



Newsletter

April (Kwi Hiosik Mashath) 2018

GOVERNING BOARD

President, Ms. Jane Johnson
Clerk, Mrs. Elaine Moyah
Member, Ms. Anika Evans
Member, Mrs. Laurie Thomas
Member, Vacant

District Superintendent: [Cherryl Paul](#)

District Website: www.sacatonschools.org

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Superintendent's Corner

Dear Families,

The month of April is an extremely important time for students and teachers as there are numerous activities remaining in the last two months of the 2017-2018 school year. The final push is on with state testing, 8th grade promotion, and so many other school activities. We continue to greet students by name and welcome them to campus each morning with a smile and warm salutations. We read aloud to students daily (even if it's instructions), and we send home a positive note or make a positive phone call home weekly. This is the Sacaton way that leads to forming relationships and fostering confidence within our students.

Sacaton Elementary School District is a special place – one that provides a foundation on which our students, current and incoming, can overcome obstacles, realize their potential, and build a successful future. I want to commend our team of educators for their constant dedication to improving student achievement and thank our students for continuing to work and study hard as we head into the home stretch of this school year. The continued support of our school board, community, teachers, and families allows us to provide a truly exceptional learning environment for all of our students.

Our preschool program continues to add more students. We currently have 69 students actively attending and 5 students pending. Next year, we will be adding another preschool classroom to accommodate the needs of our community. Our preschool staff are doing an excellent job providing a high quality early learning experience for our students.

At Sacaton Elementary School District, we believe that no student should face barriers to learning. While in numerous classrooms this school year, I have consistently seen committed teachers and students engaging in important learning activities. It is clear that students are taking personal responsibility for their learning. We invite you to attend our end-of-the-year celebrations, award ceremonies, and recognitions. We are proud of our students and value the impact of sharing their successes with our community. As a parent, you are your child's first teacher and an important team member in building this community of learners. It is through strong relationships, communication, and shared values that our school district will continue to improve. Let us face the two months ahead with the renewed purpose of strong attendance and higher achievement.

Two Schools, One Voice. We are Sacaton Braves. YES!

Mrs. Cherryl Paul, Superintendent



[@cherryl_paul](#)

Sacaton Elementary School District Goals 2017-2018

Governing Board Approved August 8, 2017

1. Domain: Results

Performance Data

Goal: Support data collection, optimize instructional delivery, and enhance student engagement with programs and services that develop and nurture every student.

2. Domain: Leadership

Vision for Learning and Achievement

Goal: Participate in a Strategic Planning process designed to capture the voice of stakeholders to inform a meaningful and relevant Strategic Plan (2018-2023).

3. Domain: Systems Alignment and Integration

Safe, Orderly, and Engaging Learning Environment

Goal: Ensure the safety and security of all buildings; provide intellectually inspiring learning spaces focusing on the social and emotional growth of students.

4. Domain: Processes

Appreciative Inquiry Culture

Goal: Document, deploy, and monitor processes with fidelity demonstrating collaborative problem-solving techniques.

5. Domain: Capacity Building

Human Development

Goal: Provide opportunities to engage all employee groups in programs and initiatives.



Governing Board approved School District Motto, Core Values, Key Strategic Priorities, Vision Statement, and Mission Statement for 2018-2023

Motto:

Two Schools, One Voice
Home of the Braves - YES!

Core Values:

Empowerment, Compassion,
Respect, Vision, Community

Key Strategic Priorities:

Excellence in Student Learning
Excellence in Employee Engagement
Excellence in Organizational Improvement
Excellence in Community Relations

Vision Statement:

We take pride in personal, academic and cultural development and pursue life-long learning with excellence while advocating for our himthag.

Mission Statement:

Our mission is to engage students to take ownership of their learning, embrace their culture and contribute to the world around them.

Important Upcoming Events

AzMERIT Testing: Middle School—April 2nd-5th; Elementary School—April 10th-12th

Sacaton School District Indigenous Stem Robotic Competition—April 6th-7th

Seaperch Underwater Robotic Obstacle Course Competition—April 14th at Blackwater School

Governing Board Monthly Meeting—April 17th at 5:30 pm

Channel 3 (KTVK) Live Broadcast—April 19th at SEDS Community Orchard

Visit with the Superintendent Paul—May 3rd from 3:00-4:00 pm or May 4th from 10:00-11:00 am in Room D8 at the Middle School. Refreshments will be served.

SESD Sports

The Lady Braves softball team ended a great season with a 3-3 record. Their hard work and dedication helped improve their softball



skills as the season progressed. The girls battled hard each game and made some

spectacular plays! They caught line drives, fly balls, and showed no fear sliding into bases. This year's team consisted of 15 players, including two 6th, four 7th, and nine 8th grade girls. Congratulations Lady Braves on an awesome softball season!



Congratulations to the boys basketball team for a job well done this season, which they finished with a 4-2 record. The team consisted of five 8th, six 7th, and four 6th grade boys that played very well together. They always kept a winner's attitude, as



champions do, and look to be very strong for next season. The players learned more than just playing the game of basketball; they learned to better themselves overall as individuals. Way to go!

SESD Preschool: The Faces of our Future! YES!

Due to our restructuring, we have the highest enrollment of children in preschool that Sacaton Elementary School District has ever had! All preschool children attend for free. We are currently offering sessions based on age-level. We offer two morning sessions for children that are 4 years old. We offer two afternoon sessions for children that are 3 years old. We are also currently offering one full day class for our students

that will be attending Kindergarten in the fall. The first five years of life are critical to future success. Our children are our future and ensuring that they have an excellent beginning is our mission! YES!

