



DESERTFOOTHILLSNEWS

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

3333 W. Banff Lane • Phoenix, AZ 85053 • Office: 602-896-5500 • Fax: 602-896-5520
Nurse: 602-896-5510 • Attendance: 602-896-5521

Ms. Susie Smith
Principal

Mr. Steve Whynott
Assistant Principal
April 2021

A Message from Ms. Smith

Happy Spring to you and your families! The Desert Foothills staff and I are so grateful to have our students back for in-person learning for our fourth quarter. This is a time for all of us to finish this very unusual school year strong together. We have routines and procedures in place for student academic and social success. As always, please be sure to reach out via email or phone for any support or concerns.

AzM2 Schedule for Distance Learning and In-Person Learning is included in this newsletter. Please be sure to review the schedule to support your child.

- Summer School opportunities for our incoming 7th graders and 8th graders will be offered this summer and our current 8th graders will be offered summer school in GUHSD to provide students with extended learning and growing in their academic and social development. All programs are free for our students with breakfast and lunch provided.
- Grab 'n' Go Bags are distributed every Monday from 7:00 to 8:00 a.m. in the DF Parking lot in a drive-thru COVID careful manner for all students in the Distance Learning Model.
- Parents of 6th graders in our DF Region including Acacia, Ironwood, Chaparral and Sunburst are encouraged to watch the Future Scorpion YouTube Video and complete the Course Selection Form for 7th Grade at Desert Foothills on the Google Form.
Video: <https://youtu.be/LG7M22hJQrU>
Google Form for Course Selection: <https://forms.gle/ZhNT6Tgx2GvkCcvC7>

Employee of the Month

Congratulations to Mrs. Heather Liesegang, Technology Teacher!

Heather Liesegang has stepped into a new teaching position this year as the technology teacher to our 7th and 8th graders and has provided all students and the DF staff every day, every opportunity to gain skills and knowledge in our digital world of distance learning through trainings on Google Classroom, Meets, PearDeck, FlipGrid, and Kahoot. She shares tips and ideas for improving instruction and engagement in the distance-learning model. Heather is a professional and her love of learning shows in her trainings of students and staff.

Heather has created the daily videos for morning announcements for all homerooms with advancement in her technology skills and streaming capabilities to make them of high interest for our student body.
Congratulations, Mrs. Liesegang!

Principal Susie Smith

A Message from our Social Worker

From time to time, our community partner Life Bridge @ Pure Heart provides us with food boxes for our Desert Foothills families. The food boxes contain approximately 10lbs of produce, 5 lbs. of dairy items, 1 gallon of milk, and 5 lbs. of protein items. If you would like to be added to our list to receive a food box as they become available throughout the year, please contact me via email.

While the food boxes are not offered on a regular basis, we do participate in the Snack Pack program with several community-based food banks. Through the Snack Pack program, students receive a weekly bag of nutritious, kid-friendly food to ensure they have enough to eat over the weekend. If you would like your child(ren) to participate in our weekly Snack Pack program during the 4th quarter of school, please call or email me.



4650 W. Sweetwater Ave., Glendale, AZ 85304 • 602-347-2600 • wesdschools.org

Governing Board: Bill Adams, President • Nikkie Whaley, Vice President
Jenni Abbott-Bayardi, Member • Larry Herrera, Member • Lindsey Peterson, Member
Dr. Paul Stanton, Superintendent

The food boxes from Life Bridge @ Pure Heart and the weekly Snack Pack program are available to any Desert Foothills family, regardless of income level.

If your family or loved ones need additional food resources, contact the Arizona Food Bank Network by calling 1-800-445-1914 or visiting www.azfoodbanks.org. They can help you find emergency food boxes in your area, and can help you see if you qualify for any food assistance programs. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you and your family need any other help or resources – I am here to help!

Desiree Montelongo, LMSW

Phone: (602) 896-5536

Email: desiree.montelongo@wesdschools.org

Desiree Montelongo, School Social Worker

News from Our School Resource Officer

When a person young or old makes a mistake, they do not always know what to do or how to handle the consequences for their actions. Listed below are some suggestions on what to do....

Try to be a little thoughtful about what it is you are going to say or do. Could that have consequences that have a price too high to pay or will it cause someone to be hurt physically or emotionally? Practice a little kindness. Be honest. If you make a mistake, own it. Be responsible. Admit it! Face the music. Whatever the consequence, take it and learn from it. Be a better person for it. Be sure to move on from mistakes and don't beat yourself up for making a mistake. Remember, it is your life. You make life better by learning and growing.

Officer Kenny Angwin

News from the Health Office

COVID-19 Symptoms and Risk:

If you are experiencing cold or flu-like symptoms, you may feel like you need to be tested for COVID-19, to ease your mind. People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms or combinations of symptoms may have COVID-19. Stay home if you have any of the following symptoms:

- o Fever 100.4 or chills
- o Cough
- o Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- o Fatigue
- o Muscle or body aches
- o Headache
- o New loss of taste or smell
- o Sore throat
- o Congestion or runny nose
- o Nausea or vomiting

o Diarrhea

It is important for EVERYONE take prevention steps to help stop the spread:

- o Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- o Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- o Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- o Stay home when you are sick.
- o Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- o Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

It has been a while since we have been together on campus. Masks may take some time to get used to again. Here are a few tips for wearing a mask:

- Be sure to [wash your hands or use hand sanitizer](#) before putting on a mask.
- Do **NOT** touch the mask when wearing it. If you have to often touch/adjust your mask, it doesn't fit you properly, and you may need to find a different mask or make adjustments.
- Make sure it fits well, it should not be sliding down your face
- Masks need to cover both your nose and mouth at all times
- Make sure it is comfortable on your ears

If you have any questions or need information please call the health office at 602-896-5510.

Christie Padilla, Health Technician

Tax Credit

Giving back is easy! Make a tax credit donation to Desert Foothills Junior High School and receive a dollar-for-dollar reduction in your state income taxes! Taxpayers may receive up to a \$400 tax credit if filing jointly (\$200 if filing single) on their State income taxes by contributing to one of Washington Elementary School District's extracurricular activity programs.

For more information, visit [/www.wesdschools.org/taxcredit](http://www.wesdschools.org/taxcredit). Thank you for your continued support!

Calendar of Events

4/7	Early Release	2:30 p.m.
4/8	Governing Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.
4/14	Early Release	2:30 p.m.
4/14	Site Council Meeting	5:00 p.m.
4/14	B.E.S.T PTO meeting	6:00 p.m.
4/21	Early Release	2:30 p.m.
4/22	Governing Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.
4/28	Early Release	2:30 p.m.

To view Desert Foothill's online calendar, insert the URL address below into your Internet browser,

<http://desertfoothills.wedschools.org>; click on
Desert Foothills Calendar.

School Hours

8:45 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. M., T., Th., F.
8:45 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Wednesdays

Office Hours

8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. M., T., Th., F.
8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Wednesday

Open Gym

(Temporarily cancelled due to COVID-19)

7:45 – 8:45 a.m.

Important Numbers

Attendance Line – 602-896-5521 (24 hours)
Office – 602-896-5500
Health Office – 602-896-5510



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE

@

<http://desertfoothills.wedschools.org/>