



DESERTFOOTHILLSNEWS

Home of the Scorpions • The higher we climb, the better the view!

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Shannon Gray
Principal

October 2025

Joelle Jasper
Assistant Principal

Note from the Principal

Hello, DF Families!

As we close out quarter one, I want to thank our students and staff for their hard work. Report cards will be sent home after Fall Break, which runs from October 6-10. We hope everyone enjoys a well-deserved rest and returns refreshed for the next quarter.

Parent-Teacher Conferences will take place on Tuesday, October 21 from 4-7 p.m. (Translation Night) and Wednesday, October 22 from 3-5 p.m. Please note that we will have Early Release (dismissal at 2:30 p.m.) from Tuesday through Friday of that week. We look forward to connecting with you!

Do you follow us on Facebook and now Instagram? This is a great way to stay connected to the campus, stay informed with information about upcoming events, and see what fabulous things are going on in our classrooms!

Instagram: desertfoothills_wesd

Facebook: Desert Foothills Junior High

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments, or concerns.

- Phone Number: 602-896-5500
- Email: shannon.gray@wesdschools.org

Thank you for your time, efforts and partnership with DF! Go, Scorpions!

Shannon Gray

WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

4650 W. Sweetwater Avenue, Glendale, AZ 85304 • 602-347-2600 • www.wesdschools.org

Governing Board: Kyle Clayton, President • Lindsey Peterson, Vice President • Jenni Abbott-Bayardi, Member • Bill Adams, Member
Dr. Lupita Hightower, Interim Superintendent

Fall Break October 6-10

Early Release October 21-25

Dismissal time, 2:30 p.m. all four days.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Tuesday, October 21

4-7 p.m. in the gym

(Tuesday translators will be available)

Wednesday, October 22

3-5 p.m. in the gym

Halloween Dance

Thursday, October 23

2:30-4 p.m.

Annual Fine Arts Festival

The Desert Foothills Performing and Fine Arts Departments are excited to announce the return of our Annual Fine Arts Festival! Please join us for an evening of music and artwork in the Desert Foothills courtyard on Tuesday, October 28 at 6 p.m. This community event features each of our music performance classes including our bands, orchestra and choirs. It also features an art showcase of our visual art elective students. This is the first of many concerts for our 2025-26 students, and we cannot wait to share the hard work our students have been putting in so far this year!

A MESSAGE FROM OFFICER KENNY

Hello, it has been my privilege and honor to work you your children and with the great staff at Desert Foothills Jr. HS.

In our LRE (Life Related Education classes) and Wake Up Club it has been my most important goal to assist in getting your children ready for life in our big world.

If I could provide my six rules for success they would be:

Think before you say. Think before you do. Think before you act.

Do what you are supposed to. When you are supposed to. How you are supposed to.

I have tried to follow these guidelines my whole life and they have gotten me really far. So, to my many students may your dreams be big and your worries stay small. Enjoy your life and make the best choices can, you only get one life.



Boys/Girls Cross Country Meets

10/30 @ Moon Valley Park

11/20 @ Moon Valley Park

Meets start at 4:30 p.m.

Moon Valley Park is located at 502 W Coral Gables Dr.

12/6 WESD Cross Country Championship Meet @ ASU West

Championship meet time is TBD.

Boys Basketball Schedule

10/27 CH @ DF

10/30 MS @ DF

11/06 PV vs DF @ Greenway HS

11/13 RP @ DF

11/17 DF @ CH

11/18 DF vs MS @ Thunderbird HS

11/24 DF @ PV

11/25 DF @ RP

Seventh grade game starts at 4:45 p.m., eighth grade games at 6 p.m.

12/1 thru 12/4 tournaments and championship games, locations and teams TBD.

Girls Soccer Schedule

10/27 CH @ DF*

10/28 MS @ DF*

11/06 PV vs DF @ Greenway HS

11/13 RP @ DF*

11/17 DF @ CH

11/18 DF vs MS @ Lookout Mountain ES

11/24 DF @ PV

11/25 DF @ RP

***Note all DF home games are held at the Conocido Park**

Games starts at 4:45 p.m.

12/1 thru 12/4 tournaments and championship games, location and teams TBD.

YEARBOOK

The new school year has begun and with it comes a new yearbook.

Pre-orders are being accepted at school or online at

www.yearbookforever.com. The price is currently \$30. Come January, the price will increase to \$35.

Join us for October Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher Conferences are right around the corner! These meetings are valuable opportunities for parents and guardians to connect with teachers and support their child's academic success. Be sure to schedule a time to meet with your child's teacher to review their first-quarter progress.

Reminder: School will have early release from Tuesday, Oct. 21 through Friday, Oct. 24 due to conferences.

Thank you for partnering with us in your child's education!

Stay Connected with ParentSquare

As a reminder, we are now using ParentSquare—a simple, secure tool for two-way communication between school and home.

With ParentSquare, you can:

- Receive all district, school and classroom communication via email, text, or app,**
- View the school and classroom calendar and RSVP for events,**
- Select the language for your communications,**
- Sign up to volunteer and/or bring items and much more.**

To activate your account, please [click here](#). Remember to download the free mobile app for IOS or Android to start receiving updates from our school.

For more information about ParentSquare, please [click here](#) or contact the office.

Attendance Line

602-896-5521

To report your child absent, you can call 24/7 and leave a message on our attendance line.
