



Keeping Kids First

Winter 2011

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Governing Board

Tom Murphy, President

207-6479

Kris Ham, Clerk

955-2074

David Eves, Member

440-7567

J. Elaine Hall, Member

398-9446

Diana Kellermeyer, Member

207-1592

Superintendent

Manuel O. Valenzuela, Ed.D.

625-3502 ext. 1001

Assistant Superintendent

Scott Downs

625-3502 ext. 1007

Anza Trail School

Brett Bonner, Principal

625-3502 ext. 1700

Sahuarita High School

Kent Thompson, Principal

625-3502 ext. 1501

Walden Grove High School

Teresa Hill, Principal

625-3502, ext. 1800

Sahuarita Intermediate School

Carol Roman, Principal

625-3502 ext. 1200

Sahuarita Middle School

Stephanie Silman, Principal

625-3502 ext. 1401

Sahuarita Primary School

Tina Anderson, Principal

625-3502 ext. 1100

Sopori Elementary School

Desi Raulston, Principal

625-3502 ext. 1300

SUSD Early Childhood

Cheryl McGlothlen, Director

393-6217

A Message From The Superintendent

Dear Families:

Former Intel Corporation CEO and Chairman, Craig Barrett said, "Education is the key that opens the door to a brighter future." I believe this strongly and passionately. In fact, this belief was a significant factor in determining my chosen profession, years ago. However, some of the elements of a quality education have evolved over time and must continue to do so, if we are to prepare the most highly qualified students that are equipped to succeed in the world of today and the future.

According to a 2010 report by the Georgetown Center on Education and the Workforce, in 1973, approximately seventy-five percent of the job force did not have formal education and training beyond the high school level. This was functional in a manufacturing dominated world and the attainment of a strong middle class wage was within reach. However, the same report cites that by 2018, our economy will generate forty seven million new jobs. In contrast, two thirds of them will require specialized post secondary education of some kind.

In the recently released report, *Pathways to Prosperity: Meeting the Challenges of Preparing Young Americans for the 21st Century* (Harvard Graduate School of Education, 2011), some key points are identified as defining elements of successful education practices to prepare students for success in the coming decades.

- **Academic rigor** – SUSD continues to focus on this area through expansion of Advanced Placement (AP) courses, development of common end of course examinations, staff development, and development of a multifaceted instructional framework.
- **Multiple pathways to success and post high school readiness**- SUSD values and continues to invest in and further develop quality, meaningful, and industry relevant programs in Career and Technical Education (CTE). These include automotive technology, robotics/automation, culinary arts, business management, and construction professions.
- **Field based experiences and internships**- SUSD is working to develop programs that will provide students with meaningful opportunities to apply their learning and prepare themselves for the postsecondary world of career and college.
- **Authentic Assessments**-These are relevant measures that give feedback about student application of learned technical skills and context based learning. The CTE assessments and competitions, such as robotics team and Skills USA events, are examples of this type of higher level, situational assessments.
- **Active collaboration with employers**- SUSD is fortunate to have multiple business partners who formally and informally communicate with us regarding job needs, future projections for growth, and high skill educational areas of interest. For example, we are fortunate to have a business advisory council for career and technical education programs.
- **Career Counseling**-Thanks to the ongoing support of our local community, even in tough economic times, we are fortunate to offer all students, from K-12, with access to a comprehensive, competency based guidance curriculum, which includes certified, professional guidance counselors at all schools.

The SUSD team is committed to working as a team, with parents, students, and the greater community, to develop programs and practices which will help our students to be ready for success in our rapidly changing 21st Century world. Together, we will continue to make a difference!

Sincerely,

Manuel O. Valenzuela

Manuel O. Valenzuela, Ed.D.

Superintendent

Bond & Override Update Page 2

Thanks to the generosity of voters in our community, the District has been able to add additional resources for students and families in our District. The following information is an update on the status of the community approved bond & override programs. Once again, thanks for your generosity and for Keeping Kids First!

<u>2007 Bond Projects</u> \$14.7 Million	<u>2009 Bond Projects</u> \$27 Million	<u>2009 Capital Outlay</u> <u>Override</u> \$1 Million Produced Annually for 7 Years	<u>2009 Maintenance &</u> <u>Operation Override</u> \$3,096,109
<p><u>PROJECTS IN PROGRESS:</u></p> <p>\$9 M: Supplement New High School & K-8 Energy Efficiency Security Enhancements</p> <p>\$700 T: SMS Gym Renovations SIS Renovations</p> <p><u>COMPLETED PROJECTS:</u></p> <p>\$2.75 M: Main Campus/Athletic/Playground/Shade</p> <p>\$1 M: Security Enhancements</p> <p>\$1 M: Soporri School Security/Safety/Fire Suppression Enhancements</p> <p>\$250 T: Anza School Additional Parking Area</p>	<p><u>PROJECTS IN PROGRESS:</u></p> <p>\$14 M: New Construction - K-5</p> <p>\$3 M: Construction of New Swimming Pool Complex</p> <p>\$5 M: Renovations to Existing Buildings</p> <p>\$5 M: Supplement Next K-5</p>	<p><u>PURCHASES ITEMS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus & vehicles • Energy Projects at SHS, SMS & Auditorium • Textbooks / Updated Instructional Resources • Computers & Technology Upgrade Plan • Classroom Furniture & Equipment • Maintenance Equipment • Copiers • Support opening of Sahuarita Education Center 	<p><u>SPECIAL PROGRAMS:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Athletics • Career/Technology Education • School Counselors & Music Specialists at Every Site. • Fine Arts • Physical Education at Every Site • Facilities & Operations • NJROTC • Instructional Aides/ Individualized Instruction • Safety - Security/Monitors • Class Size Reduction

