



Connections

April 2020

Governor Doug Ducey and Superintendent of Public Instruction Kathy Hoffman announced the extension of Arizona school closures through the end of the school year. The extension follows updated guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and an announcement from the White House extending physical distancing guidelines until April 30, 2020. Below is updated information on resources that will be provided during the closure.

Meals - NEW Additional Pick-up Locations

During the closure, Altar Valley School District will continue providing breakfast and lunch to all children 18 years old and younger, Monday – Friday. Children must be present to receive a meal. There will be no adult meals served.

| Dates | Location | Time |
|---------------------|--|---|
| March 23 – April 10 | Robles Elementary | 7:30 – 9 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. |
| March 25 – April 10 | <u>Bus Stops</u> Altar / Sasabe Taylor Lane Sierrita Mountain Rd at the Speedway | 9 – 10am |

Learning from Home

AVSD will be providing learning materials starting Monday, March 30 at Robles Elementary and at the bus stops where you pick up your meals. You can expect to hear from your schools and teachers. It's important that you monitor the channels that your child(ren)'s teachers typically use to communicate with you regularly. These may include email, ClassDojo, texts, and phone calls.

Additionally AVSD has online resources that will be useful to you during this time. Below is a link to the BT Parent Portal, along with several other websites that contain dozens of links to educational resources.

| On-line Resources |
|---|
| <u>Parent Portal:</u> https://www.beyondtextbooks.org/Parent_Portal |
| <u>Useful links:</u> https://www.beyondtextbooks.org/Parent_Portal/What_is_my_child_learning/Useful_Web_Links |
| <u>Benchmark Review Handbooks:</u> https://www.beyondtextbooks.org/Parent_Portal/Benchmark_Review_Handbooks |

Daily Schedule Ideas

We've developed a daily schedule for you to use as a guide to support you during the closure.

| | | | |
|----------------|--|-----------------------|--|
| Reading | PreK – Grade 2 Read to or with child for 30 minutes a day Grades 3 – 8 Read 30-60 minutes a day | Social Studies | Interview grandparents, veterans, or other professions by phone and write a summary. |
| | | P.E. | Play outside for 30-60 minutes a day. Create your own games. |
| Writing | Create a reading journal on what you read. | Recess | 2 times per day for 15 minutes. |
| Math | Review math fluency facts. Make your own math flashcards. | Art | Make your own creations with household materials. |
| Science | Cook a meal with family. | | |

Please continue to monitor the AVSD website, Facebook, and other communication channels for updates on the status of school closures. Thank you for your patience and support as we continue to navigate through this difficult time.

Sincerely,

Dr. David Dumon, Superintendent

Altar Valley School District All-Stars!

★ ★ ★ ALTAR VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL ★ ★ ★



March Student of the Month
Trevor B., 6th Grade

Trevor B. has a smile every morning, noon, and even at the busses for everyone to see. He is an active participant in his classes and takes pride in his work. He works with others often and is always willing to lend a helping hand. Trevor is kind, helpful and hardworking and also has a great sense of humor.



March Employee of the Month
Tanya Soto
Paraprofessional

This is Tanya Soto's first year at Altar Valley Middle School and she became one of our AVMS All-Stars very quickly! Tanya is very dedicated to her job, she has built amazing relationships with the students and staff and always has a smile. She shows initiative by seeking out what needs to be completed before she is even asked and she is always working very hard with all of her students. Tanya recently started classes at Grand Canyon University and is working on her teaching certification. She is always kind and patient with the students. Tanya has been a great addition to AVMS!

★ ★ ★ ROBLES ELEMENTARY ★ ★ ★



March Student of the Month
Martin S., 4th Grade

Martin is a student of many talents. He excels not only in the classroom, but also as a champion livestock showman. Martin smartly balances the demands of school and traveling the state with his family to show the pigs to which he devotes his time outside the classroom. He does this without sacrificing performance in the classroom where he accepts any challenge and dedicates himself to his studies. In the classroom, Martin eagerly participates in activities and discussions; he accepts all assignments without complaint and submits them promptly and correctly done; and he regularly demonstrates that he is paying attention by providing thoughtful responses to questions asked of him. Furthermore, Martin is very helpful to his peers, lending help to those who may be struggling with classwork. He is a responsible and reliable young man with a promising future. Martin deserves to be Bobcat of the month because he demonstrates R.O.A.R. and exemplifies the Bobcat spirit!



