



THE JAGUAR JOURNAL



DON MENSENDICK SCHOOL

Home of the Jaguars

March/April 2011

WE ARE A PERFORMING PLUS SCHOOL!

Partners in Education (PIE) Recognition

Mensendick families have been busy collecting pieces of their PIEs. Many families are coming close to collecting all 8 pieces. Rewards are being distributed in the Mensendick and Jack offices:

- Five out of eight PIE pieces: \$5 gift card or Papa John's discount
- Six out of eight: two \$5 gift cards and/or Papa John's discount voucher
- Seven or eight out of eight: three \$5 gift cards, and a Papa John voucher and a YMCA discount voucher.

Bring your PIE charts to the Mensendick office to collect your incentive reward. You can turn in your PIE chart at your convenience. Much thanks goes to Rueben Gonzales, State Farm Representative, for his generous donation of Fry's gift cards!



If you have not yet accumulated all of your PIE pieces, there are still a number of opportunities this school year for you to collect all eight.

Attend Achievement Award: *Student of the Month Assembly— April 6 at 2:30 p.m.*

Attend PTA Meeting: *April 19 and May 17 at 5:30 p.m.*

Attend an Academic Night: *Science Fair and Open House— May 5 at 5:30 p.m.*

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Change of Address/Phone Number

It is important for our school to have the most current address and phone number for our students in case of an emergency. Should anything change during the school year, please provide the office with your new contact information as soon as possible.

From The Principals



Angie Schultz
Principal

AIMS testing is just around the corner. Students will be tested in Writing, Science, Reading, and Math from April 11-14. It is very important that all students are at school on time each day! Here are some other helpful suggestions that will help students do their best:

- **Encourage, don't pressure.** Encourage your children to do their best, but avoid putting on the pressure. Too much pressure can cause test anxiety.
- **Give them "brain food."** Make sure your child has a healthy breakfast each morning of the testing week. A non-cost breakfast will be available to all Mensendick students during AIMS testing week!
- **Put them to bed.** Sleepy children have a tough time succeeding academically. It is particularly important for your children to get a good night's sleep the night before a big test.

Our teachers are working with students on test taking strategies. Please remind your students to follow these important tips:



Jeff Vilardi
Assistant Principal

- **Pay attention.** Stress that they will need to listen to the testing instruction very closely and follow the written directions exactly.
- **Don't rush to finish.** AIMS is not a timed test. Students may take as much time as they need to answer the test questions and check their answers.
- **Keep track of the "bubbles."** Remind your children that it's very important to make sure they're at the right place on their answer sheet. Suggest that they double check every five or 10 questions, making sure that the bubble they are filling in matches the number of the question they're answering.
- **Find the best answer.** It's tempting for students to choose the first answer that look right. Make sure they understand that several of the answers may seem right, but that they need to choose the one best answer.
- **Aim high.** Encourage them to do their best and help them believe that they will do well.

Finally, when the test results are release, find out the scores may affect your child's academic placement or where he or she needs more work. We use the results of AIMS tests to help us select students for our Advanced Math classes in the sixth, seventh, and eighth grades, and we also look at scores to help us determine if a student is in need of extra intervention.

Parent Engagement Survey Results

Thank you to all families who completed and returned the Parent Engagement Surveys! The results of the surveys are listed below. As we work to plan Parent Engagement Classes and Activities, we will use this information to best meet your needs and interests. One of the clear indications from the survey results is the need for child care when we have schedule parent events. As a school, we will work to make child care available so that as many parents and families can attend the event as possible. Wednesdays and Thursdays seem to be the most popular and convenient nights of the week for evening events and the times that are most convenient are after 5:30 p.m. Loretta Brown serves as our Family Services Advocate. Her main job is to work with parents and the school to increase parent involvement and educational opportunities for our families. If you have any questions about Mensendick, would like information about classes offered through Rio Salado, or have ideas about how we can better serve you, please contact Ms. Brown in the Mensendick Office at 623-237-4608.

	Sent Home	Mailed	Flyer	Email	Phone Call			
Communication School Events	12	31	4	7	15			
	Monthly	Before Event	After Event	Rarely				
Receiving Communication	17	19	5	8				
	Discipline/Behavior	Bullying	Nutrition	Goals	Child Help	Gifted Prgm.	Eld Prgm.	Sped/Policies
Topics of Interest	16	13	5	16	28	11	5	11
	Yes	No						
Parent Engagement-Child Care	28	8						
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday				
Day of week Convenient-P.E.C	12	18	22	22				
	8:30-9:30am	5:30-6:30pm	6:00-7:00pm					
Time of Day Convenient-P.E.C	14	14	19					
	Yes	No						
Interested in Info-Rio Salado	29	10						

Important Dates & Upcoming Events

3/22/11	PTA Meeting- 5:30 p.m.
3/25/11	\$1 Dress Day
	Early Release Day- 12:15 pm
4/1/11	PEP Assembly- 8:15 a.m.
4/6/11	Student of the Month Assembly- 2:30 p.m.
4/8/11	Field Day
	Early Release Day- 12:15 p.m.
	End of Grading Period 4
4/11/11	AIMS Testing Week
4/19/11	PTA Meeting- 5:30 p.m.
4/22/11	No School
4/28/11	Mensendick's Fastest Typist Competition- 3:30 p.m.

We encourage all students, parents, staff members and community members to join us in supporting our school events.

At Don Mensendick School All Students Will Learn In A Safe Environment

OFFICE HOURS MON-FRI 7:45-4:30

CONTACT INFORMATION

Don Mensendick School
5535 N. 67th Avenue
Glendale, AZ 85301
Phone: 623-237-4006
Fax: 623-237-4615

Principal Angie Schultz
Phone: 623-237-4603
Email: aschultz@gesd40.org

Assistant Principal Jeff Vilardi
Phone: 623-237-4604
Email: jvilardi@gesd40.org

Absence/Attendance Line
Phone: 623-237-4605
**No students will be permitted
to be signed out after 2:45 pm.**

GESD Mission Statement

Our highly trained and caring staff, in partnership with our families and community, ensures each student will achieve the academic excellence and confidence to embrace a future of higher education leading to a productive and fulfilling life.

We're on the Web

www.gesd40.org

Don Mensendick School Behavior Expectations



Jaguar Students and Staff Pride Themselves on Following the School Behavior Expectations.

Be Safe.

Be Respectful.

Be Responsible.