



Dragon Dispatch

February 6, 2024

Important Upcoming Dates

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
Wednesday, February 28, 3:00pm	PTG Meeting
Friday, March 1	Yearbook Order Deadline!
Tuesday, March 5	ELA Benchmark
Wednesday, March 6	Math Benchmark
Friday, March 8	No School – Grading Day
March 11-15	Spring Break
Saturday, March 9, 3:00pm	String Ensemble II/Advanced Guitar/Mariachi Los Dragoncitos performing at Tucson Festival of Books

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Half Days This Thursday and Friday (February 8-9)

Remember that this Thursday and Friday are half days to allow for parent-teacher conferences. Elementary students will be dismissed at 11:45 and Middle School students will be dismissed at 12:30. February conferences are generally on an as-needed basis; if you would like to meet with your child's teacher, get in touch with them for more information about how to set up a time. (All teachers' email addresses are on the [Drachman website](#).)

Drachman Earns National Merit School of Distinction Award!

We are proud to share with you that Drachman Montessori has been named a National Merit School of Distinction by Magnet Schools of America, the national association for magnet and theme-based schools!

To receive a national merit award, magnet schools submit a detailed application that is scored by a panel of educators. We are judged on our ability to raise student academic achievement, promote racial and socioeconomic diversity, provide integrated curriculum and instruction, and create strong family and community partnerships using the Montessori method.

This award recognizes the community we have built together and our joint efforts to make Drachman a place of learning and joy that meets the needs of every child. Thank you to our entire Drachman community, whose efforts and support made this award possible!

Yearbooks Must Be Pre-Ordered by March 1!

Yearbooks for this school year are on sale now for \$13 each. 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! Last year, we had a number of disappointed families who wanted to buy one in May but there were no extras available for purchase. The only way to guarantee your student will get a yearbook is to pre-order one by the March 1 deadline. If you have any questions, please [email Ms. Amanda Laub](#) or [email Ms. Tenaya Rosmaier](#), who are coordinating the yearbook.

Reminder: Registration & Lottery for 2024-2025

If you have a child who will enter kindergarten at Drachman next year, remember to let us know! If you live outside the neighborhood, you will need to [apply for the lottery through the Smart Choice website](#).

All families – please remember to register NOW for next school year to help Drachman get maximum funding and keep all current teaching and staff positions! We need all returning students/families in grades Kindergarten through 7th grade to do this (by opening your ParentVue account and following the steps) ASAP! If your student will not be returning to Drachman next year, please [email Dr. Celaya](#) to let us know.

School Quality Survey

It is time once again for our annual School Quality Survey. We hope that you will take a few minutes to provide us with your thoughts by completing this electronic survey. Please fill out a separate survey for each one of your children who attend a TUSD school. We greatly appreciate your support and look forward to continuing to serve you. Thank you!

- [Arabic version of School Quality Survey](#)
- [English version of School Quality Survey](#)
- [Kinyarwanda version of School Quality Survey](#)

- [Spanish version of School Quality Survey](#)
- [Swahili version of School Quality Survey](#)
- [Vietnamese version of School Quality Survey](#)

Message for Parents/Guardians of Student-Athletes

Please [email Dr. Celaya](#) any pictures you may have taken of our sports teams in action so he can use some of them for future Dragons Sports Illustrated Newsletters.

PTG Minutes

Attached to this newsletter are the minutes from the Parent Teacher Group (PTG) meeting on January 31. If you would like to join us, the next PTG meeting is on Wednesday, February 28 at 3:00pm on Zoom and in our library.

Parent Focus Group

We want your input! We will be bringing together a parent focus group to give us feedback on what is going well here at Drachman and areas for improvement. If you are interested in participating, please [email Ms. Adriana Manrique](#).

Family Resource Center Events

TUSD's Family Resource Centers offer lots of great programs and support services. For more information, check out the [FRC's Monthly Newsletter](#).

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

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