



WAW GIWULK HA-MAMŞCAMKUD CEKSAÑ NEWSLETTER

Our Mission

Our students will be loved, encouraged, and prepared to take on the world by embracing our Himdag.

A MESSAGE FROM SUPERINTENDENT DÍAZ

Dear BUSD Family,

As we wrap up the third quarter and start the fourth quarter of the academic year, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for the dedication and perseverance demonstrated by each member of our school community. Together, we continue to overcome challenges, embrace change by creating new systems in place, and continue to prioritize the success and well-being of our Baboquivari Unified School District students.

As we move forward, I encourage each of you to embrace the spirit of "aim higher" and "finish the year strong." This message projects our BUSD collective commitment to continuous improvement and unwavering determination. Let us set our sights high, push our boundaries, and strive for excellence in every endeavor.

I want to express my deepest appreciation to all departments for their tireless efforts in supporting our schools. Your hard work behind the scenes ensures that our teachers and students have access to the resources and opportunities they need to thrive.

To our esteemed teachers, I commend you for your commitment to student achievement. Your passion, expertise, and dedication play a pivotal role in solidifying the foundations for our students' future success. Your impact extends far beyond the classroom, shaping the minds and hearts of the next generation in the Tohono O'odham Nation.

To our students, please continue showing the best version of yourselves each day. Stay focused, stay engaged, and stay committed in your classes. As we approach the Arizona State Testing in April, remember that your efforts matter. Approach each assessment with confidence, knowing that you have prepared diligently and that you are capable of achieving great things.

Together, let us rise to the occasion, meet challenges head-on, and emerge stronger than ever before. **Let's be bold in our aspirations, be brave in the face of adversity, and be BUSD** - a community united in purpose and passion.

Thank you for your dedication, resilience, and commitment to excellence. Together, there is no limit to what we can achieve.

Let's be Bold, Be Brave, and Be BUSD.

IN THIS ISSUE

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION
FOR 20+ YEARS

MESSAGE TO CLASS OF
2024

GOVERNING BOARD
OFFICERS

TRANSPORTATION
UPDATE

STATE TESTING

SUPPORTS AVAILABLE
FOR FAMILIES

CELL PHONES & VAPING

CELEBRATIONS





On behalf of the BUSD Family, we want to extend our appreciation to all of our staff serving our students and the community in different capacities.

This quarter, we especially want to thank members of our staff that have served BUSD over 20 years. Their contribution, service, and commitment continue to build a learning environment for this generation and future generations.

All employees with 20+ years of service were awarded the Himdag Award at February's Governing Board meeting for their commitment and dedication to BUSD.

Each employee was gifted with a special certificate and a customized coffee mug that was created by Aggie Hart, Director of Family & Community Engagement.

BUSD thanks you for all of your years of service.

EMPLOYEES WITH 20+ YEARS OF SERVICE TO BUSD

MICHAEL JUAN, BHS
42 years

ROZANNE LEJERO, FOOD SERVICE
39 years

JOSEPH MEASE, BMHS
36 years

CYNTHIA WILSON, TRANSPORTATION
26 years

LOIS LEJERO, IOIS
26 years

PAMELA PANCHO, BMS
24 years

JANECE HENDRICKS, IOIS
23 years

DR. JANICE PETTIGREW, DISTRICT OFFICE
21 years

GERALDINE PABLO, TRANSPORTATION
21 years

KENNETH WILSON, BMS
20 years

Thank you



Superintendent Mid-Year Message to the Class of 2024

Dear Class of 2024,

We are only a few months away from honoring your commitment, efforts, and determination during your high school years!

Continue to be focused and finish your year strong. This next step and accomplishment will empower you and open the doors for military enlistment, a technical career, or enrollment at a junior college or university.

Your loved ones and BUSD family believe in you and we encourage you to continue to show the best version of yourselves all the way to the finishing line. We will be ready to celebrate your success.

Be Brave, Be Bold, Be BUSD!

"You didn't come this far to only come this far. Dig deep. Finish strong and make yourself proud."

Gary Ryan Blair

BUSD GOVERNING BOARD OFFICERS

In January 2024, our Governing Board held an organizational meeting to nominate and elect new board officers for the 2024 calendar year. Please join us in congratulating:

Mr. Juan Buendia, President
Ms. Kathleen Vance, Board Clerk

We wish them a year of success in leading and representing our Governing Board and advocating for our Baboquivari Unified School District Community.

Board President, Juan Buendia



Board Clerk, Kathleen Vance



THE NEW BUSES HAVE ARRIVED!!!

