

Teachers' Corner



This month, we want to highlight two very special and dedicated ladies. They are Mrs. Michele Stewart and Mrs. Kathy Farnsworth. Everyone knows them for their smiling faces as they are the first people you see when you come into the school because they are our fabulous secretaries!

Mrs. Stewart has been the full-time office manager at Diamond Valley since the school opened 22 years ago. In fact, when the school was preparing to first open its doors, she was seen helping to assemble desks and chairs so that the new building would be ready on the first day of school. Michele has been the friendly face to thousands of students over the years. She is the one that comforts hurt students on the playground by providing bandaids and icepacks as needed and takes care of the students who are sick and waiting for parents to come pick them up. As the finance secretary, Michele does so much for the everyday success of the school. And, a lot of this goes

unnoticed as it is behind the scenes work, like ordering supplies or scheduling busses. However, Michele does more than just secretarial work! She has also spent time teaching students how to read as an interventionist when there has been down time in the office. She is an advocate for all of our students and helps them in any way she can! We are glad to have Mrs. Michele Stewart at the school!

Mrs. Farnsworth has been at the school almost as long as Mrs. Stewart! Mrs. Farnsworth began working at Diamond Valley 20 years ago. She started out as an aide in the classrooms helping teachers with interventions and small group instruction. Later, she transitioned to become the computer lab aid. She taught students important word processing and typing skills, and helped students successfully navigate various computer assisted math and reading programs. Most recently, Kathy has joined Michele as another secretary in the office. She also gets to greet the students every day in the lunch room as she helps them enter their lunch numbers for lunch; she does this with love and kindness, always being a dependable, consistent adult for our students to see each day.

In short, we are very grateful for the work of our two amazing secretaries. They are the glue that holds the school together. Thank you Michele and Kathy for helping make Diamond Valley amazing!

Young Doctor's Program

5th Grade students have an exciting opportunity this year! Our school has been selected to partner with Rocky Vista University (RVU), the 2nd year medical school in Ivins. This partnership allows 5th grade students to participate in the Young Doctor's Program. What this means is that up to 30 5th grade students from Diamond Valley Elementary have the opportunity to go to RVU on a school bus every other Friday for the spring semester (January – May). Each time they travel to RVU, our “Young Doctors” from DVES will be instructed on different parts of the human body by student doctors at RVU. On the alternate weeks that our DVES students don't travel to RVU, they will have the opportunity to engage in an additional genius hour related to the medical field and become the expert on their own chosen topic. They will then present their learning to the rest of the Young Doctors at DVES. At the culmination of this semester long project, the young doctors will graduate in their own white coat graduation ceremony that will be held at RVU, and which parents, grandparents, etc. will be invited to attend.

We are excited to have this partnership with RVU. However we are not the only school that is partnering with them. Red Mountain Elementary in Ivins will also have up to 30 5th graders joining our students at RVU every other week for the student doctors presentations. Because we are coordinating three different schools' schedules and trying to find a common time for this to take place, we have had to think outside the box at DVES and be a little flexible. This will require us to tweak the Exploratory class opportunities for our Young Doctors but will still allow them to participate in a special Exploratory session during spring semester.

If your 5th grader is interested in applying for the Young Doctor's Program please have them fill out an application and turn it in to their teacher. We are looking forward to graduating our first group of Young Doctors at Diamond Valley Elementary!

