

Pima Butte Elementary School

Pride Integrity Motivation Attitude

42202 W Rancho El Dorado Parkway
Maricopa, AZ 85138
520.568.7152 office 520.568.7155 fax
www.musd20.org

Randy Lazar
Principal



June 17, 2019

Dear Pima Butte Families,

It is an honor and privilege, once again, to return as the principal of Pima Butte Elementary School – Home of the Mustangs! I am excited to begin a new school year! I am very committed to facilitating and leading our staff, students, parents, and community to a successful 2019-2020 school year. Student achievement is our number one goal and we have high expectations for all students. The Pima Butte staff work hard to offer every student a well-rounded, excellent education, along with engaging classroom instruction and exciting experiences. Our Academic Focus will continue to be: Technology, Science, and the Arts Across the Curriculum. Pima Butte was recently designated an **A+ School of Excellence™** by the Arizona Educational Foundation. We went through a comprehensive assessment process to identify areas of excellence in teaching, learning, climate, community building, and leadership. We're extremely proud of this designation!

Open communication and feedback is essential to the success of our school. In addition to Site Council and Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) meetings, I encourage you to contact me if you would like to discuss or share your ideas about building upon our successes or addressing challenges that are in need of our attention. You can contact me by calling (520) 568-7151 or sending an e-mail to: rlazar@musd20.org. Please do not hesitate to call or e-mail me if you would like to set-up an appointment.

We will continue to provide a safe learning environment so that each student can contribute to the success of our school. In order to provide a secure environment, all parents and visitors are required to report to the Front Office and sign in before going to other parts of the building, including classrooms. Name tags are required to be worn by all visitors and staff. Parents/visitors must sign out in the Front Office when leaving the school. Classroom visits should be prearranged through the classroom teacher and/or school administrator.

We strongly encourage students to be at school, on time, every day. Students who are absent from school, or who arrive late to school, or leave early, miss out on important instructional opportunities. Please help us reinforce the importance of daily attendance and reporting to school on time. Try to avoid scheduling medical appointments during school hours as much as possible.

If you park in the parking lot to drop-off or pick-up your child, please use the marked Cross-Walk that is located in the front of the school. To avoid accidents, please use the Entrance only driveway when arriving to Pima Butte and the Exit only driveway when leaving Pima Butte. As a reminder, cars are not permitted to park along Rancho El Dorado Parkway in front of the school to drop off or pick up students.

From time to time, when southern Arizona receives a large amount of rain in a very short time, the wash that goes through Rancho El Dorado starts flowing. As a result, part of Rancho El Dorado Parkway gets closed for usually a couple of days at the wash on the north and south side of the neighborhood. Therefore, an alternate route is necessary to get to Pima Butte if you enter the neighborhood off of Highway 347 or if

you live on the other (west) side of the wash away from Pima Butte. When the wash is closed to cars, bikes, and walkers, enter Rancho El Dorado from Smith-Enke Road at either Santa Rosa Drive, or from Desert Garden Drive, then follow Rancho El Dorado Parkway (away from the wash) to Pima Butte.

ParentVue is a great way of keeping up with your child's grades and progress in class. If you would like to get access to this computer-based software program, please bring your ID to the Front Office and we will get you set up with an activation key. Once you have the activation key, you will be able to access ParentVue through the MUSD20.org website.

Parent Volunteers... Pima Butte is always in need of Parent Volunteers. Are you available one morning a week (from 8:05 a.m. to 8:35 a.m.) to serve as a Crossing-Guard in the front of our school? We also need volunteers during our lunch periods for kindergarteners (11:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.) and 1st graders (11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.). Parent Volunteers are needed for various PTO activities that take place during the school year such as, the Obstacle Course Race, Holiday Gift Shop, Santa's Supper, Assemblies, and Water Day. We always need parents to help out with picture days, Book Fair, and Field Day. If you have any time to volunteer at Pima Butte, please let us know. We really appreciate it.

Pima Butte 2019-2020 Yearbook... At the beginning of the school year (and throughout the school year), we will have information fliers available about our yearbook. If you order your child's yearbook early in the school year, you can take advantage of the discounted price. As the school year progresses, the cost of the yearbook will increase incrementally. We typically sell out of yearbooks by the last week of school.

