



Sunset Hills Elementary School

2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR | OCTOBER NEWSLETTER



PRINCIPAL'S LETTER

Dear Sunset Hills Family,

The first quarter of the 2023-2024 school year has concluded and was a success! Our athletic seasons began with baseball, softball, and cross country. Additionally, our choirs represented Sunset Hills very well in the Dysart Festival of Choirs. Throughout the first quarter, academics have been the focus and we have seen great improvements in student growth this year as compared to last year already! Everyone continues to work collectively to ensure the success of our students!

Teachers have engaged in professional learning communities (PLCs) to use a backwards design model, which begins with taking the unit assessments that students will take, identify the skills needed to show mastery, and plan their instruction according to these skills, embedding effective instructional strategies in their planning. In addition, teachers come together in their PLCs to analyze data on common formative assessments within the units, and plan for whole group and small group instruction to reteach concepts that have not been mastered.

In order for our student to show mastery, they have to be present in school every day. We are closely tracking attendance each day, week, and month for each individual student. Grade levels with the highest attendance rate get a shout out on our social media each week, and there will be a reward for the class with the highest attendance rate across the school, each week. Thank you for your support in ensuring your student(s) are here each day, ready to learn!

Students in grades 3-8 will be taking benchmark tests in ELA and Math will be October 24 and 25. It is important that your child is at school on these days of testing and ready to do their best. Their teacher will take the data from these assessments and use them to set individual goals with your child and to plan instruction specific to the needs of their students.

As a reminder, conferences are the week of October 2-6. Our goal is 100% attendance at conferences. Teachers will be sharing 1st quarter grades and goals for your child to achieve in the 2nd quarter. Our teachers look forward to sharing your child's progress with you!

Fall break is the week of October 9-13. We look forward to seeing everyone back on October 16. The partnership with our families is essential for our student success! Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership! Have a wonderful and safe fall break!

Sincerely,
Joey Tokhi, Principal

Academics & Leadership

Academics

Quarter 1 Report Cards will be released on Friday, October 6th. Please view your student's reports cards by logging into the Parent Portal.

Awards Ceremonies for Grades 4 -8 will be held after Fall Break:

Thu 10/19:

- 6th Grade 8:30 - 9:05 am
- 5th Grade 9:15 - 9:50 am
- 4th Grade 10:00 - 10:35 am

Friday 10/20:

- 7th Grade 8:30 - 9:05 am
- 8th Grade 9:15 - 9:50 am

*Please remember to bring your photo ID if you plan on attending the awards

NJHS

Thank you to everyone who made our NJHS Water Drive a success! We will be notifying class winners soon!



Spelling Bee



Bee on the lookout for information on our Annual Spelling Bee later this month!

Student Council

Meet your Student Council Officers for the 2023/2024 School Year:



President
Nolan



Vice President
Lily



Treasurer
Blake



Historian
Brianna



Secretary
Kylah

Athletics

Baseball & Softball

Our baseball and softball teams have been off to a great start! Regular season games will continue throughout the month as we gear up for the post season in the beginning of November. Remember, both teams play at the same time and same location, which means it couldn't be any easier to come cheer them both on! Go Bobcats Go!

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

Our cross country athletes are off to a great start, with 2 meets already done, and a lot of winners and placings across all the grade levels!

- 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



The Arts Around Sunset

In September we highlighted National Arts in Education Week, but here at Sunset we encompass the arts every day.



Choir

It's been an incredible start to the year for our Sunset Hills Choirs! We started out the year performing the national anthem at Chase Field at a Diamondbacks game, and just participated in the annual Dysart Festival of Choirs at The Vista Center for the Arts! Fundraising for the Afterglow Choir is underway for this year's Disneyland Performance Trip, and our Moonrise Choir is getting ready to begin fundraising for their spring performance outing. The first round of Disney fees are due 10/6 (\$50 assigned in the fee payment portal), and our next after-school rehearsal is Wednesday 10/18, with our monthly Task Force meeting the evening before on Tuesday 10/17 (6:30pm in the library).

Cats Musical



Our Cast & Crew have been announced for this year's annual musical and we are so excited for what our young actors will be putting together! If you are a part of the cast/crew be sure to join our Schoology group for all the important updates!



Don't Forget!
Community Ed
Registration &
Fee is due on
10/20 for all
Cast & Crew



PTO Updates

**PTO Candy
Donation Drive
through 10/20**
*Candy Must be Nut Free



**Fall Festival
Fri 10/20**

5:30-7:30

**Join us from 5:30-6:30 for a
Teacher Trunk or Treat! Then
stay for our Fall Festival filled
with games, prizes, and much
more!**



**Scholastic
Book Fair
10/2-10/6**

Hours:

- **Mon 11-3**
- **Tue 8-5**
- **Wed 8-6**
- **Thu 8-5**
- **Fri 8-1**

