



# TIGER PRIDE POST

Monthly news from  
Vista del Sur Accelerated Academy

**September 2023**

## Principal's Note

The 2023-2024 school year is off to an amazing start! Thank you to all the families who attended our first Site Council and PTO meetings. It's exciting to begin planning our yearly events.

This year's Curriculum Night was a great success. Our teachers shared some instructional strategies that will support our students and families. If you weren't able to attend, please reach out to your child's teacher for further information.

Our Softball and boys' Basketball coaches and athletes are preparing for the upcoming season. Our Student Council has started recruiting students for a great year of extra-curricular activities. Field trips are also in the planning stages for this school year. We are so excited about the number of activities we are able to provide to our students through parent support and tax credit donations. Vista's office staff can support you in making your tax credit donation therefore don't hesitate to contact the front office with any questions or concerns.

Jessica Epacs  
Principal



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## Upcoming Events

- Friday, Sept. 1st- Student of the Month Assembly, 7:00 am
- Monday, September 4th, Labor Day No School
- Tuesday, September 12th,  
Fall Pictures  
Basketball & Softball Game @ Desert Meadows, 4:30 pm
- Wednesday, September 13th, Half Day Release @ 12:00 pm
- Thursday, September 14th,  
Scoopacular Night 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm  
Basketball & Softball Game @ Cheatham, 4:30 pm
- Monday, September 18th, Basketball & Softball Game @ EFGA, 4:30 pm
- Tuesday, September 19th Basketball & Softball Game @ Vista, 4:30 pm
- Wednesday, September 20th,  
Basketball & Softball Game @ Trailside, 4:30 pm  
Site Council Meeting, 5:30 pm  
PTO Meeting, 6:00 pm
- Monday, September 25th, Basketball & Softball Game @ Cash, 4:30 pm
- Wednesday, September 27th, Half Day Release @ 12:00 pm
- Friday, September 29th, Fall STUCO Blood Drive 9:00 am - 1:00 pm



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## Picture Day



**September 12, 2023**

**Picture Day ID: EVT9CB9QV**



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## Gifted Education News

Gifted testing will take place in October for students not already identified.

All gifted students will receive an invitation to a gifted Google Classroom for their grade level band (K-2, 3-5, & 6-8). Enrichment tasks will be added weekly in a variety of areas including critical and creative thinking, academic extensions, and social-emotional topics like growth mindset and what it means to be gifted. Mrs. Garis, the gifted instructional coach, is also working with teachers to ensure students are provided with challenge within the classroom and core instruction.

Gifted Contact Information:

Kate Garis- [kgaris@laveeneld.org](mailto:kgaris@laveeneld.org)



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## **Free and Reduced Price Meal Applications**

Families are encouraged to submit a school meal application for free or reduced-price meal benefits.

### **How to Apply**

Your child may qualify for free or reduced-price meal benefits. We strongly encourage parents & guardians to apply online through [EZMealApp.com](https://EZMealApp.com) to ensure a quick, safe, and contact-less application process. Applications must be submitted annually and may take up to 10 business days to process.

### **Online Menu**

Our school menus have gone digital! Introducing Nutrislice, an interactive way to view your child's school menu.





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TAXPAYERS CAN LOWER THEIR TAXES AND SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS! You can send all your state taxes to the State of Arizona or make a contribution to a public school and receive a State Income Tax Credit for up to \$200 for tax payers who file a tax return as single or head of household and a maximum of \$400 for married couples filing jointly on your State Income Tax Return.

A.R.S. §43-1089.01 gives you this opportunity to help your local school. A tax credit, which is the dollar-for-dollar reduction of your tax liability, is better than a tax deduction, which only reduces your taxable income before taxes are computed. The tax credit is available to all Arizona taxpayers, regardless of whether they have children in school.

For more information, go to our website at  
<http://www.laveeneld.org/about-laveen/tax-credit>  
or call the school office.



## Bus Passes

All bus riders must present their bus pass/student identification badge when they board and exit the bus.