



# Dragon Dispatch

January 23, 2024

## Important Upcoming Dates

Wednesday, January 24	No School – Staff Professional Learning Day
Wednesday, January 31, 3:00pm	Parent Teacher Group (PTG) Meeting
Wednesday, February 7, 2:00pm	Family Engagement Team Meeting
Thursday & Friday, February 8-9	Half Days – Parent/Teacher Conferences
Thursday & Friday, February 22-23	No School – Rodeo Break
Wednesday, February 28, 2:45pm	School Site Council Meeting
Saturday, March 9, 3:00pm	String Ensemble II/Advanced Guitar/Mariachi Los Dragoncitos performing at Tucson Festival of Books

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## No School Tomorrow (Wednesday, January 24)!

This is a reminder that there is no school tomorrow (Wednesday, January 24) for TUSD staff to attend a professional development day. See you Thursday!

## Yearbook Early Bird Pricing Ends Next Week!

Yearbooks for this school year are currently on sale for \$10 each, but the price is going up on February 1. Order now to get yours at this lower price! You can purchase a yearbook on the [TUSD Payment Portal](#), with your student's ID number as the user name (this can be found on [ParentVue](#)), and the student's last name as the password. Please note that yearbooks must be pre-ordered, and the final deadline will be the end of February. If you have any questions, please [email Ms. Amanda Laub](#) or [email Ms. Tenaya Rosmaier](#), who are coordinating the yearbook.

## Free Dance Class on Campus for Elementary Students

There is space available in the free dance class offered for elementary students after school on Mondays from 3:45 to 4:30. Your student will be able to stay on campus from the end of school through the end of class. To participate, please return the "informed consent" form attached to this email to Wendy Gordon Weeks, Magnet Coordinator. [Email Ms. Weeks](#) with any questions and scanned consent forms.

## Free Sports Physicals

The University of Arizona College of Medicine is offering free sports physicals for children without insurance. For information on services provided and how to make an appointment, visit the [Kids Clinic webpage](#).

## Parent Teacher Group (PTG) Meetings

Drachman's PTG will meet on the last Wednesday of every month at 3:00pm. The meeting will be hybrid, in person in our library and on our [PTG Zoom link](#). All are welcome!

## Reminder for 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Orchestra/Mariachi/Guitar Students

Friday, February 9th is Group Picture Day. Please remember to bring all the required attire to Ms. Amanda's room in the morning. The pictures will take place after school, and students can be picked up at 2:00pm. (Note that this is a half day for Parent Teacher Conferences; students will not leave campus at the usual half-day time on this date.) [Contact Ms. Amanda](#) if you have any questions.

## Choose Drachman's Montessori Middle School Experience!

We have been sharing a series of articles describing some of the things that set Drachman's Montessori Middle School program apart from other middle school programs. In the previous pieces, we shared why:

Integrated curriculum themes and staying with the same teacher throughout the day lead to deeper learning,

Cooperative and project-based learning, integral in Montessori middle school, leads to better learning outcomes for students, and

Continuity and consistency help early adolescents during a time of significant change.

This time, we'll tell you more about how:

Being in a smaller community provides students more individualization and support during a vulnerable period.

Drachman Montessori students benefit from the small community in the middle school environment. Because the middle school team all works with the group of students across the three years of middle school, they really get to know the students. This allows the teachers to individualize better for students over the three years because they already know

them. It also allows teachers to more easily see if a student is struggling, either academically or emotionally, and get them connected with support they need. This is especially important during early adolescence, as the dramatic changes in the adolescent brain make them more vulnerable to stress.

## **Reminder: Non-Perishable Food, Hygiene Items Needed**

We maintain a non-perishable food and hygiene pantry here at Drachman. We are continuously accepting donations of non-perishable food items (for example: canned foods, nuts, dried fruits and vegetables, nut butters, grains such as pasta and rice, jerky, granola and protein bars, cereal and oats) and hygiene items. We would love to see the pantry cabinets full thanks to the generosity of our community, so we can support all of our community members.

Drachman Montessori K-8 Magnet nurtures the whole child, helps students discover their cosmic task and role as citizens of the world, and guides students to achieve individual excellence.



[tusd1.org/drachman](https://tusd1.org/drachman)

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SCHOOL DISTRICT