Dysart receives AdvancED district-wide accreditation

The Dysart Unified School District was recommended for district-wide accreditation through the AdvancED Accreditation Commission. Dysart is the second school district in Arizona to receive the international accreditation (Peoria Unified received accreditation in early February). Receiving AdvancED District Accreditation highlights Dysart both nationally and internationally and recognizes the district as a school district of high quality. All of Dysart’s schools are also accredited through AdvancED.

To receive AdvancED Accreditation, districts receive a rigorous site visit from an accreditation team consisting of educators from across the country. The three-day visit ensures that the district is meeting the AdvancED standards in each school and as a school-wide system, assures the district is engaged in a continuous improvement process, and monitors academic improvement through district and school accountability processes.

The AdvancED Accreditation team, led by Florida international education consultant, Pat Woodruff, commended Dysart Unified in multiple areas including:

- The leadership of the Dysart Unified School District is building an open, transparent, innovative and results-oriented commitment to high quality instruction and increased student performance.
- Dysart’s iPAL provides a focused alignment of curriculum, instruction, assessment and professional development.
- The 2011-2014 Strategic Plan provides a collaborative and systemic focus on the work of the district.
- Data is the foundation for organizational and instructional decisions throughout the district.
- Professional development opportunities throughout the district enhance teaching and learning as well as organizational effectiveness.

In addition to commendations, the AdvancED team is tasked with identifying “Required Actions” for a district to take to continue its improvement efforts. Dysart received only one required action from the team and according to Woodruff, “In conducting hundreds of accreditation visits, I have never seen a district receive only one required action. Dysart is to be congratulated for this accomplishment.” The AdvancED District Accreditation is for five years.

Dysart welcomes new principals

Four elementary schools in the Dysart Unified School District will be led by new administrators in the upcoming school year. The Dysart Governing Board approved the appointments of Kathy Hill as principal at Luke Elementary, Gail Miller as principal at Mountain View Elementary, Karie Burns as principal at Surprise Elementary, and Veronica Vasquez-Robles as principal at Thompson Ranch Elementary. The new principals were previously assistant principals in Dysart, with the exception of Kathy Hill, who held the position of Director of Federal Projects.

Sunset Hills earns top honor

Sunset Hills Elementary School has been named an A+ school by the Arizona Educational Foundation. The honor, designated to a handful of schools state-wide each year, recognizes outstanding public schools in Arizona. Sunset Hills’ award of A+ highlights their achievements and commitment to student success.

The Arizona Educational Foundation’s A+ Program celebrates education and brings to light the positive stories and successes happening in public schools every day. The A+ Program is an amazing catalyst for bringing together the surrounding community and its local neighborhood school.

This is the second consecutive year that a school in the Dysart School District has won the A+ award. Thompson Ranch Elementary School received the A+ honor last year. The year-long A+ application endeavor consists of a rigorous written application and screening process along with site visits for schools that make it to the final round.

***** ECRWSS **
Postal Customer
Dysart showcases superior technology

The Dysart Unified School District hosted a site visit by the National School Boards Association (NSBA) Technology Leadership Network on April 1-3, 2012. Dysart is one of four districts across the country to be selected for site visits in 2012 and was selected as a 2010 NSBA Salute District for outstanding technology integration. Due to this recognition, Dysart acted as host to visitors from across the nation.

Dysart showed off Student Success in the Southwest by highlighting the use of student-owned devices, 1:1 iPad solutions, robotics, STEM programs and much more. Visitors had the opportunity to observe classrooms to get a firsthand look at students using technology in multiple content areas. For more information on the site visit, including wrap-up videos from the district and 12 News, please visit Dysart’s NSBA website: http://dysart.org/nsba.

Meet the Governing Board

Governing Board Meeting Schedule

The Dysart School District’s Governing Board welcomes the public, including all school staff, parents, and community members to its meetings.

District Administration

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Governing Board Meeting Schedule

The Dysart School District’s Governing Board welcomes the public, including all school staff, parents, and community members to its meetings.

District Administration

Gail Pleitnick, Ed. D., Superintendent
Cyndi Miller, Ph. D., Assistant Superintendent for Academic Services
Jim Dean, Executive Director of Employee & Community Relations
Scott Thompson, Executive Director of Business Services

Reading interventionist is 2012 Teacher of the Year

Mrs. Kristi Martorelli was named the 2012 Teacher of the Year by the Arizona Educational Foundation. Martorelli is a kindergarten through third grade Reading Interventionist at Thompson Ranch Elementary School in El Mirage. The annual Teacher of the Year program is the premier event of the Arizona Educational Foundation (AEF), a statewide organization that promotes and awards the exceptional efforts being made in Arizona’s public schools. During the AEF awards luncheon, the 2012 Teacher of the Year is honored before more than 500 attendees including Arizona educators, elected officials and business leaders.

