



# Sunset Hills Elementary School

2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR | SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER



## PRINCIPAL'S LETTER

Dear Sunset Hills Family,

Our first full month of school has been outstanding! We are so excited to welcome all staff, students and families back to our 2023-2024 school year! Our staff has worked hard this month to lay the foundation for a great year ahead at Sunset Hills, and their dedication to the success of our students is greatly appreciated!

As part of the continuous improvement process at Sunset Hills, we have school-wide goals that we will all be working together to meet throughout the school year. These goals are as follows:

- 1. Academic Goal:** By May 2024, a minimum of 50% of students in grades 3-8 will achieve proficiency in Math, a minimum of 60% of students in grades 3-8 will achieve proficiency in ELA, and minimally proficient will be reduced by 5% as measured by AASA. Additionally, a minimum of 60% of students in grades 5 and 54% of students in 8th grade will achieve proficiency in Science as measured by AzSci State Assessment.
- 2. Culture Goal:** By May 2024, all students will be regularly attending school as evidenced by reducing the amount of chronic absences, defined as 18 days or more, to 19% from 29% in the 22/23 school year.
- 3. Safety Goal:** By May of 2024, 100% of staff will implement a school-wide system of behavior support for all students as evidenced by weekly lessons on expectations, reinforcement system data, and accountability system data. As a result of implementing the school-wide system of behavior support, referrals for defiance/insubordination and disrespect and physical aggression will be reduced by 10%.

Our amazing teachers have begun the school year with a focus on cultivating a positive classroom culture that fosters academic growth for all students. They have used the school-wide goals to write grade level goals for their students. Teachers engage in professional learning communities with a focus on collaboration, student learning, and results.

There are 4 critical questions they address to ensure student success:

1. What do we want students to know and be able to do?
2. How will we know if they learn it?
3. How will we respond when some students do not learn it?
4. How can we extend and enrich the learning for students who have demonstrated proficiency?

We are excited to see the tremendous growth in all of our students this year! Thank you to all of our families for your continued partnership. We look forward to working with you on our journey!

Sincerely,  
Joey Tokhi, Principal

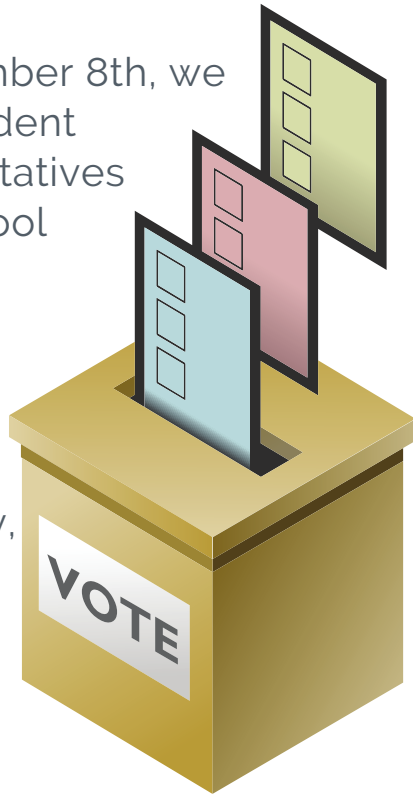
# Academics & Leadership

## Student Council

Elections are being held for Class Representatives and for Student Officers the beginning of this month. Campaigns for Officers are being held next week with the elections set for Thursday, September 7th.

By Friday, September 8th, we will know our Student Council Representatives for the 23/24 school year!

The first meeting for Student Council will take place Wednesday, September 13th, from 3:15-4:15 in Mr. Neill's room (Room 230).



## NJHS

Returning members of NJHS will have their first meeting on Thursday, September 7, from 3:15-4:00 pm in Mrs. Lynch's classroom.

## AASA & ROAR Assemblies



We took some time with each grade level to come together and review ROAR expectations.



We celebrated successes across the grade levels from last year's AASA Scores!



Students received certificates of Achievement in ELA, Math and/or Writing!



We are so proud of all of our students!

# Athletics

## Baseball & Softball

Baseball and Softball Season is ready to begin! This year both

the baseball and softball teams will be playing at the same location and same time. Entrance is free to all games so come out and cheer on our teams!

Tue 9/12, 6:15 pm @ WCHS



Thu 9/14, 6:15 pm @ SRHS



Tue 9/19, 4:30 pm @ WCHS



Thu 9/21, 6:15 pm @ WCHS



Tue 9/26, 4:30 pm @ SRHS



Thu 9/28, 4:30 pm @ WCHS



Tue 10/3, 6:15 pm @ WCHS



Thu 10/5, 6:15 pm @ WCHS



Tue 10/17, 6:15 pm @ SRHS



Thu 10/19, 4:30 pm @ WCHS



Tue 10/24, 6:15 pm @ WCHS



Thu 10/26, 4:30 pm @ SRHS



## Cross Country

Cross Country is open to students in 3rd through 8th grade and will begin the week of Sep. 5th.

The schedule is as follows:

- Saturday 9/23
- Saturday 9/30
- Saturday 10/7
- Saturday 10/21
- Saturday 10/28
- Saturday 11/4
- Saturday 11/18
- Saturday 12/2

All District Meet will be held at Shadow Ridge on Saturday 12/9. The top runners will move on to compete in the Northwest Valley Athletic Championship Cross Country Meet.

