



**Tucson Unified School District
Sahuaro High School**

545 N. Camino Seco
Tucson, Arizona 85710
520 731-7100
Fax 520-731-7101

June 2025

Dear Sahuaro Students and Families,

We hope everyone is having a great summer! As we look forward to the upcoming 2025-2026 school year, we are excited about the potential that each student will bring to our campus, where your learning matters. This year, our focus will be solely on enhancing our students' learning experience. We are committed to refining our practices and building essential skills that will empower our students to excel. As a result, we expect to see improved performance across the board in Advanced Placement, ACT Aspire, CTE, AzSci, and the ACT exams during the spring testing season. Ultimately, our dedication to student learning will pave the way for their future success and achievement, reinforcing that every student's growth truly matters.

In this letter, you will find essential information to help you prepare for a successful start to the school year. Please remember that school begins on Monday, August 4th.

Zoom Family Welcome Back Meetings

On Wednesday, July 16, we will host welcome back meetings to review this year's goals, upcoming events, and answer questions you may have regarding the opening of the school year. Here is the schedule for that evening:

- 5:00-5:45 pm Freshmen & Sophomores Zoom # 516 954 3229
- 6:00-6:45 pm Juniors & Seniors Zoom # 516 954 3229

Cougar Freshman Orientation

We are excited to welcome your freshmen to our Cougar Freshman Orientation Day on Thursday, July 24th, from 8 AM to 12 PM in the McConnell Gym. This event is designed exclusively for students, so please note that no parents or family members will be permitted in the gym. Our Cougar Link Crew Program will help ensure that your freshmen get off to a fantastic start in their first year of high school! We look forward to seeing them there!

WHAT IS COUGAR LINK CREW? Cougar Link Crew is a nationwide program designed to welcome and support 9th graders by connecting them with Cougar Link Leaders, who are positive, responsible, hand-selected 11th and 12th graders. Your student's Cougar Link Leaders will help them feel more comfortable as well as help them achieve success in their first year of high school. Doesn't that sound great? It is!

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

1. Your child will receive an invitation sent via mail to orientation.
2. A day or two before orientation, your child will also receive a phone call from their Cougar Link Crew Leader personally inviting them to orientation day and giving the details of where to be and what time. The Leaders can also answer any questions they may have.
3. Your student is encouraged not to bring backpacks, purses or other like items as the day is quite active.
4. Because the day is active, please make sure that your student wears comfortable clothing that does not restrict movement.
5. Cell phone use is forbidden on this day.

We look forward to a great orientation day!



Tucson Unified School District Sahuaro High School

545 N. Camino Seco
Tucson, Arizona 85710
520 731-7100
Fax 520-731-7101

Office Closed Dates

Our office summer hours are 8:00-3:00 pm Monday-Friday. Our front offices will be closed to the public on the following dates:

- Thursday, June 19 (Holiday)
- Monday, June 30th – Friday, July 4th for our (Independence Day & Summer Holiday)
- Wednesday, July 16 8:00-9:30 (Training)
- Monday, July 28 & Tuesday, July 29 (District Professional Learning Days)
- Wednesday, July 30 8:00-Noon (Site Training)

Device Check Out & Student ID

We will issue school devices and student ID cards in the first full week of school. Once issued, students will be expected to wear their ID and bring their charged devices every day to school. To receive their laptops, students will need the following:

- Families must have completed their Online Registration through ParentVue
- Turn in any devices that may have previously been checked out to them

Counseling Department Services

Wednesday, July 16, is the target date when families and students will be able to see their tentative schedule in ParentVue & StudentVue. On Tuesday, July 22, Counselors will be available to meet with students and families by appointment only. To schedule appointments please call 731-7210, starting Thursday, July 17. Please see the flyer in this packet for more details and available dates.

School Meals Program

This year TUSD will continue its status as a Community Eligible Provision (CEP) District. This means we can provide free breakfasts and lunches to all our students. In addition to the standard lunch, other food, snacks, and drinks are also available. Please visit our District's meal website for information for menus, prices, and applications for free or reduced meal for the upcoming school year. On the website you will see the portal for online payments is now called "LINQ Connect."

TUSD Food Services Website <https://www.tusd1.org/food-services-meals>

Free or Reduced Benefits Application <https://www.tusd1.org/food-services-non-cep>

Senior Yearbook Photos

Seniors and families please call Silhouette Photography today to schedule your appointment for your senior yearbook portrait. Seniors must be photographed by Wednesday, December 10th to be in our yearbook! Please do not wait, appointments book up fast. If you have not filled out the online contact form, please go to www.silhouettephoto.com and click on Senior contact form. Please call 520-886-1710 today to book your session. Here is a link to review session types: <https://www.silhouettephoto.com/session-types>

Parking Passes

Students do you drive to school? All students will need to purchase a parking pass. This cost is \$6.00. Parking passes can be purchased online: <https://az-tucson.intouchrecepting.com/>

