



An Arizona A++ School of Excellence

# ACACIA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



ARIZONA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION



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**Acacia's Mission:** The mission of Acacia Elementary, in partnering with parents and community, is to provide a safe, comfortable and cooperative environment ensuring that all students develop the knowledge, skills and character necessary to achieve their highest potential; and to become productive members of an ever-changing society.

## September 12, 2016

Dear Acacia Parents and Students,

I'm excited about our upcoming Open House on September 22! We are excited to show our families some of the fun ways children will be learning in our classes. Something new this year that we're thrilled about is inviting grandparents to our classrooms. We've recognized that the cafeteria just isn't big enough to have all of our grandparents attend a breakfast, but we've also recognized that they want to visit the classrooms. So, this is the time for students to show off their classroom! We will also have several opportunities to take photos with grandparents including decorated backdrops and a photo booth.

Please accept this as an invitation to parents and grandparents to join us on September 22. To make this a more enjoyable evening, our PTA has invited several food trucks with wings, frozen yogurt, pretzel mustaches and more. We will have tables set up outside by the flagpole for families to visit, eat, laugh and enjoy being together. The Acacia library is also hosting its fall book fair. Be looking for an informational flyer to come home with more information. It's going to be a fun, family night!

While you're marking your calendars, pencil in Trunk or Treat. We will be hosting our Annual Trunk or Treat on Monday, October 31. We will be sending home flyers looking for volunteers to dress up, decorate their trunk and pass out candy to trick or treating children. Of course we'll have my famous Dance Contest hosted by me! We love our community and all the fun we have with our Acacia family!

Site Council is another great opportunity to partner with the school. We are currently looking for members. We are meeting on Tuesday, September 13 at 4:00 p.m. in the school library. If you are interested in supporting our school in this way and would like more information about being a member, please call the office. We'll be happy to answer any questions. Site Council applications and meeting dates are also available in the school office. We have a great community.

Sincerely,  
Christine Hollingsworth, Principal



## Dates to Remember

Mon., Sept. 12	PTA Meeting	4:00 p.m.	Library
Tues., Sept. 13	Picture Day		
Tues., Sept. 13	Site Council Meeting	4:00 p.m.	Library
Thurs., Sept. 15	Choir Parent Meeting	5:00 p.m.	Choir Room
Thurs., Sept. 15	KC Club Parent Meeting	5:00 p.m.	Choir Room
Fri., Sept. 16	PTA Fundraiser Kickoff Assembly	1:30/2:15	Cafeteria
Thurs., Sept. 22	Back to School Open House	5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.	School-wide
Thurs., Sept 22	Book Fair Begins	9/22-9/28/16	Library
Wed., Sept. 28	FOX 10*Cory visiting	Morning	Playground

**Early Dismissal  
Every Wednesday  
1:45 p.m.**

## attendance MATTERS

To encourage and celebrate regular on-time attendance, we have implemented Attendance Matters again this year by tracking homeroom attendance. By grade level, the homeroom class demonstrating the highest percentages of on-time attendance each month will receive "treat coupons." Grade-level classroom winners also receive the Attendance Matters trophy to proudly display in their classroom for the month. Parents can support our efforts by allowing enough time in the mornings for children to arrive to school by 8:15 a.m. Please call in all absences to the office. It is important to note that for an absence to be marked excused, it must be reported on or before the day of the absence. Additionally, if a student misses part of the school day, for example, leaving before the end of the school day, the attendance record is marked. Thank you in advance for partnering with us in this endeavor and for recognizing the role and importance of regular attendance and arriving to school on time.

- Congratulations to our August classroom winners!**
- Kindergarten: Ms. Brown's Class
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Grade: Ms. Guarine's Class
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Ms. McLendon's Class
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade: Ms. Barrera's Class
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Ms. Johnson's Class
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Ms. Lester's Class
  - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade: Ms. Meyer's Class



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

# Picture Day September 13



Picture day is tomorrow, September 13 for all students. Order envelopes were sent home last week for those wishing to purchase school pictures. Each student's photo will be taken and printed on an ID card and kept in a pouch with their Z-pass. This will become his or her individual ID card for the school year. These cards are very important and must be worn on campus at all times. Please remind your student to be careful and not lose his or her ID or damage it. There is a \$5 fee to replace the ID and Z-Pass.

Please be courteous to our neighbors  
Do not park in front of or block driveways.

Favor de ser corteses con nuestros vecinos  
No se estacionen en frente o bloqueen los  
caminos de entrada de vehículos.

### **Safety in the Morning**

**Please remember that students are not allowed on campus before 7:55 a.m. Staff members are not on duty until that time, and we cannot have children on campus unattended.**

## After-school Academy~21<sup>st</sup> Century Classes



Invitations were sent home last week for Acacia's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Before-/After-school Academy. This is a wonderful opportunity for your child to participate in the Academic Avengers STEAM Revolution and boost his or her academic skills. It is a FREE program that is offered to students who (after reviewing the test scores and data) are targeted for math and reading skills!

The fall semester is targeting students in the 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grades. Be sure to fill out the form if your student brought one home and return it as soon as possible. Space is limited and classes are first-come, first-served.

## KC Club

Start a Chain Reaction of Kindness! We are looking for students in grades 3, 4, 5 and 6 who are interested in helping others, learning community service, and sharing kindness. If your student would like to Start a Chain Reaction of Kindness and join our Kindness and Compassion Club, there is a **parent meeting Thursday, September 15 at 5:00 p.m.** Club meetings will be every other Wednesday morning from 7:15-7:55 a.m. Call Mrs. Weed or Ms. Michael if you have any questions or would like more information 602-896-5000.



Has your child shown an interest in joining the Acacia School Choir? This ensemble is open to 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders interested in learning more about music and using their voices to make it. There is a parents meeting on Thursday, September 15 at 5:00 p.m. in room 116 for more information. If you are unable to attend, please feel free to call Mrs. Weed at 602-896-5042 for information. Choir practices will be held on Friday afternoons until 4:30 p.m.

## Cross Country Runners



Acacia School has a wonderful Cross Country program. Our team is open to any student in kindergarten through sixth grade who wants to run. Starting in October, team members will have practice Tuesday and Thursday mornings before school. There are four regular season meets (Tuesday afternoons) at which students will compete against other elementary schools. There will be an informational meeting for students and parents coming soon. Be looking for more information.

## Treats/Snacks

All food items served in the classroom to students must come from a commercial business with an approved Maricopa County Health Permit. **Foods prepared in a home kitchen are not approved.** Please call your child's teacher before purchasing food items to avoid peanut/nut allergies or other potential health issues among students. If you have any questions about the policy, please contact the Nutrition Services Office at 602-896-5232.



WRIC is the family resource center for the entire WESD and its surrounding communities. With the support of First Things First, they assist our families in having positive, early childhood experiences since we know school success begins at birth! Knowing 90% of a child's brain development happens by the age of 5 (BEFORE they step foot into our kinder classrooms), WRIC is committed to educating parents on the importance of their role as their child's first teacher. This education happens in many formats: parent workshops, family play groups, early learning activities/events, storytimes, increasing access to healthcare, connecting families to community resources and much more. Though focused on early childhood, it's easy to see how this type of support may help to strengthen the ENTIRE family! Washington Resource Information Center (WRIC) \* 8033 N. 27th Avenue Room #D-5 \* Phoenix, AZ 85051 \* 602-347-3496  
What happens to children in the early years, lays the foundation for a lifetime.

# Fall Break \* No School \* October 10-14