New K-5 Site



The New K-5 will be located adjacent to the Town of Sahuarita Municipal Center. The new K-5 complex will include an Early Childhood Center (ECC) and a District pool facility. The projected opening date for the ECC and pool complex is Spring 2012. The projected opening date for the new K-5 school is August 2012. This Sahuarita Education Center will be a great investment to the future of education in our community.

SMS Gym



The new SMS Gym will be located in the same location as its predecessor. The new Gym, which encompasses 20,669 square feet, will provide a gymnasium, weight room, wrestling room, foyer, and bathrooms. Locker rooms will be utilized during the day by SMS physical education classes, and high school athletic teams in the evening, so they may utilize the adjacent stadium for football, soccer, etc. Projected completion is slated for early Spring 2012.

Together we are making a Difference!

WGHS Dedication & Open House



The Walden Grove High School dedication ceremony and Open House were held on Tuesday, September 27, 2011. In spite of the dark clouds and ominous weather, over a thousand people attended. Dignitaries, guests, faculty, students and their parents gathered in the beautiful new gymnasium to witness the ribbon cutting.

The warm welcome by Principal Teresa Hill and Superintendent Valenzuela set the tone for the evening. A ribbon cutting took place and each participant received a commemorative scissors and photo journal to remember the event. All the while, the newly formed chamber music quartet performed classical pieces under the watchful eye of their music teacher, Mr. Ryan Carle.

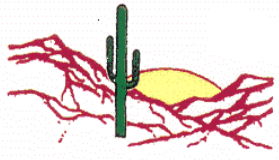
A highlight of the evening came when Mr. & Mrs. Dick Walden were introduced. Mr. Walden's father began the cotton growing operation in the Sahuarita area that soon became vast pecan orchards. A portion of the Walden land was donated by the Walden family to the school district to build Walden Grove High School. It was an honor to be able to hear Mr. Walden speak of his personal history and how it came about that his own parents were so supportive of education.

Following the speeches and welcome, appetizers and refreshments were served. The courtyard of the school was festooned with balloons. Booths for the younger children gave out cotton candy, popcorn, and other treats. Parents then began the tour of the three major buildings that included the classrooms, administration, computer labs, library, fine arts building, cafetorium, and new gymnasium.

One of the many joys of opening a brand new high school in the Sahuarita School District is watching how quickly the students take to the new environment and how much energy is displayed by the marching band, cheerleaders, student council, choir, NJROTC, and dance class members. Parents were witness to the enthusiasm and spirit shown by all the students who performed for this dedication ceremony. This event was a testimony to the quality education and positive school culture at Walden Grove High School..



Visit us on the web!
www.susd30.us



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Non-profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Tucson, AZ
Permit No. 690

ECR-WSS

Residential Postal Customer

Our Mission:
Working as a team to help every student succeed.



SAHUARITA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



Pathways to Excellence

www.susd30.us

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Recruit and Retain Highly Qualified Staff with a Comprehensive Professional Development Program, Individualize Instruction, Base Curriculum on State Standards, Drive Instructional Decisions with Data, Focus on Effective Teaching Practices, Recognize Staff, Students, Parents and Community Partners.

THE DISTRICT IS COMMITTED TO HELPING EACH STUDENT GROW TO HIS / HER POTENTIAL

CUSTOMER LOYALTY

Assess Community Needs, Respond by Going the Extra Mile, Attend to Detail, Focus on People, Regular Communication and Timely Follow Up. Utilize Modern Technology to Support Quality Focused Service.

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT WILL PROVIDE LEGENDARY SERVICE

EXCELLENCE

Create a Culture of Quality, Commit to Continuous Improvement, Use Practices that Support Maximum Student Growth. Prepare Students for Success in a 21st Century World, Including the Integration of Modern Technology.

THE DISTRICT WILL SET A STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE

INTEGRITY

The District will Make All Professional, Educational and Financial Decisions to Best Serve the Interests and Needs of the Students.

THE DISTRICT WILL STRIVE TO MAKE STUDENT CENTERED DECISIONS

CULTURE OF SAFETY

Maintain Structured and Orderly Schools, Provide Research-Based Prevention Programs, Practice Viable Plans, Provide Visibility and Vigilance, Build Community Partnerships.

THE SECURITY, SAFETY AND WELL BEING OF OUR STUDENTS ARE TOP PRIORITIES