, members of the cabinet recognized specific principals with a very special challenge coin for embodying these values. This program to celebrate excellence in the District is now active in all schools, with employees, students and our stakeholders eligible for this special recognition. You can read more about this program in the pages that follow.

Making so many moving parts “fall into place” is the result of the efforts of the many hard-working employees here at Scottsdale Unified. From rallying around our goals and core purpose to recognizing excellence, we are united to be there to help, encourage and engage our students in learning and growing, and provide them with opportunities to expand their school experience through extracurricular activities, such as clubs, theater productions and sports.

As we look into the eyes of our littlest learners and prepare to launch the Class of 2020 into the world, I’d like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who makes that possible on a daily basis. Raising, educating and keeping our students healthy, engaged and active is a tremendous responsibility that we joyously share with the thousands of parents, guardians, family members, volunteers and, of course, employees of the District.

While we are off to a strong start, we always strive to get better at what we do. Running a large school district takes a coordinated effort and lots of communication, so that is why you will read more about my efforts to engage teachers, parents and community members into discussions taking place around the community. We thank you for your continued support of the Scottsdale Unified School District and thank you for helping us serve students through collaboration, respect and being involved in our schools.

Dr. John Kriekard, Ed.D.

On the Cover: Mohave Middle School student athlete Carver put his baseball skills on display during tryouts for the Wildcats’ fall lineup. Read more on page 4 about how sports help contribute to the overall success of students. Photography by Victor Bobbett unless otherwise noted.
Unless otherwise indicated, regular Governing Board meetings are held at 5 p.m. in the Board Room at Coronado High School, 7501 E. Virginia Ave., Scottsdale. Study sessions and special meetings are held at 5 p.m. at the Mohave District Annex (MDA), 8500 E. Jackrabbit Rd., Scottsdale. Copies of the agenda are available at susd.org/Board. All regular and special meetings are open to the public, except during executive session. Members of the public are welcome to speak at regular Board meetings which are also broadcast live and archived on the official Scottsdale Unified School District YouTube channel. For additional information, please call (480) 484-6238.

Oct 15, 2019       Coronado HS       Regular Meeting
Nov 5, 2019        MDA             Study Session
Nov 19, 2019       Coronado HS       Regular Meeting
Dec 3, 2019        MDA             Study Session
Dec 17, 2019       Coronado HS       Regular Meeting
Jan 7, 2020        MDA             Study Session
Jan 21, 2020       Coronado HS       Regular Meeting
Feb 4, 2020        MDA             Study Session
Feb 18, 2020       Coronado HS       Regular Meeting
Mar 3, 2020        MDA             Study Session
Mar 17, 2020       Coronado HS       Regular Meeting
Apr 7, 2020        MDA             Study Session
Apr 21, 2020       Coronado HS       Regular Meeting
May 5, 2020        MDA             Study Session
May 19, 2020       Coronado HS       Regular Meeting
Jun 9, 2020        MDA             Study Session
Jun 23, 2020       3 p.m., Coronado HS       Regular Meeting
                                Approval of FY20-21 Budget
Known for its excelling students, dedicated teachers, rigorous academics and outstanding fine arts, the Scottsdale Unified School District (SUSD) has established itself over the past 123 years as one of Arizona’s premier public school districts.

SUSD is also known for the outstanding achievements of its student athletes and the athletics programs in which they participate. The most noteworthy of these, at least in recent district history, is Saguaro High School, with its six consecutive state football titles (2013-2018). So, too, over the years, have the reputations of the district’s four other high schools become aligned with their sports programs: Arcadia – basketball, golf and swimming; Chaparral – name just about any sport; Coronado – soccer; and Desert Mountain – tennis, cross-country and track. During the 2018-2019 school year, 2,701 SUSD students, or about 33% of the high school student body, tried out and competed for their high schools’ teams.

While some high school athletes come to their school teams with club and travel team experience, since 2009 they have also come from SUSD’s two-tier, middle school athletics program. District Athletic Director Nathan Slater says the unique approach was created, initially, to involve as many seventh and eighth grade students as possible in a school-sponsored, after-school activity. Sixth graders were added to the mix in 2013.

SUSD’s two-tier system kicks off at the beginning of three “Tier 1” middle school athletics seasons (1st quarter: girls volleyball, boys baseball; 2nd quarter:
girls and boys soccer, softball, boys basketball; 3rd quarter: girls basketball, flag football). Students learn the fundamentals of the sport they choose, the rules, safety precautions, positions and strategies, and practice against each other. Regardless of experience, all students have the opportunity to play during Tier 1. This ‘training ground’ lasts for about a month, wrapping up with a one day, Saturday ‘Festival,’ during which teams from SUSD’s nine middle and K-8 schools face each other in three games of friendly competition. Scores are not kept and everyone plays. It is not unusual for more than 800 sixth, seventh and eighth graders to take the fields and courts on a Festival Saturday. (SUSD also offers the no-cut sports of cross-country in the 3rd quarter and track and field in the 4th quarter.)

The week after the festivals, coaches select 30 or so players to form ‘Tier 2’ varsity and junior varsity school teams that play each other in a competitive season that lasts about five weeks. Teams average seven games during the Tier 2 season, and play both at home and away. Last school year, 38% of SUSD’s middle school enrollment, nearly 2,000 students, went out for, and played on, school teams.

“Athletics, whether it’s in middle school or high school, impacts more kids than any other school function outside of the classroom,” says Slater, a former SUSD high school principal, math teacher and coach. “Being able to provide the additional connection of sports to school helps middle school students feel like they’re a part of something bigger than themselves.”

