

Mountain Sky Junior High School

Christina Lee, Principal
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Principal’s Message

Every Student Deserves a Team!

We have been presented with some challenges but with the support of parents and staff, we were able to ensure a safe environment for our

students and staff. The lesson is if you hear something, say something. It has been a pleasure being the principal in this community the last three weeks. I’ve been impressed with our teachers as they are jumping into the curriculum, aligning to district expectations and my expectations, and working as a team. They are working with their grade level team tackling minor behaviors and working with their content area teams planning to ensure every student is getting quality instruction and care. Please set aside some time to talk to your children about school safety and the importance of reporting anything they may hear or see that could put our campus at risk.

We also have a responsibility to educate our students about things that should never be said at school or about a school that puts students, staff and the community at risk. Sometimes students do not realize the severity of making a threatening comment and will brush it off as they were joking. It is important as parents to have these conversations at home. Mountain Sky and the WESD take comments of a threatening nature very seriously. Parents can help by having conversations with their children about certain threatening statements that should never be said at school and if their child hears something of a threatening nature, they need to report it. We appreciate your support and collaboration to provide a safe environment for Mountain Sky.

Updates and Information

Staffing

On Monday, Ms. Reyes will join us as the .5 ELA teacher and work with our temporary sub who has been here since day one. We thank Ms. Clark for maintaining the three classes she’s been covering while we work on finding a permanent person.

We have made the recommendation to hire a .5 choir teacher. We have submitted all the requirements and are waiting on the District to finalize and provide us a start date. We appreciate the patience and understanding as we have been working diligently to get someone in that role as we want to continue and grow our choir program.

Schedule Changes

Since we are heading into week four and quickly approaching progress reports, we will no longer be making any schedule changes. Students need consistency and we have a responsibility to maintain their regular schedules moving forward to build a sense of community with the teachers and students within their teams.

Student IDs

Students are required to wear them on the front of their person, whether it is by a lanyard or in another way that keeps it on the front of their shirt, so it is visible to all staff members at all times. Students who forget their ID will get a temporary ID. Temporary IDs do need to be returned. However, students that continually forget their IDs will be charged \$2 for a new one and given consequences for not being responsible with the requirement. Consequences will start to be put in place for students who are forgetting their IDs weekly. We will contact parents and arrange for before or after-school detentions as needed.

Tardies

Students should know their schedules at this point. The schoolwide expectation is that students must be in their classrooms by the end of the last bell. At this point, students should no longer be tardy to their classes. Students who are being documented for multiple tardies throughout the week or even within one day will receive parent contact and potential consequences of before or after-school detention. Please remind them that their priority is to get from class to class and not stop to socialize during passing. Students can do that before school, at lunch and after school.

Please don’t hesitate to reach out if you have questions. Thank you for another wonderful week!

Always,

Christina Lee, Principal



PE class now will offer a great new learning experience with lots of fun and movement with our new ping pong unit.

Thank you Mr. Meyer for building **ALL 12** tables—looking forward to some great fun in class this year!

Gifted Services

Fall Testing:

The Washington Elementary School District provides a continuum of services for students identified as gifted. If you feel your child demonstrates the traits of a gifted learner, please complete the online screening form found on the Gifted Services website ([Gifted test referral K-8](#)) or contact your child’s teacher. A description of gifted services is provided on the district website as well. Feel free to call or email the WESD Coordinator of Gifted Services, Dr. Rowe Van Meter, with any questions you may have (rowe.vanmeter@wesdschools.org /602-347-2651). The gifted teacher on your campus can also provide testing and information on gifted services.

Be Present, Be Powerful!

September is Attendance Awareness Month, which is a time of the year to highlight the importance that daily school attendance has on children’s success. To help us celebrate, we encourage you to help your child build a habit of good attendance this month and all school year long! This year’s attendance campaign theme is Be Present, Be Powerful – and your child can be both by showing up to school every day, even when it is not easy. Remember, absences add up and each day a student is absent is a lost opportunity for learning.

These tips can help you ensure your child builds a habit of good attendance:

- set a regular bedtime and morning routine for your child;
- lay out your child’s clothes and pack their backpack the night before;
- keep your child healthy by ensuring they receive their required vaccines; and
- schedule appointments and family vacations after school hours, on the weekends or during school breaks.

Let’s be present and powerful each day, and make attendance a priority this school year! We appreciate your support!



The Washington Elementary School District in partnership with The State of Arizona’s Attorney General’s Office, The Barbell Saves Project and Substance Awareness Coalition Leaders in Arizona present a Substance Awareness Presentation. This presentation is **FREE** to all families and is offered to provide a history and misunderstandings surrounding the use of substances, the most up-to-date research regarding health and substances, legal parameters for selling and manufacturing drugs and violation of legal guidance in advertising to young people. Presentation is recommended for grades 5 and up. **September 12, 2024 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. MSJH Library**

Become a School Volunteer

Volunteers provide a tremendous service for the students and staff of the Washington Elementary School District, and the District encourages volunteer participation in its schools. If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering, please visit the WESD Volunteer Opportunities web page for more information and to complete an application.

