

October 2018

Governing Board Message

When Dr. Lee announced his intended retirement late last month, we realize many of you were surprised. Since he's been superintendent for ten years, he's probably the only one you've known. While we regret his decision, we support his desire to retire and to take off on new adventures. **Continue reading the October letter.**



Nancy Case, Governing Board president

PV Roadrunner Special Olympics Team Takes the Field



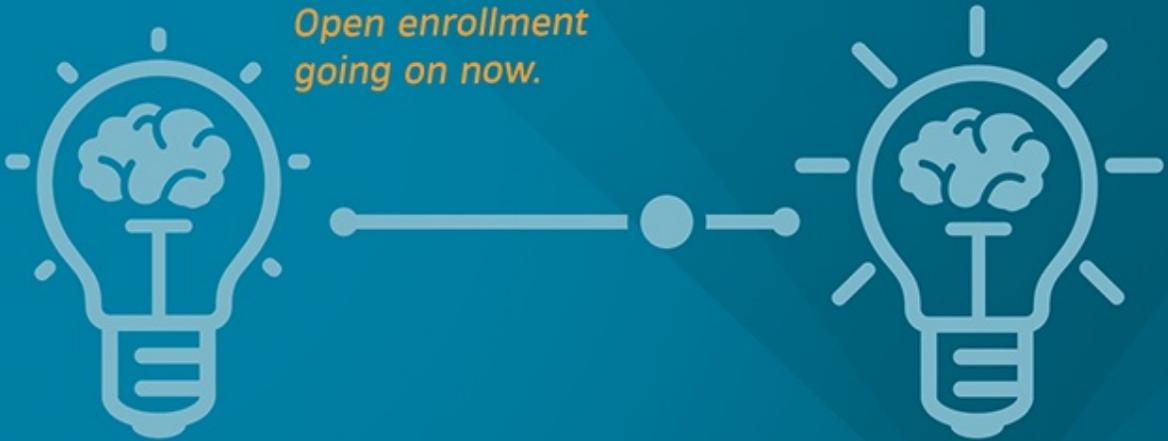
During the school year, special education students showcase their athletic abilities and team building skills by becoming members of the **PV Roadrunners**

[team](#), Special Olympics Arizona delegation. [The Special Olympics program](#) provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports. [Learn more about PV Roadrunners Special Olympic Team.](#)

District News

We bring out the genius in your kid.

Choose Smart.
Open enrollment
going on now.



What is Open Enrollment and How Does It Work

Understanding Arizona's open enrollment process and how it works can be cumbersome. Since Arizona is an open enrollment state, this allows parents to apply for admission to any public school, as long as there is classroom space available. [Learn more about the open enrollment process in PVSchools.](#) Additional information about open enrollment is available at www.pvschools.net/open.

Tax Credit Contributions - It's a Win-Win for You and Students!

Did you know that making an Arizona public education tax credit contribution is simple and is a win-win for you and our students? The Arizona tax law allows a tax credit, up to \$200 per individual or \$400 per married couple when filing their Arizona income tax, for contributions made or fees paid to a public school for support of extracurricular activities such as high school sports, fine arts, or performing arts. Without tax credit contributions, the district incurs costs so that students whose parents may not be able to afford the the participation fee can take part in extracurricular activities. Make a difference in the lives of PV students and [donate today!](#)

Learn About UPC, and How to Stay Connected

We are extremely fortunate here at PVSchools to have very dedicated and active parent volunteers throughout our district. One way for parents to communicate across the district is through PV's United Parent Council (UPC).

[Learn more about UPC, and how to stay connected.](#)

Arrowhead Elementary Alumnus Dedicate Bench in Memory of Beloved Teacher

Former Arrowhead Elementary School students and family members of Elizabeth "Betty" Krofchik gathered in the courtyard at the District Administrative Center to remember their teacher with a [dedication ceremony of a bench.](#)

3 PV Schools Earn the 2018 PBISaz Achievement Award

PVSchools is proud to have three schools earn the 2018 PBISaz Achievement Award for demonstrating high fidelity implementation and improved student behavior by using Positive Behavior Intervention and Support systems in school. [Find out which schools earned the achievement.](#)

Get the Most Out of Your Parent-Teacher Conference

We're already two months into the school year, and it's almost time for fall Parent-Teacher Conferences. Parent-Teacher Conferences bridge the connection between home and school, as well as an opportunity to support your child's academic development. [Learn how you can get the most out of your Parent-Teacher Conference.](#)

Boosting Your Child's Confidence

Every parent wants to raise a happy and confident child. Children need positive encouragement in order to grow both socially and emotionally. [Learn how you can help boost your child's confidence.](#)

How to Decide Which Preschool Program is Right for Your Child

There are many preschool options available to parents, including programs offered by your local school district, religious organizations, chain providers and in-home providers. [How will you determine which preschool is the right learning environment for your child?](#)

Transitioning from Elementary School to Middle School - What's Different About Middle School?

We've all been there, the awkward years of middle school. Now, it's time for your child to make the transition from elementary school to middle school. It's important to remember that middle school is an exciting time for students to gain some independence and to branch out personally to explore and discover their interests. [Learn more about the differences between elementary school and middle school.](#)

FROST Tutoring Available to PV Students

Does your child need some extra help with homework assignments? PVSchools offers [Free Resources Online Student Tutoring](#) to all students in the district.

