

Are You Ready to Experience a New Year in Dysart? School Starts August 3!

Need to enroll? **Visit Dysart.org/Enroll**Already enrolled? Find important back-to-school details inside.

Get Ready to Experience ACADEMICS, ARTS, AND ATHLETICS IN DYSART SCHOOLS

Academics

Dysart Schools are fully accredited and ready to serve the community with the very best academic options and innovative programs. Dysart serves Preschool through high school students, boasts an impressive 92% graduation rate, and is home to nine A+ Schools of Excellence, and 17 schools with an A or B rating from the State Board of Education. Dysart schools offer unique signature programs, and in high school, students can choose Advanced Placement or Dual Enrollment courses to get a strong start in college. Our seniors earned over \$45 million in college scholarships this year!

Families can choose from K-4 or K-8 elementary schools, grade 5-8 middle schools and comprehensive high schools to further their children's education. Dysart is one of few in the area to offer FREE full-day Kindergarten to our community, and also has extensive Preschool options to consider. And for those that prefer a traditional educational experience with Saxon math and Spalding reading, Freedom Traditional Academy boasts the top test scores in all of Surprise and El Mirage!





Arts

An expansive arts program provides Dysart students with a well-rounded education thanks to voter-approved override funding. Our K-8 students receive general music and visual arts instruction. Band becomes an option starting in 5th grade, and in high school, visual arts, dance, theater and multiple instrumental and vocal music courses are available. Last school year, Dysart schools earned numerous "superior" and "excellent" ratings at the AZ Music Educators Association Festival, multiple students were selected for Regional and All State events, and 100 students earned the Arizona State Seal of Arts Proficiency.



Athletics

Strong athletic programs, award-winning coaches and successful athletes are getting noticed in Dysart Schools! We offer many choices to our community, starting in middle school, with Baseball, Basketball, Cheer, Cross Country, Flag Football, Soccer, Softball, and Volleyball. High School options expand to add Badminton, Golf, Spiritline, Swim & Dive, Tennis, Track & Field and Wrestling, as well as competitive athletic classes. With championship teams, Dysart athletics are highly successful.

Athletic Accomplishments

Check out our notable athletic achievements for 2021-2022:

9 State Championships:

- 6A Girls Basketball Valley Vista High School (VVHS)
- 5A Softball Willow Canyon High School (WCHS)
- Div I-II Coed Cheer Shadow Ridge High School (SRHS)
- Unified Badminton VVHS
- Unified Athlete State Track and Field VVHS
- Decathlon Kaden Passey, SRHS
- Track, 100 meter Blaise Nelson, VVHS
- Track, 200 meter Blaise Nelson, VVHS
- Boys Tennis Kai (Cassius) Mills, SRHS
- USA Spirit National Champions, CoEd Small Varsity Show Cheer Advanced WCHS
- Unified Athlete Player of the Year Xavier Simpson, VVHS
- Gatorade Player of the Year Jennah Isai, VVHS
- · High School Coach Hall of Fame Inductee Rachel Matakas, VVHS Girls Basketball
- 2 Sportsmanship Awards Dysart High School and VVHS
- 3 Valley Junior High Athletic Conference Championships



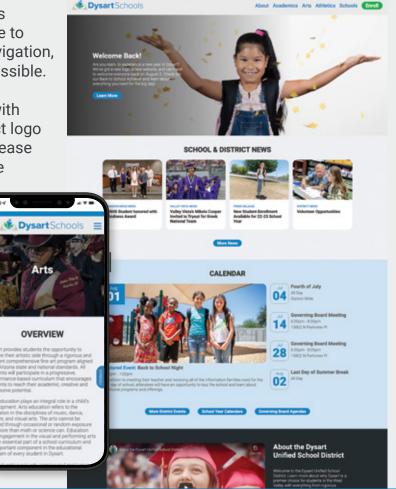


DYSART UNVEILS NEW WEBSITE AND LOGO REFRESH

In an effort to better serve the community and provide valuable resources to our families, Dysart Schools has launched a new website at **Dysart.org.** The goals were to increase functionality and design, improve mobile navigation, and make information more comprehensive and accessible.

In coordination with the website, and in conjunction with the district Centennial celebration last year, the district logo was also refreshed to reflect a community focus, increase usability, and update it to a more modern design while maintaining brand awareness. All work was done internally, and without any additional cost to taxpayers.





