



GOOD NEWS UPDATE

September 7, 2016

Littleton Elementary School

Pretesting Success! All of our students in grades K-8 have completed their pretests for the 2016/2017 school year. Our 1st-8th grade students recently completed the Math and ELA pretests. 1st and 2nd grade students completed the assessments using pencil and paper, while our 3rd-8th grade students completed their assessments via laptop computers. This data will be invaluable to our teaching staff, and help them plan to better meet the needs of their students. We will be looking at this data continuously throughout the year to individualize classroom instruction, and to monitor the growth of our students from the beginning of the year to the end of the year. This process will help ensure that all of our students are successful and demonstrate growth from August to May.

Basketball Season Is Upon Us! The Firebirds are ready for another great season on the court. Both our girls' and boys' teams are busy developing their fundamentals, and perfecting their offensive and defensive strategies. They are ready to build on the improvements that were made last year, and are lucky to have a large number of athletes returning. The Firebirds are led by their amazing coaches:

Girls: *Daniel Mainord & Michelle Walla*

Boys: *Karyn Genrich & Taylor Ovens*

We can't wait to see the progress that our athletes will make by the end of the season!

New Paraprofessional Joining the Littleton Family! Littleton is thrilled to announce the addition of the following team members to the Littleton Family:

Thomas Graca- Preschool Para

Gabriella Rodriguez: K-2 Social Communications Para

They will be providing invaluable support to our staff and students, and we are looking forward to getting to know them and the talents and skills that they are bringing to our community.

First Friday Assemblies Begin! This month marks the beginning of the First Friday Assemblies for the 2016/2017 school year. Teachers will be celebrating their students by selecting a Kid at Hope for the previous month. The selected students will receive school-wide recognition, along with a certificate of achievement. We will also be celebrating a teacher of the month during our First Friday Assembly. We will recognize one teacher that has gone above and beyond the call of duty to positively impact our students and staff. We look forward to the opportunity to celebrate the amazing people on our campus.



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Estrella Vista STEM Academy

Developing Partnerships with Parents & Kids at Hope. The Estrella Vista Hawk PTSA continues to plan activities that support parent involvement in activities that make Estrella Vista a Community Based center. On Wednesday, August 31st they had their first Dress Down Fundraiser to raise money for events and student activities throughout the school year. This event raised over \$700 and was the most ever raised on a Dress Down Day! In the next few months we look forward to our PTSA planning and hosting a Family Movie Night on Friday, September 16th which will have the theme of being a superhero and their infamous Fall Festival on Friday, October 28th. We look forward to the amazing things our PTSA will be doing this year to support community involvement and promote the *Kids at Hope Home & Family, Community & Service and Hobbies & Recreation and Education & Career Destinations.*

School Leadership Team Facilitates an Engaging STEM Professional Development! On Wednesday, August 31st **Estrella Vista Leadership Team** members facilitated a STEM learning opportunity for all STEM teachers. The professional development opportunity involved a focus on cross-curricular integration in STEM lessons where teachers learned how to integrate Science, Writing, ELA and Mathematics into a unit based lesson. The team was led first by Principal, **Richard Ramos**, in two previous leadership team meetings to guide members of the team to facilitate using the trainer of trainers' model. Thank you for your hard work and dedication to our STEM initiative **Danielle Stone** ~ Kindergarten teacher, **Anthony Haduch** ~ 4th grade teacher, **Michelle Gerrick** ~ 6th grade teacher, **Michael Laureano** ~ 6th grade teacher and Principal Intern, **Rebecca Boltjes** ~ 8th grade ELA teacher, **Antony Brophy** ~ P.E. teacher, **Jennifer Brees** ~ SAC, **Susan Rumann** ~ SAC, **Katherine Hoornstra** ~ Assistant Principal and **Richard Ramos** ~ Principal! We look forward to more opportunities to EMPOWER our teacher leaders in our STEM initiative!

