



DESERTFOOTHILLSNEWS

Home of the Scorpions • The higher we climb, the better the view!

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Ms. Susie Smith
Principal
Vol. 36 No. 2

Mr. Steve Whycott
Assistant Principal
February 2018

A Message from Ms. Smith

Great things are going on for kids at Desert Foothills!

- **The Desert Foothills Science Fair** was a huge success! What Food Will Mold Eat First? was the winning presentation by 7th grader, Trent D. We are so proud of all of our presentations by both 7th & 8th graders.
- **WESD Canned Food Drive has begun!** Please encourage your child to participate and contribute canned food to the homeroom teacher to support St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance. We will be having a "2 Can Dance" for all students who bring in two cans of food on Friday, February 23, 2018, during 7th period.
- **ASA, After School Academy**, started last week with students enjoying Robotics, Kodu, Drama, Fitness, STEM, Math and Reading classes. It's not too late for your child to enroll in our spring session.
- **Thank you for your attendance at our Parent/Teacher Conferences on January 31, 2018.** The communication and partnership between teachers and parents is essential for our students' academic and social growth and achievement.
- Please remember to stay informed on your child's grades by using our online **ParentVue** 24 hours a day. If you need assistance with your Activation Key, please call the office.
- **Future Freshman Night** and high school registration was a huge success for our eighth graders at all GUHSD schools. Greenway High School and Moon Valley High School registered future freshman on our campus. If your child is not yet registered, please contact our front office to support you with this process.
- **Future Scorpion Day** was awesome for all current 6th graders at Acacia, Chaparral, Ironwood and Sunburst on January 30, 2018. This student-led event by DF 7th & 8th graders provided performances by the DF Choir, Orchestra, Band and our Spirit-line. The tours

of our campus led by the Leadership Class of students was a highlight for all.

- **The eighth grade panoramic class photo** is scheduled for Wednesday, February 28, 2018, during homeroom. Students will receive their picture envelopes in homeroom for the opportunity to purchase this photo memory.
- **NJHS Induction Ceremony** is Wednesday, February 28, 2018, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the gym.
- **Our teachers are busy preparing students for the AzMERIT assessment the week of April 2, 2018. Please mark your calendar for these very important dates to assist you when making any appointments for your child.**

These, along with many other events, keep us very active and allow us to continue to provide the outstanding academic and social environment that we are very proud of at Desert Foothills. Thank you for your partnership with the support of your child, our school and teachers. As always, my door is open to discuss any concerns or issues to assist with your child's success at Desert Foothills.

Principal Susie Smith

WESD Community Food Drive Coming in February

Washington Elementary School District will be hosting the WESD Community Food Drive (#WESDCommunityFoodDrive2018) from Monday, Feb. 12 through Friday, Feb. 23 to benefit St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance. Right now, one in four children in Arizona is going to bed hungry. WESD can help change that. As a community leader and partner with St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance, WESD is asking every school to participate. Each student is asked to bring in canned food to donate during those two weeks. The school with the most donated food (as determined by the number of pounds per student) will receive bundtinis from Nothing Bundt Cake for the entire school and a trophy to recognize its efforts. Last year we collected more than 106,000 pounds of food! Questions about getting involved may be directed to Pam Horton, WESD Communications and Public Engagement, 602-347-2694.



sold out and many students missed receiving a yearbook.

Teacher Interview Fair

The Washington Elementary School District (WESD) will host Teacher Interview Fairs to hire teachers for the 2018-2019 school year. All Teacher Interview Fairs will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the WESD Administrative Center, 4650 West Sweetwater Avenue, Glendale, 85304. Contracts for the 2018-2019 school year will be offered to qualified candidates. Student teachers, soon-to-be college graduates, seasoned teachers and alternative pathways are encouraged to attend!

Teacher Interview Fairs are scheduled for:
Saturday, February 24, 2018,
Thursday, March 15, 2018, 4 to 7:30 p.m.; and
Saturday, April 28, 2018.