During the Spring 2023 semester, we responded to the community recommendations by making our Transportation Department a priority.

At that time, we committed to purchasing 2 new buses each school year with the goal of replacing as many old units as possible over the next couple of years beginning the 2024-2025 school year.

As of February 2024, we have invested in **THREE** new buses and has the intention of securing a fourth bus by the end of this school year!

The new buses are already on the road! They easily identified currently because they do not yet have our district name on the side! These three units have been selected for their large capacity, air conditioning, and type of engine suitable for our terrain.

We are still a long way from replacing all the old units without air conditioning, but we are already ahead of our replacement schedule and we remain committed to making these changes happen.

Thank you all for your support, flexibility, and patience as we address the needs of our transportation department!



LETTER GRADES & STATE TESTING

Our Baboquivari Middle and High School students along with the BUSD staff increased the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) letter grade rating from “F” (BMS)/“D” (BHS) to both “Cs” during the 2023-2024 school year. Their hard work paid off by setting a new bar for all of our schools and students this school year.

Congratulations students, staff, and parents for valuing education and expecting more from our students and our staff.

This rating is based on multiple domains including, but not limited to:

1. The percentage of students present taking the test
2. The percentage of students demonstrating academic growth
3. The percentage of students reaching the “proficiency” academic level
4. Graduation Rate
5. Performance on the ACT

During this time we ask that you:

1. Ensure students have set schedules so that they can have enough time to sleep and rest each night.
2. Ensure students are in school every day and that students do not get check out early
3. Offer a space for students to express their concerns about testing. Spend some time to let them know that you believe in them. Ask students how they feel about their test each day.
4. Remind students of the importance of school, learning, and test taking.

Let’s continue to work together to ensure all of our schools reach a rating of “A”.

Test Prep Tips for Home

1

Get Plenty of Rest

Be sure you get a good night’s rest the day before testing so you are fully rested and able to focus on doing your very best on the test!

2

Eat a Healthy Breakfast

Having a healthy and filling breakfast will help you have better concentration, more energy, and brain function.

3

Be On Time Every Day

Attendance is always important! For testing days, it is especially important that you are present when testing sessions begin.

4

Think Positive Thoughts

We know testing can be stressful. But, all we really want is for you to do the best that you can do! So, believe in yourself and give it your best effort!





PRIMARY CAMPUS

State Testing Schedule



AASA WRITING

3rd Grade Only



AASA READING, PART 1 & MATH PART 1

3rd Grade Only



AASA READING, PART 2 & MATH PART 2

3rd Grade Only



AASA ORAL READING FLUENCY

3rd Grade Only

**YOU CAN
DO HARD
THINGS**





INTERMEDIATE CAMPUS

State Testing Schedule

**MAR
26**

AZSCI
5th Grade Only

**APR
2**

AASA WRITING
4th, 5th and 6th Grades

**APR
3**

AASA READING, PART 1
4th, 5th and 6th Grades

**APR
4**

AASA READING, PART 2
4th, 5th and 6th Grades

**APR
9**

AASA MATH, PART 1
4th, 5th and 6th Grades

**APR
10**

AASA MATH, PART 2
4th, 5th and 6th Grades

BELIEVE
in
YOURSELF

YOU Can
Do THIS

Actually
YOU CAN



BABOQUIVARI MIDDLE SCHOOL

State Testing Schedule



**MAR
28**

AZSCI

8th Grade Only



**APR
2**

AASA WRITING

7th & 8th Grade



**APR
3**

AASA MATH PART 1 & 2

7th & 8th Grade



**APR
4**

AASA READING PART 1 & 2

7th & 8th Grade

**You
got
this**

**Think
positive**

**Do
your
best**



BABOQUIVARI HIGH SCHOOL

State Testing Schedule



ACT
11th Grade Only



AZSCI
11th Grade Only



ACT ASPIRE, PART 1
9th Grade Only



ACT ASPIRE, PART 2
9th Grade Only

Hustle

*YOUR
POTENTIAL
IS ENDLESS*

Focus



INDIAN OASIS MIDDLE SCHOOL

State Testing Schedule

**MAR
25**

AZSCI
8th Grade Only

**APR
2**

AASA WRITING
7th & 8th Grade

**APR
3**

AASA READING, PART 1
7th & 8th Grade

**APR
4**

AASA READING, PART 2
7th & 8th Grade

**APR
9**

AASA MATH, PART 1
7th & 8th Grade

**APR
10**

AASA MATH, PART 2
7th & 8th Grade

**NEVER
GIVE UP**

**GO
FOR IT**

**YOU ARE
CAPABLE**



INDIAN OASIS HIGH SCHOOL

State Testing Schedule



**MAR
25**

AZSCI

11th Grade Only



**MAR
26**

ACT

11th Grade Only



**APR
1**

ACT ASPIRE

9th Grade Only

**BELIEVE
IN YOU**



**MINDSET
IS
EVERYTHING**

SUPPORTS AVAILABLE FOR FAMILIES



Join our **FREE** Family Workshops!!!