# Arts

**It's Audition Time!**



## CATS

YOUNG ACTORS EDITION

This production is like nothing we've ever staged before! CATS is more than just a musical, it is a piece of performance art; a collection of songs based on a book of poems by T.S. Eliot. These poems are woven together to tell a story of the journey from rejection and acceptance. In it, we find a vibrant, colorful cast of characters, telling this tale through music, movement and dance.

- Cast & Stage Crew Packets are available in the Front Office
- Applications are Due 9/15
- Ensemble Cast Audition Videos Due 9/18
- Principal Cast Audition Week is 9/19-9/22
- Mandatory Parent Meeting will be 9/26, you can attend @ 3:30 or 5:30
- Rehearsals Begin 9/27

## Art Club

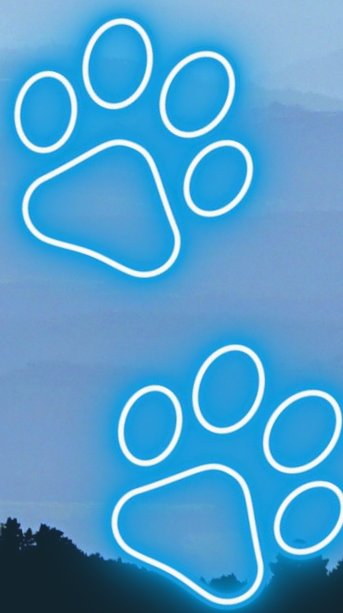
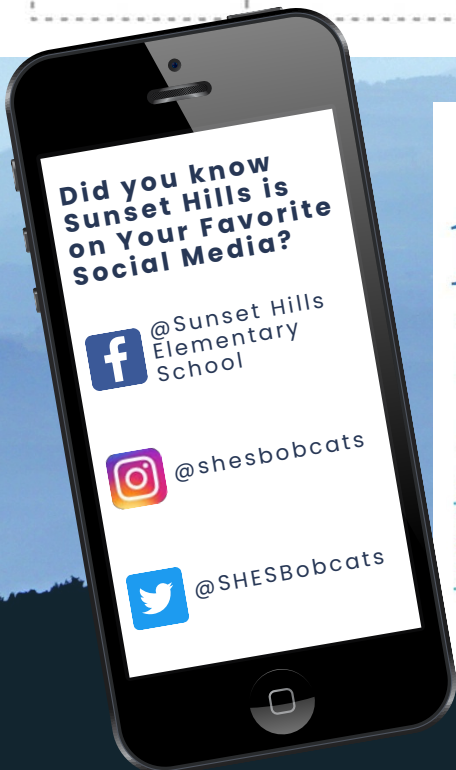
Art Club is back with Mrs. Putman! She is accepting applications now through September 12th. Art Club will be held on Tuesdays every other week, alternating between Grades 5-8 and Grades 1-4. There will be a \$10 Art Club Fee applied to your students accounts after the first week. Spots are limited and are on a first come first serve basis!



# School Happenings

## SEPTEMBER 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
27	28	29	30	31	1 Quarter 1 Progress Reports Released	2 Dysart Choir Night @ AZ Diamondbacks Game
3	4 No School - Labor Day	5 Afterglow Parent Meeting @ 3:30 or 6:00 pm	6 PTO Sonic Night @ 5-8 pm 	7 NJHS Mtg @ 3:15-4:00 pm	8 PTO Bingo Night @ 5:30-7:30 pm 	9
10	11 Patriot Spirit Day - Wear Red, White & Blue  1 pm Dismissal	12 Art Club (5th-8th) @ 3:15-4:30 pm Baseball & Softball Games @ 6:15 pm @ WCHS	13 Stu Co Mtg @ 3:15-4:15 pm PTO Fun Day After School	14 Baseball & Softball Games @ 6:15 pm @ SRHS	15 PTO Candy Donation Drive Kick Off 	16
17	18 1 pm Dismissal	19 Art Club (1st-4th) @ 3:15-4:30 pm Baseball & Softball Games @ 4:30 pm @ WCHS	20	21 Baseball & Softball Games @ 6:15 pm @ WCHS	22	23
<b>CATS</b> School Musical Audition Week - Music Auditions 9/19-9/20 & Movement/Dance Auditions 9/21-9/22						
24	25 1 pm Dismissal	26 Fall Picture Day  Art Club (5th-8th) @ 3:15-4:30 pm Musical Parent Mtg @ 3:30 or 6:00 pm Baseball/Softball Games @ 4:30 pm @ SRHS	27 Site Council @ 3:20	28 Baseball & Softball Games @ 4:30 pm @ WCHS	29 ROARing Student of the Month	30 Cross Country Regional Meet @ 8 am @ CSMS



# PTO Updates

**Sonic Night**  
**Wed. 9/6**  
**5-8 pm**



**PTO BINGO**  
**Night**

**Fri. 9/8**  
**5:30-7:30 pm**

**Fall Fundraiser**  
**Kicks Off 9/15**  
**Watch for**  
**More**  
**Information**  
**Coming Home**  
**Soon!**



**PTO Candy**  
**Donation Drive**  
**is 9/15-9/20**

**\*Candy Must be Nut Free**