



PANTHER NEWS

School News

PALO VERDE MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Palo Verde News: February, 2018

Volume 1 Issue 7

Mr. Mark Culbertson, Principal

Ms. Holly Weiner, Assistant Principal

Dear Palo Verde Students, Parents and Community,

First, we would like to thank all of our families that came for our conferences last week. We appreciate your continued partnership with our teachers. We have a strong belief that if we all work as a team, your child will be successful in all areas. If you would ever like to meet with teachers during non-conference times, please don't hesitate to e-mail or call teachers to set something up so we can make sure your student continues to make great educational progress.

Our eighth graders visited our feeder high schools on January 17 and then registered for high school classes the following week. This, once again, was a positive experience for our eighth graders, and they appear to be very excited for high school. Being able to tour their future campus, and experience a high school assembly, really gets them thinking about promoting to the next level. Parents, please make sure to review promotion requirements with your child. They are in the handbook as well as on the back of each progress report and report card. We have already begun addressing promotion requirements with our eighth grade students. Letters were sent home earlier in the school year, and there will be more information to come.

We continue to be extremely busy in our athletics as well as our After School Program through the 21st Century Grant. Currently, we have over one-hundred students attending our after school program, taking a variety of classes from coding to creative writing to nutrition. We are in the midst of our boys soccer and girls basketball seasons and just finished up wrestling. Next up will be track and field as well as softball. If your student is interested in getting involved in these sports, announcements will be made toward the end of February giving details on try-outs and practices.

Mark your calendars for April 2-13. This is the state testing timeline. It is so important that all of our students are present each day during this week. Please avoid making appointments during this time. We will be sending home more details as this testing week approaches. In the meantime, we will continue to push our middle school students academically to ensure that they are not only successful in their classes and on the state assessment (AzMerit & AIMS Science), but will also be productive members of society. Please take time to ask your child about his or her day. Your child most definitely will have a great deal to share as middle school is a busy time for all students.

Sincerely,

Mr. Mark Culbertson, Principal

Ms. Holly Weiner, Assistant Principal

PVMS Producing Valued Motivated Students- Where everyone does everything to achieve their personal best!



4650 W. Sweetwater Avenue, Glendale, AZ 85304 • 602-347-2600 • www.wesdschools.org

Governing Board: Bill Adams, President • Aaron Jahneke, Vice President
Larry Herrera, Member • Tee Lambert, Member • Nikkie Whaley, Member

Dr. Paul Stanton, Superintendent

Teacher Grant Awards!

In January, three Palo Verde teachers received grants from the Washington Education Foundation. The foundation awards grants based on applications submitted to them by Washington Elementary School District staff. Jennifer Hildebrant received a grant for the school newspaper, "Extra! Extra! Read all about it in Palo Verde's School Newspaper the *Panther Press!*" Cassandra McCann and Barbie Firkus received a grant to add listening centers to their SEI classrooms, "Listening to Learning: A Center for ELL Students." We are very excited that our teachers received these generous grants and look forward to their use here at Palo Verde Middle School.

PTO Butterbraid Fundraiser

Sale dates: 3/5/18-3/26/18

Delivery 4/6/18

Cost: Each 22 ounce pastry sells for only \$12 each

Flavors: Apple, Blueberry Cream Cheese, Cherry, Cinnamon, and Cream Cheese pastries, plus the Caramel Roll.

Purpose: To support students and staff in/out of classroom.

Open Gym Hours

Friday, Feb. 9, 5-8 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 10, 1-4 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 23, 5-8 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 24, 1-4 p.m.

Friday, Mar. 2, 5-8 p.m.

Saturday, Mar. 3, 1-4 p.m.

Office Parent Reminders

Please contact our 24 hour attendance line at 602-347-2525 to report your child's absence on, or before the day of the absence. Please leave a message. This line is monitored throughout the day.

At Palo Verde, safety is our number one priority. Please make sure the office has your most current address and phone numbers, in case we need to reach you. Campus does not open until 8:30 a.m. Please do not send your child to school before that time.

Please remember to bring your ID anytime you come to the office. We cannot release a student, or provide you with any information, unless we see your identification.

WESD Community Food Drive Coming in February

Washington Elementary School District will be hosting the WESD Community Food Drive (#WESDCommunityFoodDrive2018) from Monday, Feb. 12 through Friday, Feb. 23 to benefit St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance. Right now, one in four children in Arizona is going to bed hungry. WESD can help change that. As a community leader and partner with St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance, WESD is asking every school to participate. Each student is asked to bring in canned food to donate during those two weeks. The school with the most donated food (as determined by the number of pounds per student) will receive bundtins from Nothing Bundt Cake for the entire school and a trophy to recognize its efforts. Last year we collected more than 106,000 pounds of food! Questions about getting involved may be directed to Pam Horton, WESD Communications and Public Engagement, 602-347-2694.

Upcoming Events

Feb. 8, 4:45 p.m. Boys Soccer @ MS

Girls Basketball @ MS

Feb. 13, 5-7 p.m. Friendship Dance in Gym

Feb. 15, 4:45 p.m. Boys Soccer @ RP

Girls Basketball @ PV

Feb. 19- Presidents Day-No School

Feb. 20, 4:45 p.m. Boys Soccer @ PV

Girls Basketball @ PV

Feb. 22, 4:45 p.m. Boys Soccer @ DF

Girls Basketball @ DF

Feb. 26, 4:15 p.m. PTO Meeting in Library

4:30 p.m. Site Council in Room 115

6:00 p.m. PV Area Orchestra Concert in Gym

Feb. 27, 4:45 p.m. Boys Soccer @ PV

Girls Basketball @ PV

Mar. 1, 6:00 p.m. Band/Orchestra Concert in Gym

Mar. 5, 4:45 p.m. Girls Basketball Tournament

Mar. 6, 4:45 p.m. Boys Soccer @ PV

Read Across America 2018

It's time to break out the infamous red-and-white-striped, stove-pipe hats and your favorite books because the annual Read Across America celebration is nearly here! Read Across America is celebrated every year on March 2, Theodor Geisel's birthday – better known to millions as Dr. Seuss.

Now in its 21st year, Read Across America is an annual reading motivation and awareness program sponsored by the National Education Association that calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading on or around Dr. Seuss's birthday. The event's purpose is to motivate children to read and focus the country's attention on the importance of reading. This year's theme is "Grab Your Hat and Read With the Cat." To help us celebrate, the Washington Elementary School District is inviting parents, community leaders and neighborhood partners into the classroom to read to students. If you love to read and enjoy children, then Read Across America is the volunteer opportunity for you. Whether you bring your favorite book or need a book provided for you, we invite you to share your love of reading with our students. For more information, please call 602-347-2500

