



What's Up, Wildcats?



Chat from 'Chini

Greetings Wildcat Families and happy Friday!

September is Attendance Awareness Month. Every day a student steps into the classroom, they actively engage in the collaborative experiences that pave the way for their future. Research consistently reinforces the direct connection between consistent attendance, strong academic performance, and long-term graduation success. Classroom instruction is critical to student learning. When a student is absent, they miss academic opportunities that cannot be truly replicated through independent make-up work.

Prioritizing daily attendance—especially during this awareness month—is central to fostering our **Winning Culture**. This collective commitment to excellence begins simply by being present. Through consistent attendance, our students actively embody our core **W.I.N. values**:

- **Work Ethic:** Arriving prepared and dedicated to learn daily.
- **Innovative Thinking:** Participating in dynamic classroom problem-solving.
- **Noble Character:** Taking personal responsibility for academic growth.

Even better is the concept that every time a student walks out a classroom door after class or off our campus at the end of the day they are more educated than when they entered. That's pretty cool. Thank you for your continued partnership in ensuring our students are positioned to achieve their highest potential every single day this September and throughout the entire school year.

Have a great weekend and take time to be kind!

Lisa Parachini
principal



Homecoming Week
Sept 28-Oct 2
Dance Oct 3

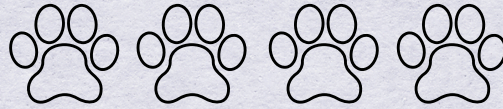
Community Tour stops at
WCHS
Oct 1

Band performing at
Governing Board Meeting
District Office - 6pm

First Day of Fall
Sept 22



handbook & reminders



Handbook Focus of the Week: Attendance Matters!

Pursuant to A.R.S. §15-901(A)(1), "...excused absences shall be identified by the Department of Education...". The Department of Education defines an excused absence as being an absence due to illness, doctor appointment, bereavement, family emergencies and out-of-school suspensions. All absences in excess of a cumulative 10% of the instructional days for the school year may be reported as unexcused.

Loss of Credit – High School

1. A student who is absent from any given class 10 or more times, either excused or unexcused, per semester may not receive academic credit for that class. (A.R.S. § 15- 802, § 15-803)
2. An appeal process is in place for those students who have extenuating circumstances.
3. Please note that official documentation, such as a doctor's note will be required to file an appeal.
4. An appeal hearing may be held near the end of each semester to determine loss of credit for the course.

Handbook Focus of the Week: Guide to Solving Problems

K-8, Middle Schools and High Schools

Step 1– **Classroom teacher**; if not resolved...

Step 2– School Principal; if not resolved...

Step 3– Director of Student Services; if not resolved...

Step 4– Assistant Superintendent of Education, or Assistant Superintendent for Support Services; if not resolved...

Step 5– Superintendent

P 12

OTE Prop 421

The Dysart Unified School District Governing Board has placed Proposition 421 on the November 3, 2026 ballot to maintain safe, functional learning environments and support continued growth. Learn the facts and make sure you are registered and ready to vote! To learn more about Proposition 421 visit Dysart.org/Prop421





Did you know...

Every year Willow Canyon reviews student and teacher performance, survey feedback and other forms of data to help guide our course for the following year. We use this information to set goals that align with our mission, vision and values. Collectively, these drive all that we do to ensure a Winning Culture.

Mission - Vision - Values - Goals

MISSION: To provide a safe learning environment where students *WIN* everyday—mastering rigorous academics through strong *work ethic*, *innovative thinking*, and *noble character*.

VISION: Willow Canyon sets the standard as a premier high school relentlessly pursuing excellence and a winning culture.

VALUES: Winning Culture

Goal #1

Willow Canyon will achieve a 1.0 composite growth score on ACT.
Willow Canyon will increase AzSci proficiency rates by 1% and/or be above state average.

Goal #2

All collaborative teams at Willow Canyon will implement PLC processes with fidelity focusing on student learning, collaborative culture/collective responsibility and being results oriented.

Goal #3

Willow Canyon will implement Winning Culture values to increase the quality of relationships among staff, students, families and community as indicated on DUSD annual survey.



WILLOW CANYON™

HIGH SCHOOL

17901 W. Lundberg St., Surprise, AZ 85388

623.523.8000

