



MESA VERDE ELEMENTARY

Carol Tracy, Principal
1661 W Sage St, Tucson, AZ 85704
(520) 696-6090
FAX (520) 696-6137

701 W. Wetmore Road • Tucson, AZ 85705 • (520) 696-5000 • TDD (520) 696-5055

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Amphitheater Governing Board
FROM: Carol Tracy
RE: Principal's Governing Board Presentation
DATE: February 9, 2016

Mesa Verde Elementary School

Mesa Verde is committed to supporting the Amphitheater Public School District values of achievement, caring, creativity, curiosity, diligence, diversity, fairness, honesty, kindness, respectfulness, responsibility, and service to the community. Our commitment to these values is evident in our mission, vision, code, and in our work to support our students, families, staff, and our community.

Our Mission:

Mesa Verde Elementary School is a community dedicated to building a strong foundation for each child to reach their full potential.

Our Vision:

Our vision is to empower innovative learners who are confident, respectful and compassionate leaders in society.

Mesa Verde Code:

At Mesa Verde We Will Be Our **BEST**

- **B**e Respectful
- **E**ngage in Learning
- **S**hare Responsibility
- **T**ake Pride in What You Do
And Always Be Kind

Our Slogan:

“We Just Can’t Hide Our Mesa Verde Pride!”

About Mesa Verde:

Mesa Verde Elementary School consists of 387 kindergarten through 5th grade students. There are 14 general education classrooms and three self-contained special education classrooms including a K-2 cross-categorical, a 3-5 cross categorical, and a K-2 CHOICES classroom.

Mesa Verde is “tucked” away in a quiet neighborhood called Mesaland which features older homes on large two acre lots. Most of the homes immediately around the school are owned by families with older children or retired couples. There are new homes to the west and several apartment complexes to the east of the school. Brand new homes are for sale and being built to the west of the school. Being a smaller school, there is a real community/family feel and atmosphere. Many of our students’ parents attended Mesa Verde and have chosen to live in the area or open enroll their children at Mesa Verde.

The Mesa Verde Staff Family includes 14 general education teachers, 6 specialist teachers, 8 special education teachers, 8 special education support staff, a part time school psychologist, a library assistant, a health aide, an instructional technology assistant, a behavior intervention monitor, an attendance clerk, an educational assistant, an administrative assistant, 2 custodians, 3 campus monitors, 5 cafeteria staff, 12 bus drivers, and 2 Community Extension Program Directors. The staff is dedicated to working together to provide a “village” of support for our students and families.

Cultural and Demographic Data

- Enrollment: 387 Students (2/1/16)
- Open Enrollment: 84 Students, 22% (31 out of District)
- ELL: 2.2%
- Gifted/REACH: 21%
- Special Education: 21%
- Average Daily Attendance: 94.5%
- Free/Reduced Lunch: 44%

Instructional Programs, Activities and Clubs:

- REACH gifted and talented services
- Special education services
- Self-contained special education classes
- Accelerated math classes in 4th and 5th grade
- Reading intervention blended learning programs (Waterford, iReady, Imagine Learning)
- Music program with annual grade level musical performances, band, orchestra, percussion, recorders, keyboards and chorus
- Art program with annual art show
- Physical education program that focuses on health, fitness, and teamwork (units include roller blading, archery, track and field, yoga, yo-yo, sports, jump roping, and more)
- Bal-a-vis-x program and club
- Odyssey of the Mind teams
- Student Council
- Ben’s Bells Kind Campus, Kind Kids Club and Kindness Rally
- Spelling Bee
- Track team and District Track Meet
- Quarterly spirit assemblies
- Jump for Heart
- Book Clubs

Community and Family Involvement:

- Meet the Teacher Back to School Event

- Back to School Parent Information Night
- Parent Reading Workshop
- Back to School Family Picnic
- Lego and Math Night
- Library Nights each quarter
- Pumpkin Decorating and Science Night
- Fall Carnival
- Christmas Sing-a-long and Reading Night
- Book Fair
- Art Show and Fine Arts Festival
- Special Person's Open House and Lunch
- End of Year Water Fun Event
- Classroom Parent and Grandparent Volunteers
- Retired Teacher Volunteers
- Partnerships with neighborhood churches

Academic Data:

Mesa Verde has held a letter grade of "A" from AZLEARNS. The charts below indicate the NWEA (MAP) scores from the fall and spring of the 2014-15 school year, comparing Mesa Verde to the National Norm. The mean for students at Mesa Verde is above the mean for the NWEA Measures of Academic Progress 2015 National Norms at all grade levels second through fifth.

Grade	Math Fall 14-15		Math Spring 14-15		Fall 14-Spring 15 % of students making typical 1 year growth
2	179	N176	200	N192	96%
3	191	N190	203	N203	94%
4	205	N201	218	N213	94%
5	215	N211	222	N221	91%

N= 2015 Norm Data Mean

Grade	Reading Fall 14-15		Reading Spring 14-15		Fall 14-Spring 15 % of students making typical 1 year growth
2	180	N174	194	N188	87%
3	191	N189	198	N198	81%
4	202	N198	210	N205	88%
5	209	N205	213	N211	89%

N= 2015 Norm Data Mean

School Improvement Focuses for the 2015-16 School Year:

1. Improve Writing Instructional Practices through professional development, professional learning communities, and grade level collaboration.
 - Previous AIMS Writing Data indicate that writing was an area of improvement.
 - Teachers will receive professional development in writing using the Lucy Calkins Units of Study for Teaching Writing in Opinion, Information, and Narrative resources. Teachers will plan writing lessons collaboratively and will have multiple opportunities to observe their peer teachers teach, reflect upon the teaching and reevaluate their planning.
2. Improve targeted reading instruction/intervention for struggling students (bottom 25%).
 - Students in grades 2 and 3 will receive intervention instruction from the school reading interventionist and the classroom teachers. During the 2014-15 school year, students in grades K, 1, 4, and 5 only received instruction from their classroom teachers.
 - Mesa Verde qualified as a Targeted Assistance Title I school prior to the 2015-16 school year with an average of 44% of the students qualifying for free or reduced lunch. The funding provided through the Title I grant is being used to provide targeted assistance to students achieving in the bottom 25% of their grade level. The reading intervention program was expanded in order to service all K-5 students achieving in the bottom 25%. Blended learning programs including Waterford, iReady, and Imagine Learning are being used to target specific skills, where students are deficient.
 - K-1 and 4-5 teachers will receive professional development in blended learning reading intervention programs (Waterford and Imagine Learning). Teachers will learn how to access data that indicated student specific deficiencies and resources to provide instruction on those deficiencies.
3. Improve 4th and 5th grade math instruction and provide accelerated math instruction for high achieving students.
 - NWEA MAP growth data from 2014-15 indicate that high achieving students did not make a full year growth in math.
 - 4-5 teachers will attend math professional development sessions. Teachers will evaluate math data every 4 weeks in order to adjust math instruction. Sixth grade math instruction will be provided to students who show proficiency in the fifth grade standards.
4. Improve science instruction across all grade levels.
 - Teachers will attend science inquiry trainings. Grade level collaboration time will be provided for teachers to develop science units and lessons.