As Teacher of the Year, Kristi Martorelli will receive a host of awards and recognitions, march in the Fiesta Bowl Parade alongside the Wells Fargo Stagecoach, and serve as spokespersons for her profession by advocating for excellence in the classroom by making presentations statewide to education, civic, government and professional organizations.

Dysart student district dress code

The Dysart Unified School District believes that there is a connection between student dress and academic success. In the Spring of 2009, a Strategic Plan committee reviewed and revised Dysart’s student dress code. The committee, consisting of parents, teachers and administrators presented dress code revisions to the Governing Board and the revisions were implemented in the 2009-2010 school year. Dysart’s student dress code is set to remain unchanged for the 2012-2013 school year. The student dress code can be viewed at www.dysart.org under the tab, “Parents and Students.” The most prominent items in the K-12 student dress code include:

Shirts/ Tops
- Must not include tank tops, spaghetti straps, halter tops, strapless tops and racer back tops. Tank tops are any sleeveless top with a strap of less than three inches.
- Must not have a neckline lower than four in. from collarbone and must not expose cleavage.
- Must not extend in the armpit lower than six inches from the collarbone.
- Must not have a neckline lower than 4 in. from collarbone and must not expose cleavage.

Tops/Skirts/ Bottoms
- Must be worn at the waist at all times.
- Must be no shorter than 4 in. above the top of the knee when standing or shorts/skirts.
- Must not expose undergarments when sitting, bending or standing.

Back to school/meet your teacher

K-8 Schools
- Ashton Ranch
  August 2, 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.
- Canyon Ridge
  August 2, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
- Cimarron Springs
  August 2, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- Countryside
  August 2, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.
- Desert Moon
  August 2, contact school for time
- Dysart Elementary
  August 2, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
- El Mirage
  August 2, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
- Kingwood
  August 2, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
- Lake
  August 2, 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.
- Marley Park
  August 2, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
- Mountain View
  August 3, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
- Parkview
  August 2, contact school for time
- Rancho Gabriela
  August 2, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
- Riverview
  August 2, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
- Sonoran Heights
  August 2, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

High Schools
- Dysart High School Open House
  August 2, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.
- Shadow Ridge Open House
  Contact school for date and time
- Valley Vista Open House
  August 23, 6:00 p.m.
- Willow Canyon Open House
  Contact school for date and time

Other Programs
- Preschool
  August 3, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.
- Sundown Mountain
  Contact the school for date and times
K-8 registration information

To begin the enrollment process for kindergarten through eighth grade (K-8), please pick up your registration packet from any of Dysart’s K-8 school offices. Dysart’s website, www.dysart.org, includes need-to-know information such as school boundaries, transportation, immunizations and special education services. Parents who do not have access to the Web can go into any Dysart school office and use a designated computer kiosk. To ensure a smooth and complete transition to our schools, please note the following:

- Children must be five years old prior to Sept. 1st to enroll in kindergarten
- A parent or guardian must be present to enroll a child
- The registration packet must be completed and submitted. Please double-check that all forms have been completely filled out and signed in all appropriate places.

The following documents are required for registration:

- Child’s original birth certificate
- Child’s immunization records
- Proof of residency i.e. –lease or purchase agreement or utility bill
- Parent or guardian’s government issued photo identification
- Official withdrawal paperwork from previous school (if enrolling during the school year)

To ensure your child receives the appropriate services, it is highly recommended that parents provide the following:

- Current individualized education plan (IEP)
- Existing 504 plan
- Academic records
- Information from previous school

If your child has significant health concerns or if parents need to check in medications, you may need to complete additional paperwork. The school nurse can assist you with any questions or concerns. Should your email, address or phone number change after you have completed enrollment, please notify your school’s office immediately so you don’t miss out on important information sent throughout the year.

Children age 2 to 4 are eligible to receive immunizations through the Dysart Unified School District, in partnership with Maricopa County. Immunizations required for school admission are provided at no cost to all children in the community. For more information, please visit www.dysart.org or call the district’s immunization clinic at 623.876.7944.

Optional Elementary Student Supply List

Arizona law requires that public schools provide the supplies required for academic success. All materials required for a student’s education will be provided by the Dysart Unified School District. Please check with your K-8 school and your child’s teacher for an optional supply list before picking up any supplies. If you have any questions, please contact your K-8 school.

Arts Academy at Desert Moon

The Dysart Unified School District is excited to unveil the opening of a new Arts Academy for students in grades 5 – 8, beginning in the 2012-2013 school year. Planned in consultation with the West Valley Arts Council, Phoenix Symphony, West Valley Symphony, Phoenix Opera, ASU and the Community University, the Dysart Arts Academy will be housed at Desert Moon Middle School and is designed to serve students both in and out of the district. The mission of this “school within a school” is to provide an arts-enriched learning environment merging creative and academic content to enhance student achievement.

