

CHAPARRAL



//// FIREBIRD FLASH ////

Dear Firebird Families,

Week 2 of the 22-23 school year is in the books! Classes are in full swing, with teachers teaching and students learning. I've been able to visit just about every classroom at least once and am pleased to report that students seem happy to be here and ready to pursue excellence!

You may know that last year we revamped the school's vision, mission, and values statements. I am attaching those statements to this message, but the most important take-away is a commitment to our core values. Appropriately, they start with the letters C, H, A, and P. In everything we do this year - staff or students - we will strive to embody the values of: **Compassion, Honesty, Agility, and Perseverance**. I am confident that instilling these values in our school community will lead Chaparral to even greater heights!

Finally, I want to remind everyone that this year we are celebrating Chaparral's 50th Anniversary. Throughout the year we will try to recognize current and former students and employees who have done or are doing great things! We are also planning to recognize some special guests at the homecoming football game on September 30, so stay tuned!

Please never hesitate to reach out to your teachers or the office when you have questions or need something. We are happy to help, and our doors are [almost] always open! Again, welcome back, and we hope you have a great year! Below you'll find some important information/reminders and a short list of upcoming important dates.

Sincerely,
Joshua Pantier, Principal

Enrollment numbers and Staffing

Our enrollment numbers are starting to settle down. Currently we have about 2100 students on campus - the senior class is the largest at about 600, while the others are right around 500 each. As you may be aware, we started the school year with three teaching vacancies (Art, English, and Biology). The English teacher we had lined up backed out, but the art teacher is still working through the HR process. Biology is also still an area of need - if you know anyone with a science or English degree who might be interested in teaching, please have them reach out to me!

Performing Arts

Among other events that will be held throughout the year for band, choir, and dance, the theater department has the following shows planned: Dracula (main stage - fall), A Monster Calls (Black Box - winter), and Into the Woods (main stage - spring). Please come out and support our students as they showcase their talents!

Athletics

Chaparral athletics is off to an excellent start and looking forward to a great year. Coaches and athletes have been working hard to prepare for the upcoming season. Fall sports are football, volleyball, badminton, golf, and cross country. We look forward to the competitive level of excellence that Chaparral is accustomed to in athletics. Homecoming week is September 26th-30th with the homecoming football game on Friday, September 30th against Mountain View. Please come and support our teams as we cheer them on to victory!

The Chaparral Athletics Website is: <https://www.susd.org/Page/5377>

All tickets this year are sold through GoFan. Download the app and purchase your ticket(s) before arriving. We will check you in at the gate/door using your smartphone. Tickets **cannot** be purchased at the gate using cash.

*** SUSD is implementing a bag policy for athletic events. Please see the attached photo/graphic. SUSD also plans on having staff at the sites to perform bag checks at the entrances to athletic events.

Club Rush

Club Rush is being held during lunch on August 16th and 17th. Both new and re-charted clubs are welcome to set up a table to advertise their group and attract new members. Club officers should check with StuGo or Ms. Arnold/Ms. Bird in the front office to reserve a space.

Back-to-School/Meet the Teacher

Please see the attachment that contains Meet the Teacher Night information. Meet the Teacher Night is Wednesday, August 17th, starting with first period at 5:30pm. Please make sure you can log into ParentVue on your smartphone to view your student's schedule, or have your student send you a screenshot.

Student Advisory Board

The Student Advisory Board (SAB) is a district-wide committee of high school students that meets throughout the year to find ways to best support the mission, vision, and values of SUSD and improve the district overall. Students meet with each other and district administrators to brainstorm ideas, and sometimes make presentations to the governing board. If your student is interested in serving on the SAB, they should email Mr. Pantier jpantier@susd.org to get an application. Applications are due to Mr. Pantier by August 26.

Attendance

Please see the attached letter with important information regarding attendance for the 2022-2023 school year. Note the important changes to “excused” versus “unexcused” absences. Any absence without a state-approved reason will be considered unexcused.

PSAT

The PSAT is scheduled for Tuesday, October 25, 2022 for all Sophomores. Sophomores will be registered automatically, and no further action is needed. If your Junior student would like to take the PSAT, there is a registration and fee that needs to be completed through our Touchbase system: <https://az-scottsdale.intouchrecepting.com/> to be eligible to take the test. **The deadline for Juniors to sign up and pay the fee is Friday, September 9th, 2022.**

Parking

This is a reminder that students can only park on campus if they have a valid Chaparral parking permit. Students must park in their assigned spots. Parking violators will be tagged and given a consequence. Sophomores and Juniors who park on campus without a permit **will be removed from their senior lottery**. It is possible that additional spots will open up to seniors this year. As they do, we will communicate with individual families to make them aware.

Drop off/pick up

Please use the main drop-off lane on the east side of the campus, entering from 70th street. The bus lane off Gold Dust is for staff parking and buses only. Please try to get here about 5 minutes earlier than you have been so that we can get all students in classrooms before the late bell. Many students are entering the gate late, and we will soon begin locking the gates at 7:45am. Students who are tardy will need to go around to the front office (Gold Dust side) to sign in.

Yearbook Photos and Picture ID Day

August 22nd will be yearbook photo day for grades 9-11 and picture ID day for grades 9-12. Seniors must be photographed in studio by GRADs Photography in order to be included in the yearbook. Student IDs will not activity passes and early release. The deadline for Seniors is December 8th. Time slots fill up, so don't delay!

Doors, IDs, and Gates

SUSD, as a whole, is making a strong push to increase student safety this year by focusing on doors, IDs, and gates. We want our campus to be secure from outside threats, and we want to be able to quickly identify those people on campus who are students, staff, or visitors. To that end, student IDs will be required to be worn starting August 22nd (Picture and ID Day). Students will be taking photos and getting IDs that day, and they will be expected to wear them at all times while on campus. Please do what you can at home to encourage consistent wearing of IDs as we navigate this new norm for Chaparral. We appreciate your help!

StudentVue/ParentVue Info

Classwork, homework, and assessments have begun. You can keep up with your student's grades by checking the grade book in the ParentVue app. As always, please reach out to teachers immediately if you are concerned or feel that your student needs assistance.

Extra Help Options

Several of our departments have extra help options, so don't procrastinate when it comes to getting help for your student. The math department will soon have a schedule for before school, lunch, and after school tutoring. Guidance counselor Ms. Rold holds a peer tutoring session every Tuesday after school in the library starting August 23rd. Guidance counselors also have a database of tutors who might be helpful, but the first option should always be help from your student's teacher.

Dates:

Tuesday, August 16:	Club Rush (lunch)
Wednesday, August 17:	Club Rush (lunch)
Wednesday, August 17:	Back-to-School/Meet the Teacher Night
Monday, August 22:	Yearbook Photo and Picture ID Day
Wednesday, August 31:	Early Release (12:20pm)
Friday, September 9:	Deadline for Juniors to pay for PSAT
Friday, September 30:	Homecoming Game vs. Mesa Mtn. View
Tuesday, October 25:	Late Start for PSAT

Attachments:

Back-to-School Night
Attendance Policies
V/M/V
Bag Policy