

Dear Parents,

This school year is quickly coming to conclusion and I am anticipating that our school will end as we started, on a very positive note. Our students, with few minor exceptions, have demonstrated a very strong commitment to their academic responsibilities as evidenced by grades and the increasing number of children who have made the Honor Roll this year. Additionally, it has been wonderful to watch your child mature and grow in their social responsibilities. I am proud of each of them and grateful to you as a parent/guardian, for being instrumental in guiding their success.

During the past two years, Tucson Country Day School has made significant changes and additions to the school. The very premise of these changes is our drive and commitment to ensure that “excellence” permeates everything we do for the sake of our children. As we go forward, the staff and I will continue to embrace our children, parents and guests with a personal “touch”, never forgetting that each are “gifts” to the school.

It is a privilege for the staff and I to have created for the kids such programs as the: After School Activities (cheerleading, intramurals, karate, music, inter-athletics) Honor Roll, Trophies Reading program; Technology Labs; tutoring; Student Council; student store; middle school seminar classes; Summer Prep; StarBase (5th graders). The list goes on.

Next year, a major emphasis will be placed on researching and adopting a math program and revising/aligning our science curriculum to State Standards. As you may be aware, the Arizona Department of Education will include science as part of the AIMS testing beginning next year with Social Studies to follow in subsequent years. Quarterly assessments of students are expected to continue so that the school can monitor the achievement levels among children.

On another note, I am deeply saddened to be leaving my responsibilities as principal of TCDS. Although I agreed to be the Executive Director for the school for one year, I became very attached and close to the children, teachers, staff, parents and members of the community, resulting in committing another year to TCDS. During this time, I would like each of you to know that it has been an honor to meet parents and to serve your child. Working with talented teaching professionals, including our parent group, SPA, has indeed been a privilege. Conversely, I am excited that I will be continuing to work with the new principal and the school in a consultant capacity next year to ensure a smooth transition.

Mr. Cooper and I conducted and completed interviews with outstanding principal candidates and are proud to announce the name of Mr. Jay Johnson, who is currently employed by the Amphitheater School District. He will be spending time on campus during the remainder of the school year and will begin his full-time duties beginning June of this year. I am confident that he will bring his talents and skills to TCDS for years to come. Lastly, I wish you and your family a wonderful and safe summer. With the warmest regards always.