Senior Reserved Parking & Painting



Tucson Unified School District Sahuaro High School

545 N. Camino Seco
Tucson, Arizona 85710
520 731-7100
Fax 520-731-7101

Senior parking spots are available for \$15. The funds raised will support senior events, including prom, graduation, and the senior gift. We have two sessions scheduled for this opportunity:

- Session 1: Saturday, August 16th, from 7:00 AM to 10:00 AM.
- Session 2: Saturday, August 23rd, from 7:30 AM to 10:00 AM (immediately following Senior Sunrise)

NC for Excessive Absences

Successful completion of class assignments, taking notes, classroom discussions, and regular attendance are all critical factors for a student's learning. Students who record 10 or more unexcused absences in a semester for a class will be issued an "NC" (No Credit). Students and families may submit an "Attendance Appeal," requesting for student's potential passing grade to be restored. At the end of each semester, a school committee will review the Attendance Appeals. The committee may grant the credit, deny the credit, or grant the credit on the condition of the student successfully completing an attendance contract. This policy only applies to the courses where the student is receiving a passing grade. This policy does not apply to the classes where the student earned an F.

Tardy Policy: Excessive tardies can be very disruptive and can have a negative impact on students' learning. If a student is tardy more than twice in a given quarter, they will be assigned lunch detention by their teacher. Any further or ongoing tardiness in that quarter may result in escalated disciplinary action.

Advanced Placement Expectations: We are proud to offer a diverse range of Advanced Placement (AP) courses. AP is a program designed by the College Board that allows high school students to engage in college-level coursework and earn college credit before graduation. The main goal of our AP courses is to thoroughly prepare students for the AP Exams scheduled in May.

This year, we are reinstating the requirement that every AP student must take the AP Exam for their respective course. Each exam costs \$98, but we can provide financial assistance to families in need.

Participation in our school's AP program is highly recommended for students aiming to enhance their college admission prospects and qualify for competitive scholarships.

New This Year

There will be several new initiatives and procedures introduced this year. We expect to provide more details regarding many of these policies soon.

Digital Hall Pass: We will be utilizing the Digital Hall Pass feature in Synergy to manage hall passes from the classrooms. Students will need their school identification cards to access this feature and submit their requests. This system will enable us to review important data and track student movement, patterns, and any potential concerns regarding the improper use of passes. In certain situations, traditional call slips and physical passes will still be available, adding an extra layer of oversight to our overall system.

Cell Phone Policy: As many of you know, our State has passed a new cell phone law that restricts student cell phone use during the school day in both public and charter schools. This law mandates that schools limit or prohibit non-educational cell phone use, restrict access to social media platforms on school networks, and establish procedures for communication between students and parents. Our District is currently reviewing and updating our policy to ensure it aligns with the new State regulations. We expect to provide more details for everyone at the beginning of the school year.



**Tucson Unified School District
Sahuaro High School**

545 N. Camino Seco
Tucson, Arizona 85710
520 731-7100
Fax 520-731-7101

Parent Square: We will be transitioning to a new platform for communicating with our families. We have been informed that next year, we will be replacing “Parent Link” with “Parent Square.” While this change is expected to be seamless for our families, I may encounter some challenges as I learn the new system.

Centegix: Our district is installing a new system to enhance responsiveness and communication with local emergency services in the event of an emergency. The system, called Centegix, has already been installed and is designed to add an extra layer to our existing safety plans. We will be training our faculty and staff on this new equipment before integrating it into our drills.

New Visitor Management System & Health App: We anticipate implementing a new electronic visitor management system that will replace our current sign-in process. This system will introduce new ID procedures for visitors. Additionally, we expect to launch a new health app for our students and families. Both of these systems will impact how families pick up their children early from the attendance office. While we do not have all the details yet, we expect to receive further information and training over the summer, and we will share more updates as we roll them out for the new school year.

Drop Off, Pick Ups & Deliveries

As we begin the school year, please be aware that our parking lot may be congested. It will take some time for everyone to adjust. We kindly ask that you do not block the entrances to our church neighbors to the north or the bus bay. Additionally, we are unable to accept deliveries, including flowers and meals from delivery apps, as we do not have the staffing available to process these safely while carrying out our primary duties. Lastly, please remember that if you need to check out your child before the end of the school day, you must come into the office and present your ID. This procedure is in place to ensure the safety of all our students. Thank you for your understanding and patience!

In This Packet

Also, in this packet, you will find our bell schedules, testing dates, more information about our new Link Crew, information on how to access our online store, a message from our Health Office, directions on how to contact or make an appointment with your counselor, details on how to connect with our coaches and teams this summer, and an event calendar. Please know that most students will take 6 classes per day, Periods 1-6. Period 0 and Period 7 are for extended day and are used for specialty classes.

Please see our website for updates to our event calendar and any new information. Please make sure your contact information and email addresses are up to date with our front office so we can continue to give you important updates throughout the summer and during the school year. I look forward to seeing everyone soon. Enjoy your summer!!!

Thank you,

Roberto A. Estrella

Roberto A. Estrella, Principal
Where your learning matters