Read Across America Day



The last week in February the District celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday with many engaging activities to promote reading. At the Middle School each homeroom selected a book by Dr. Seuss to use as a theme. The teacher read the book to the students and the students then created a poster for a contest based on the selected book. The winners of the poster contest were from Mr. Utter's The Lorax classroom. The students were Carol Antone, Marcel Zavala, and Destiny Martinez.

Some of the activities the Elementary School took a part in included a door decorating contest and dress up days for crazy hat, socks, and character. On Friday each teacher had up to four guest readers from the community read to their class.



Finally, the culminating activity was a whole school read aloud in the gym before dismissal. Teachers and students all enjoyed celebrating a legendary author.

New Registration Processes are Coming!

Sacaton Elementary School District is currently working on revising the registration process for new and returning students. This is a joint effort between the Elementary School and the Middle School secretaries and district staff. We are revising our paperwork and processes to best meet the needs of our district and parents, but still remain compliant with required documentation and information. We are hoping that our new process will streamline the registration process for new students and eliminate redundant paperwork for returning families.

Culture and Language Program

During January and February, SEDS elementary culture classes have been learning about the *Auppa* (cottonwood tree) and that they are located in *Aji* (Twin Buttes). Current and upcoming topics include learning about *Kwi* (mesquite tree), as well as discovering the ingredients for making chemath and how to start the fire in *O'Otham*. In addition, students have been learning and practicing songs such as *This Land is Your Land* and *God Bless America*. Preschoolers and kindergarteners are also singing songs, counting, and learning colors in *O'Otham*. Middle school 5th and 6th grade culture classes have been studying the Gila River Flag while 7th and 8th grade students are creating mini-books using PowerPoint about *The Body*. This is in collaboration with Mrs. Gallegos, the middle school technology teacher.

Positive Parenting Training Series

Open to ALL parents with children in Preschool through 8th Grade

4/13/18: The ABCs of Problem Solving

Meetings are scheduled for Fridays: 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
Sacaton Middle School, Room C8 Conference Room

Door Prize Drawing: \$25.00 Gift Card

Our Community Orchard Update



Phase 1 of the Community Orchard has been completed and is now being irrigated using solar-powered distribution systems. The trees are now in bloom with blossoms. Birds and bees are frequent visitors! Preparations are starting for phase 2 with the next 72 trees due to arrive and with a planting date of mid-April.

Also, Channel 3 (KTVK) will be doing a live broadcast on April 19, 2018 with their Gardening Expert Dave Owens. "Dave the Garden Guy" has long ties to the Community and is supporting us with technical advice. 7th grade students will be participating in the broadcast. YES!

Tailored Technology Report

Within the next couple of months, the Sacaton Elementary School District will be awash with robotic events and competitions. The first event will be the annual Indigenous Sacaton School District Stem Robotic Competition to be held at the Middle School on April 6th and 7th. A week later on April 14th, the Sacaton Schools Robotics STEM Club will be competing in the first Seaperch Underwater Robotic Obstacle Course competition hosted at the Blackwater Community pool in District 1. Sacaton Middle School, St. Peter Indian Mission School, Stanfield Middle School and Casa Blanca Day School will all be participating. Finally, May 10th through May 13th, the Sacaton Schools Robotics STEM Club will be traveling to Albuquerque, New Mexico to compete in RoboRAVE. As you can see the next couple of months are going to be busy ones for the Sacaton STEM Clubs.



Our STEM programs at Sacaton Elementary School District continue to be an important avenue for the education of our students. By studying and participating in robotics, students are not only learning about engineering and robotics, but they are learning important Math and Science standards too. In math they learn how to apply ratios and proportions to solve real world problems. They see and experience how diameter and circumference go together and they can use this knowledge to move their robots effectively across an obstacle course or through a maze. In science they work out experimentations to solve larger problems. Finally, students learn how to program. Programming

teaches students how to problem solve and forces them to reflect and apply systematic reasoning. All of these skills can also transfer to other areas of learning where students apply logical thinking and analyze information. Students are empowered to make decisions that make sense based on the available information at hand. Please join us as our students take on the challenges that are offered through robotics and turn their information learned into workable knowledge.

Congratulations Third Quarter myON Award Winners!



All students can access their Electronic Library at home by visiting: <https://www.myon.com/login/index.html>

2018 Mul-Chu-Tha Parade Photos



Summer School 2018

The Sacaton Elementary School District is pleased to share information about the upcoming Summer School program being offered to SEDS students in June 2018. It will consist of an intense and well-rounded three-week academic program that will focus on reading and math skills in small-group instructional settings. This will help your child improve, enhance, and retain the grade level standards that he/she will need in order to be successful now and in the future.

WHEN: June 4th through June 22nd
DAYS/TIMES: Monday through Thursday from 7:30 am to 11:30 am daily
GRADES: All 1st through 8th Grade SEDS students are eligible
LOCATION: Elementary Campus

Breakfast, lunch, and transportation will be provided. Enrollment forms will be sent home soon. For questions, please contact Freddy Poitra at the District Office at 520-562-8600. Sacaton Elementary School District teachers and staff are excited to extend learning opportunities for your child during 2018 Summer School. YES!



“You can teach a student a lesson for a day; but if you can teach him to learn by creating curiosity, he will continue the learning process as long as he lives.”

Clay P. Bedford