March Employee of the Month
Brandy Hensley
2nd Grade Teacher

Mrs. Hensley is a joy to work with! She is always helpful and a great team player. When you walk into her classroom you know she is intentional about everything she does. She is organized and tech savvy.

She works so hard for her students creating centers, working with her small groups and progress monitoring with fidelity. Her students have made significant academic progress this year, because she does not make excuses for them and holds them accountable to perform to their very best. At the same time she makes learning fun and relevant for our little Bobcats.

During the after school program, she has been tutoring students making her time with her after school students very structured and intentional as well. For this and all that she does for our students, Mrs. Hensley is deserving of the All-Star of the Month!

CHILD FIND

Children who are between birth and twenty-one years of age and have a developmental delay, or are suspected of having a disabling or emotionally handicapping condition, may be eligible for special services. To determine if a developmental delay exists, professional evaluations and/or assessments may be conducted in the areas of:

- ❖ Physical Development
- ❖ Language and Speech Skills
- ❖ Social and Emotional Skills
- ❖ Cognitive or Mental Development
- ❖ Self-Help Skills (e.g., dressing, feeding, etc.)

Altar Valley School District's CHILD FIND can help with a free screening and referral for diagnostic and/or early intervention programs.

For newborns through two year olds, parents may contact:

Department of Economic Security
Division of Developmental
Disabilities Child Family Services
4710 E. 29th St.
(520) 745-5588, Ext. 535

For three through twenty-one year olds, contact:

Altar Valley School District
Special Services Director

McKinney-Vento

The McKinney-Vento Education of Homeless Children and Youth Assistance Act is a federal law that ensures immediate enrollment and educational stability for homeless children and youth.

The McKinney-Vento Act defines homeless children as "individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence." The act provides examples of children who would fall under this definition:

- Children and youth sharing housing due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason
- Children and youth living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camp grounds due to lack of alternative accommodations
- Children and youth living in emergency or transitional shelters
- Children and youth abandoned in hospitals
- Children and youth whose primary nighttime residence is not ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation (e.g. park benches, etc)
- Children and youth living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, sub-standard housing, bus or train stations
- Migratory children and youth living in any of the above situations

McKinney-Vento students have the right to:

- Attend school in the attendance area where they are currently living.

- Attend the school of origin (the school they attended when they became homeless), or the school in which they were last enrolled.
- Immediate enrollment and support from district McKinney-Vento Liaison in obtaining school records and coordinating services.
- Receive transportation to their school, if necessary.
- Free school meals.
- Receive tutoring services focusing on academic assistance.
- Receive Preschool services.
- Support with on-time grade progression and graduation.

For assistance with any student that may be eligible, please contact your school liaison by calling the school or the district liaison.

Contact:

Evelyn See

McKinney-Vento & Foster Care Liaison

(520) 822-9418

esee@avsd.org

Altar Valley School District

Governing Board & Superintendent



John Williams
Board President



Robert Ethridge
Board Vice-President



Chris Isabel
Board Member



Martin Hudecek
Board Member



Shanee Page
Board Member



Dr. David Dumon
Superintendent

Follow us on

Facebook



WWW.ALTARVALLEYSCHOOLS.ORG PH: 520-822-1484



Challenging Every Student to Achieve Excellence!

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. David Dumon
Superintendent

Mr. Joshua Peebles
Principal
Altar Valley Middle School

Mrs. Rosalinda Rodriguez
Principal
Robles Elementary School

Ms. Julie Waters
Director of Federal Projects /
Professional Development

Mrs. Shelly Camp
Director of Exceptional Education

Mr. Dan Tankersley
Director of Operations Member



Robles Elementary
9875 South Sasabe Road
Tucson, AZ 85736
(520) 822-9418

ALTAR VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

10105 South Sasabe Road
Tucson, AZ 85736
Phone: (520) 822-1484
Fax: (520) 822-1798
<http://altarvalleyschools.org>

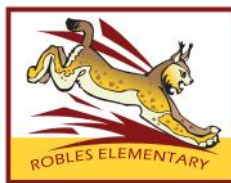


Find us on
Facebook

Altar Valley School District 51



Altar Valley Middle School
16350 W. Ajo Highway
Tucson, AZ 85735
(520) 822-9343



Dr. Seuss Celebration Week!

