

Diamond Valley Elementary

Home of the Diamondbacks

November 2018

Creating Confident Learners

Newsletter, page 1

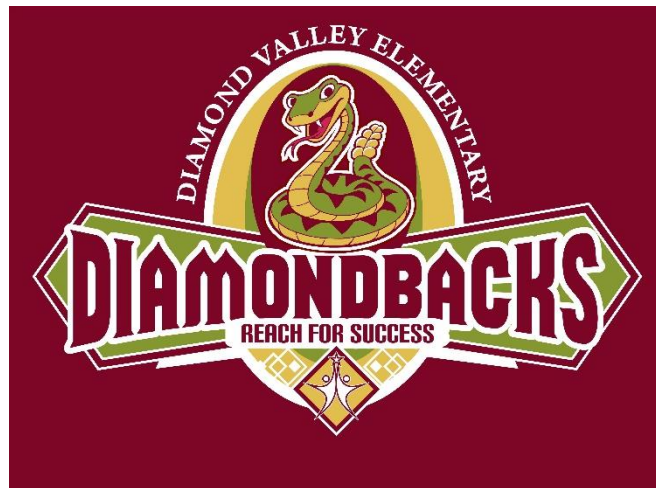
Principal's Message

Happy November! This is such a wonderful month of the year – a time to reflect on the many blessings we enjoy and to show gratitude for those around us. At Diamond Valley this month, we are putting an extra emphasis on kindness. We are promoting to the students to be kind to each other and to do or say something kind to someone else every day to make their day great! During the month of October, Mrs. Tanner and I had the chance to go around to every class and read the book, *The Mystery at Palace Street School*, and give out wristbands that say "BFF=Be A Friend First" on them. The books and wristbands were given to the school as a gift by McKinley Jones, a former DVES student, as part of her Silver project for Girl Scouts. In the book, it talks about the importance of reaching out to others and helping to be kind first, using the idea of creating a "buddy bench" at the school where students can sit if they are lonely or sad. When others see someone sitting on the buddy benches, they can go and sit next to them to cheer them up or invite them to play with them at recess. We are implementing this at Diamond Valley by converting our benches behind the school into buddy benches. And, in addition to the buddy benches and wristbands already given to students, we will continue to put an even stronger emphasis on acts of kindness towards others during November. We believe creating and maintaining a positive school climate is essential to fostering an environment conducive to academic student growth and learning.

You may recall that one of our school-wide goals for the year is to do or say something kind each day to make someone else's day awesome. This focus on kindness during October and November is our effort to help make positive daily habits for each of our students. Another school-wide goal we have is for parents to attend 100% of their child's SEP meetings. Our 2nd SEP meetings of the year take place later this month. I invite each of you to schedule an appointment with your child's teacher and come into the

Calendar

November 2 – Storytelling Festival, 9:30am
 November 8 – Preschool Family Engagement, 6pm
 November 9 – PTVO Meeting, 9 am
 November 9 – Preschool Family Engagement, 10am
 November 9 – SCC Meeting, 1:30pm
 November 9 – First Day 2nd Session STEAM Explo
 November 12-15 – Book Fair & Social Media Contest
 November 12-15 – SEPs, Early Out, 1:15pm
 November 15 – Dads and Donuts, 7:30-8:45am
 November 21-23 – Thanksgiving Break, No School
 November 28 – Show Choir performance at DHS
 November 30 – Awards Assembly, 9:30am



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

school to see how your student is doing. Your teachers will have data binders ready to show you that display your student's work, tests, and growth towards mastery of grade level essential standards (GVCs). If you are unable to come during the scheduled SEP week, I invite you to please make another appointment time with your child's teacher. The communication between parents and teachers can influence the success of a student in great ways! So, I look forward to seeing you in the school later this month!

Have a great November and I can't wait to see you at SEPs and to hear about all the kind things that our students are doing and are planning to do for each other!

It's a great time to be a Diamondback!
 Dr. Yost

Teachers' Corner

Meet Brett Eggett, our new School Psychologist.

"I would like to take a minute and introduce myself, my name is Brett Eggett. I am the School Psychologist that has been assigned to Diamond Valley Elementary School. While I am new to Washington County School District, I am not new to my profession. Recently, I worked in Uinta County School District, Evanston, Wyoming, where I have enjoyed working with students and school staff. Many of my greatest experiences have occurred within the classroom, and I truly enjoy seeing a student succeed even though they might have some struggles or limitations.

What is a School Psychologist? Many people believe that I spend most of my day providing psychotherapy to children and teachers who are burned-out working with children...Neither is true...As a School Psychologist, I spend most of my time working with Administrators, Teachers, Students, and Parents to help find supports for students and to "level the playing field" for students with disabilities. Many days are spent working with parents and teachers to help students who are struggling and need further accommodations. These supports could include helping to identify a student that needs a higher level of support within the regular classroom, supporting a student with a disability with a 504 plan, or in the extreme case helping to draft an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) for a student that has continued to struggle even though they have been receiving support within the classroom.

I recently moved to southern Utah with my family where we enjoy ATVing, horseback riding, hunting, and the occasional farm animal. Being closer to family is the most important part of our lives at this point and we are enjoying spending time together. We enjoy the better weather of southern Utah as it allows us to do both."