Interviews will be conducted for those interested in teaching: kindergarten, elementary education, special education, language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, general music, art and special needs preschool. Successful candidates may be recommended for a 2018-2019 teaching contract.

Apply online prior to the interview fair at jobs.wesdschools.org. Please select the posting titled, Teacher – All Positions. Human Resources will contact qualified applicants directly to preschedule an interview. For more information, contact the WESD Recruitment Office at 602-347-2622 or e-mail teach@wesdschools.org.

February 2018 Calendar of Events

2/8	Valentine's Dance	4:00 p.m.
2/12	Winter Sports Pictures	
2/13	Boys Soccer RP@DF	4:45 p.m.
	Girls Basketball RP@DF	4:45 p.m.
2/14	Early Release	2:30 p.m.
2/15	Best Buddies Meeting	4:00 p.m.
	Boys Soccer DF@CH	4:45 p.m.
	Girls Basketball DF@CH	4:45 p.m.
2/19	PRESIDENT'S DAY – NO SCHOOL	
2/20	Boys Soccer DF@MS	4:45 p.m.
	Girls Basketball DF@MS	4:45 p.m.
2/21	Early Release	2:30 p.m.
	Site Council	5:15 p.m.
	B.E.S.T. P.T.O.	6:00 p.m.
2/22	Boys Soccer PV@DF	4:45 p.m.
	Girls Basketball PV@DF	4:45 p.m.
2/24	District Recruitment Fair	
2/27	DF Area Orchestra Festival	7:00 p.m.
2/28	8 th Grade Group Picture	
	Early Release	2:30 p.m.

To view Desert Foothill's online calendar, insert the URL address below into your Internet browser, <http://desertfoothills.wesdschools.org>; click on Desert Foothills Calendar.

Yearbooks! Yearbooks! Yearbooks!
Do not delay, purchase today!

There is not much more time to purchase your yearbooks. The price is \$30! There are only about 100 left to purchase out of the 250 total that we will be receiving in May. Last year we

Desert Foothills Science Fair

Great times were had at Desert Foothill's science fair from 6-8 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 8. This was the first science fair that Desert Foothills has had in about a decade and it was definitely the beginning of a new tradition. In addition, the science fair was mostly planned by four students that were elected as DF's Chief Science officers. Those officers, Tammy P., Zane B., Xitlali V., and Roxie M., would like to thank all the students responsible for the 22 entries, about 50 total students. Their CO² balloons, mint tasting and popcorn-popping investigations made the night a memorable event. There were some truly outstanding investigations that made the judges' job much more difficult. The entries that rose to the top were as follows: Best Individual Project - Trent L.'s Investigation into what mold prefers to grow upon. Best Group Project - Tammy P., Tina S., Kelly S. and Peyton H.'s answer to if heavier bowling balls give you better bowling scores. Most Creative Project - Fernando H.'s research into chromatography, colors bleeding from different inks. Congrats to the winners and all participants. Special thanks to the Arizona Challenger Space Center for setting up all your great manipulative. That meteorite had to weigh 5 lbs. and the Van de Graff machine shocked even the teachers.

Read Across America 2018

It's time to break out the infamous red-and-white-striped, stove-pipe hats and your favorite books because the annual Read Across America celebration is nearly here! Read Across America is celebrated every year on March 2, Theodor Geisel's birthday – better known to millions as Dr. Seuss. Now in its 21st year, Read Across America is an annual reading motivation and awareness program sponsored by the National Education Association that calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading on or around Dr. Seuss's birthday. The event's purpose is to motivate children to read and focus the country's attention on the importance of reading.

This year's theme is "Grab Your Hat and Read With the Cat." To help us celebrate, the Washington Elementary School District is inviting parents, community leaders and neighborhood partners into the classroom to read to students.

If you love to read and enjoy children, then Read Across America is the volunteer opportunity for you. Whether you bring your favorite book or need a book provided for you, we invite you to share your love of reading with our students.

For more information, please contact **Monica Bridges at 602-896-5509.**

