



# Mustang Messenger

## Sweetwater School

4602 W. Sweetwater Avenue  
Glendale, Arizona 85304-6520

Phone: (602) 896-6500 ♦ Fax: (602)-896-6520 ♦ Attendance: (602) 896-6521 ♦ Nurse: (602) 896-6510

### Our Sweetwater Mission - Creating Leaders of Today and Tomorrow

Sweetwater Website: <http://sweetwater.wesdschools.org/>

January 2020 Enrollment - 528 Students



#### Principal's Message:

Dear Parents,  
We would like to ring in 2020 as a **Lighthouse Certified Leader in Me School!** The second half of our school year will be filled with rewards and challenges as each student takes on greater personal leadership at Sweetwater. **My goal is to see every family drawn into our mission of Creating Leaders by embracing the use of the 8 Habits in their home life.** This simply means that **every** family member puts their strengths to use in 2020 to be the best "me" that they can be! Begin by setting a WIG (Wildly Important Goal) to become more involved in the family events and happenings that take place at Sweetwater. Support your students in getting to school on time every day and check ParentVue regularly to see how they are maintaining their grades and completing their assignments. The start of a New Year is a good time to reflect on the study routines and practices that you have in place in your home, as well. All of these ideas show your child that you highly value his or her education. Research shows that it is the collective support and combined efforts provided to children, by parents, teachers and other staff members such as therapists, social workers, paraprofessionals, that ultimately results in the greatest achievement for every child. So let us all join in to make the second half of this school year a resounding success for all of our students!

Thank you to all of the dedicated parents that attended our Winter Concerts and Performances. Many of you were here multiple times if you had children involved in sports, band, strings, choir, and/or drama. All of these programs can be supported by the AZ Tax Credit money that is donated to Sweetwater. If you missed the opportunity to make a Tax Credit Donation to Sweetwater before the end of 2019, there is good news! It is not too late because this donation, which is a dollar for dollar return on your AZ taxes, can still be donated before April 15, 2020 for 2019. This means that you can donate right before filing your tax return and get the refund back within weeks of submitting your return. Here's to a New Year in which we all embrace our Leadership potential!

Sincerely,  
Luanne Herman

#### WESD IS HIRING

**January 11 - Teacher Job Fair 10:30a.m. – 1 p.m.**  
**Call 602-757-1447 for an interview.**

**January 24 - Support Staff Job Fair 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.**  
**Call 602-347-2624 for an interview.**

#### Attendance Updates

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. Sweetwater School maintains a 24-hour attendance line where absences can be called in at any time of the day, or night at 602-896-6511.

#### Emergency Contact Information

Parents/guardians of returning students for the 2019-2020 school year, you will be asked on the Student Profile form (the form you complete at the beginning of each school year) to provide the names and contact information for individuals who may pick up your child in case of emergency. Those individuals will not be required to show written permission from you when they pick up your child for emergency reasons (e.g., illness, injury, family emergency.) However, the individuals you list will not be permitted to pick up your child during the school day for nonemergency reasons without prior written permission. Please keep this in mind when designating individuals with whom to entrust your child's care.



## WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

Governing Board: Tee Lambert, President • Bill Adams, Vice President • Larry Herrera, Member • Aaron Jahneke, Member • Nikkie Whaley, Member  
Dr. Paul Stanton, Superintendent

**Kindergarten Registration and Open Enrollment**

The WESD will begin accepting enrollment for the 2020-2021 school year on December 2. Open enrollment is available on a first-come, first-served basis and space is limited. A unique and personalized education starts early in the WESD with a free, full-day kindergarten and four-year-old educational programs with a gifted emphasis. All WESD students will be immersed in high academics, art, music and PE in an environment that is focused on educating the whole child. Affordable before and after-school care, as well as enrichment opportunities, are offered to all students, as well. To enroll your child in a District that has award winning schools and staff, visit [www.wesdschools.org/registration](http://www.wesdschools.org/registration) or call 602-896-6950.

**Jumpstart Program- Kindergarten Readiness**

Enroll your future kindergartener into the Jumpstart Program – the WESD’s kindergarten readiness program where children will gain social skills, practice kinder routines and more! The three-week, half-day summer program is free for future kindergarten students. The program will run from May 26-June 11 and breakfast and lunch will be provided each day. If you have any questions, please call 602-347-2892 or email [WESDKinderJumpstart@wesdschools.org](mailto:WESDKinderJumpstart@wesdschools.org).

**Peachjar Digital Flyer Platform and Email Updates**

The WESD is committed to educational excellence and ensuring that parents stay informed about important activities and events that enhance their child’s life. In an effort to improve parent and community engagement, the WESD uses Peachjar to send digital flyers and school newsletters directly to parents via email. Additionally, all flyers and newsletters are posted to each school’s Web site. Parents are able to click to register their children for youth sports, enrichment programs, and community events. By using this system, we eliminate the need to print roughly 2,688,000 sheets of paper per year—nearly 322 trees! Please ensure that the WESD has a current email address on file. You will receive emails from the District in case of an emergency as well as for updates about your school and the District. Contact the front office to update your email address today!

**Sweetwater Social Etiquette**

1. Make eye contact with people when you pass them in the halls.
2. Use simple greetings
3. Respond positively to others who greet or talk to you
4. Say please and thank you when appropriate
5. Speak in a pleasant tone of voice
6. Smile ☺

**BRING YOUR IDENTIFICATION**

An ID is required for all persons who are signing out Sweetwater students.

**NO EXCEPTIONS!**

**Students will no longer be excused from class if the time falls within 15 minutes of dismissal unless there is an urgent matter or medical appointment. The final minutes of any class serve as a time to review and explain homework. Students who habitually leave 15-30 minutes early suffer from a lack of information and directions that are essential to their academic success.**

***Parking Lot Procedures***

For the safety of our students, parents and staff, we are requesting that you follow a few guidelines when dropping off and picking up your children before and after school.

**\*\*PLEASE WAIT** until you get to the blue painted line on the sidewalk to drop off or pick up your children.

**\*\*DO NOT BLOCK THE HANDICAPPED PARKING SPOTS.** Parents with handicap plates or signs use these spaces to drop off and pick up their children.

**\*\*THE LEFT LANE IS FOR THROUGH TRAFFIC ONLY.** Children or adults are not to be dropped off or picked up in this lane. This lane is not to be used to cut in front of others who have been waiting their turn to pick up or drop off their children.

**\*\*CHILDREN ARE NOT ALLOWED TO WALK ACROSS THE PARKING LOT WITHOUT AN ADULT PRESENT.**

**Sweetwater Calendar of Events**

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*Early Release Wednesdays Dismissal Time – 1:00 p.m.*

**January 2020**

6	School Resumes
9	Governing Board Meeting 7 p.m.
14	Kinder Open House @ 6 p.m.
17	Kona Ice during lunch
20	MLK Day – No School
21	Peter Piper Pizza 4-8 p.m. and Parent Lighthouse Team @ 5:30 p.m.
23	Award Assemblies 8 a.m. for 7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> grade 1:15 p.m. for Kinder thru 2 <sup>nd</sup> grade Governing Board Meeting 7 p.m.
24	Award Assemblies 8:30 a.m. for 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> grade 1:15 p.m. for 5 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup> grade
27	Site Council @ 5:30 p.m.