“I’m a big fan of the two-tier system,” says Cocopah Middle School principal Nick Noonan. “Tier 1 provides students with the opportunity to learn a sport, make new friends and experience the camaraderie of being on a team in a pressure-free environment. Tier 2 provides more skilled students a chance to play competitively, represent their school and prepare to play high school sports, if that’s what they want to do. It’s a great way to do things.”

Middle school coaches are drawn from each school’s own teaching staff, so students and teachers already have a basic familiarity with each other before they meet as coach and athlete. As coaches and athletes, they establish strong, professional relationships that Tonalea athletic director and eighth grade social studies teacher Shawn Crosier believes translate into stronger classrooms. “Athletics adds a great dimension to the middle school environment. I see it when students bring into the classroom life skills, such as teamwork, communication, endurance, commitment and goal setting, that they’ve learned being part of a team.”
There is classroom motivation, too, to take part in middle school athletics: students must maintain a 2.0 GPA (C average) to be able to play in Tier 2. “In short,” says Crosier, ‘they have to be student athletes, where ‘student’ comes first.’

“They’re happy, they’re feeling good, they come to school, they’ve got a good attitude,” Mohave Middle School principal Chris Asmussen observes. “So now, some kids who might not want to work to keep their grades up do it so they can participate in their sport. The more we can connect kids to school through clubs, sports and other activities, the greater the likelihood that they’re going to be successful in their academics, as well.”

Ingleside Middle School science teacher Jena Krahl, who doubles as the school’s athletic director, points out that athletics is different from required, during-the-school-day physical education classes: PE. and learning about personal fitness is important, but after-school sports offer students a choice. ‘Students don’t have to stay after school and participate. They want to. It’s fun!” Krahl says it is not unusual for Ingleside students to go out for at least two sports during the school year. Boys basketball and girls volleyball are the most popular.

The middle school athletics experience is a good first exposure for students who may be eyeing trying out for a high school team, says Krahl, but there are bigger implications. “Team building, time management, problem solving – these are all 21st century skills necessary for career and college readiness. And traveling to other schools to compete during the Tier 2 season teaches students how to interact respectfully with opponents, referees, other coaches, bus drivers and spectators.

Mohave’s Asmussen agrees, and likes seeing some of the life lessons that are a result of the two-tier system. Representing one’s school while at school is just as valuable, he says, as representing one’s school in the community at-large. “One of the learning moments that a student might experience for the first time comes after Tier 1, when we make choices to form the Tier 2 teams. Students have to learn to be humble if they’ve made the team, and they also have to learn to walk with their chin up if they didn’t, and that’s a life skill that you have to learn. Have a growth mindset, come back next year and keep trying.”

Middle school athletics has a special place in the heart of Saguaro High School football coach Jason Mohns: coaching a city, flag football team of Cocopah Middle School seventh graders was his first job when he was in college. He went on to found the Scottsdale Argonauts youth football program for kids ages 8 through 14.

Now, as a parent of young children himself and coach of one of Arizona’s most storied high school football programs, Mohns is a strong supporter of SUSD’s inclusive, two-tier system for middle schools. “Just getting kids involved in organized sports, keeping them busy and exposing them to different sports without feeling the pressure, that’s a great way to start them off. Maybe they’ll find something that they didn’t know that they loved and, all of a sudden, they’ve had a couple practices and a couple games in middle school, and they say, ‘You know what? I really enjoy playing this sport and I think I want to continue doing it!’

“The more students you can get exposed to athletics and being a part of a team and the accountability that goes along with it,” Mohns concludes, “I think the better it is for their long-term success.”
By Lindsey Eaton: In My Own Words  
Chaparral High School Graduate

My name is Lindsey Eaton and I am a 2014 graduate of Chaparral High School. You might remember me from the 2014 Chaparral graduation ceremony, where I gave a speech about my journey with autism. This speech went viral and was shared by my family, friends, and SUSD governing board members.

Since I graduated from Chaparral, I lived with my parents but now I live at First Place–Phoenix, an apartment community for those with autism and other special abilities. I cook my own meals, budget my money and grocery shop for my own groceries. I have been dating my boyfriend, Adam Pitts, also a Chaparral alum, for three years. He is my best friend and soulmate. We go to Diamondbacks games, go bowling, go to the movies and cook meals at my apartment. We talk on the phone every night.

I work at the Arizona School Boards Association as their Administrative Clerk. I answer the phones, greet guests, update the company database, gather signatures for birthday cards for my co-workers and perform data entry. I have amazing co-workers and supervisors. We talk about life, our pets, our families, sports and weekend plans. The ASBA team is like my family. When I graduated from the First Place Transition Academy, my supervisors came to see me graduate. This job has helped me become more passionate about education. Every day that I work there, I love my job. I also work at the Law Office of Emily Taylor doing administrative work. Both those jobs are nearly full-time hours so a schedule for 9:00am to 4:00pm for both jobs. Having two jobs allows me to earn two paychecks that are decent. I earn money to buy a new Apple Watch watchband, go out to lunch with friends, go get a manicure or pedicure or both or to see a sporting event.

I remain involved in Best Buddies and the Southwest Autism Resource Center, two groups I was involved in while I was at Chaparral. In 2017, I spoke at the SARRC Community Breakfast about my time at Chaparral and how SARRC has helped me belong. In regards to Best Buddies, I have gained new friends through Best Buddies. I matched through the Best Buddies Citizens program with my buddy Kara Galloway. We have gone to the movies, go bowling and hung out. I consider Kara one of closest friends already even though we’ve only been matched for a month. We do text every three days a week. I am so happy to see all of the continued success of Best Buddies chapters at Chaparral High School and Cochise Elementary School, both in SUSD. Both schools recently won Outstanding Chapters at Best Buddies Arizona’s Annual Bestie Awards Ceremony.
Each year, The Scottsdale Charros host more than 300 deserving students for lunch, and an afternoon of learning and fun on the field, with Major League players, coaches and even Hall of Famers.

