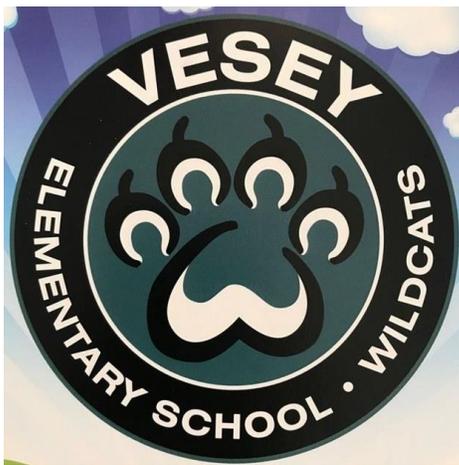




# Vesey Elementary News

August 2021



Welcome back Vesey families! Here's what you'll find included in this month's Newsletter:

- August Events
- The Principal's Podium: A letter from Mr. Uhrig
- New Staff Introductions
- Counselor's Corner
- PTA Information
- Resources

## August Events



- **Thursday, August 5th**-- First day of school! Welcome back!
- **August 18, 2021**-- Peter Piper Pizza Night, more information to come!
- **Thursday, August 26th**-- Professional learning day for teachers, no class

## The Principal's Podium: A Letter From Mr. Uhrig

### **Welcome Vesey Families to Our 2021-2022 SY!**

We are so excited to welcome you back to in person learning! It was amazing first day of school. I hope this time finds you and your families safe and well. I know this past year has been difficult and filled with uncertainty and anxiousness. The time spent away from each other and from your children has been difficult and lonely. The great news is that we are prepared for an amazing year. The Vesey staff has worked tirelessly throughout the summer to ready themselves for a new approach to learning that focuses on our reading and mathematics. Your child will be exposed to academic rigor that will make up any losses resulting from the Covid-19 closure. Vesey has shined in every aspect as we prepared for coming back this year. I am very proud to be your Principal and a fellow parent here at Vesey. Please know that each and every one of you are valued and our main goals this year center on our ability to keep every one safe and to deliver stellar education to your children.



As we enter this new school year, our renewed collective commitments center on our effective teaching to produce increases in student academic achievement. I want invite you to become partners with the teacher and school so that we can ensure that your child has the best experience this year. Please continue to engage in conversations around a “growth mindset” both for your child and your family. We are in this together! Please believe in your abilities and choices to rise above challenges and come out stronger at the end. Below are a couple of our accomplishments this past year:

- Attendance stayed in the 90th %!
- Discipline stayed mostly in the Green!
- We did our best to advocate for a Healthy School even before the closure.
- We continued our great partnership with Pascua Yaqui Tribe.
- The University of Arizona Cats Cohort will be here again this year.
- Our Pre-K grew this year.

I would like to WELCOME our new team members:

- Ms. Sable – Assistant Principal
- Mr. Anthony Faulkner – Curriculum Service Provider
- Mrs. Anna Helsel – Exceptional Education Behavior Interventionist
- Mrs. Rachel Broome – Reading Interventionist
- Mrs. Lisa Titus – Exceptional Education Resource Teacher
- Ms. Giavonna Grizzanti – 1st Grade ELD Teacher
- Ms. Megan Morris – 1st Grade Teacher
- Ms. Stephanie Torres 3rd Grade ELD Teacher
- Mr. Stanley Dunst- Band
- Mrs. Ortega – Speech Teacher

*We are excited to have you all join the Vesey Team-Always a Great Day to be a Wildcat!*

This year we will continue to develop and refine our curriculum, academic achievement, PBIS, and school culture & climate based on data. We will continue to support your children with academic, behavioral and social needs and continue the bridge of brilliance set forth by our Vesey Wildcats and our Vesey High Paw Way!

I do want to let you know that aside from our School’s Mission and Vision, I look forward to partnering with you in promoting our students safety, agency, social and emotional learning, and in building a strong foundation that allows us to thrive this year in spite of Covid-19 Delta Variant.

*I challenge you to be the best leader, learner and student advocate that you can be!*

Here are some of the events that are upcoming:

- August 2, 2021 – Meet the Teacher Night 5:00PM-7:00PM.
- August 18, 2021 – Peter Piper Pizza Night – Info to follow.
- September 14, 2021 - Vesey Update via Zoom with Principal Uhrig – Please join me.

Thank you for all that you do for our kids here at Vesey!

Jeffrey M. Uhrig M.A.Ed./MBA

Very Proud Principal

Vesey Elementary School

(520) 908-4600

[Jeffrey.Uhrig@tusd1.org](mailto:Jeffrey.Uhrig@tusd1.org)

## New Staff Introductions!

As Mr. Uhrig mentioned in his welcome back letter, we have plenty of new staff members here at Vesey! A few of them have been kind enough to write a small introduction letter to our families.

[Lisa Titus](#)

*"Hello My name is Lisa Titus I am the new Ex Ed teacher for third and fourth grade. I just recently moved here from Eastern Washington. I am very excited to be a part of the Vesey family. It is going to be an AMAZING school year!"*

[Rachael Broome](#)

*"I'm excited to join the Vesey team this year after several years of teaching English Language Arts at the high school and middle school levels. I am a native Arizonan and a proud Tucsonan since the age of five. I live with my husband, also an educator, and my crazy dog, Izzy (who, no kidding, jumps around in circles, leaping shoulder-high when it is time for her walk each day!). My daughter is in college in northern California, working on the Ph.D. in astrophysics that she's dreamed of since she was ten years old. I know the power of dreams and hard work, and my passion for reading most recently led to a master's degree in reading education, which I will put to work at Vesey as the new reading interventionist because I believe that reading is the key to learning and success and I want to share that key with our children!"*

[Katie Sabel](#)

*"Hello Vesey Families,*

*My name is Katie Sabel and I am the new Assistant Principal here on campus. I can't wait to get to know all of our Vesey students and families! I am a mother and have been an educator for 23 years. I am excited for this new adventure! Feel free to reach out to me via email ([katherine.sabel@tusd1.org](mailto:katherine.sabel@tusd1.org)) or phone."*

## Counselor's Corner: Welcome back!



Hello Vesey families! It has been so wonderful to see your kiddos filling our halls these past few days. As our school counselor, I just want to make sure that you all have the information you need about me so that I can serve as a resource for you and your students.

My name is Allie Kerr and this is my second year at Vesey. I have a bachelor's degree in Psychology and Spanish from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and my master's in School Counseling from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. I work with our students in many different ways: classroom lessons (about subjects like feelings, friendship, and responsibility), small group work, and one-on-one work.

I'm here to support your students through whatever they may be going through! If you would like to refer your student for one-on-one support, please use our [referral form](#) (available in Spanish [here](#)). If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out! You can reach me by phone at (520) 352-9014 or by email at [alexandra.kerr@tusd1.org](mailto:alexandra.kerr@tusd1.org). I also have a virtual counseling office which can be found [here](#).

If your family needs any resources, please feel free to reach out to our School Social Worker, Rachel Lopez. She's happy to connect families with the help they need! She can be reached by phone at (520) 908-4691 or by email at [rachel.lopez@tusd1.org](mailto:rachel.lopez@tusd1.org). You can also find her virtual social work office [here](#).

### Counseling classroom lessons this August

This August, students will be introduced to the counselor, complete a getting to know you survey, and learning about the Zones of Regulation! Please reach out to me if you have any questions.

## Vesey's PTA

Hello Vesey families! Our wonderful PTA is beginning to meet again to continue supporting our school. Our first meeting is next week. If you're interested, please call the school for more information! Our Office Manager Mrs. Myers and fourth grade teacher Mrs. Prewitt can both offer you more information.

## Community Resources

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*TUSD Southwest Family Resource Center offers students/parents a variety of assistance to include food boxes, clothing, school supplies, counseling and classes on various topics.*

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- 6855 S. Mark Rd.
  - (520) 908-3980
  - Hours of Operation: Mon. Wed. & Fri. 8:00-4:30 p.m. Tue. & Thur. 9:30-6:00 p.m.
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*PIMA HELPLINE is a site where you can find several community resources in Tucson to include mental health help. <https://pimahelpline.org/>*

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### **BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF TUCSON**

#### **SCHOOL YEAR 2021-2022 DETAILS**

**All six Clubhouses are open Monday – Friday for youth ages 7-17 to serve families.**

Clubhouse activities/programs focus on our three priority outcomes: Academic Success, Good Character and Citizenship, and Healthy Lifestyles.

- Clubhouse Opens for the School Year – Thursday, August 5th
- Ages 7 to 17 years old
- 2021-2022 School Year Membership (August-May) \$20
- Meals provided through partnership with TUSD Meals Program

Register <https://www.bgctucson.org/clubhouses/membership-info/>