Estrella Vista Girls and Boys Basketball off to a Great Start! We would like to give a shout out to our boys and girls basketball teams for a great start to the season. Our girls, coached by **Danielle Stone** ~ Kindergarten teacher and **Michelle Gerrick** ~ 6th grade teacher and their assistant **Suyen Kimme** ~ Kindergarten paraprofessional, have a 1 and 1 record so far. Our boy's coaches, **Bronson Goodsell** ~ 7th grade Social Studies teacher and **Scott Schulte** ~ 5th grade teacher as well as team supports **Rigoberto Gamez** ~ 7th grade Math teacher and **Stephen Batchelder** ~ 8th grade Science teacher, have coached the boys team to a 1 and 1 record thus far. Thank you coaches and supporting staff members for your dedication and collaboration in supporting extra-curricular activities at EVES and teaching our middle school students teamwork, dedication, perseverance and sportsmanship!

American Dream Academy Parent Orientation Session a Success! Estrella Vista STEM Academy has been working on partnering with our community and getting our parents more involved. This year, we have added a new program called The American Dream Academy. On Tuesday, September 6th, Mr. Rogelio Ruiz and Mrs. Margaret Gonzales~ ASU Dream Academy Instructors, held their initial orientation and informational session for our parents and community members. The Arizona State University's American Dream Academy (ADA) benefits schools, students and parents. Through the 8-week ADA program, families gain the tools and confidence to join forces with



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schools and communities to make sure their children have successful academic careers and prepare for a university experience. We are so proud to be hosting this program. Thank you **Richard Ramos** ~ Principal, for organizing this opportunity for our parents!

EVES Clubs Ready to Start! Thank you to all of the teachers and staff who are working to support the Kids at Hope Hobbies and Recreation Destination through your leadership in sponsoring our Fall Clubs. The teachers and clubs that EVES will host this semester include:

Club Sponsor	Fall Club
Rachel Vliek ~ 5 th grade teacher and Alyssa Pakes ~ 4 th grade teacher	Junior STEM/MESA Club
Michael Laureano ~ 6 th grade Science and Math teacher	STEM/MESA Club
Jacqueline Robinson ~ Kindergarten teacher, Rebekah Smith ~3 rd grade teacher and Michelle Pitters ~7 th grade ELA teacher	Lady Hawks Running Club 5 th -8 th grades
Stacy Batiste ~ 1 st grade teacher	Garden Club K-3 rd grade
Rachel Vliek ~ 5 th grade teacher and Michelle Pitters ~ 7 th grade ELA teacher	Student Council
Rachel Vliek ~ 5 th grade teacher, Julia Greenwald ~6 th grade ELA & S.S. teacher and Michelle Pitters ~ 7 th grade ELA teacher	Yearbook Club
Rachel Vliek ~ 5 th grade teacher and John Frilando ~ 8 th grade Social Studies teacher	Community Service Club
Katherine Hoornstra ~ Assistant Principal	Student Ambassador Program
Rebecca Lopez ~ Dean of Students and Katherine Hoornstra ~ Assistant Principal	Student Leadership Team
Brittany Levandoski ~ 2 nd grade teacher, Stacy Batiste ~ 1 st grade teacher, Alyssa Pakes ~ 4 th grade teacher, Stephen Batchelder ~ 8 th grade Science teacher and Nicole Clark ~ 8 th grade math teacher	SOAR Hour

We would like to give a shout out to **Anthony Haduch** ~ 4th grade teacher as well for being our School Site Clubs Coordinator. He is collaborating with each of the club leaders to prepare for our Fall Kids at Hope Hobbies and Recreation Club Night where students will come with their parents to sign up for the clubs they would like to participate in.



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Way to go *Michael Spielman* ~ Music teacher, *Penny Nguyen* ~ Technology teacher, *Antony Brophy* ~ P.E. teacher, *Michelle Smith* ~ P.E. teacher and *Julie Whelihan* for your dedication to student achievement by offering to support a 1.25-hour rotation for our teachers and staff to meet in PLCs. This support in taking our kiddos into your classes each Wednesday has provided our teachers the time they need to collaborate regarding student achievement and receive STEM professional development. Thank you for all you do!