The Scottsdale Charros are an all-volunteer group of business and civic leaders, who’ve dedicated themselves to providing support and funding for youth programs, educational scholarships, and grants to local charities.
Striving to meet the needs of all gifted learners.

SUSD offers gifted services at every school. Learn more about our gifted programs at: susd.org/Gifted  (480) 484-5014

Nutrition Services

Serving 11,000 Healthy Meals & Smiles Every Day!

(480) 484-6234  susd.org/Meals
There's no getting around it: Whether it is by choice or out of necessity, high school students today are busy, busy, busy. They are among the first at school in the morning, by 7:45 a.m. Some are there even earlier, at 6:45 a.m., for zero hour classes. Unless they are a senior, their school day consists of attending six different, 54-minute academic and elective classes, with 33 minutes for lunch.

When the last class dismisses at 2:20 p.m., another day begins for many students: some go off to a sports team practice or game against another school (a whopping 33% of SUSD high school students play a school sport every year), some hold part-time jobs, some play chauffeur to younger siblings who have after-school activities and some go home.

With so many types of commitments from sun up to sun down, how can a student feel connected to his or her school? One answer is student clubs. Whether it’s the Girls Who Code and Choir Council at Chaparral High School or the Key Club and Battered Suitcases Club at Arcadia High School, clubs offer students a place to belong and meet people with shared interests, people whom they wouldn’t necessarily come across if they have no classes in common.

“High school students spend most of the school day focused on academics,” says Dr. Steven Chestnut, Executive Director, Scottsdale Unified School District (SUSD) Support Services. “Participation in clubs and activities allows students to pursue their passions and interests, and there are many opportunities.”

Indeed, there is no lack of student clubs at SUSD high schools. If you have an interest, odds are you can find a club that matches it. From academic clubs, such as Calculus Club; programs of distinction, such as National Honor Society (NHS); and clubs that promote school spirit, such as the Wolf Den at Desert Mountain High School, District high school students have multiple opportunities to be involved in the life of their school.

There are clubs that are connected to school sports teams, such as Volleyball and Baseball clubs. These clubs are how many SUSD student athletes get involved in community service projects on behalf of local charitable organizations.

Some student clubs have a school goal, such as the Best Buddies and Buddy clubs that work to create accepting environments and one-on-one friendships with students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Others seek to address ongoing societal issues, such as diversity and acceptance, with clubs like the African American Student Union and the Pride Club.

Yet others delve into potential future careers in, for example, robotics, fashion, nursing, theater, sports medicine and the justice system. Some students want to dig more deeply into class subjects, such as art with Coronado High School’s DaVinci Dons Club or zoology and botany with Saguaro High School’s ZoBo Club.

And don’t forget the just-for-fun clubs: the Cowboy Club, Dungeons and Dragons clubs, Anime clubs, Gentlemen Scholars and... Swing Dance!

Saguaro Principal Ann Achtziger says both students and schools benefit from a robust variety of student clubs. “Our goal is to have every student engaged and participating in school outside of the regular schedule from day one so
Todd Stevens, the principal of Arcadia High School, says feeling connected has many valuable ramifications. “We know that students who are engaged beyond the classroom do better in the classroom. Student clubs also offer school administrations a set of student leaders to serve as role models for other students. Clubs are definitely a positive addition to our campus.”

New clubs are created every year, some go away when the students who formed them graduate and others consistently live on. It’s all part of the living, breathing organism called “high school.”

How do clubs recruit new members? SUSD high schools borrow some college terminology and conduct what’s called “Club Rush” within the first month of so of each new school year. Usually held during lunch periods, club leaders set up and decorate tables in a location such as a gym or, weather permitting, an outdoor courtyard, to accommodate club “shoppers.” Held over several days, students have the opportunity to wander from table to table and speak with club representatives, who explain their organizations’ mission. While all students are invited, Club Rush events are particularly geared to capturing the interest of each school’s freshman class and other new students.

At Desert Mountain High School this year, the recruitment process was conducted a bit differently as a result of a school focus group last school year. It found that large Club Rush events can be intimidating, particularly for freshmen, who are still in the throes of learning their way around campus. Past events also had somewhat patchy results: students would sign up to join multiple clubs, then never attend meetings.

This school year, each Desert Mountain student club is assigned a particular lunch period during which would-be members are invited to club meetings to see them in action. Instead of playing out over two days, Club Rush was spread out over the first month and a half or so of school.

“We’re trying to make school a really meaningful place,” says Dr. Lisa Hirsch, Desert Mountain’s principal, “where everything we do outside of class is an extension of the learning.” Hirsch is amazed at the breadth of the school’s student clubs, an estimated 60 at last count. Some meet after school, but most meet during lunch, and not every day, giving students the chance to be part of more than one club, if they wish.

Following Club Rush on all campuses, if a student still can’t find a club to join, a new one can be created: there must be four students willing to be in leadership roles (president, vice president, treasurer, secretary) and there must be a teacher sponsor. Applications are submitted to school student government organizations (STUGOs), including a constitution that states the purpose of the proposed club and how it will help the school or the community at-large. If a sponsor can’t be found, STUGOs will help find a teacher who has a similar interest or background in the topic. STUGOs recommend whether proposed organizations are chartered; school administrators have the final say.

