



QCUSD students learn how to run a business and create a budget!

This school year all 5th and 8th graders in QCUSD took a field trip to Junior Achievement, an Arizona non-profit organization specializing in financial experiences for students. Voters who approved the 2015 override made Junior Achievement possible in Queen Creek.

Fifth graders attended JA BizTown which teaches students real-world economic concepts and workplace skills. Prior to the field trip, students created a business, calculated operating costs and designed a marketing campaign. JA BizTown helps students connect the dots between what they learn in the classroom and how it's applied in the real world.

Eighth graders attended JA Finance Park which equips students with the tools to balance a family budget and teaches them how education affects their earning potential.

Junior Achievement is truly making a difference in the lives of our students. According to JA's 2015-2016 Annual Impact Report, nearly 100 percent of Arizona teachers report students who participated in JA have a better understanding of how the real world operates. Elementary students who participate in JA programs demonstrate significantly higher critical thinking and problem solving than their counterparts.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Meet Sarah Purcell!

Sarah is the Music Teacher at GPA. She has lived in Queen Creek for 11 years.

Sarah and her husband have three children who have all attended QCUSD schools. Before working in the Queen Creek Unified School District, Sarah taught at a community college in North Carolina.

Learn more about Sarah in our quick Q & A interview!

What three traits define you?

I am theatrical, busy and usually positive.

What's one thing you couldn't live without?

Diet Coke

What is your greatest fear?

Anything happening to my kids; they accuse me of being a helicopter mom.

Where is your favorite place to be?

At home with my family.

What is your favorite thing to do?

Read

Where is the best place you've traveled to and why?

Germany. I love history; and out of everywhere we went in Europe, the German people were the nicest and most efficient!

What would you do (for a career) if you weren't doing this?

My degree is in Business Management and before I had kids I worked in a corporate office. The hours were long but I loved the job. I would probably try and do something like that again.

What is the best book you have ever read?

Asking for my favorite book is like asking which kid I like best, but one book that really affected me when I was young was "The Screwtape Letters" by C.S. Lewis.

Tell us something that might surprise us about you.

I can't think of anything that would surprise anyone since I like to talk a lot and have probably already told everyone all my stories! One thing that is interesting is that I come from huge family from Mesa, and I have about 70 first cousins ranging in ages from 8 to 47 years old.

SCHOOL HAPPENINGS



**QCHS JROTC
students
volunteer at
Feed My
Starving
Children**



**QCMS softball team
makes the playoffs!**



**Air Evac
team
visits
DME!**



COMMUNITY EDUCATION



WINTER BREAK CAMP

Kids participate in awesome activities that follow our daily theme:
Arts & Crafts/Science/Cooking/Dramatic Play/Technology Lab/
Physical Education/Active Games

All camp activities are onsite:

Freestyle Dance & Fitness Clinic
Animal Discovery
Game Truck

Grades: Kindergarten - 6th

Dates: December 27-29 & January 3-5
(Tuesday -Thursday)

Hours: 6:30 AM-6:00 PM

Location: Queen Creek Middle School
20435 S Old Ellsworth Road, Queen Creek, AZ 85142

Drop-off & Pick-up: Cafeteria
(Identification is required at the time of pickup)

PACK A COLD LUNCH DAILY; AFTERNOON SNACK IS PROVIDED

Registration Deadline: Monday, December 19, 2016

Fees* : \$20 non-refundable annual 2016-2017 camp registration fee
\$30/day (\$35/day if register after 12/19)



This holiday season consider making a donation to a QCUSD school. Arizona law allows married couples filing jointly a tax credit of up to \$400 and individual taxpayers a tax credit of up to \$200 when they contribute to extra-curricular activities in public schools. For more information go to www.qcUSD.org/School_Tax_Credit.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **December 21 and 22** High School Finals
- **December 22** Report cards go home & all schools Early Release
- **December 23 to January 6** Winter Break—NO SCHOOL
- **January 9** School resumes
- **January 16** Civil Rights Day– NO SCHOOL
- **January 25** All schools Early Release

Honoring Outstanding Arizona Teachers



SILVER
APPLE

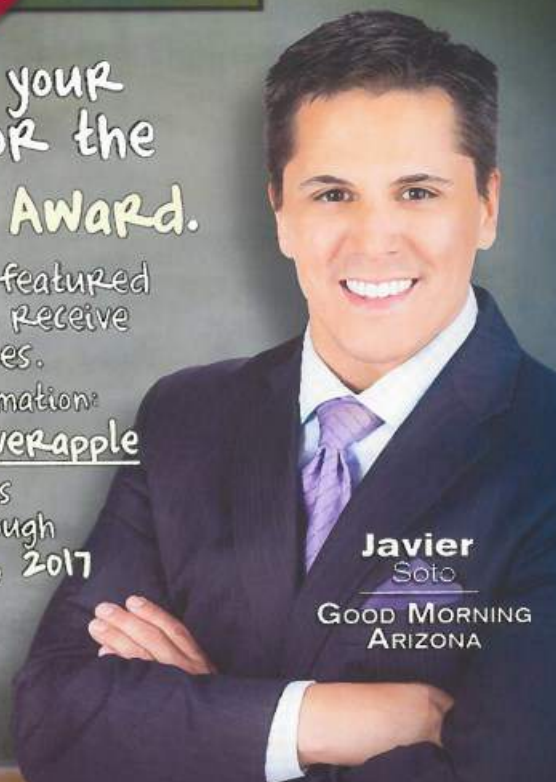
Nominate your
teacher for the
Silver Apple Award.

Teachers will be featured
on 3TV and will receive
special prizes.

For more information:
a2family.com/silverapple

Nominations
accepted through
February 24, 2017

Sponsored by:



Contact Us

District Office
480-987-5935

**Desert Mountain
Elementary**
480-987-5912



**Frances Brandon
Pickett
Elementary**
480-987-7420



**Gateway
Polytechnic
Academy**
480-987-7440



**Jack Barnes
Elementary**
480-987-7400



**Queen Creek
Elementary**
480-987-5920



**Queen Creek
Middle School**
480-987-5940



**Newell Barney
Middle School**
480-474-6700



**Queen Creek
High School**
480-987-5973



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