



# 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

November 13, 2015

### Principal's Message:



Dear Parents,

We approach this holiday season with another fantastic opportunity for you to be proactive and visit school to participate in your child's learning. In kindergarten through sixth grades, Grandperson's Day is an opportunity for each student to bring a special someone to visit school. So if he or she does not have an actual grandparent who lives locally, each student is welcome to bring a parent, aunt, uncle, etc. to participate in the program. Grandperson's Day is Wednesday, November 25, from 7:30-10:30 a.m. Please support our National Junior Honor Society by purchasing arts and craft items. The money raised will help pay postage to send packages to our troops and purchase small gifts for our Holiday Angel program. Also, consider bringing a can of food for our canned food drive. Traditionally, Sweetwater families have always been very generous during the holiday season. Thank you for your support of our community efforts. When we synergize as a group, we accomplish so much more than by ourselves.

Leadership continues to be the focus of our classrooms. There is a leader in every one of us. As teachers and parents, we can help foster the leader in each of our students. The holidays present a perfect opportunity to explore leadership possibilities that are available.

Sincerely,  
Luanne Herman

### Fall Boutique Craft and Vendor Sale

Please join us on Saturday, November 14 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at our annual Fall Boutique Craft and Vendor Sale in the Sweetwater cafeteria. Make this your one-stop holiday shopping venue with vendors selling everything from homemade crafts, purses, blankets, pet accessories, and jewelry to home-party vendors like Pampered Chef, Jamberry Nail Wraps, It Works!, Norwex, Doterra Oils, Gold Canyon Candles, Premiere Jewelry and more! We will have food and drink vendors as well. Some vendors accept credit cards while others are cash only so please plan ahead. There will be free tickets given out for raffle prizes to be drawn every hour on the hour - you must be present to win! We hope to see you there!

### Access Your Child's Information Using ParentVUE

Sweetwater School is pleased to announce that parents and guardians can be more involved in their child's education by utilizing ParentVUE, a Web-based program that allows parents and guardians the opportunity to monitor their child's educational progress.

Each parent/guardian will receive information on how to activate his or her account. You will receive Activation Instructions and an Activation Key that you will need when you first sign in. You will be given the opportunity to change your password after your account is activated.

By activating your ParentVUE account, you will be able to see information specific to your child or children. You will be able to see your child's attendance, class schedule, grade book and, to a limited extent, calendar. The grade book for grades 4-8 will be fully available. For grades K-3, limited grades will be visible as WESD is transitioning grade books for K-3 into the system at this time.

You will also be able to see and review the student info (contact and emergency information) the school has on record for your child.

We encourage you to activate your ParentVUE account (and become familiar with its features). Your child's teachers will be updating the information regularly, so visit often to stay current with your child's progress.

We look forward to working with you to improve your access to information about your child's academic progress. If you have a question regarding your child's schedule, grades and/or attendance, please contact your child's teacher. If you have a question regarding the use of ParentVUE, please e-mail.

[WESDParentVUE@wesdschools.org](mailto:WESDParentVUE@wesdschools.org)



**Don't forget to check  
the lost and found  
for items you may  
be missing.**



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  
Clorinda Graziano, Member • Larry Herrera, Member • Aaron Jahneke, Member  
Dr. Paul Stanton, Superintendent

## Annual Food Drive

The Sweetwater National Junior Honor Society and Student Lighthouse Committee are co-sponsoring the annual Food Drive at our school. Your generous food donations will go directly to the local Westside Food Bank center in order to provide nutritional meals to those individuals or families who may find themselves in need during this holiday season.

We are accepting non-perishable canned food items through Wednesday, November 25. Students and guests who donate canned food items on Grandperson's Day will also be entered into a drawing for a delicious holiday pie for their Thanksgiving dinner.

We request that all food donations be delivered to your child's homeroom teacher in order for it to be accurately recorded. Food items should not be dropped off at the front office due to limited space availability.

\*Please DO NOT donate food packaged in glass or Ramen-type noodles.

CANNED FOOD item donations may include: soups, canned fruit, canned vegetables, tuna, peanut butter, canned juices, chili, box/bag of rice, canned meats, macaroni & cheese, and baby formula.

Thank you for your donations and support of a worthy cause affecting so many families within our community!

*LaVonne Napier, NJHS advisor*

*Ms. Laun, Student Lighthouse advisor*

## Grandperson's Day



The National Junior Honor Society and the Sweetwater Student Lighthouse committee are sponsoring the annual Grand Person's Day event being held on the Wednesday prior to Thanksgiving. We request your

attendance at this annual event which will be held from 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on November 25, 2015.

Student leaders in junior high will be creating advertising posters, running the sign-in registration tables, and escorting our special guests to their desired classrooms. National Junior Honor Society members will be selling arts and crafts items to help raise funds to purchase gifts for the Sweetwater Holiday Angel Program and pay for postal charges to mail special "boxes from home" to our troops stationed overseas.