Saguaro High School Social Studies Department Lead Ashley Crose has sponsored many student clubs in his 18 years as a Sabercat. Currently, he co-sponsors the school’s NHS, whose community service work includes literacy projects at Saguaro’s feeder elementary and middle schools during annual Dr. Seuss “Read Across America” celebrations. He says the impact of such involvement is long-lasting for both students and school. ‘In speaking with students from past graduating
classes, they have lifelong friends from clubs at Saguaro. When students have connections to their schools, especially through clubs, it helps build a culture, a culture where students love to come to school, to learn, to be with friends and to succeed.

Coronado High School Principal Amy Palatucci understands the value of club membership directly, having been a member of her Pennsylvania high school’s Mock Trial, Model United Nations and Forensics clubs. “I am still friends with many of the people who belonged to these clubs. They helped me connect with my high school community and helped develop me for leadership roles.”

“In clubs and activities, students use the soft skills they need to be successful as adults,” says Support Services’ Chestnut, “including skills like leadership, teamwork and effective communication.”

Achtziger agrees. “You’re learning how to work with people, you’re learning how to communicate, and organize yourself and present yourself. Knowing these kinds of soft skills makes you a good employee and community contributor.”

“School clubs give students the opportunity to explore and bond through a common interest that they may not have known they had before. They meet new people and build friendships that last beyond their days with us,” says Chaparral High School Principal Todd Dreifort.

Desert Mountain STUGO student body vice president Kayla Bartolini expects that to be the case after she graduates. A three-year member of the cheer team and Wolf Den organizer, Bartolini says being part of a club can change a student’s entire high school experience. “It gives you a sense of pride to be involved in the school that you go to, and instead of being just somewhere that you have to go to every day, it’s somewhere that you actually consider a home, where you have friends, where you have people you’re involved with. Whether it’s sports or service, you’re doing something for the school to make it a better environment for everybody.”
Scottsdale Unified School District is one of Arizona’s top districts, offering a wide range of programs to ensure all individual learners meet their full potential. SUSD proudly serves Scottsdale, east Phoenix, Paradise Valley and north Tempe students.

Moody’s Investors Services and S&P Global have assigned updated credit analyses of Scottsdale Unified School District:

Scottsdale Unified School District No. 48 (Maricopa County), AZ (Aa1 stable) – Moody’s Investors Service
Maricopa County Unified School District No. 48 (Scottsdale), AZ (AA/Stable) – S&P Global Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

The Scottsdale Unified School District (SUSD) has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Association of School Business Officials (ASBO) International for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR). This is the 21st consecutive year the District has earned this award.

### Capital Budget FY2020

- **Instructional Aids**: $1,572,870.50, 5%
- **Furniture & Equipment**: $6,007,099.69, 19%
- **Library Books**: $299,450.00, 1%
- **Vehicles**: $400,000.00, 2%
- **Construction Services**: $1,008,000.00, 3%
- **Technology**: $4,956,500.00, 22%
- **Textbooks**: $15,000,000.00, 48%

### Budgeted Funds: All Amounts FY2020

- **M&O**: $164,614,669.00, 41%
- **Bond**: $92,208,825.00, 23%
- **Other Funds**: $60,132,704.58, 15%
- **Federal Grants**: $14,515,429.91, 4%
- **Classroom Site**: $17,723,560.90, 4%
- **Capital**: $17,743,920.94, 4%
- **Debt Services**: $27,000,000.00, 7%
- **Adjacent Ways**: $2,560,000.00, 1%
- **State Grants**: $1,741,533.83, 0%

The Scottsdale Unified School District Finance Department is committed to managing the public funds entrusted to the District with integrity, accountability and transparency. We invite you to review the financial reports and budgets available any time at [susd.org/Finance](http://susd.org/Finance). To review current Bond and Capital Override activity, visit [susd.org/Bond](http://susd.org/Bond).
The Scottsdale Unified School District receives all of its maintenance and operation (M&O) funding from local property taxes. Based on formulas established by the state, the District uses M&O funds for operational expenses such as teacher and staff salaries, classroom supplies, student transportation and contracted services.

### 2017-2018 A-F School Letter Grades

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<thead>
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<th>Grade</th>
<th>Number of Schools</th>
<th>Percentage of Schools</th>
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<td>19</td>
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*Arizona State Board of Education

### 2020 M&O Budget By Category

- **Instructional**: $89,734,826.42, 56%
- **Plant Operations & Maintenance**: $26,363,374.15, 16%
- **Non-Instructional Services**: $299,650.50, 0%
- **General Administration**: $7,694,090.38, 7%
- **Transportation**: $8,584,312.13, 5%
- **Instructional Staff**: $6,886,137.03, 4%
- **Central Services**: $3,217,146.70, 2%
- **School Administration**: $11,508,017.34, 6%
- **Student Support**: $16,222,924.87, 10%
- **Food Service**: 3.90%
- **Instruction Support**: 5.40%
- **Administration**: 9.40%
- **Plant Operations**: 14.30%
- **Student Support**: 8.70%

### AEF Schools of Excellence™

- **Chaparral High School**
- **Cherokee Elementary School**
- **Cochise Elementary School**
- **Copper Ridge School**
- **Hohokam Elementary School**
- **Laguna Elementary School**
- **Navajo Elementary School**
- **Redfield Elementary School**
- **Sequoya Elementary School**
- **Tavan Elementary School**
For more detailed information on the Scottsdale Unified School District’s financial activity, please visit susd.org/Finance.
$80.3 Million Earned in Academic & Athletic Scholarships

1 Flinn Scholar

1 Dorrance Scholar

12 National Merit Scholarships Granted

6 U.S. Military Academy Appointments

1.49% Dropout Rate

34 International Baccalaureate Diplomas Awarded
Cherokee Elementary School:
At its October 16, 2018 meeting, the SUSD Governing Board voted unanimously to redevelop Cherokee Elementary School, 8801 N. 56th St. An ongoing series of community collaboration sessions has led to the creation of project goals and a project plan. This partnership continues as the project design, scope and cost take shape. For more information and to participate in ongoing public meetings, visit susd.org/CherokeeProject.