WE'RE READY FOR KINDERGARTEN!

Dysart Schools is one of few programs in the area that offers **FREE**, **FULL-DAY** Kindergarten in a safe, caring environment. The Dysart Kindergarten program follows Arizona state standards, and offers hands-on, real-life activities in the areas of cognitive, social, and physical development.

Ready to enroll now for the 2022-2023 school year? Visit Dysart.org/Enroll



PRESCHOOL PREPARES CHILDREN FOR SUCCESS

Dysart Offers Three Preschool Programs for Children Ages 2-5

GROWING MINDS PRESCHOOL is a tuition-based program operated by the Community Education Department. Growing Minds has a main site as well as satellite sites at Freedom Traditional Academy, and Marley Park. Visit Dysart.org/GrowingMinds for details.

DEVELOPMENTAL PRESCHOOL provides special education services to students with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) in an inclusive setting.

PEER ROLE MODEL PRESCHOOL is a program for typically developing children to serve an important role in the classroom alongside students with developmental disabilities. Tuition is charged at non-Title I schools.



Is Your Preschooler's Development on Track?

If you are the parent of a preschool child or know of a preschool child with suspected developmental delays, residing within the boundaries of the Dysart Unified School District, you're eligible for a free Child Find screening. Suspected delays may be evidenced in the areas of communication, cognition, behavior, physical, auditory, visual and/or sensory development. Free screenings and/or diagnostic evaluations help determine those children eligible for special education services. For details and a complete list of screening dates throughout the year, visit Dysart.org/ChildFind or call 623-876-7022 and select option #2.

Freedom Traditional Touts Highest Test Scores in City!

Looking for a traditional school option? Freedom Traditional Academy is a premier K-8 school of choice committed to providing a well-rounded educational experience with the support of an engaged and involved family community.

What Makes Freedom Unique?

- * Saxon Math and Spalding Reading still offered
- * Focus on civic values and patriotism
- * Spanish offered at all grade levels
- * Tuition-free K-8 with accelerated options
- * Arts, athletics, extracurriculars
- * Free full-day Kindergarten



DYSART IS THE CITY'S LARGEST EMPLOYER

Join Our Team Today!

Dysart is the largest employer in both the cities of Surprise and El Mirage with over 2,700 employees. Dysart Schools offer highly competitive salaries, full benefits and an inviting school-year calendar with holidays and weekends off for most positions.

With a wide-variety of positions ranging from groundskeeper, to mechanic, to office staff, and teachers, we're always looking for great people to join our Dysart team!

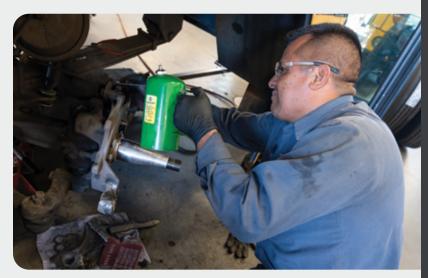


Bus Drivers and Aides
Childcare and Preschool Aides
Paraprofessionals
Behavioral Technicians
Speech and Language Pathologists
Special Education Teachers
Math Teachers
Science Teachers
ASL Teachers
Crossing Guards and School Aides
Groundskeeper
Maintenance Workers and Plant Managers
Social Workers

Check out our current openings at Dysart.org/Careers and apply today!







VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Dysart Schools have many opportunities for the community to assist schools in providing an amazing educational experience to each and every student. Volunteers help to enrich children's learning opportunities, provide individual attention to children who need one-on-one assistance, promote a school-home-community partnership for quality education, provide staff members with more time to work with students, and assist staff members and support personnel with non-instructional tasks.

Where is Help Needed?

- Classroom and teacher support
- One-on-one student assistance
- Event help (preparations, setup, operations, tear-down)
- Guest speakers (experts or retirees in various fields)
- Front office assistance

How to Become a Volunteer:

- 1. Review the volunteer handbook and complete the volunteer application at Dysart.org/Volunteer
- 2. Make an appointment for your volunteer orientation
- 3. Coordinate your schedule through the school office
- 4. Put on your volunteer badge and have fun!

Who Should Apply to Volunteer?

