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14218 N. 47th Avenue, Glendale, Arizona 85306

## Sunburst Elementary School

Rhonda Warren, Principal  
Sunburst Web site:  
[www.sunburst.wesdschools.org](http://www.sunburst.wesdschools.org)

August 26, 2016 Volume 12, Number 1  
Enrollment - 660 Sunsational Students

### From the Principal's Desk:

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year! We have had a great start of the school year and are looking forward to a successful year.

We are pleased to introduce a new 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher to Sunburst, Judi Whitehead. She has taught many years in WESD, and we are so delighted she is teaching at Sunburst now! Welcome, Judi Whitehead!

Sunburst will send out a monthly newsletter the last Friday of each month. The same newsletter will be posted on our school website at [www.wesdschools.org/Sunburst](http://www.wesdschools.org/Sunburst). We also will continue to use our call out system. If you have not already received one of these, please contact our front office (602-896-6400) to ensure we have your correct contact information. You may also check out and like our Sunburst PTO Facebook page where there are regular updates for our students and parents with reminders, pictures and videos!

We are looking forward to a productive year and recognize that it will take all of us working together to make it happen. We believe everyone is part of the team, and we're very fortunate to have such a supportive community.

I am looking forward to partnering with you this year. As always, should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Warm regards,  
Rhonda Warren  
Sunburst Principa



### Calendar of Events

- Aug. 31 Early Release @ 1:00 p.m.
- Sept. 1 Cross Country Information Packets go home
- Sept. 5 Labor Day – NO SCHOOL
- Sept. 7 Jamba Juice – Grades 2-6
- Sept. 9-23 Otis Sprunkmeyer Cookie Dough Sale
- Sept. 12 PTO Meeting  
3:30 – 4:30 p.m.
- Sept. 20 Family Reading Night 6:00 – 7:00 pm
- Sept. 21 Jamba Juice – Grades 2-6
- Sept. 28 Vision Screening
- Sept. 30 PE Snack Bar

### Early Release Wednesday Schedule

Remember that we have early release every Wednesday. Release time is 1:00 p.m. for all students. If you would like assistance with after-school child care on these days, contact our Sunburst KidSpace Program, at 602-896-6415.

### CROSS COUNTRY

If you love to run, the cross country team is for you! Cross country informational packets can be requested starting September 1. Everyone, from kindergarten through sixth grade is invited to join the team!



#### ATTENDANCE LINE

602-896-6411

Available 24/7

When calling the attendance line, please state the reason for your child's absence.



4650 W. Sweetwater Avenue, Glendale, AZ 85304 • 602-347-2600 • [www.wesdschools.org](http://www.wesdschools.org)

Governing Board: Aaron Jahneke, President • Clorinda Graziano, Vice President  
Bill Adams, Member • Larry Herrera, Member • Tee Lambert, Member

Dr. Paul Stanton, Superintendent

## **Attendance Updates**

Pursuant to A.R.S. 15-901(A) (1): Effective July 1, 2016, all absences in excess of a cumulative 10% or 18 absences will be reported to the Arizona Department of Education as unexcused. In order for absences relating to illness, doctor appointment, bereavement, family emergencies, or District-approved vacation to be counted as excused absences, the school must be notified of the absence prior to the absence, or the day of the absence by the parent or legal guardian who has custody of the student. Absences that are not reported will be unexcused. Sunburst School maintains a 24-hour attendance line where absences can be called in at any time of the day, or night at 602-896-6411.

## **Like WESD on Facebook**

Have you liked the WESD on Facebook? So many great things are happening in the WESD and we share our great news every day! Last year, you helped us surpass our goal of 5,000 Likes. This year, we're aiming even higher – we want 10,000 Likes! Help us reach our goal and like us today! You can also find WESDSchools on Twitter and Instagram. Keep yourself in the loop and like us today!

### **FACTS YOU NEED TO KNOW:**

The WESD is going out for a bond in the November 8 election.

#### **For what?**

This money will be used for safety projects, buildings projects and replacements, parking lot renovations, technology and school buses.

#### **How were projects determined?**

The priority was determined based on student safety and need.

#### **Why do we need money?**

Since the 2008-09 school year, state capital funding has been drastically reduced or eliminated. The state has entirely eliminated building renewal funds (for building renovations and preventive maintenance) and the state's most recent budget funds less than 15% of the statutory allocation for items such as furniture, equipment, technology and buses.

#### **What about Prop. 123?**

This money was used for employee compensation in an effort to attract and retain employees.

### **PTO News:**

It's not too late to participate in the PTO Armchair Fundraiser! The deadline has been extended to Friday, September 2. We are suggesting each household donate \$20, but any donation is appreciated! The PTO will be rewarding two classes with pizza parties: one to the classroom with the highest participation and one to the classroom with the highest total donation amount.

### **How is a bond different?**

This money will be used for things like buildings, technology and buses (for tangible items).

### **What happens if it doesn't pass?**

It will be necessary to reduce the district operating budget in order to pay for critical capital needs.

### **If the bond passes will my taxes go up?**

The structure of this bond plan is to avoid an increase in taxes.

For more info, please visit [www.wesdschools.org](http://www.wesdschools.org)

## **GIFTED SERVICES**

In accordance with ARS §15-779, special education is provided to students of lawful school age identified as gifted in one or more of the verbal, quantitative or nonverbal reasoning areas. The Washington District has a continuum of gifted services from which each school selects those that best meet their students' needs. Center-based services for highly gifted students are also available. If you think your child may need these special education services, evaluation is available. Contact your child's teacher for more information.

### **Kindness Korner**



Is your child a bucket filler? If so, he or she may be noticed by the amazing staff and recognized with a special "fuzzy" on our kindness wall. If a child is noticed for kind acts, he or she may get a paper fuzzy to write his or her name on and the good deed. In return, the child will get a certificate, pencil and maybe highlighted right here in the Kindness Korner of the newsletter.

Ms. Hilliard