Hohokam Elementary School:
At its Sept. 3, 2019 special meeting, the SUSD Governing Board voted unanimously to proceed with an adaptive reuse of the existing Ralph Haver-designed school buildings and the construction of several new, single-story buildings.

Guiding Principles for the project have been adopted. Community forum meetings will continue as the project progresses. Visit susd.org/Hohokam.

Cherokee Timeline

2019

Aug 20: Orcutt Winslow architects presents draft design concepts
Aug 12: Community Forum #6: Cherokee Design Concept Presentation
Jul 24: Visioning Committee Meeting #7
Jun 26: Visioning Committee Meeting #6
May 14: Gov Board approves contract form for Cherokee’s construction
Apr 29: Community Forum #5
Apr 16: Gov Board votes to rebuild Cherokee Elementary School
Apr 11: Orcutt Winslow architects & CORE Construction recommends rebuild over renovation
Mar 25: Community Forum #4
Mar 19: Gov Board awards CORE Construction a contract for pre-construction services
Mar 7: Gov Board Study Session Project Update
Mar 6: Visioning Meeting #5
Mar 1: Alternative Community Forum #3
Feb 20: Visioning Meeting #4
Feb 6: Visioning Meeting #3
Jan 28: Cherokee Project Community Forum #3
Jan 23: Visioning Committee #2
Jan 16: Cherokee Visioning Committee #1
Jan 7: Cherokee Project Community Forum #2

2018

Dec 17: Cherokee Project Community Forum #1
Dec 11: Gov Board selects Phoenix-based Orcutt Winslow as project architect
Oct 16: Gov Board votes to redevelop Cherokee Elementary with 2016 voter-approved bonds

Your Tax Dollars at Work
Navajo Elementary School:

When a fire extensively damaged the campus of Navajo Elementary at 4525 N. Granite Reef Rd. on August 22, 2018, school operations had to be relocated to the former Oak Learning Academy campus, 7501 E. Oak St., three miles away, to ensure the safety of students, staff and the community. The fate of the fire-damaged campus became clear when the SUSD Governing Board approved restoration and renovation work at its February 12, 2019 meeting.

Principal Matt Patzlaff and all of the Navajo Buffalo families are excited and looking forward to a big homecoming when the restored and upgraded campus opens! For more information, visit susd.org/Navajo.

Hohokam Timeline

2019

Sep 3: Gov Board votes for a combination of renovation and new construction for the Hohokam project
Aug 20: SPS+ Architects, CHASSE Building Team provides update on Visioning Committee’s work
Jul 25: Visioning Committee Workshop
Jul 16: Visioning Committee - School Tour
Jun 25: Gov Board selects Chasse Building Team to provide design & preconstruction services
Jun 18: Hohokam Project Community Forum #2
Jun 6: Visioning Committee Workshop
May 22: Hohokam Project Community Forum #1
May 14: Gov Board selects Scottsdale-based SPS+ Architects
Apr 16: Gov Board votes to redevelop Hohokam Elementary School with 2016 voter-approved bonds

Navajo Timeline

2019

Aug 22: Community Forum
May 30: Principal Patzlaff Letter to the Community
May 20: Stakeholder Community Input Meeting
Mar 6: Stakeholder Community Input Meeting
Feb 14: Principal Patzlaff Letter to the Community
Feb 12: Gov Board approves $4.26 million in additional funds to renovate Navajo
Jan 30: Stakeholder Community Input meeting
Jan 11: Principal Patzlaff Letter to the Community

2018

Dec 6: Principal Patzlaff Letter to the Community
Nov 1: Superintendent Letter to the Community
Oct 19: Principal Patzlaff Letter to the Community
Oct 16: Gov Board decides to restore the fire-damaged Navajo campus with insurance money
Oct 16: CFO Jeff Gadd presents options to Gov Board
Aug 23: Navajo students & staff relocate 3 miles away to Oak Learning Academy campus at 7501 E. Oak
Aug 22: Fire damages Navajo Elementary campus at 4525 N. Granite Reef Rd
Celebrating

Our New Tradition

Being in the business of education means that our focus at the Scottsdale Unified School District (SUSD) is on people. The magnificent people working every day across the District delivering services to students make belonging to the SUSD workforce a familial experience. Having the opportunity to engage with our students and their families energizes us and provides a bounty of rewarding experiences. Our talented and professional workforce of more than 3,000 people is devoted to coordinating and consistently delivering an outstanding educational experience for every single SUSD student.

There is no doubt that outstanding achievements are happening each day across SUSD. To publicly recognize these achievements, the Superintendent brings forward the most notable stories each month at the Governing Board Meeting during a portion of the agenda dubbed “Celebrations.” Any Principal may nominate students and employees from their campus to be considered for a Celebration. In addition to being lauded before the Governing Board, Celebration honorees are presented with a signed certificate from the SUSD Superintendent and a very special token of appreciation from the Superintendent: a commemorative Excellence Recognition Coin.

