

February 3, 2026

Superintendent's Report





Teddy Bear Clinic



The cutest patients ever checked into the Teddy Bear Clinic at Canyon del Oro High School last week. Preschoolers brought their favorite stuffed friends along for a pretend medical visit in a collaboration of the Early Childhood Education and Sports Medicine programs and the health office. The stuffies visited stations where they received medical attention including triage, vitals checks, an "X-ray" machine, injury wrapping, and even a shot and Band-Aid to finish their treatment. The hands-on collaboration helped little learners feel more comfortable with doctor visits and gave high school students great practice working with young children.



T-Bird Trot



Painted Sky Elementary's annual T-Bird Trot was held last week and was a great success, bringing students and families together for a fun and well-attended community event made even better by beautiful weather.

AVID in Action



Last week, Amphi Middle School students put AVID into action through a powerful service-learning project with Feed My Starving Children, Pantano Christian Church, and The Mighty Mentors. Together, they packaged 45,575 meals that will be sent to children in need around the world. Because of their hard work and heart, 124 children will be fed for an entire year.

Musical Inspiration



Last week, talented musicians from several ensembles of the Amphitheater High School Instrumental Music Program visited La Cima Middle School. Their performances were a powerful showcase of what is possible in high school music and beyond. You could see the excitement and curiosity sparked in our middle schoolers as they imagined their own future in the arts.



New Cougar Day!



New Cougar Day at Coronado K-8 last week was a big success, as fifth-grade students from Coronado, Painted Sky and Innovation Academy spent the day exploring the campus, learning about middle school classes and getting a first look at what middle school life is like.



This is High School

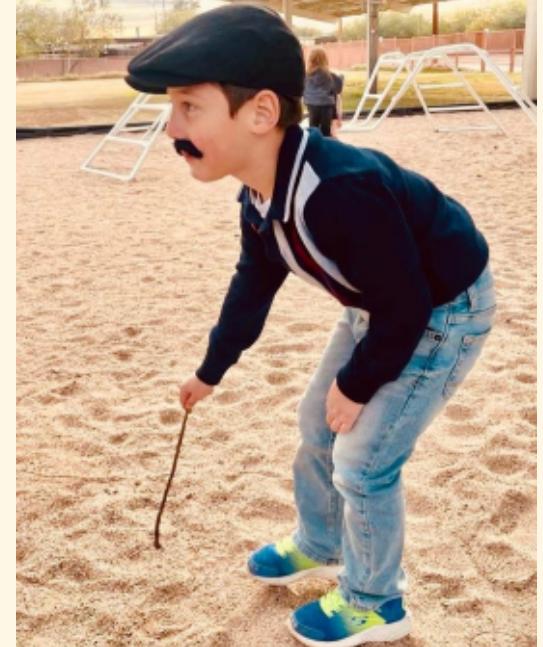


Eighth-grade students had an exciting opportunity to experience what high school can look like during last week's "This Is High School" visit at Ironwood Ridge High School. Students were welcomed by IRHS student leaders, band and cheer, and rotated through hands-on stations highlighting a wide range of Career and Technical Education and fine arts programs. The visit gave students a preview of campus life, academic expectations and the many elective pathways available as they prepare for their transition to high school.





100th Day



Classrooms across the District marked the 100th day of school last month with creativity and plenty of personality to celebrate the milestone and reflect on how much they have learned so far this year.



Academic Decathlon



The Canyon del Oro High School Academic Decathlon team, led by their coach, Chris Yetman, defeated arch-rival Walden Grove High School and 10 other teams to reclaim the 2026 regional championship, returning the title the team held from 2002 through 2024. The team has qualified for the Arizona State Championship in March and will enter the competition as the third seed out of 25 teams. In addition, each team member earned a \$2,000-per-year scholarship to either the University of Arizona or Arizona State University. Congratulations to the entire team on an outstanding achievement.



Voices of Support Event



About 45 families attended the District's first "Voices of Support: Navigating Special Education as a Team" event, participating in presentations focused on the IEP process, postsecondary and adult transitions, college accessibility, employment pathways and family advocacy. Additional sessions addressed behavior supports and twice-exceptional learners, and families connected with local partners during a community resource fair.