We will continue to implement the **Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)** initiative which is an approach to teaching and supporting positive behaviors and meeting the needs of ALL students. This school-wide approach to discipline focuses on building a safe and positive environment in which all students can learn. The foundation of PBIS at Pima Butte Elementary School is based on three building-wide expectations: "Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be Safe". To be successful, our behavior framework needs to be a partnership between home and school. [For more information on PBIS, go to: <http://www.pbis.org>]

*****Please note the following important information for the 2019-2020 school year:** School will start at **8:35 a.m.** and end at **3:35 p.m.** Every **Wednesday**, we will follow the **Early Release Schedule:** School will start at **8:35 a.m.** and end at **1:35 p.m.** [In addition, on the last day of each grading quarter, we will also follow the Early Release Schedule: September 27th, December 20th, March 13th, and May 22nd]. Please be aware that we will have a two-week Fall Break (September 30th to October 11th) and a two-week Spring Break (March 16th to March 27th).

Breakfast is provided free of charge to all students. Breakfast is served every school day starting at 8:05 a.m. When students arrive to school, they should enter the building through the Multipurpose Room (Cafeteria). Please note that students should not arrive to school sooner than 8:05 a.m.; however, students should be on campus by 8:30 a.m. so that they can be in their classrooms by the official start of school.

District Wellness Policy: Class parties held in an individual classroom by a single class may be exempt from the nutritional regulations at the teacher's discretion to celebrate birthdays, class achievement,

holidays, etc. Parents may provide food items not meeting nutritional standards; however, food items must come from a commercial kitchen and cannot be homemade. Parents/teachers may also use the option of having the MUSD Food Services Dept. provide healthy food items. Please contact Suzette Moe, Director of Child Nutrition Programs, at (520) 568-5100, ext. 1034, for more information.

End of Day Dismissal – Each student is required to have on file a current End of Day Dismissal form to let our teachers and Front Office staff know how your child will be going home each day after school. If you need to have your child go home a different way due to a change in circumstances, please update the End of Day Dismissal form for our Front Office. In the event you need to make a temporary change in how your child will go home, please provide your child’s teacher and our Front Office staff with a written note (or e-mail message). Yvette Montano (Administrative Assistant) can be reached at ymontano@musd20.org and Amanda McVay (Attendance Clerk) can be reached at amcvay@musd20.org. You can also access staff information by going to the Pima Butte Home Page at <https://www.musd20.org/Domain/13>. In addition to the End of Day Dismissal form, each Kindergarten student and 1st grade student must also have a **Supplemental Dismissal form on file**. This safety initiative was started by our District last school year. All Kindergarten and 1st grade students will not be permitted to leave campus or unload from the school bus without being escorted or supervised by a responsible caregiver. Please refer to the “K-1 Supplemental Dismissal Form” for more details.

Contact Information – It is very important for your child’s teacher and our Front Office staff to have your most current phone number(s), e-mail address(es), and mailing address – especially in the case of any emergencies. In the event your contact information changes, please let us know as soon as possible.

MUSD Elementary Gifted Program – For the 2019-2020 school year, the elementary gifted program will be at Pima Butte Elementary School in Classroom #15. Gifted students will be bused to and from their home schools to Pima Butte on their scheduled days of gifted services.

Copa Kids Care – For the 2019-2020 school year, Copa Kids Care will be at Santa Rosa Elementary School. For additional information, please contact Traci Manoguerra (Copa Kids Care Coordinator) at tmanoguerra@musd20.org

Please mark your calendars for **Thursday, July 18th**, from **6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**, for “Meet the Teacher Night” at Pima Butte Elementary School. If at all possible, you will be informed of your child’s assigned teacher a week before this event. **The first day of school will be Monday, July 22nd!**

Please let me know if you have any questions on the above. I look forward to a wonderful new school year. I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your support, collaboration, and participation in helping Pima Butte remain a school of excellence!

Sincerely,



Randy Lazar

Principal

(520) 568-7151