Rosalinda Rodriguez, M.A., Ed.S.
Robles Elementary, Principal

I encourage that you have your students to read to you, a family member, siblings, friends, or even to a teddy bear. Reading in elementary school is so important! In kindergarten through 2nd grade, students are learning to read; beginning in 3rd grade, students are reading to learn content. Here is a list of some great websites with free online books for kids:

Oxford Owl
Storyline Online
International Children's Digital Library
Open Library
Amazon's Free Kids Ebooks
Barnes & Noble Free Nook Books for Kids
Mrs. P's Magic Library

Thank you to our
volunteers for
decorating the library
and hallway.



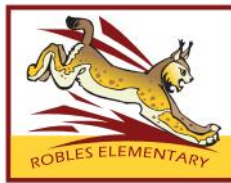
Mrs. Cranford's class all dressed up for Dr. Seuss Spirit week.



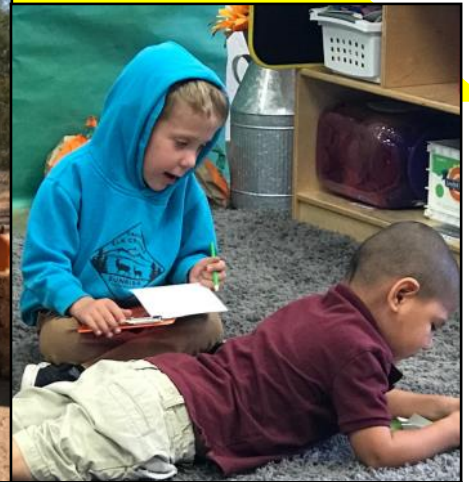
Barbecuing lunch for staff



Preschool & Kindergarten Round Up



Preschool Fun!



We're having fun in preschool! The preschool team at Altar Valley School District consists of six all-star teachers: Miss Georgia Croy, Mrs. Nicole Salcido, Ms. Dede Fleming, Mrs. Rosie Carrasco, Mrs. Anna Sanders and Mrs. Izzy Shreaves.

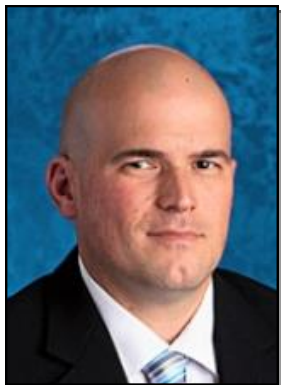
One of the fun things preschool did this year was attend a pumpkin patch at school. Buckalew Farms and Double E Feeds provided straw bales, corn stalks and pumpkins so the students could pick their own pumpkin. Another exciting opportunity that arose from the pumpkin patch was the students found a caterpillar chrysalis among the corn stalks.

The students observed and recorded data and ultimately, watched the chrysalis turn into a butterfly.



The Altar Valley School District and Robles Elementary preschool are proud to be apart of the Quality First program/First Things First Program. Quality First is a program that strives to improve childcare across Arizona by providing teacher trainings, funding and quality education to young children. In addition, the Robles Preschool also works with Make Way for Books to instill and share a love of reading and literacy with our students and their families. Our preschool uses Beyond Textbooks to guide our teachings with age appropriate goals and objectives. Some of the yearlong objectives we have include learning letter names and sounds, recognizing numbers, making scientific predictions and analyzing data as well as understanding and following school rules.

The preschool team is looking forward to a fantastic school year full of learning and growing.



Dear Altar Valley Middle School Families,

It is with mixed feelings that I write this letter to tell you that this year will be my final one as principal of Altar Valley Middle School. I have had the privilege of being principal at AVMS for the past eight years and after serious consideration and discussion with my family, I have decided that it is the right time for me to step down from my current position. As difficult as it is for me to leave the students, staff, and community, I feel confident that I am leaving the school in excellent shape. AVMS is ready to continue its outstanding reputation for providing an excellent education and meaningful opportunities to all of our students.

