

News from Ironwood Elementary School

THUNDERBOLT FLASH

14850 N 39th Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85053

Office: 602-896-5600 / Health: 602-896-5610 / Hotline: 602-864-3870

Please Report All Absences to: 602-896-5611 (24-Hour Line)

Polly Schultz, Principal

Message from the Principal



Dear Ironwood Families,

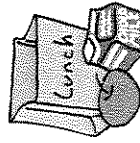
Happy Fall! We have had a wonderful first quarter learning amazing things at Ironwood and are excited to share your student's progress with you at our upcoming Parent/Teacher Conferences. Conference week will be October 28-30, 2015. Please be aware that October 28-30 are all early release days. This is a great time for you to share your child's strengths with his or her teacher and learn what you can do at home to help your child be successful at school. We feel that partnerships with parents and families are imperative in the success of each child and value your input as we move forward this school year in helping your child reach his or her full potential. We are all very excited to kick off our new school-wide reading program, **FLUENCY AND FITNESS FUN!** All students will be required to read or be read to for at least 20 minutes a night. We are also asking for everyone to do some kind of physical activity. Staff and students will be participating! You will get to see our progress on the charts in the library. More information will be coming home today!

As the second quarter quickly approaches, it is important to be mindful of our attendance policy. The regular school attendance of a child of school age is required by Arizona Revised Statutes § 15-803. Regular school attendance is essential for success in school; therefore, absences shall be excused only for necessary and important reasons. Such reasons include illness, bereavement, other family emergencies and observance of major religious holidays of the family's faith. If your child has excessive absences, you will receive an attendance letter and may need to attend an attendance conference at the school with your child. If the absences continue to occur, a truancy officer may become involved to assist you in getting your child to school. All students who are here every day without tardies and have not been signed out early will have their names entered into the drawing for the bike at the end of each quarter. If leaving early/late for an appointment a note from a physician will consider it excused and will not count against your child. After Fall Break we start a new quarter and another chance to get your name in the drawing. Please ensure that you help your child to be on time each morning. School starts promptly at 8:15 a.m., so please help your student arrive on time, ready to learn!

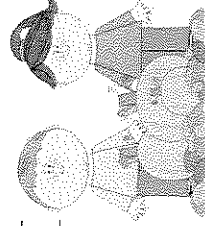
Thank you so much for all you do every day for your children! Have a great Fall Break!

My Best,

Polly Schultz, Proud Principal



Lunch Schedule



Kindergarten	11:20 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.
5 th Grade	11:30 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.
3 rd Grade	11:40 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
1 st Grade	11:50 a.m. – 12:10 p.m.
2 nd Grade	12:05 p.m. – 12:25 p.m.
6 th Grade	12:15 p.m. – 12:35 p.m.
4 th Grade	12:25 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS



10/12 - 10/16 Fall Break

10/21 - TLC 7:30 a.m.

10/23 - Peter Piper Costume Night 5p.m.

10/24 - Kiwanis Walk-a-thon

10/27 - Gifted field trip

10/27 - 4th grade Game and Fish @ IR

10/29 - Parent/Teacher Conferences

10/29 - Star Student Lunch

10/30 - Parent/Teacher Conferences

****Wear pink every Wednesday for the month of October for breast cancer awareness.**

****Every Friday wear our school colors!**

School Messenger

WESD is now using our School Messenger parent notification system to contact parents of students who have an unverified absence. An unverified absence is an absence that is not reported to the school by the parent or guardian. Arizona law requires school districts to contact parents or guardians of students with unverified absences within two hours of the start of the school day. At the appropriate time, data from our student information system is captured by School Messenger and a notification is automatically sent to parents or guardians. The notification consists of a phone call and e-mail message to up to three contacts for each student. Parents have the option to respond directly to the School Messenger system or call the attendance phone number at their child's school to report their child's absence. Please remember to call the attendance line at Ironwood when your child is absent for the day.

