



## SAHUARITA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

February 5, 2020

Dear Sahuarita Community,

On February 4, 2020, at approximately 6:35 p.m., the Sahuarita Unified School District was notified of an error on the SUSD marquee. The message on the marquee should have read “White Elephant Appreciation Show and SUSD Orchestra Concert 2/4 6:00pm.” The word “Elephant” was inadvertently left out, creating an unintended message. Upon identification, the mistake was immediately corrected. The issue was a human error, and the oversight had no intentionality or ill will.

Each year SUSD celebrates the generosity of the Country Fair White Elephant by hosting an appreciation dinner and show, featuring student performance groups from all schools. This year, the Country Fair White Elephant contributed over \$170,000 to Sahuarita Unified Schools.

I understand that this error was perceived by some as intentional and insensitive. Please accept my sincerest apology for the error and anxiety it may have caused. Our school community values diversity, and any message which even creates a misperception of that is regrettable. Please know that steps have already been taken to minimize the likelihood of such mistakes in the future.

Sincerely,

Manuel O. Valenzuela, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

### Office of the Superintendent

520.625.3502

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[www.susd30.us](http://www.susd30.us)

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*We will work as a team to help every student succeed.*