

# The Principal Bolt

Issue 3: Week of August 21, 2023

## A Message From Principal White

Hello Thunder Families,

It is Progress 1 report time which means we are half way through quarter 1. All grades are updated, current, and can be found in ParentVUE. For our new families and a reminder to returning families, all posted grades throughout the year will be available immediately in ParentVUE so you won't need to wait for a report to come in the mail at the end of any grading period. If you have any questions about your students academic progress, I encourage you to make contact with the teacher.

As we continue to move forward into the remainder of the quarter, it is important for every student to stay healthy and stay focused on their academic goal(s). This week in advisory hour, students will be reflecting on their progress grades by participating in a goal setting activity and learning about nutrition.

I must take a moment to acknowledge the tremendous amount of support from our DV learning community. Without you, there would be no Desert Vista. I mean this sincerely when I say thank you to all our teachers, parents, custodians, cafeteria staff, counselors, administration team, office staff, bus drivers, paraprofessionals and students. Together we have built a learning environment that is one for all to enjoy and grow from. If you would like to support DV by being a member of Site Based Council which meets monthly to discuss and provide feedback on many of DV's initiatives, please email me as we would love to have an increase in our family participation on this committee.

August 30th is a 1/2 day for students using the [1/2 day bell schedule](#). Buses will run accordingly.

Our fall extracurriculars are underway! We have plenty of events going on almost every day now at DV. We invite you to attend any one of our extra-activities and/or athletic events. We can't wait to see the great things the DV students will accomplish this season!

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call the front office, 480-706-7900.

Go Thunder!

Sincerely,  
Principal White

## MEET YOUR DV LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Principal White - [snielsen@tempeunion.org](mailto:snielsen@tempeunion.org)
- Assistant Principal Snyder (Academics) - [tjsnyder@tempeunion.org](mailto:tjsnyder@tempeunion.org)
- Assistant Principal Walther (Activities) - [jwalther@tempeunion.org](mailto:jwalther@tempeunion.org)
- Assistant Principal Higginbotham (Athletics) - [khigginbotham@tempeunion.org](mailto:khigginbotham@tempeunion.org)



## Closed Campus

To better serve and ensure the safety of all students on campus during the school day, DV remains a closed campus. Therefore, lunch deliveries from outside vendors can't be accepted. With a population of over 2,900 students, it is very difficult to manage deliveries to the front office without knowing who is delivering or visiting our campus as well as holding and keeping track of a large amount of deliveries.

Students who bring their lunch have access to several microwave ovens within the cafeteria.

DV continues to offer regular school lunch options as well as concessions at the Cafe Sol area and vending machines during both lunches.

For the safety of our students, we need for families to not call students out during the lunch periods. Students who need to leave campus via walking need to be signed out if they would

like to leave during one of the two lunch periods.

## 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

### Parking and Drop Off/Pick Up Information

Traffic is heavy around Desert Vista in the morning and after school. When turning into the student parking off of Frye Road;

- follow the traffic flow,
- do not park and get out of a vehicle,
- eyes up watching for students on foot,
- drive slow,
- refrain from using a cell phone,
- follow the DV Security Officer instructions
- exit the vehicle in designated areas only

#### Student Pick-Up at the end of the day

When picking up your student at the end of the school day use the student parking lot. When waiting in the lot for your student, park in any empty parking spot. If all spots are filled and none are available, continue to move with the flow of traffic exiting and reentering the lot until your student is ready to get into the vehicle. Do not block traffic by stopping and waiting for your student randomly in a parking lot aisle. Waiting must be done in a parking spot only.

When parking in the community, be mindful of **NO PARKING** areas and be sure to show our community respect by not blocking or parking in driveways. Our Community Action Officer (CAO) has reached out with concerns that families aren't adhering to the posted no parking signs which has led to congested traffic. We need everyone to do their part by working with us.

