



Desert Sky Middle School

"BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS"

9850 E. Rankin Loop Tucson, AZ 85747

520-879-2700 • dsms.vailschooldistrict.org •

April 19, 2022

Dear Parents,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your child to Desert Sky Middle School! The transition to middle school is a very exciting time for students. As parents, we know that it can also be a little stressful. The purpose of this letter is to welcome you to the Desert Sky community and to share some important information as your child will be a Desert Sky Cougar next year.

At Desert Sky, we are building a community of learners where high standards for academic and behavioral excellence are the norm, and trusting and respectful relationships are nurtured. We believe in providing a variety of learning opportunities for students, including, academics, athletics, and extracurricular activities. We attribute the successes of Desert Sky to our dedicated students, excellent teaching staff, and supportive involved parents.

We will host our 5th grade visitation for your child on Monday, May 9th from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. Students from our feeder schools will walk to Desert Sky, and take a school bus back to their respective campus at 11:00 am. We have a fun morning planned in which students will learn about our campus and programs that we offer. Our goal is for students to leave Desert Sky feeling welcome and excited for the upcoming year. With the help of our awesome 6th grade teachers, we have put together a useful video that will include all of the information you'll need to know about DSMS. A link to the video will be sent to families on Monday, May 9th.

I'd also like to share how team requests are submitted at Desert Sky. We strongly believe that classrooms should be balanced. We also respect the fact that parents may have specific requests for a teaching team who they believe may be a good match for their child. Please keep in mind that the teacher list is tentative and not guaranteed.

Thirty (30) requests will be accepted for 6th grade teaching teams, which consist of two teachers and Forty-Five (45) requests will be accepted for the one 6th grade teaching team consisting of three teachers. The tentative teacher/team list is included in this email. It is important to have a

conversation with your child, explaining that a team request is not a guarantee. Please note that due to advanced math, your child may not receive his/her math instruction from the math teacher on the team you have requested. Please know that we work hard to honor requests and most requests are accommodated.

Team Requests will be accepted between April 25th - April 29th. Only requests submitted during this time frame will be reviewed. If you have any questions, our Assistant Principal, Mrs. Scott is happy to help. She can be reached at scottm@vailschooldistrict.org. Please do not email her your request. The form to submit requests is below.

Teacher/team requests must be submitted using this link (**this link will only be open from Monday, 4/25 - Friday, 4/29**):

[CLICK Here for Request Form](#)

Please be sure to mark your calendar for the upcoming dates.

- Meet the Teacher Open House - July 14th, 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm
- 6th Grade WEB (Where Everybody Belongs) Orientation - July 15th, 8:00 am to 12:00 pm
- First Day of School - July 18th

We look forward to getting to know your child and working with you as partners. GO COUGARS!

Sincerely,

Rebecca Marsh
Principal