2011-2012 ANNUAL REPORT

Power in the preparation... Excellence in the journey... Success for a lifetime...

DYSART Unified School District
The Dysart Unified School District is pleased to provide the community with the Dysart Annual Report providing information on the efforts and outcomes of the district during a one year period beginning the fall of 2010 to the fall of 2011. This report focuses on the work being done to drive excellence in our district and provides a focus on the key accomplishments throughout the District. The academic achievement information contained in this issue provide insight into our students’ continued academic gains as evidence by AIMS results, AZ LEARNS labels and the new Arizona School Accountability grades.

The success experienced by the Dysart Unified School District is grounded in the dedication of our teachers, building-level staff, assistant principals and principals, the hard work of our students and the support of our families and community volunteers. WE ARE DYSART and we build positive and successful futures for the children in our Dysart community.

As we move forward to meet the goals and objectives of the Dysart Strategic Plan, student achievement and student success drive the excellence in our district. In order to support student success, it is essential that we efficiently manage all of the resources of the district. As state funding continues to be decreased, the Dysart Unified School District has continued to work collaboratively with all employee groups to efficiently use resources for the betterment of our students and community.

This Dysart Annual Report is one of many ways that we hope to effectively communicate information about the specific efforts and accomplishments of the Dysart Unified School District. As we celebrate the accomplishments of the past year, we continue to look forward to meeting our District vision of “Power in the Preparation, Excellence in the Journey, Success for a Lifetime.” Thank you for your continued support!

Gail Pletnick, Ed. D.
Superintendent

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District Administration
Gail Pletnick, Ed. D.
Superintendent
Cyndi Miller, Ph. D.
Assistant Superintendent for Academic Services
Quinn Kellis, Ed. D.
Assistant Superintendent for Support Services
Jim Dean
Executive Director of Employee & Community Relations
Scott Thompson
Executive Director of Business Services
Meet the Dysart Unified School District Governing Board

Governing Board Meeting Schedule

The Governing Board meets the first and third Wednesdays of the month with exceptions of July 2011 and January 2012 at the Dysart Education Center, 15802 N Parkview Place, Surprise, AZ 623-876-7000

Traci Sawyer-Sinkbeil
President

July 13, 2011
August 3, 2011
August 17, 2011
September 7, 2011
September 21, 2011
October 5, 2011
October 19, 2011
November 2, 2011
November 16, 2011
December 7, 2011
December 21, 2011
January 11, 2012
February 1, 2012
February 29, 2012
March 7, 2012
March 21, 2012
April 4, 2012
April 18, 2012
May 2, 2012
May 16, 2012
June 6, 2012
June 20, 2012

Dysart Annual Report 2011-2012
Dysart Growth Continues
Dysart Unified School District has experienced unprecedented growth over the past decade. This graph illustrates the district’s rising enrollment since 2000.

The Dysart Community
The Dysart Unified School District is comprised of 140 square miles in the northwest valley. The district encompasses the cities of Surprise, El Mirage and unincorporated sections of Maricopa County. Prior to 2000, the Dysart Unified School District was made up of four elementary schools and one high school. Today, Dysart has grown to 20 K-8 schools, 4 high schools, one early childhood center and one alternative program.

Dysart Students
At the end of the 2010-2011 school year, Dysart had 23,868 enrolled students, increased from 7,238 students in the 2001-2002 school year. Within the student population, 38 different native languages are spoken.

Student Ethnicity
- White – 52%
- Hispanic – 35%
- Black – 9%
- Asian – 3%
- Native American – 1%

Dysart Staff
The Dysart Unified School District proudly employs more than 2,990 staff members. As of the end of the 2010-2011 school year, the district team was comprised of:
- 1,415 certified personnel
- 1046 support staff
- 75 administrators
- 20 school security personnel
- 349 guest teachers
- 105 temporary/substitute employees
Mrs. Kristi Martorelli was named the 2012 Teacher of the Year by the Arizona Educational Foundation. Martorelli is a kindergarten through 3rd grade reading interventionist at Thompson Ranch Elementary School in the Dysart Unified School District 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, advocating for excellence in the classroom by making presentations statewide to education, civic, government and professional organizations.

