WUSD Receives a "B" Grade from the State

In early August the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) made public the A-F grades for school districts across the state. Once again, WUSD earned a "B" at 138 points out of a possible 200. At 138 points WUSD tied for the 11th highest score among unified school districts and was 20th overall in the unified category.

We compare ourselves against other unified school districts as they are typically the most complex of all state school systems serving students in grades K-12. The state also includes union districts which either serve elementary or high school students, but not both. Another category is small schools, which in some cases receive twice the student funding that a unified school district receives.

Individually, we had one "A" and three "B" schools. Our "A" school is Festival Foothills, located on the southern end of the District. We were impressed as they tied for the 15th highest score among all schools in the state (elementary, middle and high school) and are ranked 40th out of 1268. Hassayampa also ranked very high and is now only two points away from earning an "A". I believe they will achieve "A" status this next year and we are excited to see the growth which has transpired over the past two years. A recent analysis indicated that 80 more students are passing the math portion of the AIMS test at Hassayampa than passed two years ago.

We are proud of our students and staff for what they have achieved and we are continuing to refine and master the systems we have put in place. Our elementary schools are doing very well and Vulture Peak will be refocusing its efforts to move ahead this year. Wickenburg High School will be in the first year of the new ACT curriculum and it promises to raise rigor, but it will be an adjustment for our students and parents. We have put in place various intervention systems to assist WHS students who will struggle with the increased expectation and trust we can, along with our parents, move each student to the next academic level.