We are looking forward to welcoming special "Grand Persons" to include parents, guardians, grandparents, aunts, uncles and other special adults in our students' lives. There are a multitude of events going on throughout the morning that families can be a part of including lessons and activities focusing on the Leader in Me program. Some guests will be asked to share stories of 'olden days' with the students while others may read with a few new reading buddies, or maybe sing a round of songs together, and/or complete a variety of arts and crafts projects. Some of these events will be captured in photographs taken by our student-run yearbook committee, so be prepared to smile and share in the fun!

Don't forget - we will be wrapping up the food drive so please consider donating canned food items to benefit the local Westside Food Bank. Sweetwater staff and students greatly appreciate all of our "Grand" persons who make our annual event such a huge success. Also, we would like to take this opportunity to send our very best to our extended Sweetwater family this holiday season!

*Ms. Napier, NJHS advisor*

*Ms. Laun, student lighthouse advisor*

*Mrs. Bruss, yearbook advisor*

## Holiday Angel Program

Help support others in need during the holiday season by donating a special gift to another boy or girl. Our National Junior Honor Society members are collecting toy donations for children less fortunate than ourselves. We are hoping to bring some added joy to the holiday season by brightening the lives of other girls and boys within the Sweetwater community. The NJHS members will be delivering these gifts on December 16, 2015.



Please choose from the list of gift items below, purchase the special gift and then return it unwrapped/untagged to your homeroom teacher between November 30 and December 11. Remember for health and safety reasons these donated gifts must be NEW items.

Desired items include but are not limited to: clothing, board games (for all ages), Hot Wheel styled cars and trucks, action figures, Barbie doll with accessories, soft dolls, electronic games, stuffed animals, remote-controlled cars and trucks and arts & crafts sets. Please include batteries, if they are needed.

We are also accepting gift cards to local grocery stores and businesses such as Target, Kohl's, Payless Shoes, and Wal-Mart to assist with Sweetwater Families who are struggling to make ends meet this holiday season.

*THANK YOU FOR BRINGING A PIECE OF JOY  
TO OTHERS DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON*

## Take Credit for Helping a Child

You can do something great for the students at Sweetwater 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 and 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](http://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 your local school office or Chris Wing in the Accounting Department at 602-347-2631.

## Volleyball Team

Congratulations to coach Kira Alexander and our Sweetwater Volleyball Team for taking  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place in the District.



Rylee Bruce, Shirlin Kiprotich, Emily Alvarez, Jenavee Manriquez, Nyla Mensey, Savannah Huff, Anissa Martinez, Aubrey Chavez, Dana Hite and Aliyah Balderama

## Sweetwater Cheerleaders



Kuira Estes, Jesikah Perez, Meagan Okken, Shaelynn Carty, Paula Alcorido, Taelor Benefield, Josilynn Reyes, Rosa Abina, Kathryn Klima, Nailyn Escarcega, Faith Wardell, Margarite Culp, Mia Geiger, Izabelle Hernandez, Jaqueline Salgado, Savannah Huff and Micaela Ontiveros

## Sweetwater 7/8 Grade Boys Basketball Team

Sean O'Brien, Kevin Kennedy, Isaiah Dickerson, Mickey Vasquez, John McKnight, Jacob Ankrom, Zane Gebhard, Dylan Swainey, Owen Millard, Ezra Pinckney, Andy Moreno, Malaka Malak, Aaron Johnson and Alin Drotar  
*Clint Saxton, coach*



## 5/6 Grade Boys Basketball Team

Connor Huey, Youssef Saleh, Farzaad Zengana, Zachary Neilson, Devon Carman, Brandon Poland, Robert Nicastro, Anthony Ruiz, Amando Ramirez, Seth Aponte, Charlie Dains, Steven Hill and Joey Ankrom

*Roberto Manriquez, coach*  
Congratulations to our teams!



## Congratulations to our Cross Country Team

Washington Park Meet results \_\_\_\_\_

Aliyah Balderrama – 1<sup>st</sup> place  
Emerie Mensey – 2<sup>nd</sup> place  
Javion Smelley – 2<sup>nd</sup> place  
Jacob Gordon – 3<sup>rd</sup> place  
Annalica Walton – 3<sup>rd</sup> place  
Alexis Balderrama – 3<sup>rd</sup> place

Honorable Mention goes to:  
Joehanna Hite, Savannah Smelley and Niko Yosifov



## Student Yearbook Staff 2015-2016

Emily Alvarez Ramirez, Samantha Buttermore, Aubrey Chavez, Isabelle Donnell, Lupita Hernandez Cortes, Dana Hite, Jessica Huey, Savannah Huff, Ivan Lopez, Michelle Kiprotich, Shirlin Kiprotich, Jenavee Manriquez, Anissa Martinez, Jackie Salgado, Jasmine Thurber and Alyssa Windham  
Ms. Bruss, yearbook advisor

## Library News

Our book fair was held the week of October 26 and due to our very generous parents and staff, we had record sales! The money raised will be used to purchase new library books. We are always looking for donations of new and gently used books to add to our collection. Thank you for your continued support.