### 2010-2011 Staff Achievements in the Dysart Unified School District

- Jessica O’Connell – Ashton Ranch – Featured in Scholastic Instructor Magazine
- Christopher Raso – Marley Park – VFW Teacher of the Year
- Martha Aranda – Willow Canyon – VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award
- Jeff Evans – Willow Canyon – VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award Runner Up
- Klint Corley – Valley Vista – 5A Division II Northwest Region Baseball Coach of the Year
- Sam Polvino – Dysart High – 4A Division I Skyline Region Basketball Coach of the Year
- Cheryl Butcher – El Mirage – Rodel Foundation Exemplary Teacher Semi-finalist
- Scott Thomas – Shadow Ridge – Highly Qualified designation by the ACTE
- Jamee Henry – Shadow Ridge – 4A Division II Skyline Softball Region Coach of the Year
- Jennifer Pulbratek – Dysart High – National Board Certification
- Melissa Green – Dysart High – National Board Certification
- Misha Quarles – Parkview – National Board Certification
- Julie Johnson – Valley Vista – National Board Certification
- Donna Eastin – Willow Canyon – National Board Certification
**Dysart schools continue to move forward**

The Dysart Unified School District had 16 of its 24 schools meet the federal AYP standard for the 2010-2011 school year, up from just four schools making AYP in 2006. Each year schools are evaluated on students meeting Annual Measurable Objectives through the No Child Left Behind measure of Annual Yearly Progress (AYP). In order to make AYP, elementary schools must meet more than 200 indicators of success. If a school misses one indicator, they will not make AYP.

More than 38% of schools nation-wide did not make AYP and 42% of Arizona schools did not meet the AYP criteria. This has raised concerns regarding the formula used to calculate AYP under the No Child Left Behind Act. Dysart is once again ahead of the national and state averages with 67% of its schools meeting all indicators of Annual Yearly Progress.

While eight Dysart schools did not meet at least one of the more than 200 indicators of AYP, district students in those schools continue to show academic progress. Dysart is committed to continuing to focus on student achievement, progress and addressing the more than 200 indicators used to determine AYP.

**Dysart AIMS scores continue to rise**

Dysart Unified School District students continue to demonstrate increases in academic achievement as measured by the Arizona Instrument to Measure Standards (AIMS) assessment. Dysart AIMS achievement scores surpass the state average in every grade level and every subject. Student test scores in grades 3 – 10 show that Dysart students continue to make gains into the meeting or exceeding categories. The Dysart School District’s 24,000 students continue to outpace the state improvement average in math, reading writing and science.

An analysis of the AIMS achievement data from 2011 again demonstrates Dysart’s commitment to a sustained effort to raise student achievement. Individual grade level results reveal increases in student success. This continuing increase in student achievement is credited to a sustained focus using data informed decision making and district-created technology applications that drive curriculum and resource development and classroom instruction.
Achievement Profiles

Dysart Unified School District schools receive new state profile grades

The Arizona Department of Education has released its new state rating system, A-F Accountability Profiles, for all public schools throughout the state for 2011. Dysart schools, and district, received the letter grades as a part of the state of Arizona’s new measure to grade schools throughout the state.

In the inaugural year of A-F Accountability Profiles, six Dysart schools received a state grade of “A”, 11 Dysart schools received a state grade of “B” and seven schools received a state grade of “C”. Additionally, the state has also provided school districts with a grade. The Dysart School District received a grade of “B” from the Arizona Department of Education.

In addition to the new A-F Accountability Profiles, the state department has also released AZ Learns Legacy Labels for all schools. The old legacy system is being phased out and will be completely replaced by the A-F profiles beginning in 2013. Through the old AZ Learns system, five Dysart schools are labeled as Excelling, four Dysart schools as Highly Performing, 12 Dysart schools as Performing Plus and three Dysart schools as Performing.

Dysart schools continue to demonstrate positive and continued growth in student achievement. To view individual school profiles and legacy labels, please visit www.dysart.org/profiles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>A-F Accountability Profile</th>
<th>AZ Learns Label</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canyon Ridge School</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Excelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marley Park Elementary School</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Excelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain View School</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Excelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rancho Gabriela Elementary School</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Excelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sonoran Heights Elementary School</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Excelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunset Hills Elementary School</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Excelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashton Ranch Elementary School</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Highly Performing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cimarron Springs Elementary School</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Highly Performing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shadow Ridge High School</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Highly Performing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dysart Elementary School</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Performing Plus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kingswood Elementary School</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Performing Plus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luke Elementary School</td>
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<td>Performing Plus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surprise Elementary School</td>
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<td>Performing Plus</td>
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<td>Thompson Ranch Elementary School</td>
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<td>Performing Plus</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Point Elementary School</td>
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<td>Western Peaks Elementary School</td>
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<td>Valley Vista High School</td>
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<td>Performing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Countryside Elementary School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dysart High School</td>
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<td>Performing Plus</td>
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<td>El Mirage Elementary School</td>
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<td>Performing Plus</td>
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<td>Parkview Elementary School</td>
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<td>Performing Plus</td>
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<td>Riverview Elementary School</td>
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<td>Desert Moon School</td>
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<td>Performing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Willow Canyon High School</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Performing</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Career and Technical Education (CTE)
The Dysart Unified School District offers Career and Technical Education courses that support study within specific career pathways. These areas of Career and Technical Education studies range from Graphic Arts and Communication to Health Careers to the Culinary Arts to Auto Mechanics to TV and Media Production and beyond. The most important factor that runs through all 14 Career and Technical Education Programs offered is the link that is created between academic rigor and the real world experiences inherent in these career-oriented programs. CTE provides for each student, the opportunity to be exposed to industry-standard curricula, reinforcement of their academic skill sets, and prepares students to be successful in post-secondary education and their endeavors into the 21st century. For more information regarding CTE, please visit www.dysart.org.