ID Badges

Students need to wear their ID badge and bus pass every day. Please make sure if your student has lost his or her badge, that it gets replaced the next day. Replacement cards are \$5.00.



4650 W. Sweetwater Avenue, Glendale, AZ 85304 • 602-347-2600 • www.wesdschools.org

Governing Board: Tee Lambert, President • Bill Adams, Vice President

Clorinda Graziano, Member • Larry Herrera, Member • Aaron Jahneke, Member

Dr. Paul Stanton, Superintendent



Connect2Compete Service Offered

At Ironwood School, we know that the Internet plays an important role in your child's education and that it can be a great resource for you as a parent. Teachers are increasingly incorporating digital tools in the classroom to enhance learning and using technology to communicate with parents.

That's why we want to share information with you about a program called Connect2Compete. Because Ironwood School is a Community Eligibility Provision school and your child receives universal free meals, your family may qualify for fast, affordable home Internet service from Cox Communications.

Internet service through Connect2Compete costs just \$9.95 per month. For participating families, there are no deposits, no installation costs and the modem rental is free. This discounted rate is guaranteed for two years with no contract.

If you think this might be right for your family, it's easy to get started. Call toll free 1-855-222-3252 or visit www.connect2competeprogram.com to see if you qualify.

(Connect2Compete is a program to provide home Internet service for families. It is not a school program, and is not endorsed or required by our school. Washington Elementary School District is not responsible for Connect2Compete accounts.)

SEPTEMBER STARR STUDENT'S



Carson Sullinger

Jesse Bagné

Bairo Valles-Valenzuela

Victoria De La Cruz

Cohnor Covell

Tijilla Tauataina

Dallas Neuner

Brandy Fontaine

Alivia Wilson

Aneya Vega

Phillip Pham

Gabriela Reyes

Ammar Gutierrez

Kadie Baker

Alexsandra Wilson

Evelyn Guirroz-Meza

Emily Souza

Nathan Boyle

Alexa McClain

Anthony Dominguez

Rose Shurtleff

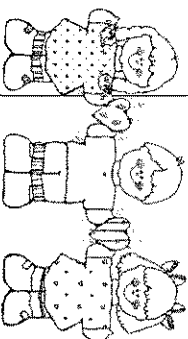
Lily Titus

Brianna Plett

Thomas Smith

Gianna Lior

Shannon King



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.

Kiwanis-sponsored Walk-a-thon

Ironwood School will once again be participating in the North Phoenix Kiwanis Club's Annual Walk-a-thon event on Saturday, October 24, 2015. North Phoenix Kiwanis is a valuable partner of the WESD and supports our District in a variety of ways.

The event will be held at Metropcenter Mall from 8:00-9:00 am. All WESD Schools will have a team of walkers represent their school in the walk. Donations for the school team will be accepted at each school site from September 23-October 4. Proceeds from the event will benefit various school programs, students and families in need. Please support your team!



Take Credit for Helping a Child

You can do something great for the students at Ironwood School and reduce your tax liability at the same time by making a tax credit donation.

You decide where your money goes! When you make a school tax credit donation you're enhancing the education of a child. Your donation can go to the program you specify, or you may permit the school to designate which of its extracurricular programs your donation will support - athletics, after-school classes, character education, field trips, music programs.

State Department of Revenue Guidelines

- The tax credit program gives a dollar-for-dollar reduction in state income taxes. The credit is \$400 for married taxpayers that file a joint return and \$200 for single taxpayers or heads of households. If married taxpayers file separate returns, each spouse may claim one-half of the credit that would have been allowed.
- Public education tax credits may only be used to the extent that they reduce a tax liability to zero. Any unused amounts may be carried forward for not more than five consecutive years.
- You do not need to have a child enrolled in a school to take advantage of this tax credit.
- If a program is not designated by the contributor, the school will choose a program based on greatest need.
- Checks must be made payable to the individual school of the taxpayer's choice.
- Tax credit donations must be made on or before April 15 to be applied to the prior year's taxes.
- When the school receives the check, a receipt will be issued for the individual's tax record. The District will also submit notification to the Arizona Department of Revenue.
- To make a donation, simply go to the WESD Web site, www.wesdschools.org, Quick Links. Print and complete the tax credit form and return it to the school office or to the WESD Administrative Center at 4650 W. Sweetwater Avenue, Glendale, AZ 85304. Remember, tax credit donations must be made on or before April 15 to be applied to the prior year's taxes.
- For further information, contact the office in your local school office or Chris Wing in the Accounting Department at 602-347-2631.