Students enrolled in the Arts Academy will take academic courses, as well as arts courses which may include: band, orchestra, choir, visual arts, graphic arts, theater, dance and video production. For more information about the Arts Academy and enrollment, please contact Desert Moon at 623.523.8911 or visit dysart.org/artsacademy.

High school registration

Dysart High School

Beginning July 24, continuing Dysart High School students can have their student ID picture taken and pick up school schedules during walk-through registration located in the DHS cafeteria. Walk-through registration will be held on July 24-25 for seniors, juniors and sophomores from 7:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. Students can register on Monday, July 22 from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. For questions regarding registration please call (623) 876-7500. For additional information about Dysart High School, please visit www.dysart.org/DHS.

Shadow Ridge

Please contact Shadow Ridge High School for information regarding Camp Stallion Registration. Students already attending Shadow Ridge will not need to attend registration. Instead, enrollment packets that were included in the summer mailer should be returned to the school. The office will be open during the hours of 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. for parents to drop off this important information. For more information please visit www.dysart.org/shhs or call (623) 523-5100.

Valley Vista

Walk through registration for the 2012-2013 school year will take place July 23-26. Senior registration will be on Monday, July 23; Juniors on Tuesday, July 24; Sophomores Wednesday, July 25; and Freshman Thursday, July 26. Registration will take place all 4 days beginning at 8:00 a.m. Registration packets will be in the mail by mid-July and will contain all necessary information regarding the registration process. The packet will have assigned registration dates and times, along with important paperwork that is required for students and parents to complete on an annual basis. During registration ID pictures will be taken and physical education uniforms will be available. Yearbook pictures will be taken after school starts. For questions please contact the school office at (623) 523-8800 or visit the website at www.dysart.org/valleyvista.

Willow Canyon

Please contact Willow Canyon High School for dates and times for the Back-to-School Walk Through. All students are required to attend Back-to-School Walk Through to obtain their student ID. Please check the WCHS website for a more detailed breakdown. Please come prepared with all of the completed required documents. Please check for additional required items such as payment for student parking, athletics (cash/check only) updated shot record (if applicable). Students who do not attend the summer registration process will not be permitted into classes on the first day of school. For questions, please contact the school office at (623) 523-8000. For more information regarding registration, including possible updates, please visit the Willow Canyon website at www.dysart.org/willowcanyon.

Dysart preschool announces screening dates for 2012-2013

Do you have concerns about your preschooler’s development? The Dysart Early Childhood Education Center offers free screenings for in-district children, age 2 years 10 months to 5 year old non-kindergarten children with possible special needs or handicaps. A parent needs to be present with the child that is to be screened and siblings are not allowed unless they are being screened as well.

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA, 2004) requires that public school agencies ensure that all children from birth through age 21 with delays or developmental disabilities are identified, located and evaluated to receive the supports and services they need. This includes all children living within the geographic boundaries of the school district including children who are homeless or wards of the state, children with disabilities attending private schools, or those who are home schooled.

Public schools and the Arizona Early Intervention Program are responsible for “finding” eligible children and providing supports needed for them to reach their developmental milestones or meet their educational needs. The Dysart preschool screenings, conducted at the Dysart Early Childhood Center, address vision, hearing, motor, speech and language, self-help, cognitive and social skills. The time to complete a screen is approximately one hour. Parents must be present with their child during the screening process.

For more information or to schedule a special needs screening appointment, please contact the Dysart School District at (623) 876-7500. For information regarding screening children ages 2 to 3 years old, please call the Arizona Early Intervention Project at (602) 532-9960. The Dysart Early Childhood Center is located at 17999 W. Surprise Farms Loop South in Surprise.

Screening dates for the 2012-2013 school year are on the following Mondays:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Station</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 30</td>
<td>Dysart Early Childhood Center</td>
<td>Address vision, hearing, motor, speech and language, self-help, cognitive and social skills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 20</td>
<td>Dysart Early Childhood Center</td>
<td>Address vision, hearing, motor, speech and language, self-help, cognitive and social skills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 10</td>
<td>Dysart Early Childhood Center</td>
<td>Address vision, hearing, motor, speech and language, self-help, cognitive and social skills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 29</td>
<td>Dysart Early Childhood Center</td>
<td>Address vision, hearing, motor, speech and language, self-help, cognitive and social skills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 19</td>
<td>Dysart Early Childhood Center</td>
<td>Address vision, hearing, motor, speech and language, self-help, cognitive and social skills.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### School Start Times