As a reminder, it is important to adhere to all no parking signs and to only drop off in designated areas. Dropping off and/or picking up on Liberty Lane, Fry Road, 32nd Street are prohibited. Student safety is our number one priority and dropping off or picking up in these areas can put walkers, bikers, and drivers in danger.

### Bus Riders

The transportation department will be conducting a bus evacuation drill on August 29th for the DV bus routes. Please note that this is only a drill.

### Parking Permit Holders

**CHURCH LOT** parking is *not* assigned by permit #. Church lot permit holders may select their desired parking spot in the church lot. Please be sure that your parking placard is hanging from your rearview mirror and visible from the front of your vehicle at all times while parked in



the lot. All non permit holders are now subject to ticket or tow as this lot requires a paid permit.

Should you have any questions, reach out to Becky Richardson in the Activities Office – [brichardson@tempeunion.org](mailto:brichardson@tempeunion.org)

## BOOKSTORE OPERATING HOURS

The Bookstore is open: M-F from 8:00am-1:30pm and 2:00pm-4:00pm The online portal is also available to pay fees: [Bookstore portal](#).

## THE THUNDER COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

### Dual Enrollment

*Dual enrollment allows high school students to take college classes and earn credits that count toward their high school diploma and college degree or certificate and prepare them to enter the workforce. Tempe Union High School District partners with Rio Salado College to provide dual education. Use the QR code on the image or check out this [website](#)! Learn more about the benefits in [this story](#).*

A promotional graphic for dual enrollment at Rio Salado College. The left side features a red-to-orange gradient background with the text "IT'S COOL TO DUAL" in large, white, bold letters. The right side has a blue background with the text "EARN COLLEGE CREDITS THROUGH YOUR HIGH SCHOOL COURSES!" in yellow. Below this is the Rio Salado College logo and name, followed by a large QR code. At the bottom right, the website "www.RioSalado.Edu/Dual" is displayed.

**IT'S COOL TO DUAL**

**EARN COLLEGE CREDITS THROUGH YOUR HIGH SCHOOL COURSES!**

**RIO SALADO COLLEGE**  
A MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

[www.RioSalado.Edu/Dual](http://www.RioSalado.Edu/Dual)

## PSAT INFORMATION

The State has moved to offering the ACT to each of our juniors in the spring. Because of this, TUHSD provides the PSAT/NMSQT for all students grades 9-11 in October. As you know, at its core, the PSAT is a practice exam, with that being said, we need students to take the

PSAT/NMSQT both as a practice test, and as juniors, to qualify for National Merit Scholarships.

The Saturday exam will be offered for free on October 14, 2023 and the details can be found below along with the QR code to register. Additionally, you can find more details about the PSAT in the provided [PSAT informational document](#).

# Take the PSAT/NMSQT®

Class of 2025 : Enter the

**National Merit® Scholarship Program**  
conducted by National Merit Scholarship Corporation

[www.nationalmerit.org](http://www.nationalmerit.org)


**TUHSD Testing Sites:**  
Desert Vista for DVH and MtP students  
Corona del Sol for CdS and MdN students  
McClintock for MHS and THS students

**Testing Times: 8:00 AM - 12:00PM**

**Deadline to register:**  
*Friday September 1, 2023 for all students*

**SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW TO REGISTER!**

Why Take the PSAT?  
Juniors - National Merit Scholarship Program = \$\$\$\$ for College  
Fresh/Soph - Practice with resources to improve/prepare for testing as Junior



## Social Emotional Wellness Resources & Supports

Click for a list of [available resources](#).