2015 Thunderbolt Basketball Schedule

T 10/20	Chaparral @ IR	4:00 p.m.
T 11/3	IR @ Sahuaro	4:00 p.m.
F 11/6	IR @ Richard E Miller	4:00 p.m.
M 11/9	Sunburst @ IR	4:00 p.m.
F 11/13	Alta Vista @ IR	4:00 p.m.
T 11/17	IR @ Sunset	4:00 p.m.
F 11/20	Orangewood @ IR	4:00 p.m.
T 11/24	IR @ Lakeview	4:00 p.m.

CROSS COUNTRY

Cross Country begins this week for all 4th, 5th and 6th graders. Registration packets can be picked up in the office or Mrs. Dollar's room. Practices are Monday, Thursday and Friday mornings at 7:00 for the month of October. Cross Country Races are every Tuesday in November, with the Division Finals held on Nov. 30 and Dec. 1. Encourage your child to come join in on the fun!

KidSpace WESD

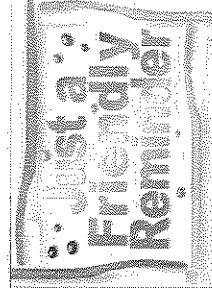
Need a safe place for your child before or after school? KidSpace is enrolling for the 2015-2016 school year. We offer art, homework time, and other exciting activities. All staff have been finger printed and are CPR and first aid trained. KidSpace is open as early as 6:30 a.m. and closes at 6:00 p.m. Please call 602-896-5673 if you have any questions.

Dear Ironwood community,

I write to you today with very bittersweet feelings. My husband has been offered a promotion with his business, and he has accepted. This means that I will be moving across the country to West Palm Beach, FL at the end of this month. Therefore, I have resigned my position at Ironwood Elementary. I will be sad to leave such a wonderful community and school. I have enjoyed teaching your children. I love to watch their imaginations stretch and grow. Thank you for letting me be a part of your lives. I wish you a very happy and creative year!

Kelly Rice

Art Teacher



Students Cannot arrive at school until 7:55. We do not have supervision until then. If you need to drop your students off earlier, KidSpace is available.

Students WILL NOT be called out of class during the last 15 minutes of the day. If it is necessary to sign out your student early, please arrive before 3:00 p.m. and **always be prepared to show ID when signing out your student(s).**

Please make sure travel arrangements are scheduled ahead of time. It is very difficult to get last minute messages to students.

Don't forget to call in your student's absence at 602-896-5611.

Jamba Juice is available every Friday at lunch time for \$2.00.

When you join your student for lunch, he or she may only choose three friends to join you on the patio.

Community of Caring Corner

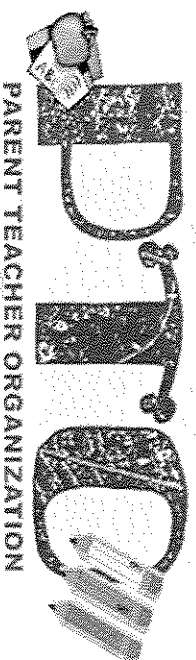
We hope everyone has had a wonderful start to this school year, and we would like to thank everyone who came out for our Great Skate Night. Everyone had a great time and we earned some much-needed funds for our future projects. Speaking of which, we wanted to give you all a quick update of our projected Service Learning Projects.

- **All Year:** Please keep those pop tops coming as they will be given to **Ronald McDonald House**, which supports childhood cancer patients and their families.
- **Oct. 19-Nov. 19: Help for our Heroes:** We will be collecting items to support our local veterans who are patients at the Phoenix VA Hospital or at the Community Living Center. We want to help our local veterans this year so they know they are not forgotten. Flyer coming after Fall Break.
- **Jan.:** Classes will make blankets for babies, vets and or assisted living patients.
- **Feb.:** Canned Food Drive
- **May:** Water Drive

We truly do make a difference for our communities with our projects, and we thank you for your support, which helps these projects to happen.

News from our amazing

www.facebook.com/IronwoodElementaryPTO
IronwoodPTO@gmail.com



\$5 FOR KIDS CAMPAIGN SUCCESS!

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who helped raise money for the Ironwood PTO with the \$5 For Kids Campaign! We made over \$4,500! We had a very generous donation from the Area Family and Area Steel Erectors – THANK YOU! **And thanks to Peter Piper Pizza at Metrocenter**, which donated all the pizza for our pizza parties! They are SUCH amazing partners with our school!

Guess what though? We had fewer than 16% of the students and fewer than 2% of the staff participate in the fundraiser! Imagine what we could do if we ALL worked together and found more donations? If every student and staff had found only a \$20 donation, we would have been able to raise over \$12,000!

If you haven't donated, we are still taking donations throughout the year, and your child can still earn all of the coupons for the prize levels! If you donate \$50 or more you get \$20 to use at the book fairs! That's just one of the coupons! Please think about helping raise money for the school! Thank you again to everyone who helped! You guys are awesome! – Kathie Bennion, PTO President

HERE'S A SHOUT-OUT TO OUR TOP FUND-RAISERS!

TOP THREE DONORS got to go with Ms. Schultz and Mrs. Holbrook to Peter Piper Pizza for lunch!

Renaee Area – \$805, Damian Grimsley \$305, Logan Edwards \$187

These students had a pizza party at the school: Emalee Valdez, Jack Bennion, Shelby McClain, Heidi Ruffell, Gabriel Giral, Noah Timmerman, Dallas Neuner, Boston Poll, Brooke Subers, Enok Wall, Connor Norwood, Madison O'brien, Alexa McClain, Hailey Hayes, Ronan Cervantez and Ramsie Hoil

Over \$150

Dallas Neuner, Gabriel Giral

\$100+

Boston Poll, Heidi Ruffell

\$80+

Brooke Subers,

\$70+

Connor Norwood, Madison O'brien

\$60+

Enok Wall, Alexa McClain, Shelby McClain, Hailey Hayes,

\$50+

Joy Clark, Donna Nacinovich, Emalee Valdez, Ronan Cervantez, Ramsie Hoil, Jack Bennion, Noah Timmerman, Jacob Innis, Tristin Lee, Carson Morris, Iris Patti, Riley Geis, Gabriel Reid, Logan Kolo, Cylus Johnson, Victoria Vautrin, Gavin Scroggins, Cordel Regh, Julie Zaragoza, Nickolas Newton, Bella Pagliarello.

IRONWOOD SHIRTS!

We are doing one more big order of shirts! Look at the different styles/sizes on our Facebook Page "Ironwood Elementary PTO" and e-mail us if you would like to order one!

IRONWOOD SPIRIT SHOP!

In addition to our school shirts, ducks and smencils, we now have lots more fun items in our spirit shop! We have temporary tattoos, pom poms, Ironwood pencils and much more! Look on our Facebook page for pictures and prices!

BOX TOPS

Just a reminder that the class competition for most box tops is ongoing and a new winner is picked every month, so keep clipping, saving and turning in those box tops!

A BIG THANK YOU!

Thanks to Cecil Morris and A+ Screen Printing & Embroidery for donating the screens and labor for our staff's pink breast cancer awareness shirts! They have been an awesome partner with Ironwood, and we appreciate their hard work and generosity that has benefited Ironwood so many times over the years!

Thank You

Wow!