



Brian Winefsky
Principal

May 2022

Margie Suero
Assistant Principal

A message from the principal...

Dear Sunset Ridge Community,
It's hard to believe the school year is winding down. It seems like just yesterday we were welcoming students back from their summer break, and hoping for a more normal year. Needless to say, the year was once again, not what we had hoped for. With Covid mitigation plans still needed, we had not been able to welcome our community onto campus this year as we would have hoped. With a recent decrease in cases, our district has made adjustments to our mitigation plan. However, the pandemic is still a threat, so we continue to restrict gatherings, visitors on campus, and have kept our social distancing measures in place. We are thrilled that it seems we are getting a reprieve, and it is my sincere hope that this trend continues. I hope that next school year will bring a return to welcoming our community on campus, lessening our restrictions, and returning to something that looks more like "normal".

On a different note, I would like to take this time to ask our community to please help us in getting your child to school on time every day. We have two front office staff at Sunset Ridge, and when students are late, we must write them individual passes, and enter the tardy into the State reporting system. Unfortunately, we have seen days where we have had almost 10% of our school population arrive late. Documenting those tardies, which is required by the State, takes hours of time, and inhibits our staff from promptly answering phones, as well as supporting our students, community, and staff. When children are late, it also causes a disruption to the learning of others, as students must be directed individually to catch up. Conversely, when students are checked out early, it causes a classroom disruption every time. We must call into the classroom, which disrupts the learning of everyone, including the child that is leaving. We understand that there are emergencies and appointments that cannot be avoided, but please, if at all possible, schedule routine appointments for Wednesday afternoons, when children are released from school early.

As always, I appreciate our community and your support of our school.

Sincerely,
Brian Winefsky

Counselor's Corner

Greetings from your school counselor, Mr. Covert. With summer break right around the corner we are all faced with the fact that another school year is coming to an end. During these months there is added time to reconnect with your student.

I know in the Covert household we have lots of fun things planned. My children are going to take lesson on how to swim so we definitely plan to spend a lot of the hours during summer break at the pool practicing their swimming skills. I am sure that your student will have their need for transition weather it be from kinder to 1st, 3rd to 4th or even 8th to high school, take some time and work with your student on what that means and how it may feel.

Spending quality time with your student does not have to be expensive. Sometimes the most valuable things don't cost any money at all

- Take a walk or go for a bike ride around your neighborhood.
- Visit an art, history or science museum.
- Go to the park. Pack a picnic lunch and invite some friends!
- Go fishing. Have your child learn about the different types of fish they could catch.
- Go to the public library. There are many great activities going on all summer.
- Start a family book club. Read the same book as your child and discuss it together.
- Engage in a family community service project.
- Teach your child how to bake.
- Have your child keep a journal of their thoughts and feelings.
- Write letters to friends and family. Have a family pen pal!

May is going to be an amazing month. We have so much to look forward to. If you have questions or need to get ahold of me my school office number is (623) 772-2730 and my email address is ncovert@pesd92.org.

Calendar at a Glance

Wednesday	Early release at 1:15pm
Mon—Fri 2—6	Teacher Appreciation Week!!!
Tuesday 3	Regular Governing Board Meeting 6pm—8pm District Board Room 3802 N 91st Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85037
Thursday 5	PESD Music Festival 5pm—7:30pm Pendergast Community Center 10550 W Mariposa St, Phoenix, AZ 85037
Tuesday 17	Regular Governing Board Meeting 6pm—8pm District Board Room 3802 N 91st Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85037
Thursday 19	Parent Lunch and Learn 11am—noon Pendergast Learning Center 3841 N 91st Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85037
Thursday 21	Family Night Art Exhibition 5pm—6:30pm Pendergast Community Center 10550 W Mariposa St, Phoenix, AZ 85037

Promotion Dates:

Kindergarten promotion:
Monday, May 23, 2022

8th grade promotion:
Tuesday, May 24, 2022

