



SAHUARITA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT #30
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OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

October 23, 2017

Dear Families:

By many indicators, we have experienced a strong start to the 2017-18 school year. For example, our ninth comprehensive school, a new K-8 building, is now under construction, and on pace for a planned opening in August 2018. We have welcomed eighteen (18) professional colleagues in training from the University of Arizona. These "iCats" are receiving their coursework in Sahuarita, actively working with teachers in our school classrooms, and providing instructional support and service to our students. We've also made advancements in the scope of our gifted education program. Over one hundred (100) elementary grade level students in our gifted education program are going to Sopori Elementary School each week, and receiving educational services to meet their individualized learning needs. On November 6, 2017, we will celebrate the amazing accomplishments of high school students in our College Board Advanced Placement (AP) programs, specifically through the National Math and Science Initiative (NMSI) program. Over 105 students will be recognized. The SUSD Governing Board has approved a change to the attendance policy, improving the practices for documenting and excusing qualifying absences. A new Career and Technical Education (CTE) program in heavy equipment operations has opened on the campus of Walden Grove High School, providing college and career pathways, and opportunities for students from throughout our region. As you can see, we are making intentional progress in our relentless quest to achieve our vision of excellence.

I cannot express too often my sincere gratitude to our entire community for your sacrifice in supporting your public school district through local override and bond programs. These investments are truly allowing us to continue advancing important strategic directions, and delivering a high quality public education to every student. Due to continued budgetary reductions in State funding obligations, these additional levies have become more critical than ever. We will continue working every day to be good stewards of your trust. Together, we will continue to make a difference!

Sincerely,

Manuel O. Valenzuela, Ed.D.
Superintendent