

# Diamond Valley Elementary

## Home of the Diamondbacks

August/September 2018

Creating Confident Learners

Newsletter, page 1

### Principal's Message

Welcome Back Diamondbacks!

What an amazing time of year it is! The enthusiasm of students engaging in learning activities excites me very much! It is so fun to watch our great teachers guiding our students in powerful learning experiences that are preparing them for a life full of opportunities and success.

One of the most noticeable changes at Diamond Valley this year is the addition of our Spanish Dual Immersion program. We are thrilled to have many of our 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders learning each day in both Spanish and English. We welcome Maestra Barranco and Maestra Ordás to our school as the new 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Spanish dual immersion teachers, respectively.

We are also officially a STEM Gold school as recognized by the Utah STEM Action Center and the Utah State Board of Education. We are proud of this designation and will continue to engage in our regular STEAM activities, including our Friday STEAM Exploration classes. In fact, with Maestra Ordás and Maestra Barranco on staff, they are excited to offer STEAM Explo classes in the way of: Spanish for beginners, Flamenco dancing, and other Spanish cultural experiences. They truly will bring out the A in STEAM as they engage our students in the fine arts!

In order to make this a successful school year for every student, we have four central goals that we are focusing on as a school. I would like to review these goals now with you:

1. Consistently be on time and ready to learn at high levels each day. (Every student to miss 9 or fewer days over the school year.)

### Calendar

August 27 – PLC Early Out Day, 1:15 pm  
 August 29 – SEPs, 4-7 pm  
 August 30 – SEPs, 4-7 pm  
 August 30 – Student Council Applications due  
 August 31 – 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Lego League Applications due  
 September 3 – Labor Day, No School  
 September 6 – Show Choir begins, 8 am  
 September 13 – Parent Night at Snow Canyon High, "Social Media Impact on Children" 6pm  
 September 14 – SCC Meeting, 1:30 pm  
 September 19 – Picture Day  
 September 21 – Fall Carnival, 4:30 pm  
 September 24 – PLC Early Out Day, 1:15 pm  
 September 28 – Awards Assembly, 9:30 am

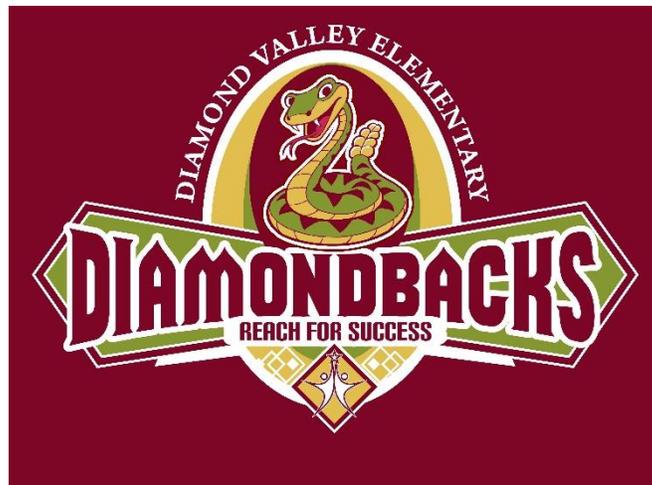
### Teachers' Corner

Welcome to our Teachers' Corner! We are excited to introduce our new Spanish Dual Language Immersion Teachers in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade!

"Maestra Barranco" is from Spain. She was working as a teacher there for several years and decided to come to the USA to learn about this Educational System. She wanted to stay here for three years and says she doesn't like to make plans because they never work out. She has been here for twelve years and loves her life and her job.

She came to start the Dual Immersion Program at Dixie Sun Elementary and had fun teaching in Kindergarten and First Grade since arriving. She has learned a lot during these years and she continues learning every day. This year she is excited to be working at Diamond Valley as a First Grade Spanish Teacher. She is really enjoying it and says everybody makes her feel very welcome! She also loves art and creating things with her students and plans to have a lot of fun participating in the STEAM Program as well. She loves to go camping with her husband and go to the Lake with him and his friends.

"Maestra Ordás" is from Madrid, the capital of Spain. She just arrived in July to join DVES as a Spanish Dual Immersion teacher. She has been an elementary teacher for the last 9 years in bilingual schools in her country. She is here with her family and her twin sons who are also 1<sup>st</sup> Grade students. She believes in the benefits of bilingualism at early stages and is quite glad to see how excited her students are about learning a new language at DVES.



School Website: [dves.washk12.org](http://dves.washk12.org)  
 Facebook: [facebook.com/DVESdiamondbacks](https://facebook.com/DVESdiamondbacks)  
 Twitter: @DVESdiamondback  
 Instagram: @dvesdiamondbacks

2. Read at least 3,000 minutes at home. Your reading minutes will add to the 1,000,000 minute school-wide goal. WE can do it!! This equals 20 minutes each night for 160 of the 180 school days.
3. Do or Say something KIND each day to help make another person's day AWESOME!
4. 100% attendance at all 3 parent teacher conferences (SEPs), and have parents attend Back to School Night.

As you work on these goals with your student you will be setting them up for a year full of success at Diamond Valley Elementary AND you will be instilling good habits that will carry over into secondary school

that will help them to successfully graduate from high school and pursue their college and career goals.

I look forward to working with our students this year as we strive to accomplish our mission of *creating confident learners* for life-long success. Let's make it a great year!

In partnership,  
 Dr. Yost