Anyone who cares about children and education is a potential volunteer. Parents, grandparents and community members 18 years of age or older who want to make a difference in the lives of children and support educators are encouraged to apply to become a volunteer with Dysart Unified School District. Volunteers are welcome in all of our schools and prior teaching experience is not necessary.

All individuals that are volunteering for more than a total of 5 hours must be an approved district volunteer. Individuals that will attend only one field trip per year do not need to follow the volunteer process, but if attending more than one field trip per year, or an overnight field trip, individuals must be fingerprinted. All Booster/PTO/PTA officers and members appointed to a role with financial responsibilities must be approved volunteers in the district.

Learn more or apply to help at Dysart.org/Volunteer

OUR SCHOOLS ARE READY TO SERVE YOUR STUDENTS!

School starts Wednesday, August 3! Find school information, including important start of school dates below. Use our online School Finder if you need to find a school to enroll in, or see more details about each one.

Visit Dysart.org/SchoolFinder



Asante Preparatory Academy

www.dysart.org/Asante Follow us! @APARangers Principal: Emily Dean

Meet the Teacher: Aug 1 | 4:30 - 6:00pm



Canyon Ridge School

www.dysart.org/CanyonRidge Follow us! @CRSCougars Principal: Jill Hoppe Meet the Teacher: Aug 1 | 4:45 - 6:30pm



Freedom Traditional Academy

www.FreedomTraditional.org Follow us! @FTAFirebirds Principal: Connie Wolford Meet the Teacher: Aug 1 | 5:00 - 6:00pm



Kingswood Elementary School

www.dysart.org/Kingswood Follow us! @KGWESKnights Principal: Marilee Timbrooks

Meet the Teacher: Aug 1 | 5:30 - 7:00pm



Luke Elementary School

www.dysart.org/Luke Follow us! @LukeJets Principal: Kara Sehr Meet the Teacher: Aug 1 | 5:00 - 6:30pm



Marley Park Elementary School

www.dysart.org/MarleyPark Follow us! @MPESMavericks Principal: Jessica Felix Meet the Teacher: Aug 1 | 5:30 - 7:00pm



Mountain View School

www.dysart.org/MountainView Follow us! @MtnViewLions Principal: Debby Cruz Meet the Teacher: Aug 1 | 4:15 - 6:00pm



Riverview School

www.dysart.org/Riverview Follow us! @RVSBarracudas Principal: Gail Miller





Sunset Hills Elementary School

www.dysart.org/SunsetHills Follow us! @SHESBobcats Principal: Josephine Tokhi Meet the Teacher: Aug 1 | 5:00 - 6:30pm



Surprise Elementary School

www.dysart.org/Surprise Follow us! @SUPESCubs Principal: Karie Burns

Meet the Teacher: Aug 1 | 5:00 - 6:30pm



Thompson Ranch Elementary School

www.dysart.org/ThompsonRanch Follow us! @TRESJaguars Principal: Scott Kerr Meet the Teacher: Aug 1 | 4:30 - 6:30pm



West Point Elementary School

www.dysart.org/WestPoint Follow us! @WPTESWildcats Principal: Amy Mikos Meet the Teacher: Aug 1 | 5:00 - 6:30pm



Countryside Elementary School

www.dysart.org/Countryside Follow us! @CSDESCoyotes Principal: Chantell McNeese

Meet the Teacher: Aug 1 | 4:30 - 6:00pm

El Mirage Elementary School

www.dysart.org/ElMirage Follow us! @ELMESTigers Principal: Stephanie Davis Meet the Teacher: Aug 1 | 4:00 - 6:00pm



Rancho Gabriela Elementary School

www.dysart.org/RanchoGabriela Follow us! @RGESRattlers Principal: Charleen Clark Meet the Teacher: Aug 1 | 4:30 - 6:00pm



Western Peaks Elementary School

www.dysart.org/WesternPeaks Follow us! @WPESFalcons Principal: Stacie Brown

Meet the Teacher: Aug 1 | 4:30 - 6:30pm



Ashton Ranch Middle School

www.dysart.org/AshtonRanch Follow us! @ARMSMustangs Principal: Lisa Parachini Meet the Teacher: Aug 1 | 4:30 - 6:00pm



Cimarron Springs Middle School

www.dysart.org/CimarronSprings Follow us! @CSMSStallions Principal: Ginger Richards Meet the Teacher: Aug 1 | 5:30 - 7:00pm