Recognizing Excellence

Implemented in July 2019, the Excellence Recognition Coin provides a special way for the Superintendent and/or his designee to provide a physical representation of appreciation to students and staff for exemplary, above-and-beyond contributions and achievements. The coin is intended to recognize students and staff who are living our core values and going above and beyond expectations – striving for and achieving excellence. They are also awarded to our community partners and parents for excellence in supporting students.

An American Tradition

Recognition via challenge coins is an American tradition. The first coins can be traced back to World War II when officers presented coins to soldiers to reward remarkable actions. It is said that these coins were used to authenticate the identity of U.S. servicemen from enemy impostors. Since then, coins have evolved to become prestigious tokens of recognition that are collected, carried and displayed with pride.

We feel our coins build morale and serve as a lasting, tangible reminder of recognition while conveying a sense of belonging to our supportive, appreciative and proud community.
Excellence

By Amy Bolton
Chief Marketing Officer

Coin Presentation

In keeping with the military tradition of coin presentations, SUSD’s Excellence Recognition Coins are presented in person and with a handshake during which the coin is passed from the Superintendent to the honoree. This method of presentation allows a discreet, yet personal exchange when the Superintendent can provide his or her authentic expression of appreciation for the honoree’s efforts. Excellence deserves special recognition, and that’s what SUSD’s Excellence Recognition Coin strives to achieve. Individually and collectively, the owners of these coins remind us that achievement and excellence can come in many forms, from all types of people and in all actions that uphold our SUSD values.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is eligible to receive a coin?

To ensure that the recipients of these coins reflect the best SUSD has to offer, the coins are reserved for current SUSD employees and students, alumni of SUSD, and select community partners who provide outstanding support in the spirit of our SUSD values and mission.

What is the significance of the coin?

In keeping with the American tradition of United States military officers bestowing specifically designed coins to service members who perform exemplary acts, the Scottsdale Unified School District designed its own coin and accompanying recognition program. It is said that the owners of each coin are the ones who most understand and appreciate its meaning, for they are the ones who have put forth the effort to achieve it.

Why was this program created?

The Governing Board meetings provide for a portion of the agenda for Celebrations to laud the District’s most notable achievements. While this is a terrific forum for publicly recognizing achievement, it is limited to ensure that the meeting remains efficient. Knowing that there are so many terrific achievements happening that don’t make it to the Governing Board meeting agenda, the Superintendent wanted to develop a memorable recognition program. The coins are intended to recognize those who are living the District’s core values and striving for, and achieving, excellence.
Principal Patzlaff, Navajo

Principal Waldron, Anasazi

WE WILL SUCCEED THROUGH:
ACCOUNTABILITY
COURAGE
STUDENT FOCUS

IN HONOR OF THE OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS OF OUR STUDENTS, STAFF AND SUPPORTERS, WE OFFER OUR APPRECIATION!
Superintendent/Teacher Liaison Committee

What is on the minds of our teachers? What is happening at the District Office that teachers need to know about? Those are just a few of the topics discussed at the first meeting of the Superintendent/Teacher Liaison Committee on September 9, 2019.

Dr. Kriekard worked with principals to identify a teacher representative from each school to act as a liaison for their school to the Superintendent. The teacher liaisons will meet with him quarterly to provide feedback, ask questions and convey the latest information. Future Superintendent/Teacher Liaison Committee meetings are scheduled for November 2019, and February and April 2020.

Coffee with Kriekard

The first of five in a series of rotating community coffee talks with Superintendent Kriekard was a success! The gathering, dubbed ‘Coffee with Kriekard,’ is an informal get-together where parents, teachers, members of the public and District stakeholders can join Dr. Kriekard for some free coffee and discussion. Each meeting is open to anyone. “One of the best things about this job is meeting people in the community and finding out what’s on their minds,” says Kriekard. “I always learn something new and am impressed by the dedication parents and residents have to their schools. It’s what makes our District great.”

For more news and information from the Scottsdale Unified School District, visit susd.org/News. Stay connected with our schools at susd.org/Connect and with Dr. Kriekard at susd.org/Superintendent.

Coffee with Kriekard schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct 23, 2019</td>
<td>8 – 10 a.m.</td>
<td>Arcadia High School, 4703 E. Indian School Rd., Phoenix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 18, 2019</td>
<td>8 – 10 a.m.</td>
<td>Coronado High School, 7501 E. Virginia Ave., Scottsdale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 26, 2020</td>
<td>8 – 10 a.m.</td>
<td>Desert Mountain High School, 12575 E. Via Linda, Scottsdale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 22, 2020</td>
<td>8 – 10 a.m.</td>
<td>Chaparral High School, 6935 E. Gold Dust Ave., Scottsdale</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ICYMI 📣facebook 📣twitter 📣youtube 📣instagram 📣linkedIn

In case you missed it (ICYMI), we thought we would share some of the fun posts from our schools’ social media activity. Find a complete listing of our social media accounts at susd.org/Connect so you can get in on all of the adorable, exciting and informative action direct from our campuses.

