

St. Johns, Arizona

A great place to live and learn

St. Johns Unified School District is located on the far Eastern side of the state, close to the communities of: Show Low, Pinetop, Snowflake and Round Valley. The three schools that comprise St. Johns School District are: The High School, with grades 9-12; The Middle School, with grades 4-8 and Coronado Elementary, with grades K-3. Of the 875 students in the district, about 10% are Native American, 20% Hispanic, with Caucasian and other groups making up the remaining 70%.

The three schools are the center piece of the community, and parents and community members are very supportive of the schools and education in general. This past year, both the High School and the Middle School received the letter grade of "A" from the State. Coronado Elementary was not eligible to receive a letter grade because only one grade level (3rd grade) takes the AzMERIT test. However, in the past they too have received the designation as an "A" school. One of the reasons that Coronado School has been so successful is the collaboration and systematic process the teachers engage in to analyze and improve their classroom practice. Recently the school was recognized as a Model PLC (Professional Learning Community) School.

St. Johns Schools have incorporated technology as a tool for teaching. The District has been designated as a, Google Education Reference District. In addition, many of the teachers have become Google Certified Educators. At the High School, Chromebooks are issued to every student and they can be used both at school and at home. At the Middle School, Chromebooks are available to all students but only for use at school. Coronado has a mix of Chromebooks and iPads.



Two years ago we started putting large, interactive flat panel screens in the classrooms to assist teachers in presenting their lessons and to increase student involvement. We believe that it is important for our students and staff to be familiar with and able to use current technology. A few years ago, the community graciously supported

Continued on Page 13

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Continued from Page 12

the District by passing a DAA Capital Override. This has helped the District immensely in providing upgrades to technology, infrastructure repairs, transportation upgrades and other needed capital items.

In addition to being a top performing school, St. Johns High School won the Academic Decathlon Regional Championship and will be competing at the State level. The High School is also involved with the NPC Talon project, NAVIT and other vocational and academic programs. Music and Art play a big role in the education of our students. At the Middle School, every student participates in Band, Orchestra or Choir. It's amazing to see and hear them perform at their bi-annual concerts. Each year, the High School puts on at least one major play. This year the students are performing the musical, *Annie Get Your Gun*. Over the past few years they have performed; *Les Misérables*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Oklahoma* and other Broadway Musicals.

Sports are important to nearly every community and so it is with our community. Our town rallies around and supports the many different athletic teams sponsored by the schools. The High School has a rich history of region and State Championships in nearly every sport and has also produced many individual State Champions.



Each year our students and faculty grow in learning and living while being supported by a wonderful community that encourages the ideal of becoming the best we can become. St. Johns Unified School District, a great place to grow and learn.

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An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.

Benjamin Franklin

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