Dysart Middle School

www.dysart.org/DysartMiddle Follow us! @DysartEagles Principal: Monika Krienitz

Meet the Teacher: Aug 1 | 5:30 - 7:00pm



Sonoran Heights Middle School

www.dysart.org/SonoranHeights Follow us! @SHMSHawks Principal: Dustin Hamman Meet the Teacher: Aug 1 | 5:30 - 7:00pm



Dysart High School

www.dysart.org/DHS Follow us! @DysartDemons Principal: Sunny Resch

Open House: August 2 | 5:30 - 7:00pm Freshman Orientation: Aug 2 @ 7:15am



Shadow Ridge High School

www.dysart.org/SRHS Follow us! @ShadowRidgeHS Principal: Kevin Cashatt Open House: August 8 | 5:30 - 7:00pm

Valley Vista High School www.dysart.org/VVHS

Follow us! @ValleyVistaHS Principal: Andrew Frazier Open House: August 2 | 5:30 - 7:00pm Freshman Orientation: Aug 2 @ 7:15am

Freshman Orientation: Aug 2 @ 7:15am



Willow Canyon High School

www.dysart.org/WCHS Follow us! @WillowCanyonHS Principal: Adam Schwartz

Open House: August 2 | 5:30 - 7:00pm Freshman Orientation: Aug 2 @ 7:15am



Sundown Mountain

www.dysart.org/Sundown Principal: Roberta Lockhart





ARE YOU READY FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR?

Follow this checklist to make sure you're all set for the start of school on August 3.



U	Ensure you can log into the Parent Portal as official grades are located there
0	Ensure you can log on to Schoology as students' assignments are located here
0	Familiarize yourself with the district and school website and parent page at Dysart.org

- Follow the district and your school(s) on social media for news and event info Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, LinkedIn
 - Watch for teacher, school and district communications via the avenues you requested
 If you change your mind about how you want to receive these just adjust your preferences
- Review Peachjar emails for opportunities and notices throughout the year
 You can adjust your preferences for how frequently you receive these
- Check out the online calendar for district events at **Dysart.org**
 - Watch or attend Governing Board meetings Visit **Dysart.org/GoverningBoard** for details

STAY UP TO DATE WITH THE PARENT PORTAL

The Parent Portal is a great tool to stay informed 24/7 about your child's academic progress. Grades, attendance, assignments and more are viewable in real time online or via the app, Campus Parent. A single login allows parents with multiple students to access information for all of their children in one place.

Learn More at Dysart.org/ParentPortal

UPDATE YOUR COMMUNICATION PREFERENCES AND CONTACT INFO!

To make sure that we can keep you informed in emergency situations, please ensure that your contact information is current in the Parent Portal. You are also able to adjust your communication preferences (phone, text, and/or email) at Dysart.org/ParentPortal or on the Campus Parent app to ensure you are getting the various message types in the way that you would like. Remember that if you select more than one type of communication per category, you will receive the message multiple times via each of those avenues.

SCHOOL BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

Dysart Nutrition Services ensures that students at all schools have fresh, wholesome and nutritious breakfast and lunch options to support their education and focus in class. Learn more about Nutrition Services at Dysart.org/Nutrition. Menus and nutritional information may be viewed at Dysart.Nutrislice.com.

Apply for Free and Reduced Meals

Beginning July 1, 2022 the USDA is returning to income eligibility guidelines for free or reduced meals. All families should complete a Free and Reduced Lunch Application at SchoolCafe.com to help maintain school funding and make sure that qualified families receive this and other benefits. Only one application is required per family, and may be completed at SchoolCafe.com.

Learn More at Dysart.org/Nutrition

MEAL PRICES	STUDENT PRICE	REDUCED PRICE	ADULT PRICE
Elementary Lunch	\$2.60	\$0.40	\$3.50
Elementary Breakfast	\$1.25	\$0.30	\$1.75
High School Lunch	\$2.85	\$0.40	\$3.50
High School Breakfast	\$1.25	\$0.30	\$1.75

A la carte and snack items are available for purchase on each campus, and additional meals are available for an added charge. Parents are always welcome to dine with their child, but please be sure to call in advance and check-in at the school office. Adult meals may be purchased for \$1.75 for breakfast or \$3.50 for lunch.