# Social Emotional Wellness

## Impact Crisis Hotline:

(480) 784-1500

## National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:

Dial: 988

## Mercy Maricopa Crisis Hotline: Unit:

(602) 222-9444

## City of Tempe Care 7 Crisis Response

(480) 350-8004

## Teen Lifeline Hotline:

(602) 248-8336



## Attendance

Absences add up. District policy allows for students to miss a total of 11 absences per semester. **A benchmark to stay on track is to follow the practice of not more than 6 absent days during quarter 1 and 5 absent days during quarter 2.**

Calling to excuse absences is vital and helps our front office staff out. Doing so within 24 hours is essential to their work. Attendance questions, concerns and/or help can be directed to Mr. Herrera at [pherrera@tempeunion.org](mailto:pherrera@tempeunion.org)

## SOCIAL MEDIA

### DV Twitter, Instagram, Facebook– Please FOLLOW US

A lot of information is shared and pushed out via social media. Take the time to follow:

- **Twitter:** @DV\_Principal, @DVHS\_TUHSD, @dvactathletics
- **Instagram:** @dvhsthunder
- **Facebook:** Desert Vista High School — Like us!!!
- **TiKTok:** @dvhs\_tuhsd
- Desert Vista Guidance Department on **FaceBook** and **Twitter**
- All sports are on Twitter
- Tempe Union High School District on **Twitter:** @TUHSD\_News





# FOOD AND NUTRITION

## Free/Reduced Meal Information

E-mails were sent to all of the families that have not completed a new meal application for this school year. Every year the District gives families a 30-day grace period to complete this new meal application. Families that have not submitted a new meal application prior to August 29th, 2023 will expire and they will be moved to a Paid status that will require them to pay full price for school meals. Below is the link for those families that still need to complete an application for the new school year.

Free and Reduced Meal Applications are available conveniently online at [Family.TitanK12.com](http://Family.TitanK12.com), at all the school offices, and the District Office. If you have any questions regarding the Free and Reduced Meal Program please call, (480) 345-3755. Any household meal applications that were submitted for school year 21/22 will continue their determined eligibility through 9/16/2022, or until a new application has been processed. [Titan Family Portal](#).

ALL INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE [www.tempeunion.org](http://www.tempeunion.org)

## ATHLETICS

Vist the [DV Athletics](#) page for more information on events, locations, and times.

## Bag Policy for Events on Campus

As we begin a new year of athletics and activities, TUHSD has a clear bag policy for all events. Tempe Union [bag.policy](#) is below for reference.

# Tempe★Union Bag Guidelines

HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT



For guidelines in full, please visit:  
[www.TempeUnion.org/Athletics](http://www.TempeUnion.org/Athletics)

## APPROVED



CLEAR TOTE  
NOT TO EXCEED  
12" X 6" X 12"



SEAT CUSHION WITH  
OR WITHOUT BACK  
NOT TO EXCEED  
18" X 18"



1 GALLON  
RE-SEALABLE,  
CLEAR PLASTIC  
STORAGE BAG



SMALL CLUTCH  
NOT TO EXCEED  
4.5" X 6.5"

## NOT APPROVED

BAGS OVER 12" X 6" X 12"  
ARE NOT PERMITTED



CINCH BAG



TOTE BAG



BACKPACK



PURSE



CAMERA BAG

## ACTIVITIES

August 21-September 1

8/24-Fall Assembly



Visit the [DV Activities](#) page for information on:

- Clubs
- Dances
- Fine Arts events
- Parking
- Performing Arts events
- Student council
- Trip Reduction Program

## **Congratulations Dr. Wedington-Clark and DV Orchestra**

On behalf of ABODA, the Arizona Band and Orchestra Directors Association, offered a big congratulations to the Desert Vista Orchestra Program and to Dr. Darlene Wedington-Clark - Director, by awarding her the William E. Richardson "Program of Distinction" Award. Way to go Thunder!

## **Desert Vista Online Spirit Store**

Time to grab that DV Swag for the 2023-24 school year! For a LIMITED TIME, the online Spirit Store will be accepting orders.



## **Desert Vista High School**

Home of the Thunder <https://www.tempeunion.org/desertvista>

16440 South 32nd Street

Phoenix, AZ. 85048

480-706-7900