Receive Important Phone Calls, Texts and Emails Via Finals

Did you know that we use Finals, a mass notification system, to notify parents of emergencies and important updates? These notifications are typically sent via phone call, text and email. If you previously opted out of receiving these notifications and would like to continue receiving them, please follow the instructions below.

- Phone calls: Call the Finals Phone Hotline at “855-502-STOP (855-502-7867)” from the phone line that has been opted out.
- Text (SMS) messages: Reply START to “60680” from the phone line that has been opted out for text messages.
- Emails: Find the email you received from Finals when you previously unsubscribed and click the link in the email to resubscribe. The email subject should be: “Unsubscribed from WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT”. If you need assistance, please email wesdcommserv@wesdschools.org.

Join us for **Chipotle Restaurant Night Sept. 10**
from 5:00-9:00 p.m. See you there!
Use HZXAJY9 for online / app orders



Join us to support our sports teams this fall!

Activity Card \$20—gets you into every game!
Tickets \$2
Adults
\$1 Students (4-8 grade)

Free grade 3 & younger.

*Girls Soccer games played at LOM

VB & Soccer games played at THS Sept. 23— see you there!

Cross-Country Meets:

- Sept. 27
- Oct. 15
- Nov. 8

GIRLS / BOYS VOLLEYBALL *							
DATE	Teams			Teams			Bye
9/5	DF	@	CH	MS	@	RP	PV
9/9	MS	@	PV	RP	@	CH	DF
9/10	MS	@	CH	DF	@	PV	RP
9/12	PV	@	CH	RP	@	DF	MS
9/16	MS	@	DF	PV	@	RP	CH
9/17	CH	@	DF	RP	@	MS	PV
9/19	PV	@	MS	CH	@	RP	DF
9/23	CH	@	MS	PV	@	DF	RP
9/24	CH	@	PV	DF	@	RP	MS
9/26	RP	@	PV	DF	@	MS	CH
	TOURNAMENT @ RP & DF						
9/30	4v5	@	RP	2v3	@	DF	
10/1	1v4/5	@	DF				
	* Order of play - Boys, 7 Girls, 8 Girls						
10/3	All	@	DF	Championships			
5-6 Regional Tournaments 9/23 - 10/3							
9/23,24 @ CH, 9/25,26 @ DF,							
9/30,10/1 @ MS, 10/2,4 @ PV							

GIRLS SOCCER						
DATE	Teams			Teams		Bye
9/12	PV	@	CH	RP	@	DF
9/16	MS	@	DF	PV	@	RP
9/17	CH	@	DF	RP	@	MS
9/19	PV	@	MS	CH	@	RP
9/23	CH	@	MS	PV	@	DF
9/24	CH	@	PV	DF	@	RP
9/26	RP	@	PV	DF	@	MS
9/30	DF	@	CH	MS	@	RP
10/1	MS	@	PV	RP	@	CH
10/3	MS	@	CH	DF	@	PV
TOURNAMENT @ RP & PV						
10/14	4v5	@	PV	2v3	@	RP
10/15	1v4/5	@	RP			
All Games 4:45						
10/17	All	@	RP	Championships		



SOAR Matrix

	Classroom	Hallways	Office/ Health Office	Bathroom	Cafeteria	Field
Safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Control your body, voice, and objects• Use technology items as intended for the class	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Walking with a purpose• Control your body, voice, and objects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintain school security• Control your body, voice, and objects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wait your turn• Control your body, voice, and objects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stay in seat until dismissed• Control your body, voice, and objects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stay in designated areas• Be aware of activities around you• Control your body, voice, and objects
Organized	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have materials out and prepared for class• Student planner is filled out	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plan and follow your route• Keep walkways clear	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Travel to and from your destination right away• Be prepared: Wear ID and have pass visible	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complete sign-out procedures• Clean up after yourself	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collect trash and throw it away• Follows lines and times	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep belongings where you can see them• Put equipment away
Accountable	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Correctly use materials and classroom property• Be an active student	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Go to your destination right away• Be prepared: Wear ID and have pass visible	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be aware of people around you• Be honest	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Flush, wash, dry, goodbye• Quickly return to your previous location	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wear ID's• Clean up after yourself and your area	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Own your mistakes• Clean up after yourself
Respectful	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use appropriate and kind language• Listen to others without interrupting and disrupting• Accept different opinions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use appropriate and kind language• Honor the space and wishes of others	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Listen to others without interrupting or disrupting• Only share information that is yours• Enter quietly and patiently wait your turn	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep your hands, eyes, and phones to yourself• Honor the space• Use appropriate and kind language	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Listen to directions• Take care of your cafeteria space• Use appropriate and kind language	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Play fair• Follow directions• Use appropriate and kind language