

SANTAN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
A+ SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE™

STORM FORECAST

PRINCIPAL'S POST

BARBARA J. KOWALINSKI



December 2014

Dear Santan Junior High families:

This is such a wonderful time of year. We have so many festive things to look forward to this month with choir, band, orchestra concerts, play-off games and our winter break. **Gift Card** orders are being taken through the front office. We have many gift cards on hand for your shopping convenience. Some of the SJHS favorites include: Harkins, Subway, Walmart, Chipolte and our Fry's reloadable card. For each card sold, our school benefits up to 15% of the total price. Gift cards are redeemable for the full amount at **ANY** store! Thank you for helping with this fund raiser.

A heartfelt thank you to Jill Lindquist, Booster's President, and Helena Kauchek, Booster's Treasurer, for their hard work this semester. We have purchased another set of *Chrome Books* for our students and a charging cart. As parents, your generous contributions afforded us this opportunity. Thank you for helping us reach closer and closer to our goal!

During the week of November 3, the State Board of Education adopted a new annual test to replace AIMS. As we prepare for this change in assessment and begin to learn more about the test, you will also want to become more familiar with the new instrument. Inside this newsletter, please find the appropriate links to help answer questions that you may have and websites that will educate you on the new AzMERIT tests being showcased sometime in April of 2015.

Happy Holidays to all of our families! Although this quarter takes us closer and closer to the end of the month, **please try to plan your vacation time around the school calendar so it optimizes your child's learning time in class.** The two full weeks should provide you and your family quality time to venture out into the mountains, snow and relatives in other states. I hope your holidays are safe and prosperous. We will look forward to your return on January 6th, 2015!

Merry Mistletoe and Happy Holly!

Barbara J. Kowalinski
Principal

DECEMBER 1, 2014

CALENDAR

DECEMBER

- 2 AVID COLLEGE DAY
(WEAR YOUR COLLEGE SHIRT)
- 4 NJHS MEETING
8:15-9 AM OR
4-4:45 PM
- 9 BOOSTER MTG.
4:30 PM— MC
- CHOIR CONCERT
7 PM—MPR
- 11 SPELLING BEE
- ORCHESTRA CONCERT
6:30PM—MPR
- 6TH GRADE CATS
ORIENTATION
6-7:15 PM
- 12 STUDENT OF THE
MONTH LUNCH
- 16 BAND CONCERT
AMPITHEATER
6:30 PM
- 18 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
SPIRIT ASSEMBLY 2:45PM
- WINTER BREAK
DEC. 19-JAN 5
- 26 REPORT CARDS MAILED

1550 E. Chandler Heights Road, Chandler, AZ 85249

480-883-4600

STUDENTS RETURN
TUES. JAN. 6TH

STUDENT OF THE MONTH



Congratulations to our November Students of the Month! Students were selected by their Social Studies teachers: Lizzie LaBate, Calista Mosher, Jacob Wise, Miya Bentivenga, Katelyn Neal, Elizabeth Casselbury, Kristen Ngo, Sidney Harris, Ashley Larson, and Sydnei Caldwell.

SHOUT OUTS!

Congratulations to student Casey Kim who scored a perfect 25/25 on the Explore ACT test!



Congratulations to student Jaleigh Zachary who was our winner of this year's Peace Poster Contest sponsored by the Sun Lakes Lion Club.

NEW STATE TEST –AZMERIT

The Arizona State Board of Education (Board) has announced a new assessment to replace the AIMS Reading, Writing and Mathematics tests beginning spring 2015. The Board voted and approved that American Institutes for Research (AIR) will provide Arizona's New Assessment, AzMERIT - Arizona's Measurement of Educational Readiness to Inform Teaching.

Arizona public school students in Grades 3 through high school will take AzMERIT in English Language Arts and Mathematics. Students in Grades 4, 8, and high school will still take the AIMS Science test.

Students in Grades 3 through 8 will take AzMERIT in English Language Arts and Mathematics at their grade level. Students taking high school level English Language Arts and Mathematics will take AzMERIT End-of-Course assessments that will test their proficiency in these subjects near the end of the course.

High school students graduating after December 31, 2016 will **no longer be required to pass the AIMS test to graduate high school**. Students will not be required to pass the End-of-Course tests for graduation, but they must still earn the minimum number of English and Mathematics credits in order to graduate.

You may find additional information on ADE's website at www.azed.gov/AzMERIT.

From Robert Rice, CUSD Governing Board President

On behalf of the Chandler Unified School District Governing Board, I would like to thank our community members, parents and volunteers for enabling the Chandler School District to achieve the ranking of **"Best School District in Arizona"** by the Niche organization in their 2015 national ranking. CUSD has an outstanding staff of administrators, teachers and support personnel, but it takes an entire community to lift a district of more than 40,000 students to be rated as the best in our state of more than 250 districts.

Since the school district was founded more than a century ago, the community of individuals and businesses has maintained high expectations and has provided exceptional support in terms of volunteer hours, donations and voter support for district override and bond ballot measures. We hope this recognition helps to demonstrate that the district has carefully and wisely used these precious resources.

Congratulations to our entire Chandler Unified School District community and thank you.

CEF MINI GRANT AWARDS



WE ARE SO VERY PROUD OF OUR TEACHERS!!!

Santan Junior High received a total of 14 mini grants.

These mini-grants were made possible

thanks to your Chandler Education Foundation donations. SJHS rocked the world by far with a heaping \$9,000.00 worth of grant monies! The ideas are incredibly innovative. WOW WOW WOW! Thank you parents and students for your support!!



SUN LAKES ROTARY TEACHER OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Jeremy Kane, SJHS Band Teacher, who has been selected as Sun Lakes Rotary Teacher of the Month for November. Mr. Kane is an extraordinary teacher who inspires his students to be the best that they can be. He is innovative and collaborative with his students. He is an excellent communicator with our parents and community. Jeremy gives up many, many Saturdays and evenings to showcase his students at competitions and special events throughout the year. We are very proud of Mr. Kane and his energetic and gifted personality! Jeremy will be recognized at 630AM via the Rotarians in Lakes next week!



Drop off your Box Tops in the office or directly to Ms. Krohmer in room 55.

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

YEARBOOKS

Order Your Yearbook Online Today for \$38! Please go to

<http://cusd80.com/sjhsyearbook>.

Santan Junior High now has an "official" Facebook page. "Like" us to receive timely and relevant news about what is happening at our school. The URL is www.facebook.com/SJHSStorm or scan the QR Code to access the page.



SANTAN SPORTS

3rd Quarter Sports Sign-Ups for Girls Basketball, Baseball and Wrestling will be starting soon. Please be sure to turn in a completed physical packet prior to signing up.

Please contact our Student Services Secretary, Vanessa Kowalski at 480-883-4610 if you have any questions!!

REMAINING 2ND QUARTER SPORTS SCHEDULE

GIRLS SOCCER/BOYS BASKETBALL

DATE	LOCATION
Thursday 12/4	Play Off Games @ Santan Junior High
7th & 8th Girls Soccer	4:00
7th Boys Basketball	4:00
Boys 8th Basketball	5:00
Monday 12/8	Playoff Semis
Wed. 12/10	Finals

CROSS COUNTRY

DATE	LOCATION
Tues. 12/9	EVC CC MEET @ Discovery Park (Pecos/Greenfield)



Congratulations to our cheerleaders!

Santan Cheer took **FIRST** place at the USA Regional Competition on Saturday, November 22nd! 😊