Each month, BUSD collaborates with The Cook Foundation to offer our families workshops on various topics.

You can participate in these workshops in-person at the BUSD District Office or virtually from 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. on the scheduled dates.

The sessions are open to ALL members of the community.

Take a look at the upcoming workshops, mark your calendar, and join us:

- **Wed., Feb. 28th:** "Compassionate Parenting and Self-Compassion"
- **Wed., March 27th:** "Social Media: Protecting Your Child"
- **Wed., April 24th:** "Recognizing What's Wrong"
- **Wed., May 15th:** "De-Escalating Cycles of Conflict"

For more information or to register, contact Ann Corden at acorden@busd40.org, call (520) 719-1200 or, check out our Babo Facebook Page.

We look forward to seeing you!

CELL PHONES & VAPING

Our students are facing major distractions that prevent them from being present and focused at school. The school years are an investment that builds a foundation so that our future generation has a stronger chance to be successful after they graduate from high school.

Our students' young minds get easily stimulated with alerts coming in through their cell phones due to text messages or social media notifications. In addition, some of our students are not taking advantage of the night to rest and prepare for the next day. Instead, they are staying up texting, talking, or watching social media entertainment and arriving to school tired the next day.

A second distraction infiltrating our schools are vapes. Some students are finding the money, the connections, and the time to vape. Unfortunately, there is no immediate way to determine what the vaping liquid is made up of and students are having adverse reactions to them. This year, some students had to be transported as a result of these substances.

Let's work together to:

1. Set and reinforce guidelines on cell phone usage
2. Review the dangers of vaping and/or substance abuse

Our students deserve the best chance to be successful. Together we can guide and protect them.

SMALL
Changes
CAN MAKE
huge
DIFFERENCE

CELEBRATIONS



Go Warriors!

Thank you parents, staff, coaches, community, and specially our Warrior young men and women for another energized basketball season.

Our Warriors gave their heart and souls at every court they have played on during this season. You have demonstrated your commitment, sportsmanship, team work, and dedication. Your hard work has been witnessed and celebrated by the community. Thank you for giving it your all and representing not only Baboquivari Unified School District, Baboquivari High School, but the Tohono O'odham community as a whole. We are proud of your dedication and commitment.

Special thanks to members of the community for taking the time to travel and show your support during the season. Your commitment was also evident. THANK YOU!

Let's get ready for the next season! GO WARRIORS!



Board Member Hendricks was recognized for her years of service to BUSD by HRDC at their legislative council meeting.



Mr. Michael Juan was the Dr. MLK, Jr. Basketball Classic Honoree!

Mr. Juan was recognized during halftime of the Lady Warrior and St. David game.

Mr. Juan was joined by his colleagues, friends, and family to celebrate this recognition!



A shout out to our Special Olympics team for representing BUSD under the direction and leadership of Ms. Birdsell and Mr. Wilson!

A special thanks to our athletes for participating and showing their BUSD spirit during their competitions.

You have brought medals home, CONGRATULATIONS!!!

We share your victory and celebrate your commitment.

Thank you parents and staff for your support and dedication.



END OF YEAR CELEBRATIONS WILL BE HERE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!



SAVE THE DATES BUSD GRADUATION & PROMOTION DATES 2024



MAY 10

KINDER STEP UP
9:00 A.M.

3RD GRADE PROMOTION
9:00 A.M.

MAY 13



MAY 14

8TH GRADE PROMOTION
10:00 A.M.

PRE-K PROMOTION
1:00 P.M.

MAY 14



MAY 15

6TH GRADE PROMOTION
9:00 A.M.

BHS GRADUATION
7:00 P.M.

MAY 15



MAY 16

IOHS 8TH GRADE PROMOTION
10:00 A.M.

IOHS GRADUATION
7:00 P.M.

MAY 16



HELPFUL INFORMATION



BUSD Office Hours



BUSD Bus Pick Up



BUSD Bus Drop Off



BUSD Monthly Calendar



BUSD Mental Health Resources

Our Vision

We create:

Healthy Inspiring Motivating Developing Achieving Graduates