

Hawk

Talk



August 2019

Dear Desert Springs Preparatory Families,

Welcome back to the 2019-2020 school year. We are looking forward to a bright school year focused on dreaming big and achieving goals. If you are new to Desert Springs Preparatory, welcome to our positive and supportive school community. The DSP staff and I take pride in building relationships with our students and families, and we appreciate all you do to support our school. This school year, the DSPES staff and I will be focusing on strong implementation of the state standards and our curriculum, our SOAR program, and student collaboration and engagement in the classroom.

This year we have a new math curriculum- Eureka Math in K-5 and Illustrative in 6th. The curriculum focuses on fluency, real world application of math problems, carefully sequenced concepts, a student debrief, and an exit ticket that will guide the teacher's instruction based on student progress. Around campus you will notice that we are in the midst of getting a new roof on the main building.

Please see the attached staffing list for this year's new and returning staff. Please note my new administrative assistant, Tracy Lunn. You can reach her via email at tlunn@pvschools.net. Please do not hesitate to see me any time you have questions, comments, compliments, or concerns. Thank you for all you do to support your child and our amazing school!

Sincerely,

Raquel Scott, Principal

School Spotlight

Every May our 6th graders travel by bus and ferry to Catalina Island Marine Institute in California for an incredible learning experience and an overall culmination of their time at DSP. Students experience snorkeling, a squid dissection, creatures of the night, touch tanks with sand sharks, marine mammals, algae, and more. Our students love this opportunity to learn and experience marine biology, as well as spend time as a 6th grade team. A special thank you to all the chaperones who make this trip possible!

Back to School Information

Dream it, Believe it, Achieve it!

Throughout the year we will be encouraging our students to dream big, believe in themselves and work hard to achieve his/her goals. As a DSP staff we will be working hard to ensure every child knows that we are adults who believe in our students and their dreams. Throughout the year we will be highlighting students who have taken risks to achieve a goal in hopes to inspire others to do the same. To start the year, I would like to highlight Gavin Henss, a 6th grader here at DSP. Gavin created Giving Sole to giveback to his community and students in need. Giving Sole provides new brand name shoes to students in the foster care system. You can learn more at www.GivingSole.org.

Student Drop Off and Dismissal

Desert Springs Preparatory's school hours are 8:45 AM – 3:15 PM (3:10pm for Kindergarten). Students can arrive on campus beginning at 8:20am. The drop off lane from Hillery should be used when directly dropping off students. Please do not pull into the front parking lot and drop your child at the curb. It is a team effort to provide a safe crosswalk at 60th Street and Acoma. Student safety of our children should be everyone's priority. Drivers please be patient around our school.

Lunch at DSPES

Our school has had a long standing tradition of families having lunch together at our outside blue tables. Children and parents enjoy this special time to connect in their busy day at our great school. As a school community I ask that we work together to make student safety and following SOAR expectations a priority. Parents should check in at the office and help with reinforcing SOAR expectations and school rules during lunch time. Students are permitted to take one friend out to the blue tables to have lunch with a parent. Students are expected to stay in their seat, clean their area, and should be calming down after recess time. At the end of lunch students should return to the cafeteria to get in line as the teachers pick up their classes. I really appreciate your support and help in creating consistency for all students by respecting and following these rules. I will be reviewing these with our students on announcements and it is also their responsibility to follow this expectation.

CURRICULUM NIGHT

Tuesday, August 13th
5:00pm Kinder-3rd
5:45pm- 4th-6th Grades
6:15pm- Honors

Teachers discuss classroom expectations and curriculum. This event helps us to have a smooth and successful year and develop a team relationship with parents. This is an adult only event.



Structured Dress Code

Please read the following information regarding structured dress code. All staff, parents and students must work together to maintain and adhere to our structured dress code.

This year students will be receiving a half sheet home regarding the first dress code violation and asked to change thereafter into appropriate dress. If you have any questions, please see the classroom teacher or principal.

Desert Springs Preparatory structured dress code is in effect Monday through Friday with a “free” dress day every half day. This “free” dress day will adhere to the PVUSD code of conduct related to school dress. The structured dress code includes solid black, solid navy, or solid khaki bottoms. These could be pants, leggings, shorts, skirts, capris, or solid, logo free and stripe free athletic shorts. Shorts must be worn at the waist and fall above the knee.

Tops include colored “polo” style shirts in the following solid colors: black, navy blue, light blue, red, pink and white. In addition to the polo tops, Desert Springs Preparatory spirit shirts and/or shorts can be worn on any day with the appropriate tops or bottoms. Spirit shirts and shorts should be from the current or last couple school years.

DSPES club shirts (Chorus, Student Council, COMETS, etc) are not structured wear, but may be worn on the day of the club meetings or events as approved by club leader, and on free dress days. Outside clubs may solicit expressed approval from the principal to wear uniform shirts on meeting days, for example; Girl Scouts/Daisies and Boy/Cub Scouts. Approval would only be considered for those shirts in a structured dress code color. Closed toe shoes, sneakers, boots, loafers, etc. No open toe shoes, sandals or flip flops.

In addition please see the guidelines below from our school agreement.

Closed toe shoes must be worn at all times for health and safety reasons. Tennis shoes must be worn during Physical Education class.

Attire which attracts undue attention to the wearer and causes disruption in the school is not acceptable.

Hairstyles or hair colors or anything else that might draw undue attention is not acceptable.

Clothing must fit properly and adequately cover the body.

Tops must have 3 finger width of material covering shoulders, or a t-shirt underneath.

Clothing, jewelry or other personal items must make positive and appropriate statements.

Hats or head coverings may not be worn in the building. Hats may be worn on the playground in order to protect the face from the sun.

Decisions as to the appropriateness of dress rest with the principal. A student who dresses inappropriately for school activities will call home for a change of clothes or be given a change of clothes by the school nurse.

DATES TO REMEMBER

**8/13- Curriculum Night-K-3 5:00pm, 4th-6th 5:45pm,
Honors 6:15pm**

8/19-8/23- Health Screenings

8/19- School Council 3:30pm

8/20- PTA Meeting 3:30pm

8/27- Early Dismissal 12:30pm

8/29- Birthday Book Club

**8/30- Spirit Day- Hawaiian Day, SOAR Pizza, Student Council
Applications Due**

9/2- No School

9/6- Readathon Kickoff- Set up webpage and start fundraising

9/6- Student Council Elections

9/10- PTA Meeting 3:30pm

9/11- All School Flag Ceremony 9:00am

9/13-9/26-Readathon Reading

9/18- Catalina Parent Night 5:00pm

9/19-9/20- Book Fair Preview

9/23- School Council 3:30pm

9/23-9/26- Book Fair Buy Days

9/24- Literacy Night 5:00-6:30pm

9/25- Fox 10 Arizona Morning Visit

9/26- Birthday Book Club 9am

9/27- SOAR Pizza, COMETS Training

9/30- No School