May 1, 2020

Hello, Scottsdale Unified Families!

We would like to start this week’s briefing from the District Office with a celebration of our Principals! May 1 is National School Principal’s Day. We thank all of our Principals for their commitment and leadership in our schools and the community. Thank you Principals!

May 1 is also National School Lunch Hero Day. As you have been reading each week, our Nutrition Services workers have been delivering meals to the community throughout the school closures. Read more about how we celebrate our School Lunch Heroes in this news release.

Where would we be right now if it were not for the tremendous efforts of our teachers? Next week kicks off Teacher Appreciation Week. We would like to also thank our teachers for the extra effort they have put into transitioning to an online learning model over the past several weeks. Read this piece for a look at how some of our teachers and Principals are feeling educating during this pandemic.

Last but certainly not least, May 4 – 8 is National Nurses Week. Our school nurses have and will continue to play a vitally important role in caring for our students. We thank all of our school nurses for the care, support and concern they have for keeping students healthy and safe.

Class of 2020 Graduation Update
We want to share with all members of the Class of 2020 that the official graduation ceremonies across all Scottsdale Unified School District (SUSD) high schools will be delayed into the summer, until such time that it is safe to host a traditional in-person ceremony. This decision was made in conjunction with the Student Advisory Board and the responses received from the student survey they administered to the Class of 2020.

However, we did not want to let what would have been graduation day, May 21, pass without honoring the Class of 2020. All SUSD high schools will be hosting a graduation event for each campus at the originally scheduled time of graduation. This event will mimic what the traditional ceremony would look like, though it will consist of pre-recorded segments produced into a single video. The event for each high school will be personalized for each high school. The video will first be made available online at the scheduled time of graduation, and then shared more widely online.

8th Grade Promotion
For our amazing 8th graders who are preparing for the next chapter in their life, please know that you are not forgotten. Your principal will share details regarding end-of-year farewell decisions.
Meals for Students
On April 29, SUSD’s Nutrition Services Department served 22,060 meals in one day to local children. The free meals will be available on Wednesday, May 6 from 9 – 11 a.m. at six sites listed below for children ages 1 – 18 years. This drive-up service allows adults to pick up five breakfasts and five lunches for each child. Due to the heat, the meal service will move to 8 – 10 am on Wednesday, May 13. Locations remain the same:

- Mohave Middle School, 8490 E. Jackrabbit Rd., Scottsdale
- Navajo Elementary Oak Campus, 7501 E. Oak St., Scottsdale
- Redfield Elementary School, 9181 E. Redfield Rd., Scottsdale
- Tavan Elementary, 4610 E. Osborn Rd., Phoenix
- Tonalea K-8, 6720 E. Continental Dr., Scottsdale
- Yavapai Elementary, 701 N. Miller Rd., Scottsdale

To ensure that we continue to have enough meals for children in need, we ask that patrons only come through the line one time. We appreciate your cooperation in making sure that our food supply gets to as many families as possible. For more information, please call Scottsdale Unified’s Nutrition Services Department at 480-484-6234 and visit www.susd.org/Meals.

Gifted Parent Institute
The Gifted Parent Institute is going virtual! In our desire to be responsive to the community, the Institute will be moving to virtual format. Presentations will be open for viewing from May 4 - 6. A Town Hall will occur on May 4 and May 5 from 4 – 5 p.m. Karen Brown will be available to respond to questions regarding programs and share strategies to support our learners during this unprecedented time. For more information, please visit www.susd.org/Gifted.

Stay Up-to-Date
Be sure to stay up-to-date with your school and the District through our social media accounts that are all listed and linked at www.susd.org/Connect and view all of our District news at www.susd.org/News.

One final reminder - we have a variety of resources in our Support Services newsletters, along with other helpful tips on how you can support your student through eLearning, available at www.susd.org/eLearning.

Thank you!

Scottsdale Unified School District Cabinet