Anasazi Elementary School SUSD
Published by Jennifer Waldron 🕒 September 18 at 10:17 AM 🕒

Students in third grade are using Thinking Maps to plan their writing by organizing their ideas and then transferring the information to their rough drafts in Google Docs. #WeAreAnasazi

Scottsdale Unified School District
August 30 at 11:00 AM

Save the date! High school students & their parents are invited to a Teen Town Hall Sat 11/2 at 2pm @ Arcadia High School, 4703 E. Indian School Rd, to talk about the learning climate in high schools, school safety, diversity & inclusion. Check out the event flyer for details: http://bit.ly/2NMRaNd

Echo Canyon School
Published by Kat Hughes 🕒 September 24 at 3:25 PM 🕒

Ms. Ostrovski’s first graders had the chance to witness a caterpillar transition into a chrysalis right before their eyes today! Our students are so lucky to see science phenomenon up close every day.
Where does your copy of the SUSD Showcase magazine go? Our readers sent us these pictures of the places they traveled with the magazine. If you have travel coming up over the Thanksgiving or Winter Break – be sure to bring along your copy of SUSD Showcase magazine and take a snap. Send it to SUSDCommunications@susd.org and we may feature it on our social media accounts and in a future magazine. Don’t forget to tag us in your Twitter and Facebook social posts @ScottsdaleUSD.
How do you show your SUSD pride?

Maybe you have seen a yellow magnet on the car ahead of you at a stop light and wondered, “What does that say?” SUSD has launched a campaign called “Proud SUSD Family” as a way to showcase our shared pride in being a part of the Scottsdale Unified School District. The bright yellow color is meant to be an eye-catching contrast to any color vehicle. In addition to the car magnets, the District has stickers to brand your favorite drink tumbler, laptop or notebook. Be sure to pick up your car magnet or stickers at the District Office at the Mohave District Annex at 8500 E. Jackrabbit Road.
### 2019 – 2020 District Calendar

**July**
- 26-30 New Teacher Orientation
- 31 Returning Teachers Begin

**August**
- 1-2 Staff Development
- 5 First Day For Students
- 21 Early Release (K-12)

**September**
- 2 Labor Day
- 11 Early Release (K-12)
- 30 District Recess

**October**
- 4 End of 1st Quarter
- 7-11 Fall Break
- 16-18 Early Release – Parent/Teacher Conferences (Elem. K-8)
- 17-18 Early Release – Parent/Teacher Conferences (MS)
- 23 Early Release (K-12)

**November**
- 6 Early Release (K-12)
- 11 Veterans Day
- 27-29 Thanksgiving Recess

**December**
- 11 Early Release (K-12)
- 18-20 Early Release – High School Final Exams
- 20 End of 2nd Quarter & 1st Semester
- 23-27, 30-31 Winter Break

### Key
- First Day For Students
- No School
- Early Release Day (Varies By Grade. See Below)
- Last Day For Students, Early Release, High School Graduation

**January**
- 1-3 Winter Break
- 15 Early Release (K-12)
- 20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

**February**
- 12 Early Release (K-12)
- 17 Presidents Day

**March**
- 6 End of 3rd Quarter
- 9-13 Spring Break
- 19-20 Early Release – Parent/Teacher Conferences (MS)

**April**
- 10 District Recess

**May**
- 13 Early Release (K-12)
- 19-21 Early Release – High School Final Exams
- 21 Last Day Student Classes – Early Release K-12
- 21 High School Graduation
- 22 Teacher Professional Development
- 25 Memorial Day
- 26 Teacher Professional Development
- 27 Teacher Professional Development/Last Day for Teachers

### Important Dates
- 180 Student Instructional Days
- Preschool: 3-year-olds, Pre-Kindergarten: 4-year-olds
- Unless otherwise noted, Early Release days accommodate staff development
Choose your school, choose your learning path.
Student by Day, Dreamer by Night

Open Enrollment Begins November 1

Unlock the potential in your student today by open enrolling in any of our 29 schools.

We offer an exciting, engaging and empowering environment where students ages 3 and up of all abilities can thrive.

For more details on the open enrollment process and to begin your application online, visit susd.org/Enroll.
### School Directory

#### Anasazi Elementary School
- Grades: Preschool - 5
- 12121 N 124th St, Scottsdale, 85259
- Office Hours: 8 am - 4 pm
- Class Schedule: 8:45 am - 3:15 pm Early Release: 1:15 pm

#### Arcadia High School
- Grades: 9 - 12
- 5001 E Gold Dust Ave, Scottsdale, 85253
- Office Hours: 7 am - 3 pm
- Class Schedule: 7:45 am - 2:20 pm Early Release: 12:20 pm

#### Arcadia Elementary School
- Grades: Preschool - 5
- 801 N 56th St, Paradise Valley, 85253
- Office Hours: 8 am - 3:30 pm
- Class Schedule: 8:45 am - 3:15 pm Early Release: 1:15 pm

#### Chaparral High School
- Grades: 9 - 12
- 4703 E Indian School Rd, Phoenix, 85018
- Office Hours: 7 am - 3 pm
- Class Schedule: 7:45 am - 2:20 pm Early Release: 12:20 pm

#### Chaparral Elementary School
- Grades: Pre-K - 5
- 13636 N 100th St, Scottsdale, 85260
- Office Hours: 7:15 am - 3:15 pm
- Class Schedule: 7:45 am - 2:15 pm Early Release: 12:20 pm

#### Cochise Elementary School
- Grades: Pre-K - 5
- 9451 N 84th St, Scottsdale, 85258
- Office Hours: 8 am - 3:30 pm
- Class Schedule: 8:45 am - 3:15 pm Early Release: 1:15 pm

#### Desert Canyon Middle School
- Grades: 6 - 8
- 4330 N 62nd St, Scottsdale, 85251
- Office Hours: 7 am - 3 pm
- Class Schedule: 7:45 am - 2:20 pm Early Release: 12:20 pm

