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**NEW GIFTED PROGRAM
AT DESERT STAR**



COLLABORATING WITH LOCAL OFFICERS

The district continues its partnership with the city's local police and fire departments to build connections and relationships with city leaders and our students.

This year, fire mentorship continued and expanded to include having fire and police mentors at four campuses. In addition, the police department has participated in numerous safety training and outreaches. Building positive connections with city leaders has been impactful!

STUDENTS CONTINUE ON THE FAST TRACK

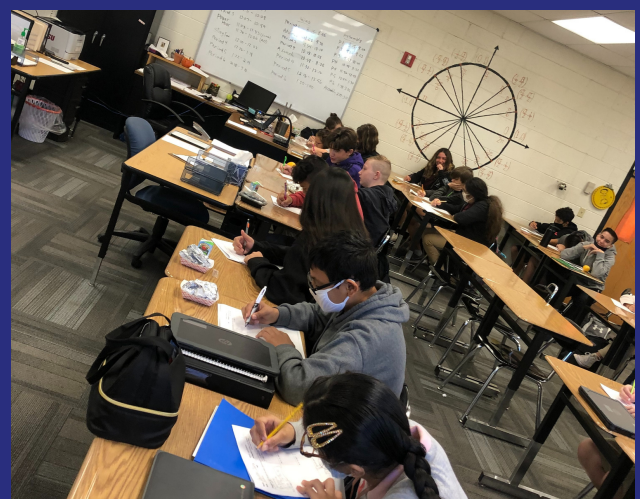
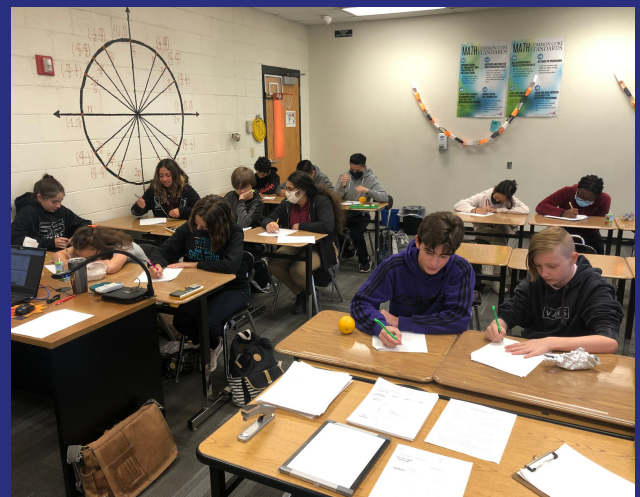
Avondale Elementary School District is excited to announce the addition of a new opportunity for middle school students to participate in a Spanish fast track high school program this year.

Dual immersion 7th grade students at Desert Thunder will now have the opportunity to attend high school Spanish courses. AESD has been providing fast track opportunities in algebra, band and choir for multiple years and has added Spanish to the list, due to the effectiveness of the collaboration between the two districts and the impact on students' academic success.

Students have the opportunity to earn high school credit before their time in high school begins. Through the collaboration between AESD and AFUHSD, scholars are transported weekly to the high school campuses to engage in the enhanced course offerings..

"Our students get enhanced learning opportunities and get a powerful introduction to the high school staff and schools while still in middle school. Students are set up for success in their high school years and build confidence connections to teachers and peers in high school," says AESD Superintendent, Dr. Betsy Hargrove.

The district is grateful for the close relationship with Agua Fria Union High School District and to be able to offer this experience.





PROJECT Y.E.S. - TURNING TALENT INTO POSSIBILITIES

Desert Star School is proud to announce its new focus in becoming a gifted campus for students.

The focus is aimed at helping students to believe in themselves, work towards goals and take dreams off the shelf. All kinder through eighth grade students will participate in talent development and building thinking and problem-solving skills within their daily curriculum.

The curriculum involved has been awarded for six consecutive years by the National Association for Gifted Children.

"I am calling the new gifted program Project Y.E.S. (Young Empowered Scholars) because that is exactly what I hope to do -empower students to take charge of their own learning and become scholars," says Dr. Jason Macintosh, AESD's Gifted Coordinator.

AESD EMPLOYEE RECOGNITIONS

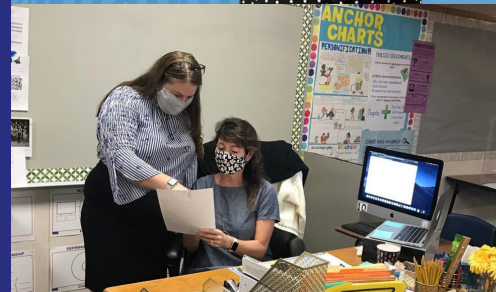
AESD teachers' constant dedication for excellence in teaching has earned major recognition in the past months at the state and national level. Help us congratulate our excelling staff's awards:

Maricopa County Superintendent's Office 2021 Exemplary Principal

- Lori Goslar - Michael Anderson School
 - AESD is proud to have four leaders included in this list

National Board Certified Teachers Inductions:

- Elzbieta Galek – Wildflower Accelerated Academy
- Laura Hershberger – Copper Trails
- Carly Schoettes – Michael Anderson
- Heather Walsh – Desert Thunder
 - AESD is proud to have 10 NBCT on staff this year.



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ENROLL TODAY!

Registration is open for preschool and before and after school care.

Avondale ESD is excited to offer year-round preschool options that accommodate your family's schedule.

AESD welcomes students from all over the valley through open enrollment.

Enroll at the district of choice!