## Read Rave Contest

We are having a Reading Rave contest that started on Monday, November 9. If your child is in 1<sup>st</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade her/she must fill out a Reading Rave form to be entered into the contest. On this form they write a review of a book that they have recently read. Their name will be entered into the contest each time they fill out a Reading Rave review. We have a special form for the Kindergarten children to fill out. There will be two different prizes, one for K-3<sup>rd</sup> and one for 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grades. Good luck!

## Sweetwater Calendar of Events

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

### November

18	Midterms go home
18	Great Skate, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
23	Site Council Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
26-27	<b>No School – Thanksgiving Holiday</b>

### December

8	Santa visits Sweetwater
10	Drama Club Play, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
16	Winter Music Show, 7:00 p.m.
17	End of Second Quarter
21-January 1	<b>No School – Winter Break</b>

### January

4	Second Semester Begins
6	Reports Cards go home
18	<b>No School – Martin Luther King Jr. Day</b>
21	Great Skate, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
25	Site Council Meeting, 5:30 p.m.

### February

3-5	<b>Parent/Teacher Conferences Early Dismissal</b>
10	Parent/Teacher Evening Conferences with Translation Services
12	Peter Piper, 4:00-8:00 p.m.
15	<b>No School – Presidents Day</b>
16	Districtwide Food Drive Begins
22	Site Council Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
23	Yogurtini Night, 6:00-9:00 p.m.

### March

9	Big Fun Field Day, 9:00-10:45 a.m.
11	Spring Pictures Great Skate, 5:30-8:00 p.m.
14-18	<b>No School – Spring Break</b>
28	Site Council Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
30	Report Cards go home

### April

19	Greenway Choir Festival, 7:00 p.m.
19	Yogurtini Night, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
20	Midterms go home
25	Site Council Meeting, 5:30 p.m.

### May

3	Teacher Appreciation Day
4	National School Nurse Day
17	Fine Arts Night, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
20	<b>Promotion Ceremony</b>
22	Family Fun Night
23	Site Council Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
24	<b>Last Day of School Early Dismissal</b>

# Principal's List and Honor Roll

## 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter

A+

### Principal's List

#### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade RAMIREZ

Eliel Acosta Meza  
Paula Marie Alcordo  
Nathaniel Allen  
Mia Geiger  
Izabelle Hernandez  
Steven Hill  
Peyton McMacken  
Benjamin Rios  
Yamileika Vargas  
Annalica Walton  
Faith-Ann Wardell

#### STALLMAN

Travis Albert  
Milena Alter  
Joseph Ankrom  
Avery Atwell  
Danielle Chandler  
Zachary Douwstra  
Lesly Hernandez Cortes  
Noah Martinez  
Conner Mendez  
Albert More  
Domenic Mounts  
JC Paz  
Josilynn Reyes  
Kayla Sanchez Chavarria  
Alyssa Vildosola  
Tessa Weiss  
Olivia Wilson

#### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade CLIPPER

Allanna Anaya  
Andraleia Chavez  
Charles Dains  
ShayLee Hepburn  
Colin McDonald  
Alexis Mounts  
Camden Ohrns  
Sara Pelkola  
Erin Petersen  
Carlos Pina  
Harley Roberts  
Jackson Thorp  
Ammalia Walker

#### WHALIN

Samantha Brown  
LeAnna Clipper  
Kendra Gorman  
Connor Huey  
Aaron Lopez  
Brandon Poland

#### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade ARMSTRONG

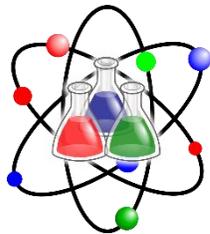
Samantha Buttermore  
Jayden Rodgers  
Robert Stewart  
Alyssa Windham

#### LAUN

Rosa Abina  
Ariana Alter  
Jacob Ankrom  
Jayden Jones  
Jesikah Perez

#### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade BRUSS

Aubrey Chavez  
Daniel Hill  
Shirlin Kiprotich  
Jenavee Manriquez  
Nyla Mensey  
Michael Vazquez  
NAPIER  
Emily Alvarez Ramirez  
Sebian Carver  
Isabelle Donnell  
Lupita Hernandez Cortes  
Jessica Huey  
Ivan Lopez  
Anissa Martinez  
Cynthia Martinez  
Mila Nguyen



Mathematics is ...