**SY 2012-2013 School Start Times**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Normal Day</th>
<th>Early Release</th>
<th>Testing Day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Start</td>
<td>Dismissal</td>
<td>First Start</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dysart High School</td>
<td>7:15 AM</td>
<td>2:15 PM</td>
<td>12:15 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willow Canyon High School</td>
<td>7:15 AM</td>
<td>2:15 PM</td>
<td>12:15 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pebble Vista High School</td>
<td>7:15 AM</td>
<td>2:15 PM</td>
<td>12:15 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westview Ridge High School</td>
<td>7:15 AM</td>
<td>2:15 PM</td>
<td>12:15 PM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Dysart Elementary School Directory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>City, AZ</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dysart High School</td>
<td>13000 N. E. Mirage Road</td>
<td>623.523.8500</td>
<td>Surprise, AZ 85353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willow Canyon High School</td>
<td>4100 W. Millennium Road</td>
<td>623.876.7000</td>
<td>Surprise, AZ 85353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pebble Vista High School</td>
<td>13020 W. Desert Road</td>
<td>623.523.8000</td>
<td>Surprise, AZ 85353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westview Ridge High School</td>
<td>13000 W. Greenway Road</td>
<td>623.876.7000</td>
<td>Surprise, AZ 85353</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Dysart Unified School District

**Dysart Unified School District No. 89 2012-2013 CALENDAR**

- **First Day for Students**: August 6
- **Labor Day**: September 3
- **Fall Break**: October 4-12
- **Columbus Day**: October 8 [part of Fall Break]
- **Winter Break**: October 14-15 [2-day K-6 Report Cards Issued]
- **Veterans Day**: November 12
- **Thanksgiving Break**: November 21-23
- **Spring Break**: March 11-15
- **Easter Break/Teacher Conferences**: March 21-22
- **Winter Break**: December 21-24, Jan. 4
- **Spring Break**: April 19-22
- **Spring Break**: May 23-26
- **Memorial Day**: May 27-28
- **Summer Break**: June 29-28

### Volunteer time, talent expand the horizons of youth

Volunteer partnerships with Dysart Unified School District’s teachers and staff make a meaningful difference by providing assistance throughout the many facets of the school district. In 2011-2012, more than 1,400 people enriched the lives of students by generously donating more than 70,000 hours of their time. Volunteers range from college students, parents and grandparents to corporate employees and retirees. These individuals recognize that well-educated children are our greatest natural resource and support our schools in the effort to help each child meet his or her full potential. Volunteer opportunities exist in K-12 classrooms, libraries, offices, with district sports programs, as well as with infants and toddlers in the Child Development Center and Dysart Early Childhood Center. In addition to providing intergenerational experiences for students, the volunteer program also strengthens school-community relations by encouraging interested community members to actively participate in school programs.

Dysart welcomes anyone who is interested in experiencing the rich satisfaction of helping children, to apply to become a volunteer. For more information about becoming a Dysart volunteer, please call 623.879.7875 or visit www.dysart.org/volunteer.

### Dysart School Directory

- **K-8 Schools**
  - Ashton Ranch 14998 W. Acuna Drive
  - Canyon Ridge 17350 W. Surprise Farms Loop S
  - Cimarron Springs 17012 W. Surprise Farms Loop S
  - Country Side 15070 N. Parkview Place
  - Desert Moon 2225 W. 166th Drive
  - Dysart Elementary 12990 W. Vanney Road
  - El Mirage 13500 N. E. Mirage Road
  - Kingwood 13500 W. Montell Road
  - Lake 7300 W. Dysart Road
  - Marley Park 13042 W. Sweetwater Road
  - Mountain View 18302 W. Barlow Avenue
  - Parkview 18666 N. Parkview Place

- **High Schools**
  - Dysart High School 13000 W. Greenway Road
  - Mountain View School 13500 N. Parkview Place

**Contact Information**

- Dysart Unified School District
  - 623.876.7800
  - 13000 W. Greenway Road
  - Surprise, AZ 85353

- Dysart Elementary
  - 623.523.8000
  - 13000 N. E. Mirage Road
  - Surprise, AZ 85353

- Dysart High School
  - 623.876.7800
  - 13000 W. Greenway Road
  - Surprise, AZ 85353

- Mountain View School
  - 623.523.8000
  - 13500 N. Parkview Place
  - Surprise, AZ 85379

**School Start Times**

- No School/Staff Development:
  - April 19

**High School Final Exams**

- Spring Break: May 23-26, 2013 (1/2-day HS)

**End of School Year**

- Senior Graduation: May 23, 2013

**4-6 Report Cards Issued**

- April 19-22

**Surprise, AZ 85379**

- El Mirage
  - 623.876.7000
  - Dysart High School
  - 623.876.7800

- West Point
  - 623.523.8000
  - Mountain View School
  - 623.523.8000

- Willow Canyon High School
  - 623.876.7800

For more information regarding Dysart schools, please visit www.dysart.org.