

THE DODGE DISPATCH

An "A" School Delivering Excellence in Education, every day! **Grow, Reach, Succeed.**

VOLUME 10 ISSUE #8

NOVEMBER 18, 2013



Dates to Remember:

PAC Meeting 6 pm	11/18
GBB & BVB @ Fickett	11/19
Site Council 4:30 p.m.	11/20
High School Expo 6:30-7:30	11/21
8th Gr Parent Univeristy Night	11/21
AZ Pizza Night	11/21
GBB & BVB vs. Magee @Dodge	11/21
Thanksgiving—NO SCHOOL	11/28-29

THANKSGIVING VACATION!



We will not have classes Thursday and Friday, November 28th & 29th in honor of the Thanksgiving Holiday. I hope that all of our students, parents, teachers, and staff enjoy this time with their families and friends! I am thankful for many things this year and among them are that I have my family and my health and that I have the opportunity to serve as the principal at the finest middle school in Tucson Unified School District. It is an honor and

privilege to work with the outstanding students and their supportive families at Dodge Traditional Magnet Middle School. We have some successes that we need to celebrate this year as we take time to give thanks.

1. Over fifty-two percent of our students were on one of the three honor rolls during the first quarter.
2. We have had great attendance at our Dodge events including: sports programs, Band & Orchestra Concert, Parent University Night, Open House, Parent Teacher Conferences, Community Service Days, and our Fall Carnival.
3. We had a successful Fall Carnival and silent auction for our PAC that raised over \$4,000.00. Thank you to everyone for your help with this event.

DODGE RECRUITMENT

We will hold our second "Why Come to Dodge" event, on Thursday, December 5th in the multipurpose room. This event is held to let potential new-to-Dodge parents know that we are an "A" school with a focus on traditional education. At our last event, Mrs. Lee and Ms. Barsevich, two of the five core teachers, presented information about No Excuses University and our Summer Transition program to our parents, sharing student expectations.

"My country ... gave me schooling, independence of action and opportunity for service...I am indebted to my country beyond any human power to repay."

-Herbert Hoover

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS

We have many individuals, companies and friends to thank for their generous donations to our carnival. We may forget some of you and we apologize ahead of time — let us know. The following individuals made special contributions:

Maggie McKnight — hand made shoe horn / back scratcher with cosmetic case.

The Sohoel-Smith Family — Olympic Swim signed memorabilia.

Kim Spitzer and Marge McFate — Donation of many items and baskets.

Dr. & Mrs. Schulter — hand crafted afghan and stuffed animals.

Julie & Pat Connors — Dinner tickets to the Gaslight Theatre; Mini Time Machine;

Pastiche Eatery.

Many Tucson businesses made contributions including: The Good Egg, Bubany Studios, Yikes Toy Store, Picante, Arizona Sonoran Desert Museum, etc.

Thank you to all of the families who donated items to their child's homebase classroom for the many baskets.



SODA MACHINE FOR SALE



We must dispose of our Pepsi machine because the district has signed a contract with Coke. All district sites must have Coke machines, if they want a soda machine. Our Pepsi machine has been at Dodge as long as the most senior member of the faculty can remember. If you would like to purchase the machine, it will go to the highest bidder and the bidder will be called prior to the next Dispatch. Please provide your information to Mrs. Hubbard or Ms. Emrich in the office 731-4100. We will close the bidding on Friday, December 6, 2013. The money collected will go to PAC for the Dodge community. This is a great machine for keeping sodas, please place your bid.

FOOD DRIVE

Dodge families, the Builders' Club is sponsoring our participation in the Community Food Bank Drive to help those in need. If you are able to help, please have your child bring non-perishable foods to be given to the Community Food Bank prior to winter break; you will be helping those in need to have a healthier winter break. All donations should be cans, bags or boxes, please no glass containers. We will collect non-perishables until December 19, 2013.



DODGE SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR



You might want to check out the Book Fair happening the week of November 18th-22nd. This annual event provides an opportunity for your child to get a great book and help out Dodge at the same time. Last year we made almost \$3000 with the purchases made on-line and the items purchased at the school. When the chairman of the Book Fair purchases the books from Scholastic at one of their sales, the number of books we can buy for the school doubles.

The students will have opportunities to go and view the Book Fair during the week and can purchase books, posters, bookmarks, etc. during the day. Perhaps you could ask your child what some of their interests are and purchase the books to give them for one of the many holidays coming up. Books are key in building vocabulary and seeing different author's styles. If you are unsure about a specific book, ask your child's language arts/reading teacher, who knows your child well.

