



# Vista del Sur Accelerated Academy

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 8

T I G E R P R I D E P O S T

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**February 8**  
Governing Board, 6:00 PM  
Laveen Education Center

**February 19**  
President's Day, NO SCHOOL

**February 20**  
Site Council Meeting, 5:30 PM, &  
PTO Meeting following  
Library

Parent Meeting with the  
Superintendent, 5:30-6:30 PM

**February 21**  
Early Release, 12:00 PM

## Principal's Note

It's already February!

There are a lot of activities to look forward to during the month of February here at Vista del Sur! Our Vista Tiger Athletes start the football and girls basketball season. Our PTO/Site Council meeting will be on February 20, 2018 beginning at 5:30 PM in our library. Remember you can earn volunteer hours.

**Some friendly reminders about our cross walk. Please remember the following:**

- Regardless of the number of lanes in each direction, drivers must observe the "no passing" rule in school zones. In other words, the slowest car controls the speed.
- The speed limit is 15 mph.
- The school zone speed limit is enforced from the first sign you see until you pass the crosswalk, then you may accelerate to the posted speed limit.
- Your front bumper may not pass another vehicle's front bumper until you pass the crosswalk.
- You must stop for children crossing the street



Police officers will issue civil traffic citations to drivers who exceed the 15 mph speed limit.

Sincerely,

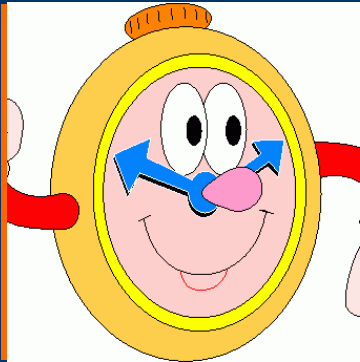
Mrs. Epacs

**Site Council/PTO Meetings and  
Curriculum Night are  
EXCELLENT  
opportunities to earn**



# Volunteer Hours

## Volunteer Hours Update for February 2018



**Total Families: 563**

**Families that have completed their 7 hours 150 (40%)**

**Families with some hours 211 (32%)**

**Families with no hours 202 (28%)**

Families please remember our Vista student/parent handbook states:

**At least one adult from each family that enrolls their child at Vista del Sur Accelerated Academy is expected to volunteer a minimum of seven hours for the school year.**

As a reminder, volunteer hours may be earned at classroom and school functions, as well as things done at home. Failure to complete the expected volunteer hours may result in your student's enrollment to not be renewed for the 2018-2019 school year. Here are just a few ideas to help you get involved at Vista.

- o Classroom help with students or copying
- o Read a book to a class
- o Volunteer with the Walking School Bus
- o Organizing, cutting, etc. school items at home
- o Chaperone field trips
- o Help clean up the cafeteria during breakfast and lunch

Attend Site Council/PTO Meetings on Tuesdays, February 20, 2018, March 20, 2018, and April 17, 2018 @ 5:30 PM in the Vista Library



**Mrs. Jessica Epacs, Principal**  
**Mrs. Megan Hamburgh, Assistant Principal**  
**3908 W. South Mountain Ave.**  
**Laveen, AZ 85339**

**Phone: (602) 237-3046**  
**Attendance: (602) 237-3046 Ext. 3303**  
**Fax: (602) 237-1976**  
**School Hours 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**  
**Office Hours 7:30 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.**

**VISTA DEL SUR**

# What's Happening in Specials?

## Art

This February students will be focusing on applying Elements and Principles of Design that include Texture, Form, and other art vocabulary such as Positive and Negative space.

## Music

Starting the last week of January students began learning all about instruments and how to play them. 2nd grade began learning about instruments and be going on a digital musical safari provided by Carnegie Hall and the Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra. 3rd grade will also be working on an instrument unit where they will be creating their own musical instruments in class and form a jam band to play for younger grade levels. Fourth and Fifth grade are at the midway mark for recorder karate and eager to move onto our next unit which will be Form, in February. Sixth grade is about to start a new unit on Hip Hop pedagogy. Last but not least JR. High is working on Seussical the Musical and will be working on Phantom of the Opera next unit learning songs, choreography, and scenes for reenactment.

## PE

7-8th physical education students are participating in their choice of badminton or volleyball Sixth grade has been playing Harvest Hustle and learning about My Food Pyramid and Plate. Third and Fourth grade are finishing up hockey and will be starting New Games. Kindergarten, first and second are working at stations that combine many skills necessary for locomotor and non-locomotor activities.

## Band

Honor band season is upon us! Our next honor band is Southern Arizona Honor Band on February 10, 2018 at Canyon Del Oro High School in Oro Valley, AZ. Angel Molina, Lauren Salaz, Mia Coronado, Hannah Salaz, Angelina Baca, and Christyanna Wilkinson will be representing us. In January, Mia Coronado and Lauren Salaz did a great job representing Vista at Greater Phoenix Honor Band. Band tutoring is available for honor band and all band students on Tuesday and Thursday mornings before school. Keep practicing. Everyone is sounding fantastic!

## Spanish

Students should be studying at a minimum of 15 minutes each evening. They all have notebooks with precise notes and a word list. Please ask your child to "talk" their homework. If they talk and explain what they are studying about they will practice more. In addition, they may also come up with questions they can ask during class. Helpful tips....check Google Classroom for digital flashcards. There is a way to "prove" an answer - ask your child to show you how they do it. 2nd and 3rd Grade—they're working on personal booklets with their new words and using them in a simple sentence. They'll come home soon.

## Notes from the

### Health Office

Please do not send **ANY** over the counter medication to school with your student!

Check the lost and found often. Items are donated at the end of each month.

## PTO/Site Council Meeting

February 20, 2018

The meetings will begin in the library at 5:30 PM. We look forward to seeing you there!

Remember, this is a great way to earn volunteer hours!

## Gifted News

In January, families from around the district attended the Gifted Family Enrichment Night event, “Stargazing for Everyone.” Families had a great time learning about the winter night sky. It was interesting to learn how the view is different, depending on where you are located in the world. The highlight of the evening was enjoying the views through the four different telescopes.

Spring is a great time for a “family field trip” or “family learning adventure”. We invite parents, to take their children’s learning beyond the classroom and into the home. For example: Post a map on your refrigerator and learn the places and landmarks. Consider a different culture or country to study with your family. How about learning another language this year? Start a “Continent of the Month” exploration - You could start with the largest or the smallest continent and explore all seven continents in seven months. You could create Continent Boxes and gather items to place in each individual box. Items might include: currency, flags, animals, landmarks (man-made and natural), artifacts, postage stamps, etc. Research and try a new spice, vegetable/fruit, recipe or even a candy/sweet enjoyed in another country. As your family enjoys the Winter Olympics, be curious about the other countries who are participating; look up their location, flag, landmarks, etc. Enjoy “Discovering the World” together this spring.

Spring gifted testing is currently underway. The district is utilizing the online version of the CogAT this spring. The rollout of this option has been an easy transition. We look forward to welcoming our new students.

High-achieving seventh and eighth grade students have the opportunity to apply for the Barrett Honors College Summer Scholars Program at Arizona State University this summer. Students who are selected will spend one week on the ASU campus taking classes and learning about college life. Applications are due March 5, 2018. Full scholarships are available. More information and application can be accessed at: <https://eoss.asu.edu/bss/ssp/apply>.