The purpose of publishing these newsletters is to give our participants information, anecdotes, and support in their teaching profession.

As stated in stakeholder meetings the TUSD New Teacher Mentor Program:

**MISSION** The Tucson Unified School District Induction/Mentoring Program is a formal program for beginning teachers to advance instructional practices and improve student achievement by providing tailored support through individualized mentoring and professional development.

**VISION** The Tucson Unified School District Induction/Mentoring Program is designed to inspire, support, and challenge beginning teachers to:

- accelerate their professional growth
- increase student learning and achievement
- advocate for equity of all students
- become reflective practitioners
- become a teacher leader who values collaboration and life-long learning

**STORY HEADLINE**

“Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn.”

Benjamin Franklin

In this month’s issue:

- Ins and Outs of Parent Teacher Conferences
- Dates and information of upcoming seminars
- In the Community
- Q and A with some of our regional assistant superintendents
It’s that time of year for Parent Teacher Conference! In TUSD, we place these conferences in the middle of the quarter instead of at the end to help build resources and ideas to support our students. During conferences you may finally be meeting your student’s support system at home. This is a great opportunity to discuss successes as well as struggles. When talking about struggles be sure to explain what support/interventions you are trying to provide. Here are some articles and resources to help you with your parent-teacher conference!

Ten Tips for Productive Parent Conferences
From Scholastic.com by Shoshana Wolf

5 Resources for Parent Teacher Conferences
From Edutopia by Matt Davis
https://www.edutopia.org/blog/parent-teacher-conference-resources-matt-davis

From National Education Association by NEA Staff
http://www.nea.org/tools/parent-teacher-conferences.html

Please visit and follow Tucson Values Teachers to learn how you can get your teacher discount card, get resources, and so much more.
https://www.tucsonvaluesteachers.org/

Twitter - @Tweet4Teachers

Need books for your classroom but it’s expensive! Checkout FRIENDS of the Pima County Public Library and get a lot of books at a low low price. Check their website and if you become a member ($20 a year) they hold ½ price members sales throughout the year!

https://www.pimafriends.com/

1/2 Price Members Only Sale: 9/8
8am-2pm
Community Sale: 9/14 - 17 8am-2pm
Teachers Making a Difference!

Tell us what is happening in your school and we will post it in our monthly newsletter!

We would love to hear from you!

We will try and hit one or a few teachers/schools from each region monthly!

Arcadia Region

Jamie Zettlemoyer, from Roberts-Naylor, started doing reading centers with her 3rd period ELD students. They are engaged, on-task, and working collaboratively! Implementing centers has changed the dynamics of the class.

Silverbell Region

Tully Elementary teacher Patricia Palomera shows off the supplies she received as part of a teacher appreciation program sponsored by The Doubletree Hotel. Great job utilizing community partnerships, Patricia!

Santa Cruz Region

Tucson High teacher Niko Sanchez demonstrated that engaging families in education is his priority when his biology student interviewed their elders about scientific advancements made during their lifetime. Students enjoyed hearing their classmates' presentations, and Mr. Sanchez honored his students' experiences and heritage through this project. Way to go!

Pantano Region

Garrett Gallagher is a fourth grade teacher committed to providing an enchanted educational experience! His knights, castles, student crests, and overall magical components are evident in every element of the school day. Mr. Gallagher’s students at Marshall Elementary School are sure to have an exceptional year due to the hard work and dedication of their tremendous teacher! Thank you, Mr. Gallagher!

Arroyo Chico Region

Cecilia Siruno’s French class at Doolen Middle School learned some techniques through a Whole Brain Learning Seminar. She learned how to increase student engagement and create positive learning opportunities!
Each month we will select a person or group in the district to interview to learn some insight in their leadership in Tucson Unified. This month we selected two of our five Regional Assistant Superintendents.

Richard Sanchez

What is one interesting fact about yourself?
I enjoy being around my family and playing golf.

What is your role in the district?
Assistant Superintendent Region 3 (Arroyo Chico)

When you visit schools, will you come in and visit classrooms?
Yes.

What is one piece of advice you would offer a beginning teacher?
Making sure you have positive professional relationships with students. It doesn’t matter if you have great depth in your content knowledge, if you can’t build relationships and relevance with students your content knowledge won’t matter.

Anything else you would like to share with us?
Never feel that you are ever alone in your profession. Network and share all of your experiences with fellow staff.

Holly Hammel

What is one interesting fact about yourself?
I’ve been on an African Safari, I saw gazelles, elephants, lions, and hippos – oh my!

What is your role in the district?
Proud Regional Assistant Superintendent serving the Pantano Region.

When you visit schools, will you come in and visit classrooms?
Absolutely! That is where the inspiration happens, and teachers meaningfully engage students. Seeing teachers lead students to success is what it’s all about for our students to achieve.

What is one piece of advice you would offer a beginning teacher?
Be so strong in your classroom procedures and plan meaningful engagement for your students so that students want to be in your class.

Anything else you would like to share with us?
I love TUSD! I believe in our purpose and the students we serve. I’m honored to work at TUSD by supporting principals, families and students.
Upcoming Seminars and Study Groups!

Check in with your mentors on potential upcoming seminars to help strengthen your teaching career!

**Seminars** are focused, four-hour long courses that you attend once (1 Saturday or 2 two hour-long weekday sessions).

**Study groups** are small groups that tailor to your needs as a teacher. They meet regularly throughout the quarter, semester, or school year (1-2 hours per session).

![Seminars and Study Groups Diagram](image)

- **Social and Emotional Learning**
  - Learn how to engage all students in mindfulness and how purposefully embedded social and emotional teaching strategies can make all students and teachers more successful.

- **Classroom Management 1**
  - This class focuses on identifying and teaching expectations, and establishing classroom procedures and structures.

- **Classroom Management 2**
  - This class focuses on reinforcing expectations, and managing misbehavior.

- **Math Daily 3**
  - Explore a framework to structure math time so students will develop deep conceptual understanding and mathematical proficiency. Students select from three choices: math by myself, math writing, and math with someone.

- **Promethean Playground**
  - Explore interactive whiteboard tools in Promethean ActivInspire. View examples of engaging multimedia lessons, use self-paced tutorials, and begin to build a lesson for your own students.

- **Collaborative Engagement Strategies**
  - Learn collaborative learning structures to boost student academic achievement, improve student relations, promote thinking skills, and create a more kind and caring school community.

- **Differentiating Instruction**
  - Learn strategies to help meet the diverse needs of all learners. Examine what differentiated instruction is, why it is necessary, and how to implement it in the classroom.

- **Whole Brain Learning**
  - Learn about a management system that helps engage those challenging students. Discover easy to implement strategies that foster growth in academic talents and social skills, and creative techniques that nourish character education.

- **Adolescent Mindset**
  - Learn the the psychological, physical, and social emotional developmental milestones for adolescents. Discover strategies to use in the classroom when working with this age group.

- **Office 365**
  - Learn the ins and outs of Microsoft Office 365 in your classroom! Get resources and time to explore ways to integrate technology in your class as well as PLC and much more!
FEEDBACK

Thank you so much for reading and exploring our newsletter!

We would love to hear from you!

Please let us know what you would like to see in our next newsletter – fill out this form and we will be happy to respond 😊

Feedback Form

Check us out
http://www.tusd1.org/Information/Mentoring-Program