#### Desert Canyon Elementary School
- Grades: Preschool - 5
- 10203 E McDowell Mtn Ranch Rd, Scottsdale, 85258
- Office Hours: 8 am - 3:30 pm
- Class Schedule: 8:45 am - 3:15 pm Early Release: 1:15 pm

#### Desert Mountain High School
- Grades: 9 - 12
- 12575 E Via Linda, Scottsdale, 85259
- Office Hours: 7 am - 3 pm
- Class Schedule: 7:45 am - 2:20 pm Early Release: 12:20 pm

#### Desert Mountain Elementary School
- Grades: Preschool - 5
- 701 N Miller Rd, Scottsdale, 85257
- Office Hours: 8 am - 4 pm
- Class Schedule: 8:45 am - 3:15 pm Early Release: 1:15 pm

#### Hohokam Elementary School
- Grades: Preschool - 5
- 6935 E Gold Dust Ave, Scottsdale, 85253
- Office Hours: 7 am - 3 pm
- Class Schedule: 8:45 am - 3:15 pm Early Release: 1:15 pm

#### Hopi Elementary School
- Grades: K - 5
- 5110 E Lafayette Blvd, Phoenix, 85018
- Office Hours: 8 am - 4 pm
- Class Schedule: 8:45 am - 3:15 pm Early Release: 1:15 pm

#### Kiva Elementary School
- Grades: Preschool - 5
- 4703 E Indian School Rd, Phoenix, 85018
- Office Hours: 7 am - 3 pm
- Class Schedule: 7:45 am - 2:20 pm Early Release: 12:20 pm

#### Laguna Elementary School
- Grades: Preschool - 5
- 10475 S East Cave View Dr, Scottsdale, 85258
- Office Hours: 8 am - 3:30 pm
- Class Schedule: 8:45 am - 3:15 pm Early Release: 1:15 pm

#### Mohave Elementary School
- Grades: 6 - 8
- 8490 E Jackrabbit Rd, Scottsdale, 85250
- Office Hours: 7 am - 3 pm
- Class Schedule: 8:45 am - 3:15 pm Early Release: 1:15 pm

#### Mountain View Middle School
- Grades: 6 - 8
- 4703 E Indian School Rd, Phoenix, 85018
- Office Hours: 8 am - 3:30 pm
- Class Schedule: 8:45 am - 3:15 pm Early Release: 1:15 pm

#### Mountain View Elementary School
- Grades: Preschool - 5
- 801 N 56th St, Paradise Valley, 85253
- Office Hours: 8 am - 3:30 pm
- Class Schedule: 8:45 am - 3:15 pm Early Release: 1:15 pm

#### Mountain View Elementary School
- Grades: Kindergarten - 5
- 11256 N 128th St, Scottsdale, 85259
- Office Hours: 8 am - 3:30 pm
- Class Schedule: 8:45 am - 3:15 pm Early Release: 1:15 pm

#### Redfield Elementary School
- Grades: Preschool - 5
- 350 E Osborn Rd, Scottsdale, 85251
- Office Hours: 8 am - 4 pm
- Class Schedule: 8:45 am - 3:15 pm Early Release: 1:15 pm

#### Redfield Elementary School
- Grades: Preschool - 5
- 7501 E Virginia Ave, Scottsdale, 85257
- Office Hours: 7 am - 3 pm
- Class Schedule: 7:45 am - 2:33 pm Early Release: 12:20 pm

#### Sequoia Elementary School
- Grades: Kindergarten - 5
- 11808 N 64th St, Scottsdale, 85254
- Office Hours: 8 am - 3:30 pm
- Class Schedule: 8:45 am - 3:15 pm Early Release: 1:15 pm

#### Tavon Elementary School
- Grades: Pre-K - 8
- 4703 E Indian School Rd, Phoenix, 85018
- Office Hours: 8 am - 3:30 pm
- Class Schedule: 8:45 am - 3:15 pm Early Release: 1:15 pm

#### Tonalea Elementary School
- Grades: Preschool - 5
- 10475 S East Cave View Dr, Scottsdale, 85258
- Office Hours: 8 am - 3:30 pm
- Class Schedule: 8:45 am - 3:15 pm Early Release: 1:15 pm

#### Yavapai Elementary School
- Grades: Preschool - 5
- 13636 N 100th St, Scottsdale, 85260
- Office Hours: 7 am - 3:30 pm
- Class Schedule: 8:45 am - 3:15 pm Early Release: 1:15 pm

#### Yavapai Elementary School
- Grades: Kindergarten - 5
- 6935 E Gold Dust Ave, Scottsdale, 85253
- Office Hours: 8 am - 3:30 pm
- Class Schedule: 8:45 am - 3:15 pm Early Release: 1:15 pm
Applications are now being accepted for the 2020-2021 school year for kindergarten classes. Children who are 5 years old before September 1 qualify.

Join Our Hive Today!

Find your school at susd.org/Schools and apply online at susd.org/Enroll. For more information, contact (480) 484-6100.
Students Can Earn College Credit While Taking High School Classes

- Enjoy Transferable Credit among Top Universities
- Save Money and Time
- Reduce Course Duplication
- Develop Early Occupational Skills

Scholarships Available for All SUSD Students

REGISTER FOR SPRING 2020 SEMESTER NOW!

Learn more at 480.423.6450 or www.scottsdalecc.edu/dual

“With SCC’s Dual Enrollment program, by the time I graduated from high school I had already completed 24 credits – the equivalent of two full-time semesters. This helped create a smooth transition to college and allowed me to focus on courses pertaining to my specific degree, as well as lowering the cost of college tuition.”

– Brandon DeLeon Arcadia High School Class of 2017