Casseroles Made Healthy

Recently, I came across a cookbook of casserole recipes from 1967. It was a fundraising project for a college sorority and a treasure trove of '60s era cuisine. While pimentos and canned cream of mushroom soup may not be the kitchen staples they once were, the bulk of the recipes can be used today for

easy, quick, and economical meals. [Learn more about healthy casseroles.](#)

Are You a Parent Who is Considering a New Career as a Certified Teacher?

Since 2002, Scottsdale Community College has offered a State Board of Education approved teacher post-baccalaureate K-8th preparation program. [Download to learn more.](#) [Download the brochure.](#)

Privacy and Security

The digital citizenship theme for October is online Privacy and Security. [Download to read the article provided by the IT Department.](#)

PVSchools in the News

[View the latest news articles that mention PVSchools.](#)

Upcoming Events

VIP Orientation

The next Volunteer in Paradise (VIP) orientation is **Wednesday, Oct. 10th from 9-11 a.m.** at PVSchools [Community Resource Center](#). If you're interested in attending, please [register for the orientation](#).

PVSchools Governing Board Host Bagels with the Board

As part of an ongoing effort to foster collegiality and promote transparency, the PVSchools Governing Board is pleased to announce the Bagels with the Board events for the 2018-19 school year. These events occur quarterly and are held at various schools throughout the district. Email reminders will be sent home to all parents/guardians prior to these events.

- **Thursday, Oct. 11th from 10-11 a.m.** at [Mercury Mine Elementary School](#)
- **Wednesday, Dec. 5th from 10-11 a.m.** at [Explorer Middle School](#)
- **Wednesday, Feb. 6th from 10-11 a.m.** at [Larkspur Elementary School](#)
- **Thursday, April 11th from 10-11 a.m.** at [North Ranch Elementary School](#)

Campo Bello Elementary Groundbreaking

[Campo Bello Elementary School](#) will host a [groundbreaking ceremony](#) on **Oct. 20th from 9-11 a.m.** The event is being sponsored by McCarthy Building Companies, Inc. and Orcutt | Winslow.

PV Schools to Host Love Our School Events

Several PV schools will host events for School Connect's Love Our Schools Day events. [Find out which schools are participating.](#)

PVSchools Showstoppers Take the Stage this Season

PVSchools theater teachers and students will bring tales to life through stage productions of musicals and plays this fall. Support Performing Arts in PVSchools

by taking the entire family to one of these amazing shows. [View the schedule of high school productions.](#)

K-8 Early Release: Parent-Teacher Conference Week

Oct. 22nd-25th will be early release days for students in elementary and middle schools.

K-8 Recess

Elementary and middle schools will be closed on **Friday, Oct. 26** for a K-8 recess.

District Fall Leadership Training for Parent Groups

PVSchools will host a [Parent Fall Leadership Training](#) for parent groups on **Monday, Oct. 29th from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.** in the East/West Conference Room at the [District Administrative Center](#).

Whispering Wind Academy Hosts Mandarin Information Night

[Whispering Wind Academy](#) will host a Mandarin Information Night on Thursday, Nov. 8th at 6 p.m. [at the school](#). During the event, there will be a short presentation, a Mandarin demonstration with a teacher, and a question and answer session with a parent panel. [Learn more about the Mandarin Immersion program.](#)

For district recess and governing board meeting dates, please [view the PVSchools Calendar](#).

Staff & Student Highlights

Sasha Forkum, a teacher at [Quail Run Elementary School](#), was named Primary Years Programme (PYP) Educator of the Year by the Arizona International Baccalaureate Schools (AZIBS). [Learn more about the award.](#)



Sasha Forkum

The National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC) announced that **Karen Brown**, Gifted program mentor, will receive the 2018 NAGC Master's and Specialist Award. [Learn more about the award.](#)



Karen Brown

Lea Schneider and **Tatum Kaiser**, teachers at [Greenway Middle School](#), were each awarded a \$500 grant from APS. Ms. Schneider and Ms. Kaiser can use the money on whatever their classrooms need.

On Sept. 6th, anti-bullying activist and *New York Times* best selling author Jodee Blanco visited **Greenway Middle School**. Ms. Blanco conducted a school-wide presentation, staff training, and parent training. Greenway Middle School is a six time consecutive Anti-Defamation League No Place For Hate designation school and wanted to launch their Erase the Hate Thursdays with a very special guest speaker.



Jeffrey Quisberg, Patricia Mastropolo, Jodee Blanco, Randi Reader, and Marc Danner

Abraham Arteaga, a junior at [North Canyon High School](#), will join the "best of the best" at the 2018 National Association for Music Education (NAfME) [All-National Honor Orchestra](#), which will take place Nov. 25-28 in Orlando.



Abraham Arteaga

In the fall of 2017, 6th grade students at [Desert Trails Elementary School](#) began working on a "public art" sculpture project in Art class. They were given a theme, "Patriotic," and began planning and building a model for a sculpture that expressed their interpretation of that theme. The models were made out of paper and stood roughly 12 inches tall. [Learn more about the sculpture.](#)



Desert Trails Elementary School "Patriotic" sculpture