Many of the staff put together a wish list of items that they would like for their classrooms, so if you would like to help with purchasing these items please check their wish lists at the Book Fair. If you can't purchase the entire item, you could contribute to that teacher.



November 18th – 22nd, 2013

8:30am – 4:00pm

COUNSELOR COFFEE



The Second Quarter Coffee was held on November 15th and I really appreciated those of you who took the time to come and listen, share, and discuss our middle schoolers. The focus of this coffee was the need to have families continue to develop their communication with their children– modeling for the purpose of eye contact and relationship building.

During a presentation televised on the Bill Moyer show, Sherry Turkle, noted psychologist, related her research on technology and today's concerns with instant feedback. It is a growing concern that we are losing our ability to communicate with each other unless we have a device. You might want to view this presentation: <http://billmoyers.com/segments/sherry-turkle-on-being-alone-together/>

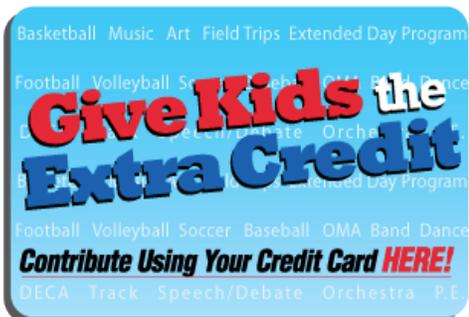
During third quarter, I will change the format of the coffee because I would like to meet with the 8th grade parents to discuss the results from the ACT/Explore assessment that the students took in October. This is the fourth year that Dodge students have had the opportunity to take this assessment and use this information. I will use the Dispatch and the email blast to let parents know when we will have this meeting.

I am in my fourteenth year at Dodge and I continue to click my heels because of this awesome school, the families and the staff at Dodge. I believe that we are so successful because of the work we all do to help our middle schoolers succeed. As second quarter is halfway over, please remind your middle schooler that there is still much work to do before winter break. And, I want to remind everyone that my door is always open, though I usually teach all day on Wednesdays. I provide my curriculum to the students on these Wednesdays. If you need to contact me please use my email donna.sanders@tusd1.org or you may reach me by phone 731-4118. Donna Sanders

MANDATORY TUTORIAL

Our teachers continue to provide mandatory tutorial for students who earned one or more F's on their progress report. The IKE retention policy states that students must pass mathematics, language arts, either Science or Social Studies, and one other class for the year in order to promote to the next grade level. I am concerned about our students who continue to remain on the failures list with multiple F's despite the opportunities provided by teachers to improve their grades. Procrastination about this situation means that a student may wait until it is no longer possible to bring their failing grade to a passing level. I would like to thank Mrs. Livingston and our other teachers who have volunteered their time to help students. If your child is in danger of being retained please have a conversation with your child about the seriousness of this situation.

TAX CREDIT DONATION



We are quickly coming to the end of the first semester and it is time for us to begin collecting Tax Credit Donations. I need the help of each and every one of you to ensure that we will be able to continue to support Dodge students with the programs they need. I am going to ask for each of you to **do three things** to help support the Dodge Middle School Tax Credit Program.

1. **Make your own Tax Credit Donation.** I will make my donation and we need everyone else to make one as well. You can donate \$200.00 as an individual and \$400.00 as a married couple to Dodge Traditional Magnet Middle School by December 31, 2013 and get it back on your Arizona State Income Tax. You can mail a check or go to the Dodge website to pay by credit card.
2. **Ask two relatives to make their donation to Dodge Traditional Magnet Middle School.** I have requested donations from my family members to support Dodge. Talk to your parents, brothers, sisters, neighbors and put out the word that Dodge needs Tax Credit money to pay for Sports equipment, field trips, and our summer school program. We can use our excess Tax Credit money to buy soft capital items like books and computers, but we need to raise the money.
3. **Mail out three letters requesting a donation from people in the Tucson Community.** We will be soliciting from the Tucson Community to help with our fundraising effort. We need to find good address lists to use for our solicitation. If you can help in this effort please contact me at 731-4100. I will provide more information in the very near future. Our goal is to raise \$30,000.00 in Tax Credit donations this year. **Please help us help the Dodge students by supporting us with your Tax Credit donations.**

TUSD Administration

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Dr. Morado—Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Leadership

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