

February 25, 2025

Dear Cave Creek Unified School District Families,

Last night, our Governing Board made the difficult decision to reconsider their February 11, 2025 decision and voted to close Lone Mountain Elementary School effective for the 2025-2026 school year. Lone Mountain Elementary School students will be rezoned to attend Black Mountain Elementary School. We understand this decision for the 2025-2026 school year brings significant change to our community and has taken its toll on everyone. We look forward to bringing our community back together with time and our common goal to provide the best experience for all our students as they navigate their path to graduation. If there is anything we can do to support our students, families, and staff, please feel free to reach out to us.

This decision was not made lightly. The driving factor is the desire to use our limited financial resources to deliver exceptional comprehensive school experiences for all our students. This decision allows our schools to have well rounded programming to both support and promote the academic growth, physical growth, artistic growth, and mental health of all our students.

For the remainder of this school year, there will be no changes to our schools, classrooms, schedules, or transportation. We are truly blessed to have such dedicated staff members at each school. Our teachers and staff will continue to deliver the exceptional educational experience that defines Cave Creek Unified School District, and we will focus on finishing the year strong.

While both Desert Sun and Lone Mountain families have been rezoned to specific schools, our families are welcome to enroll in any of our elementary schools. Our highest priority is making this transition as smooth and positive as possible for our students and families. To that end, we invite you to attend open houses throughout this week to meet the school leaders and get a feel for each campus. Black Mountain's open house is Wednesday from 5:00-6:30 pm, Horseshoe Trails' open house is Thursday from 5:00-6:30 pm, and Desert Willow's open house is Friday from 4:00-5:00 pm. We will provide additional details about transition plans, including school tours and welcoming activities to ensure our students, families and staff feel comfortable and supported. We believe your child and family will find a great community looking forward to welcoming your energy and passion joining with theirs to make our schools both stronger and great places to learn and grow.

We know change is challenging, and that change also brings new opportunities. We believe this community will unite to create better futures for all students. We are committed to supporting our students, families, and staff throughout this process. The true strength of our community lies in our ability to come together, and we are confident that, together, we will create even stronger and more vibrant school communities along with an even brighter future for our children.

Moving Forward Together,



Bill Dolezal
Superintendent