

# Superintendent's Snapshot

## MARICOPA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

October 25, 2024

Dear MUSD Families,

The Arizona Department of Education released the **preliminary Arizona school letter grades for our district after business hours today**. These results highlight the collective efforts of our staff, students, and parents, and provide an opportunity to acknowledge our achievements as we focus on continued growth.

### SUMMARY OF LETTER GRADES

#### Grade A

- **Santa Cruz Elementary School**

#### Grade B

- **Butterfield Elementary School**
- **Pima Butte Elementary School**
- **Saddleback Elementary School** (*Grade Under Appeal*)
- **Santa Rosa Elementary School**
- **Maricopa High School**

#### Grade C

- **Maricopa Wells Middle School**
- **Maricopa Virtual Academy**
- **Desert Sunrise High School** (*Grade Under Appeal*)

#### Grade D

- **Maricopa Elementary School** (*Grade Under Appeal*)
- **Desert Wind Middle School** (*Grade Under Appeal*)

### REFLECTING ON ACHIEVEMENTS

At **Santa Cruz Elementary School**, earning an A grade demonstrates the exceptional work of our students and teachers. **Saddleback Elementary School's** improvement from a C to a B shows how everyone's contributions can lead to meaningful progress. Additionally, **Maricopa Virtual Academy's** rise from a D to a C highlights the success of our virtual learning community and the dedication of both students and teachers adapting to new ways of learning.

### STEADY PROGRESS

Schools such as **Santa Rosa Elementary**, **Maricopa High School**, and **Maricopa Wells Middle School** have maintained their grades, reflecting the steady efforts of students, staff, and parents. Their consistent performance highlights the everyday engagement and perseverance in our classrooms.

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH

We acknowledge that **Butterfield Elementary**, **Pima Butte Elementary**, and **Maricopa Elementary** have seen changes in their letter grades, and we are committed to supporting these schools as they work to regain their previous levels of excellence. Separately, we are currently appealing the grades for **Maricopa Elementary**, **Saddleback Elementary**, **Desert Sunrise High School**, and **Desert Wind Middle School** to ensure that the evaluations accurately reflect the efforts and progress within our schools. These results encourage us to reflect on factors influencing them, such as teacher experience and evolving educational standards. Despite these challenges, our classrooms remain vibrant places where dedicated educators and enthusiastic students collaborate daily to improve.

As we move forward, I want to express my gratitude for your continued support. Our schools' letter grades provide a snapshot of our progress, but they never fully capture the daily dedication and hard work taking place in our classrooms. We are proud of the achievements reflected in our improved grades at schools like **Santa Cruz Elementary**, **Saddleback Elementary**, and **Maricopa Virtual Academy**. At the same time, we recognize there's always room for growth. With the focused efforts of our talented staff and the involvement of our parents, we are confident we will continue to see improvements across all our schools.

Thank you for choosing MUSD.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Tracey Lopeman, Superintendent  
Maricopa Unified School District