Advanced Placement
Advanced Placement (AP) is a program of college-level courses and examinations governed by the College Entrance Examination Board. Students who attain acceptable scores on the exams may qualify for college credits, advanced placement or exemption from certain courses.

Honors
Honors courses are designed to provide a more challenging, sequential course of study that fosters academic performance leading to successful completion of Advanced Placement, Dual Enrollment and/or International Baccalaureate Programs. To fulfill this purpose, Honors courses demand a more challenging engagement by students in building upon and extending the standard requirements of study.

Dual Enrollment
Dual Enrollment opportunities are available to students in Dysart High Schools. Students have the ability to take courses in which they may receive credit in the high school as well as earning college credit. Dual enrollment courses are available through Estrella Mountain, Glendale and Rio Salado Community Colleges.

Integrated STEM Concept School
Dysart’s Signature Programs include: Canyon Ridge School is dedicated to the integration of science, mathematics and technology throughout daily instruction and interaction. Canyon Ridge School is an integrated learning community of lifelong learners committed to preparing capable citizens with a strong academic foundation, a positive self-concept and an understanding of the individual’s responsibilities within the larger society. At Canyon Ridge School the educational experience extends beyond the school day and the school walls. Curriculum and instruction are organized around real-world problems. Students gather and apply knowledge from multiple disciplines with particular emphasis on science, math and health supported by transforming uses of technology. Collaboration, team building and partnerships define interactions among all members of the learning community. Problem-based learning, flexibility in grouping and in use of time, research and assessment to drive instructional decisions, and innovative approaches to teaching and learning are hallmarks of experiences at Canyon Ridge School.

Cambridge Academy
The Dysart Unified School District began offering The Cambridge Academy, an advanced academic program for middle school students, at Marley Park Elementary School beginning with the 2011-2012 school year. The Cambridge Program at Marley Park will seek to enable dedicated 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students to prepare for success in future academic pursuits while obtaining a comprehensive view of the world.

Arts Academy
A new Signature Academy, the Dysart Arts Academy, will serve students in grades 5-8 beginning in fall 2012. The mission of this “school within a school” at Desert Moon is to provide an arts-enriched learning environment merging creative and academic content to enhance student achievement. Academy students will be required to take language arts, reading, mathematics, science, and social studies. In addition, the students will be afforded the opportunity to participate in arts elective courses each year. These courses may include band, orchestra, chorus, visual arts: 2-D, 3-D and graphic arts, theater, dance, and ITV / video production.
The Arizona Legislature established a school finance system to provide equal dollars per pupil for school district operations through a balancing of the local funds and State/County funds. This concept is commonly referred to as the “equalization formula”. The Arizona Legislature determines every year the amount per pupil the school districts are allowed to budget. In school year 2011-2012 the Dysart school district was allowed to budget approximately $140 Million. A significant portion of Dysart’s budget is funded by local property taxes. The property tax rates are determined by applying tax rates against the primary assessed valuation and the secondary assessed valuation. Override and debt service tax rates are applied to secondary assessed valuation and all other tax rates are applied to the primary assessed valuation. Property taxes are collected and distributed in November and April of each year. Regardless of the collection of taxes or the timeliness of being received in a district, the district can only spend up to the budget capacity authorized by the Arizona State Legislature.

Dysart’s tax rate for fiscal year 2012 is $5.99 this represents a 16% decrease in the tax rate over the last 6 years. This decrease is largely due to the rapid growth in property values over that time period. In the last two years, the property values in the Dysart district boundaries have decreased on average of 16% in 2011 and 18% in 2012. This decrease in assessed value is in large part responsible for the tax rate increase over the last 2 years of $0.99.

The district has seen a decrease in over $52 million in funding it was receiving just four years ago. Despite these significant decreases, Dysart has not increased class size. During this time, the district has made significant reductions in the programs and resources provided to the schools. A large portion of the reductions by the state were in capital funding, this has left the district unable to purchase any significant items such as textbooks, technology, and buses.

