



## Hawk Happenings

August 2019

### Principal's Message

It has been an incredible start to the school year. The excitement and fun of learning that I see in the classrooms is amazing, and I am proud to be surrounded by such talented and dedicated educators. I believe we've had a record number of Heat Advisory days this August, which is determined by the heat index and has kept the children indoors for recess. We are looking forward to a cooler September!

I am excited to announce that we have hired a 3rd grade teacher, Mrs. Cook, who joined us this past week. Please give them a warm DTES welcome!

Here are a few announcements and reminders:

### Upcoming Important School Dates -

- September 2 Labor Day No School
- September 6 School Council Meeting 7:45 AM
- September 9-13 Health Screenings
- September 10 Chipotle Night Out 4-8 PM
- September 18 United Parent Council (UPC) Meeting 8:45-12:00PM at District office
- September 30 K-12 Recess No School

**PBIS- SOARin' into a Great Year!** I am sure you have heard about SOAR cards and the Be Kind Assembly! As many of you are aware, Desert Trails is in its 2nd year working with the Arizona Department of Education in a 3 year Multi-Tiered Behavioral Support Training to ensure we are successful in the ongoing development and implementation of our PBIS (SOAR) plan. Ask your child to tell you how they are SOARing at school each day.

**Safety** - Safety is a priority at Desert Trails! I encourage parents who drive to try the pick-up lane; it is moving faster each day. There are several issues at dismissal that need to be addressed. Please do not arrive early for dismissal, as this creates traffic backup on Cashman. Please park in designated parking spots only (not curbside, fire lane, etc.), and do not use the staff lot (by kindergarten), because this is a bus loading zone after school. ***Please use the designated crosswalks.*** This is a huge safety concern! The speed limit in the school zone is 15 mph and 5 mph in the parking lot and pick up lane. Help us keep our students, parents, and staff members safe by abiding by the rules. We are setting an example for our kids.

An [Emergency Response Plan Parent Letter](#) was sent home in the first day folders. Please be sure to read it for more information about the Emergency planning by our school and the school district. Visit the "Emergency Planning" link under District Information for more detailed information about our emergency preparedness.

### P.V. Family Math Resources-

The [Family Resources site](#) is accessible by the public. It contains Tips for Parents, Homework Helpers, vocabulary and

Parent Roadmaps for our Math Curriculum.

**Notes from PTO-**

It's that time again for the annual DTES Health Screening! Please sign up to help out: [View SignUp Form here](#)

Desert Trails PTO - Please join/renew here: [View Desert Trails PTO Website](#) and click on "Join the PTO" button. Let's get 75% participation and receive a pizza party! Free spirit wear and/or yearbook at different levels of membership!

Our PTO funds Enrichment Programs, Educational Resources, Art Masterpiece/Art Show, STEM, Music, Nurse Supplies, and more!

**A Note from Mrs. Peterson:**

Hello Desert Trails Families,

Are you looking to add a little more creative fun into your family activity list this Fall? Check out these free opportunities listed below...and have fun!

Discount Tire Free Family Sundays - Phoenix Art Museum offers free general admission and discounted special exhibition admission from noon to 5 p.m. on the second Sunday of each month. Plus: Hands-on art activities, scavenger hunts, live performances, story times and free tours.

Stroller Tour Tuesday - Caregivers and their littlest ones, up to age 18 months, can join educators for art-inspired conversations during this Phoenix Art Museum event on the second Tuesdays.

Family Afternoon at Phoenix Art Museum September 28 - Participate in art-making, games and hands-on activities inspired by the Phoenix Art Museum's collection and exhibitions. Check out the scavenger hunt (with prizes!)

Thank you for all you do to support your student(s) and our school!

Smiles,

Sarah Torrilhon, M.Ed.  
Principal

"The time is always right to do what is right." --Martin Luther King Jr.