SCHOOL SAFETY

The safety and security of our students is our highest priority, and Dysart Schools have a comprehensive plan in place to support this important focus, which includes:

- Strong partnerships with local law enforcement and first responders, including School Resource Officers (SRO) at middle/high schools and a new district Safety Coordinator.
- Threat Assessment Teams on each campus to investigate potential threats to individuals or the campus, including reporting to law enforcement as needed.
- Planned practice drills and staff training throughout the year.
- School Safety Committees on each campus to discuss and plan facility safety, bullying, discipline, and emergency response procedures.
- Specific safety protocols in place for each type of emergency response: evacuation, lockdown, modified lockdown, shelter in place.
- Single point of entry for visitors, and required sign-in through the front office.
- Online Safe Report or Safe Schools hotline to report concerns to at Dysart.org/SafeReport or 623-876-7009.

Dysart Schools regularly review and evaluate protocols and safety plans for necessary updates and opportunities for improvements.

Learn more at Dysart.org/Safety



Cash and checks are accepted for meal purchases, or families may utilize SchoolCafe.com to prepay for meals online, view their balances, or place restrictions on purchases. Online payments take 24 hours to post to student accounts.

As part of the National School Lunch and Breakfast programs, Dysart schools offer meals for free or at a reduced price to those that qualify. We encourage every district family to complete and return an application each year. Only one application is required per family.

More at SchoolCafe.com



SCHOOL ZONE

NEED TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM SCHOOL?

Dysart offers transportation to and from our schools as a service to our community. Check our website for the most up-to-date information and safety precautions, as well as bus routes. Learn more and view a Bus Stop Locator at Dysart.org/Transportation. Bus route information is posted prior to the start of school.

Is My Child Eligible for Busing?

K-4 AND K-8 ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

- K-8 students who are residents within a school attendance area and who live more than one radius mile from school. Please note this is not applicable to Freedom Traditional Academy, since it is an open enrollment school.

MIDDLE SCHOOLS - 5-8th grade students who are residents within the middle school boundaries and who live more than one and one-quarter radius miles from the school.

HIGH SCHOOL - Ninth through twelfth grade students who are residents within a school attendance area and who live more than one and one-half radius miles from school.

SPECIAL EDUCATION - Students with disabilities who require transportation, as indicated in their respective individual education programs.





2022-2023 Calendar

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First Day for Students - Aug. 3 Labor Day - Sept.5

K-8 Parent/Teacher Conferences - Oct. 6-7 (½ days for K-8)

Fall Break - Oct. 10-14 Veterans Day (Observed) - Nov. 11 Thanksgiving Recess - Nov. 21-25

High School/ Middle School Final Exams
Dec. 19-20
(½ days for high school/middle school)
Early Release - Dec. 20 (½ days K-8)

Winter Break - Dec. 21- Jan. 4 School Resumes - Jan. 5 Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Jan.16

K-8 Parent/Teacher Conferences - Feb. 9-10 (1/2 days for K-8)

Presidents Day - Feb. 20 Spring Break - Mar. 13-17 Spring Holiday - Apr. 7 Graduation Day - May 23 (½ day for HS)

High School/ Middle School Final Exams May 23-24

(½ days for high school/middle school) Early Release- May 23 (½ day for K-8)

Last Day for Students - May 24 (1/2 day for K-8)

K-8 Quarter End/Days

September 30 - 42 Days December 20 - 46 Days March 10 - 45 Days May 24 - 47 Days

High School Semesters End/Days

December 20 - 88 Days May 24 - 92 Days

Students are dismissed early every Monday beginning
Aug 8 to provide time for teacher professional
development.

JANUARY 2023											
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ENROLL TODAY!

WE'RE EXCITED TO SERVE YOUR CHILD AT ONE OF OUR 26 SCHOOLS FOR THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR!

Dysart Schools offer something for everyone and open enrollment is always available for those that would like to attend a school outside of their attendance boundaries. New student registration applications may be completed online at Dysart.org/Enroll.

More at Dysart.org/Enroll



Use Our New School Finder to Find the Best Fit For Your Child



Not sure which of our schools is right for you and your family? Use the School Finder to see which schools are closest to you, or search based on interest, programs or offerings to find the best match for your child!

More at Dysart.org/SchoolFinder