



November 2018

PRINCIPAL'S LETTER

Parents,

It seems like I talk to our students as a collective group fairly frequently in advance of my monthly newsletters. As those opportunities occur, I cannot help but reference them in my note to you all. We had our "Hoop Coming" pep rally today and I was able to address the student body for a couple of moments. My message to them was about "excellence." I referenced the excellence of the various performers during the assembly, the excellence demonstrated by our fall sports season players and coaches, and the excellence of the Arcadia staff. I certainly want to celebrate all of the excellence at Arcadia, but I also want to be sure that all of us (students and adults alike) strive for excellence in all of our work and actions each and every day.

I would like to share of few items of interest with you as we head into December:

Construction work will resume this coming week on our athletic fields as the track and field work progresses. These projects will impact students walking onto Arcadia from the Tavan neighborhood. Construction fencing will be going up this weekend and will limit student access from the east. In partnership with Tavan Elementary, we will be able to open their gates and allow Arcadia students to pass through. These gates will only be opened from 7:10AM – 7:40AM and from 2:20PM – 2:45PM. Campus access will also be rerouted for students approaching from the west of Tavan. Students will need to enter and exit campus through the tennis courts as opposed to the sidewalk adjacent to the track/football field.

Finals exams will be held on December 19 (periods 1 and 2), December 20 (periods 3 and 4), and December 21 (periods 6 and 7). Classes will begin at 7:45 as normal, with dismissal those days occurring at 11:20. Requests for early final exams will not be honored as absent students will have an opportunity to make up the test upon their return in January.

STAMP testing for seniors wanting to earn the Seal of Biliteracy for their diploma have until December 15 to register. There will be a meeting at lunch on Wednesday, December 5, in Ms. DeFrain's classroom # 6128. Information about the meeting can be found at goo.gl/RBzWU3 and information about the test can be found at goo.gl/9DTFux

Professionally,

Todd Stevens

Principal - Arcadia



We often write in this space about what SUSD students are learning and our work to align instruction to state standards. What we do not write about often enough is *who* is delivering this instruction – **OUR TEACHERS!** Day in and day out, we depend on this dedicated cadre of employees to 'put the rubber to the road,' so to speak, and deliver top-notch, informed instruction, using an ever-expanding set of tools that goes far beyond the handouts, textbooks and chalkboards of our yesteryears. What happens next is the magic: the creativity and energy that SUSD teachers bring to their classrooms every day to impart what students need to know now AND what they are going to need to know tomorrow, in a world we cannot even imagine. So, the next time you see your child's teachers, say thank you for their investment in your student!



We are fortunate to enjoy the support of the greater SUSD community. Some people give of their time in the classroom and through parent organizations; others contribute their financial resources to projects that would not happen without their support. Sometimes they do both! Please know how much we appreciate your involvement and what a difference it makes in cultivating an environment in which we deliver your children's outstanding education! Two such generous community members are outgoing Governing Board members Pam Kirby and Kim Hartmann. Be sure to attend or tune in to the Board's 5 p.m., December 11 meeting at Coronado High School at which Ms. Kirby and Mrs. Hartmann will be recognized for their many years of hard work and dedication to the success of the Scottsdale Unified School District.