In November 2006, the voters approved a $190 million bond program. Currently, the District has expended $122 million and is unable to access the remaining approval due to the drop in the local property values. For a list of completed bond projects, please visit www.dysart.org.
### K-8 Schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ashton Ranch</td>
<td>14898 W. Acoma Drive</td>
<td>623.523.8300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canyon Ridge</td>
<td>17359 W. Surprise Farms Loop N</td>
<td>623.523.8450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cimarron Springs</td>
<td>17032 W. Surprise Farms Loop S</td>
<td>623.523.8600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Countryside</td>
<td>15034 N. Parkview Place</td>
<td>623.876.7800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Desert Moon</td>
<td>23251 N. 166th Drive</td>
<td>623.523.8900</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dysart</td>
<td>12590 W. Varney Road</td>
<td>623.876.7100</td>
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<tr>
<td>El Mirage</td>
<td>13500 N. El Mirage Road</td>
<td>623.876.7200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kingswood</td>
<td>15150 W. Mondell Road</td>
<td>623.876.7600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luke</td>
<td>7300 N. Dysart Road</td>
<td>623.876.7300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marley Park</td>
<td>15042 W. Sweetwater Road</td>
<td>623.523.8200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain View</td>
<td>18302 W. Burton Avenue</td>
<td>623.876.7450</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parkview</td>
<td>16066 N. Parkview Place</td>
<td>623.523.8650</td>
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<td>Rancho Gabriela</td>
<td>15272 W. Gabriela Drive</td>
<td>623.523.8500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Riverview</td>
<td>12701 N. Main Street</td>
<td>623.523.8950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sonoran Heights</td>
<td>11405 N. Greer Ranch Parkway</td>
<td>623.523.8550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunset Hills</td>
<td>17825 W. Sierra Montana Loop</td>
<td>623.523.8700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surprise</td>
<td>12907 W. Greenway Road</td>
<td>623.876.7400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thompson Ranch</td>
<td>11800 W. Thompson Ranch Road</td>
<td>623.523.8400</td>
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### High Schools

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dysart High School</td>
<td>11425 N. Dysart Road</td>
<td>623.876.7500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shadow Ridge</td>
<td>10909 N. Perryville Road</td>
<td>623.523.5100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valley Vista</td>
<td>15550 N. Parkview Place</td>
<td>623.523.8800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willow Canyon</td>
<td>17901 W. Lundberg Street</td>
<td>623.523.8000</td>
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### Specialized Programs

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dysart Early Childhood Center</td>
<td>17999 W. Surprise Farms Loop S</td>
<td>623.876.7350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundown Mountain</td>
<td>10909 N. Perryville Road</td>
<td>623.876.7250</td>
</tr>
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For more information regarding Dysart schools, please visit www.dysart.org
Couples filing joint taxes may donate up to $400; Individuals up to $200

Credits are not available to businesses, trusts or estates.

Mail Your Contributions To:  DYSART UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
ATTN: TAX CREDIT PROGRAM
15802 NORTH PARKVIEW PLACE
SURPRISE, AZ  85374

Apply my tax credit to the following school:

[ ] Ashton Ranch  [ ] Kingswood  [ ] Sonoran Heights
[ ] Canyon Ridge  [ ] Luke  [ ] Sunset Hills
[ ] Cimarron Springs  [ ] Marley Park  [ ] Surprise
[ ] Countryside  [ ] Mountain View  [ ] Thompson Ranch
[ ] Desert Moon  [ ] Parkview  [ ] West Point
[ ] Dysart  [ ] Rancho Gabriela  [ ] Western Peaks
[ ] El Mirage  [ ] Riverview

(Please Print)

Date ____________  Parent (Guardian)/Contributor Name ____________________________________________

Mailing Address ________________________________  Zip ____________________  Phone Number ________________

Total Amount Paid ____________  [ ] Cash  [ ] Check # ________________  [ ] Money Order # ________________

I want to support:

[ ] School May Designate (5500)  [ ] Athletics (5501)  [ ] Fine Arts (5502)  [ ] Enrichment Programs (5505)

STUDENT PAY TO PARTICIPATE &
CLUB FEES ONLY

Student Name ________________________________

Activity ________________________________

K-8

[ ] $70/PTP activity  [ ] $210/PTP student cap  [ ] $400/PTP family cap  [ ] $5/club

HIGH SCHOOL

[ ] $140/PTP activity  [ ] $280/PTP student cap  [ ] $400/PTP family cap  [ ] $10/club

09/2011
Opening at Desert Moon School for 5th-8th grade students in fall 2012

The mission of this “school within a school” at Desert Moon is to provide an arts-enriched learning environment merging creative and academic content to enhance student achievement.

Registration is ongoing at dysart.org

For more information call 623.876.7173 or visit www.dysart.org/artsacademy