



Diamondback Community News

Dynamic Diamondbacks—Principal's Message



Welcome back,
Diamondback
Families!

New Year's is a great time for reflecting and setting goals for the future!

Looking back at the first semester of the 21-22 school year, we spent a lot of time assessing where each student was at academically and establishing procedures and expectations for student success! While making sure instruction focused on teaching grade level standards, our teachers and instructional assistants worked hard to fill academic gaps for students during

intervention times. We know that a year of virtual learning created bigger learning gaps than usual. Additionally, with the help of our school counselor, our team collaborated in meeting our students social/emotional needs as well.

Setting goals for this second semester, our team is starting the new year with an in-depth analysis of mid-year data to tailor instruction and create focused intervention groups. Additionally, the rest of the grade level standards will be taught and all standards will be reviewed this semester.

Please be on the look out for requests from each grade level/ teacher on how families can help at home! This is an "all hands on deck" time to ensure our students master their current grade level standards by the end of the school year! Thank you in advance for partnering with your child's teacher to help make this happen!

We know that together we can make 2022 a fabulous year of collaboration, as we work together to help our students be successful—academically, socially, and emotionally!

Your partner in education,
Mrs. Helland



Bee Kind Buzz—From Mrs. Estrada

Welcome BACK :-) Happy New Year! I cannot believe it is 2022. The Be Kind tenant for this month is BE HELPFUL.

According to Families of Character, there are four simple ways to teach your child to be helpful:

1. Model helpfulness: Let your child see you offering to help others—hold doors open for people; help your spouse put away dishes or fold laundry or pick up; etc. In addition, let your child see you asking others for help, as well—let them see that getting help is just as valuable and admirable as being helpful.

2. Ask your child to help: Set your child to small tasks—like throwing away trash or scraping bowls or sweeping the kitchen or cleaning up

their toys between play sessions. Make sure to include words like "please" and "thank you" to encourage them to help, rather than forcing it. And, if they decide they don't want to help sometimes, let them be. We don't want to be expected to help everyone every time we're asked, so why should our children? But, do make a point to enforce it sometimes!

3. Praise your child for helping: Use specific words, like, "Thank you for throwing that trash away. That was very helpful!" We all love to be acknowledged for the good we do, and children are no different. Be sure they know you appreciate their help, and they'll want to keep giving it!

4. Ask your child if they need help: Sometimes we, as humans, have a hard time asking for help. And sometimes children become so determined to conquer something that frustration can blind them. Let them know that it's okay to ask for help, and that it's okay to accept help. If they refuse it but continue to struggle, try again. Maybe even remind them, "its okay to need help sometimes."

The world can always use more helpful, kind people and hopefully, these tips will help you as parents instill those traits.





School Improvement Plan 2021-2022

GL Health Office

Hello from the GL Health Office! Welcome back to our staff and many of our students. Some important reminders:

- Please make sure your child brings a mask to wear INSIDE, everyday . Students MUST wear a mask that covers their nose and mouth. .
- Please remind your child to thoroughly wash his/her hands after the restroom and throughout the day. We also have hand sanitizing stations throughout the campus (and in the classrooms) for your child to use as well.
- If your child is ill, please keep them home from school and call the front office to let them know your child will be absent.
- If your child is exposed to someone with Covid or if he/she has Covid-like symptoms, please call and let the nurse's office know. We will share specific instructions for what is needed, based on your specific situation, following updated CDC guidelines.

Diann Beck- Health Office Nurse
dbeck@pesd92.org

PTA News

- PTA/SIT meeting—January 25—starting at 3:45 on ZOOM
- Please join PTA—We need you!
- Please join us on Facebook at Garden Lakes Connection for all the latest information. :-)
- Contact us at gardenlakespta@gmail.com



Every Diamondback...Seeks Continual improvement &

Always Aims for the bullseye!



Goal #1—Effective Leadership - Supporting data literacy and High impact Teaching

- Provide on-going, differentiated professional learning for data literacy, high impact teaching strategies, and continuous improvement cycle
- Provide opportunities to learn from each other - peer rounds, Fish bowl, Sharing clips from walk-throughs
- Engage in weekly Leadership PLC work - analyze data and plan next steps for PD and coaching
- Weekly Walkthrough and effective Feedback

Goal #2—Effective Teachers and Instruction - Utilizing Data to Drive High Impact Instruction

- Training/Proficiency in utilizing data tools
 - Create assignments, CFA's, exit tickets
 - Create tier 1 small groups, Tier 2 intervention groups based on data
- Incorporating High Impact Teaching Strategies
 - Planning - Daily objective (clear assessment, tied to pacing guide standards), Critical attributes (CA), Gradual Release model structure
 - Implement - Clear objective, Gradual Release Model, check for understanding throughout, use CA for assessment, meet with small groups based on success ratio, effective feedback to students
- Staff and students Participate in the Continuous Improvement Cycle - Goal setting, KPI's, Reflection, Feedback

Goal #3—Conditions, Culture, Climate

- On-going Training/implementation of PBIS for staff and students
- On-going training/implementation of culturally responsive practices for staff, students and community
- On-going and embedded social emotional learning/support for students and families

Counselor Corner-Mrs. Kozak

Hello 2022! In December I had written about reflecting on the past year. Now that we have done reflection, what do we do? We can set our goals. These goals can be short term, long term or a combination of both.



According to Grade Power Learning there are seven benefits for setting goals: 1. Provides a clear path to success, 2. Teaches time management and preparedness, 3. Increases motivation 4. Measures progress, 5. Gives focus and purpose, 6. Boosts self-confidence, and 7. Provides challenges (<https://gradelearning.com/importance-of-goal-setting-for-students/>). Each of these benefits can help our students be successful here at school and at home.

Please if you have any questions or concerns do not hesitate to reach out to me via email skozak@pesd92.org. You can also contact the office at (623)772-2520.