With such a solid teaching, front office, and custodial staff in place, I know AVMS will continue to have great success in the years ahead. I thank all of you for your support and dedication to AVMS the past eight years and I look forward to hearing many good things about Altar Valley Middle School in the years ahead. Your support, dedication, and caring have made me proud and humbled to have served as principal all these years. I am excited to embark on new endeavors both personally and professionally and I wish you all the very best as you begin this new chapter at AVMS.

Sincerely,

Joshua Peebles
Principal
Altar Valley Middle School



AVMS Presents: Fantastic Fifth Grade



As we begin winding down the school year our fabulous fifth grade team is reflecting on a year of growth and change. Mrs. Venglarcik moved into 5th/6th Science and Mrs. Mattias into 5th/6th grade Social Studies. Mrs. Laureta's focus turned to ELA and Mrs. Bauerelen's to Math. While we all love teaching, being able to focus on one area of 'expertise' benefits our students greatly and makes us all happy.

Science:

5th graders began their science studies this year by learning about life science. They enjoyed meeting some minibeasts close up when a University of Arizona entomologist brought some specimens for some close encounters with our students. They learned about the characteristics that distinguish insects from other arthropods. Our students continue to expand their understanding of animals through opportunities to provide care and feeding for classroom pets in Mrs. Venglarcik's classroom.

Fifth grade scientists have been exploring physical science by learning about the differences between physical and chemical changes. They have been classifying compounds as

reactants and products in chemical changes by completing wet labs and then building models of these processes with Lego blocks. Students are simulating the same practices that scientists and engineers use in their respective fields.

The move to science and social studies block classes has made more robust labs possible. Our students focus alternatively on science for a week at a time, and then social studies the next week. Science labs are a great opportunity for application of math and measurement skills in a practical setting.

Social Studies:

In Social Studies we just finished up our Civil War unit and are currently studying the Industrial Revolution. The students are learning that Agriculture + Trade = Manufacturing, and how much this impacted America at this point in history. We are discussing manufacturing processes, growing industry, child labor, technology, and inventors/inventions.

Math:

I LOVE MATH! Upon learning we were departmentalizing this school year I was ecstatic to take on the role

of math teacher. My goal is for the kids to walk away with a deeper understanding of math concepts as well as a love of all things mathematical.

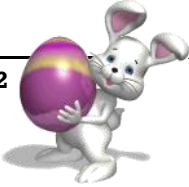
We have just completed our last Galileo test for the school year and are now preparing for AZM2. Our students have worked hard learning about powers of 10, exponents, decimals, volume and our favorite **FRACTIONS!** Time is passing by so quickly as we continue learning about coordinate graphing, quadrilaterals, and polygons. Our goal is to finish strong on AZM2 testing and slide, cool as cucumbers, into the summer months.

ELA:


In ELA, the kids are so pumped up at writing essays and are up to the challenge. They take pride in posting their outputs on the wall to inspire other kids. Our students enjoyed writing much better than before and have more confidence in expressing their ideas in it. We are enjoying stories about the American Culture and History. Kids are very excited about how the first pioneers travelled and moved to the west.

**** Please note calendar events are subject to change. ****

April 2020

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|----------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
| March 29 | March 30 | March 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| SCHOOL CLOSURE THROUGH END OF YEAR | | | | | | |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
|  EASTER | SCHOOL CLOSURE THROUGH END OF YEAR | | | | | |
| | SCHOOL CLOSURE THROUGH END OF YEAR | | | | | |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| SCHOOL CLOSURE THROUGH END OF YEAR | | | | | | |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| SCHOOL CLOSURE THROUGH END OF YEAR | | | | | | |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | May 1 | |
| SCHOOL CLOSURE THROUGH END OF YEAR | | | | | | |

May 2020

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 |
| SCHOOL CLOSURE THROUGH END OF YEAR | | | | | | |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| SCHOOL CLOSURE THROUGH END OF YEAR | | | | | | |
|  HAPPY Mother's Day | SCHOOL CLOSURE THROUGH END OF YEAR | | | | | |
| | SCHOOL CLOSURE THROUGH END OF YEAR | | | | | |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| SCHOOL CLOSURE THROUGH END OF YEAR | | | | | | |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| SCHOOL CLOSURE THROUGH END OF YEAR | | | | | | |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | | |