



# Panther Pride Weekly

## October 29, 2021

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View this newsletter as a PDF

**Since 2008, PSA has been rated an ‘A’ school  
by the Arizona Dept. of Education (ADE)**



Dear Panther Family,

In this issue of the Principal's Weekly, I would like to share the following important news:

You can click [here](#) to view the entire newsletter as a PDF or as you are reading this newsletter please click on “view entire message” at the end of this email to see the rest of the newsletter content.

### Bullying Prevention



Research shows that parents and caregivers who spend at least 15 minutes a day talking with their children or teens help build strong relationships, and prevent bullying. SAMHSA’s free KnowBullying app will help you boost your children’s confidence, resilience, and build effective strategies for facing bullying.

#### App Features

With KnowBullying, parents, caregivers, and educators can:

- Start easy, meaningful conversations with your children.
- Set reminders to talk with your child when the time feels right: a quiet moment on the way to school or a game, during dinner, or relaxing outside.

**Oct 29**

#### Half Day

Orange Card pick up: **12:03**

The rest of the students’

**pick up:12:15**

**Nov 11**

#### Veterans Day

**(No School)**

**Nov 24**

#### Half day

Orange Card pick up: **12:03**

The rest of the students’

**pick up:12:15**

**Nov 25-26**

#### Thanksgiving Break

**(No School)**

**Dec 15**

#### (Half Day)

**Last Day of 1st  
Semester**

[21-22 School](#)

[Updated Calendar](#)

- Share successful bullying prevention strategies on Facebook, Twitter, email, or text.
- Recognize if your child is being bullied, is engaging in bullying, or witnessing bullying.
- Prevent bullying in the classroom and support children who are being bullied.
- For more information, email SAMHSA at [samhsainfo@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:samhsainfo@samhsa.hhs.gov)

## Student Pick up Reminders

Dear parents, If you are assigned to lane A, you are expected to use Price Rd to enter the school. We know this may not be ideal for some of our parents but not to slow down the traffic and for your child's safety we need your cooperation. Thank you



## Exiting from the school

Dear parents, when you are exiting the school and want to make a left turn, please check if there is a line in lane B, not to slow down the traffic, we would appreciate it if you make a right turn to use Coronado Rd to get to the Freeway or any other destination. Thank you for your understanding.

Please remember Paragon has a one-way drive-through drop-off and pick-up. Do not wait in line or do not drop off your students before arriving at the drop-off zone. Thank you

[Pay Tax Credit Online](#)

[Order Uniforms](#)

[Bell Schedule](#)

**Office Hours**

**M-Th 8 to 4**

**Friday 8 to 3**

## QUICK LINKS

[Schoology](#)

[IC Parent Portal](#)

[BOONLI](#)

(Tech Fee Payments)

[PSA Website](#)

[Board Meetings Dates and Agenda](#)

[LEA Plan \(LIAP\)](#)

[School Plan \(SIAP\)](#)

[Updated Mitigation Plan](#)

**Don't Miss**

## **Being on time**

Thank you all parents for ensuring to drop off your children and pick them up on time.

7:30 Drop off starts

7:59 Gates close

8:00 Class starts

We need all students to be picked up timely right after school unless they have a tutoring or club. **Students can not stay after school when their siblings have tutoring or club.** They all need to be picked up on time, right after school and you need to pick up your child who has tutoring or a club at 4:00 p.m.. Thank you for your understanding.

## **Low-cost broadband internet service**

"If you turned in an application this year for the National School Lunch Program and received a notification your application was approved; you are eligible to request low-cost broadband internet service at <https://getemergencybroadband.org/>."

## **Noetic Math Contest**

Dear parent/guardian,

As a school tradition, PSA is participating in the Noetic Math Fall Contest.

Please see the attached parent letter, and have your child turn the parenting contest to me or the math teacher by Friday, November 4th.

Registration due date: Friday, November 4th, 2021

Fee: 5\$

How to pay: cash, check, credit card via phone call to school and online

## All That We Do!

[Facebook](#)



[Twitter](#)



[YouTube](#)



[Instagram](#)



Who: Grades 6,7,8

Where: at PSA

How: Traditional paper/pencil

The time frame for the contest: 10-24 November 2021

Please reach out to Mr. Guncu for any questions.

Mr. Guncu

[sguncu@sonoranschools.org](mailto:sguncu@sonoranschools.org)

## AP PROGRAM TEST REGISTRATION

**DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 8, 2021**

You'll need to join your class section online in order to register for the exam.

**The cost per exam is \$96.00.** The deadline to register for exams is **November 8, 2021**. The AP Program offers college. If you have significant financial need, **you may be eligible for a \$34.00 College Board fee reduction per AP Exam**, if you are eligible for a fee reduction, please contact Ms. Cole for assistance. Please follow the instructions below for student registration:

1. Sign in to My AP with your College Board account and make sure you've joined your class section. If you haven't, you'll need to follow the steps to join your section online.
2. Register—or confirm your existing registration—in My AP. You'll see a Register button in your class section view in My AP after you join your class sections. Clicking this button will let your coordinator know that you plan to take the exam, and they will order it for you. If you don't see that button, it means you've already been automatically registered for the exam.

Please note: Unused/canceled exam fee

If you decide after the November ordering deadline not to take an exam that was ordered for you, the charge is \$40 per exam instead of the full exam fee. The \$40 fee applies to any unused or canceled exam, including an exam ordered for a student who qualifies for a College Board fee reduction. It's important to tell Ms. Cole if you decide not to take an exam.

This fee doesn't apply if you transfer out of a school. Fees may be paid to the front office staff via credit card, or on the PSA website.

Please [Click here to pay online.](#)

At the top of the page to the right, click "SUPPORT US", scroll down until you see "DONATION", click. "GIFT DESIGNATION" will appear above the box, please check the box. Please type **AP Test Fee payment, Name of Student, Grade, APTest Name(s), and Payment Amount** in the box.

As always, if there are any questions, please reach out to Ms. Cole via email at [acole@sonoranschools.org](mailto:acole@sonoranschools.org)  
Thanks,  
Anissia Cole  
Paragon Science Academy  
College Counselor

## Become a Girl Scout

1st through 5th-grade parents, please contact Mine Calik <[mine.calik@sonoranschools.org](mailto:mine.calik@sonoranschools.org)> if you still would your child to be part of a girl scout team. Please [click here](#) for the flyer.

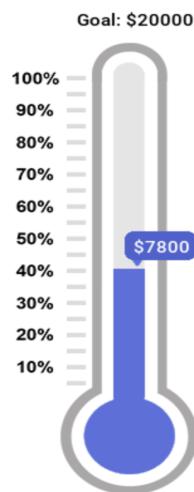
## TAX Credit/Donations

Our clubs need your support!

Please donate to DECA, Science Olympiad, Robotics, International club, SSMP, Athletics, or your child's extracurricular activities /classrooms.

<https://sonoranschools.org/Paragon-Donate>

You may donate online now! Thank you for your support.



## Lunch Information

HOT LUNCH IS BACK! **ALL FAMILIES EAT FREE!! YOU MUST ORDER ON BOONLI IN ORDER FOR YOUR STUDENTS TO RECEIVE LUNCH!!!**

The November lunch order is open! All orders will need to be confirmed by the 25th! Please [CLICK HERE](#) to place an order.

The lunch menu opens on the 1st of every month and closes on the 25th of every month. During this time you are able to log in to place your order. If we do not receive your order between this time frame you will need to provide lunch for your student(s).

21-22 Letter to parents- [CLICK HERE](#)

Want to use your FRL benefits for discounts? [CLICK HERE](#)

**Don't have a Boonli account? Follow the below steps!**

1. Please visit <https://sonoranschools.boonli.com/login>
2. Create an account
3. Password, "ss1"
4. Fill in the application
5. Add profiles
6. "Done"

If you have any questions please feel free to contact the NSLP Coordinator Daviana Reyes at [dreyes@sonoranschools.org](mailto:dreyes@sonoranschools.org)

**If your student participates in the lunch program and has special dietary needs we are needing you to fill out the [NSLP Medical Form.](#)**

## COLLEGE COUNSELING



## Dorrance Scholarship Programs

The Dorrance Scholarship is a need-based award that aims to instill college-going traditions in future generations of Arizona families, to provide financial access and academic support for recipients, and to enhance college persistence through unique enrichment experiences. The Dorrance Scholarship requires the submission of test scores. Applicants can submit scores from American College Testing (ACT), Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT), Classical Learning Test (CLT), or PSAT.

ACT: Applicants must have a composite score of 22 or higher. Students can register [HERE](#).

SAT: Applicants must have a combined score of 1110 or higher excluding the writing portion. Students can register [HERE](#).

PSAT: Applicants must have a score of 1050 or higher. Students will submit their scores from their sophomore or junior year.

Be aware that students must register for the ACT or SAT by early November and the CLT by early January in order to receive their scores by the Dorrance Scholarship's application deadline.

**College Bound** resource provides up-to-date information on admission requirements, college tests, financial aid, and much more when planning and preparing for college. Most importantly, the booklet explains what students need to do at each grade level to prepare for college. This easy-to-use booklet is ideal for students to plan and prepare for college to include a FAFSA checklist, which indicates a list of what you need to fill out the FAFSA, and information tips for preparing for the SAT and ACT.

**ASU** offers **President Barack Obama Scholars Program**. It is open to Arizona residents, admitted to ASU in the fall who are degree-seeking, full-time first-year students (pursuing their first undergraduate degree). This includes Native American high school seniors who are not residing in Arizona who meet the Arizona residency criteria for tuition purposes at **ASU**.

- Admission to the university does not guarantee eligibility for the program. You must meet all course competencies and at least one of the aptitude requirements for admission described on the [First Year Admission Requirements](#), [click here](#)

**ASU** will begin a Live-Hosted Virtual Scholarship and Financial Aid Workshop. The live hosted workshop will guide you through their merit-based and private scholarship awards, financial aid and tuition assistance programs, and important dates for fall 2022 enrollment. [click here](#)

**Applying for Financial Aid:** FAFSA applications for 2022-2023 school year opens **October 1, 2021.** Filling out the FAFSA® form can be a straightforward and easy process. Below are some tips to help you along the way. Select the “Fill Out the FAFSA” button on the home page, and just follow the directions on the link [click here](#)

**ASVAB Test** for Seniors on **October 29, 2021**. The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude

Battery (ASVAB) is a heavily researched and well-respected aptitude test developed by the Department of Defense. It measures a young adult's strengths and potential for success in military training.

**MyinTuition:** MyinTuition is a tool that, in only three minutes, provides a personalized estimate of what it would cost an individual to attend college. **Partners & Supporters:** Partnered with over 70+ leading institutions **Who Benefits:** MyinTuition helps prospective students understand what college will truly cost after incorporating other factors, such as financial aid, loan and work study expectations, grant assistance and scholarships, and more. It demonstrates that college is accessible to qualified low- and middle-income students. **How it works:** Based on answers to just six basic questions, **STEP 1-** Go to MyinTuition.org, **STEP 2-** Answer 6-7 Questions, **STEP 3-** Get a personalized net cost estimate. MyinTuition estimates the cost of college for each individual student, including out-of-pocket costs, available loans and work-study opportunities, and grant assistance [click here](#)



**WORDS MATTER** ....The words we choose convey our thoughts and feelings. Both our words and our nonverbal actions hold a lot of power, more than we probably even realize. Another reason why our words are so important is because they can begin to shape how an individual actually views themselves. Our language can either degrade or demean or it can encourage and empower. With words, tone of voice, facial expression, and body posture, you can communicate calmness and respect. In this way, you'll avoid shaming and judging children, keep the focus on the positive behavior you want to see, and reduce the likelihood of power struggles:**Accountability of Words**

Our words play a powerful part in what we do, how we care for and educate students. Think about how often we speak with students. We provide great amounts of conversation, direction, and response to student's actions, questions, work, and behavior. If we think about what truly has an effect on students, it is our words. What do students hear when we speak? How do they interpret what we say? Where do our words lead students/children? Why do we say certain things? Do our words hold true meanings or empty messages? Are the words we speak for our benefit or to benefit the student?



## **LET'S TALK ABOUT IT** .....a few ways to help manage the feeling of Anxiety for students

### **Classroom Setup, Routines, and Schedules**

- Provide the most comfortable classroom seating to the anxious student (such as near a friend).
- Create a plan for catching up after a sick day or extended absence.
- Provide advance notice of changes in routine, such as planned substitute teachers.

### **Introducing New Lessons and Concepts**

- Provide notice of upcoming tests (no last-minute surprises)..
- Provide notes through email or a school portal so the student can preview them.
- Reduce the amount of homework.

### **Promoting Relationships in Class**

- Encourage and foster friendships between students with anxiety and their friendly, outgoing classmates.
- Pair students for specific activities instead of allowing them to choose pairs; this will prevent the student with anxiety from being left out.
- Allow the student with anxiety to sit with classmates with whom she is familiar.

## **PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)**

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**Dear PSA Families,**

***PLEASE SUPPORT PAC by signing up with FRY'S. It is free and every time you shop-school gets some money. Here is the link [FRYS](#)***

Please sign up [HERE](#) to volunteer. Just ONE hour per semester makes a lot of difference. All volunteers have to be vaccinated (Covid-19) and do a background check via Lobby Guard (please, see front office). Please, join PAC by emailing us: [ParagonPACparents@sonoranschools.org](mailto:ParagonPACparents@sonoranschools.org)

## ELEMENTARY K-5

### UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

It is a busy week at Paragon with Fall in full swing. Get in the spirit with these fundraisers:

- Thursday- Haunted Hallways. Elementary hallway will be decorated for Paragon elementary students only. Presale \$5, at the door \$8. Students may come in costume
- Friday- ½ day. Students may wear costumes to school. NO masks, weapons or blood allowed.
- Friday night we will have “Fright Night”. Age appropriate movies and activities. \$5 Paragon students.

### CHARACTER EDUCATION

*If you have examples you would like posted of your family or student showing Character at home, please email them to [paragon@sonoranschools.org](mailto:paragon@sonoranschools.org)*

Each month we focus on a new character trait. Students have opportunities to learn, practice, and demonstrate that skill in many ways. We celebrate those accomplishments in a monthly assembly. Assembly this month is on Oct. 28.

This month we're talking about the virtue of – **Respect** : *seeing good in people and things (and treating them with care).*

*We are also talking about Respect in the context of using good manners, not using inappropriate or offensive language, being courteous to one another, resolving conflicts peacefully, and treating one another as we would want to be treated (and how they want to be treated!).*

### Family Activity

#### Cell Tower

Challenge yourself to not use a cell phone after your child comes home from school until they go to bed. Invite your child to build a tower together out of blocks or other supplies around the house. As you build together, talk about what it means to Respect each other's ideas. When creating things as a team, what are ways that we can show each other Respect? Share how you are committed to spending the evening away from technology and giving them your attention and why you believe that shows Respect.

### For Parent Reading on Respect

[Parenting Magazine: The Return Of Respect](#)

[The Respectful Child: How To Teach Respect](#)

## **READ...READ...READ** “*The more you read the more you'll know. The more you know the better you'll grow*” Dr. Seuss

We encourage our students to read on a regular basis. It doesn't matter what you read as long as you are enjoying it or are reading to learn about something new. Please promote reading and help us by having family reading time at home. Modeling is the best form of encouragement. For students unable to read, parents can choose to read to them. We offer several online options if you've run out of books at home. Raz Kids, SORA, i-Ready, and some classes use EPIC. Often books are also available online. Search YouTube or google.

### **K-2 Books about Respect**

#### **Giraffes Can't Dance** by Giles Andreae

A touching tale of Gerald the giraffe, who wants nothing more than to dance. With crooked knees and thin legs, it's harder for a giraffe than you would think. Gerald is finally able to dance to his own tune when he gets some encouraging words from an unlikely friend.

#### **The Juice Box Bully** by Maria Dismondy

A class community makes a commitment to one another: when a student is found bullying, the students become upstanders and support both the student being bullied and the student doing the bullying.

#### **What if Everybody Did That?** by Ellen Javernick

Readers explore the consequences of their actions by exploring the question, “what if everybody did that?” This book particularly explores how children can show Respect for their community and the environment.

#### **Have You Filled a Bucket Today?** by Carol McCloud

This book provides an incredibly helpful metaphor that helps children explore ways to show Respect, its impact, and reasons why others may struggle to show Respect. It's a practical and powerful tool to help students understand the importance of showing Respect regardless of whether or not it's received.

### **Books for 3-5 about Respect**

#### **The Orange Shoes** by Trinka Hakes Noble

Delly needs new shoes, but she's a happy little girl nonetheless. Will a prejudiced classmate ruin the Shoebox Social for her?