

# Superintendent Message

**Michael Penca**



Backpacks bursting with new school supplies, students lined up at bus stops watching for the yellow school bus to arrive, teachers standing outside classroom doors eagerly waiting to meet their new students- the start of a new school year is a time full of excitement and anticipation. As students, families and staff start to settle into the school routine, I hope these beginning-of-year feelings of engagement and eagerness are maintained all school year long until June. The staff of the Flagstaff Unified School District value our partnerships with families and look forward to guiding students' learning and sharing their progress with you throughout the school year. We invite families to engage in your child's education by regularly communicating with teachers and school staff, making sure students attend school regularly and on time, setting aside time at home for reading and homework, participating in open houses and school events, and serving on a school PTO, booster club or as a volunteer. Thanks for helping get the 2017-2018 school year at FUSD off to a great start!

## FUSD Governing Board

Welcome Back to FUSD for the 2017/18 school year! We hope everyone has had a restful and restorative summer and are ready to take on the new year! Passionate teachers are ready to share all they've learned over the summer; students are eager to absorb new ideas and practice new skills; parents are making sure students are well equipped for success and all are heading to Open Houses, prepping for Parent/Teacher conferences and attending all the other myriad activities offered that make FUSD the best place for nearly 10,000 students!

Along with all the familiar faces, FUSD has brought on some new people this year, one of whom is Mr. Penca who has been brought on to man the helm as Superintendent. We are excited to see his ideas brought to life and he's already been a visible part of each school. FUSD listens and we've heard you! We are expanding some of our best curriculum, are looking to add new programs in the next few years, and are reshaping other programs to ensure every student has the opportunity to become their best selves, to have the premier education they deserve, and to fully prepare them for the next chapter of their lives.

The 2016/17 school year presented it's challenges and this year will be no different. While there are many items we are attending to, funding is certainly at the top of our 'TO-DO' list and getting involved at the local, State, and Federal levels will be essential. While your Governing board is up for this challenge, your help, support, and influence will be the main ingredient if we are to successfully meet our goals.

So, tune in and watch how far we can grow and see what great opportunities you find to discover YOUR path to excellence!

*Standing firm in support of Public Education, Christine Fredericks, FUSD Governing Board, President 2017*



## Alpine Institute Expansion of Place-Based Learning

The 2017 – 2018 school year marks the launch of Alpine Institute at Flagstaff High School (FHS). The Alpine Institute is a place-based, service-learning magnet program that shares the same core values of inquiry, community, stewardship, critical thinking, and reflection with the Alpine Leadership magnet program at Mount Elden Middle School.

This is an exciting opportunity for the community to help engage and foster authentic learning experiences for their students. For more information, visit the Alpine Institute website at:

<https://www.fusd1.org/domain/1770>

Please see the full article in the Fall issue of CityScape delivered to your mailbox in September 2017.



**September**

9/04 Labor Day Holiday



**October**

10/09 - 10/11 Elementary Conferences  
Early Release (except Killip and Leupp)

10/12 - 10/13 Fall Break

You can now "Follow Us On Twitter"! We are @FlagstaffUSD.

The FUSD Mobile App is free and can be found on both the Android and iTunes stores under Flagstaff USD.

## Peachjar



### Communication We Can Be Proud Of

Please remember to register at Peachjar.com to get all fliers through our e-flyer system, Peachjar. No paper fliers are sent home with students. You can find fliers on our website by using the peach icon on the right side of each schools web-page. Since we started using this system February of 2015 we have saved not only time and expense by not using paper but we have also saved a lot of paper!

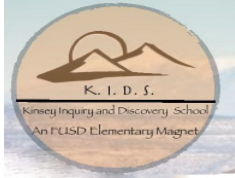
# of fliers sent - 4,707,633

# of trees saved - 564

# of sheets of paper saved - There are 220,000 sheets of paper in the standard pallet of paper (40 cases). so FUSD has saved 21.5 pallets of paper (941.5 cases of paper)



# Kinsey Receives a STEM Grant



Kinsey Inquiry and Discovery School has received The Flagstaff STEM Education grant with NAU's Civic Service Institute which has a primary focus of building STEM capacity for underserved populations and this grant will provide Kinsey Inquiry and Discovery School (KIDS) with material support for a Maker Space area in the Kinsey Library.

The purpose of the grant is to position libraries as forward-looking community anchors. The Kinsey Library STEM Center and Maker Space program will provide students and teachers with STEM educational resources and hands on experiences in science and engineering practices. The program will provide STEM fiction and nonfiction books, a Makerspace Movable Cart, Furniture (tables to "make" on and specialized storage containers to hold STEM manipulatives), laptops for Tinkercad, licenses, coding and digital materials, STEM center in the library, STEM education "making" opportunities in the magnet discovery classes, science labs and in their after school classes. The "maker space cart" can be moved to classrooms to integrate STEM learning into all subject areas. Students will enter their STEM projects in a Discovery Maker Fair showcasing their prototypes and projects. Students will participate in a mini STEM career fair and also have learning opportunities in STEM career related job sites (W.L. Gore, Nestle Purina, NAU, etc.). A mentor program will be developed with a focus on the engineering design process. Students will use STEM library resources to research their problem, project, or placed-based learning projects or in their engineering design process. Students will incorporate STE'A'M by putting on performing arts presentations within specials classes. STEM professional development opportunities on how to use the library STEM Center and Makerspace materials will be provided to staff. The library will be a STEM hub with outreach to our Kinsey Inquiry and Discovery Programs for our kids!



## Restoring History

Killip third graders in Mr. McCord's classroom had an opportunity to interact with 100 year old maps as part of their social studies unit on communities. Claudine Taillac, a librarian with the Flagstaff Public Library, has been in charge of an effort to restore century old maps of Flagstaff that were recently discovered in the basement of the old Babbitt Building downtown. These maps were once used by cowboys to locate water sources and determine grazing areas for livestock. Students had a chance to examine these antique maps and compare them to current maps of the Flagstaff area. Students also learned about the technology involved in restoring these maps, and discussed how map-making has evolved over the last 100 years. It was a great experience for all, and a terrific way to interact with our immediate community.



## Discover Your Path

FUSD offers wide variety of opportunities to students in our K-12 education system. We take offering well-rounded and rigorous options for all of our students very seriously. Whether a student is looking for a path to higher education, a military career, enjoys the environment and exploration, loves working with their hands, or pursuing their musical talent FUSD has the "path" for that. After a great foundation at any of our 10 elementary schools, our secondary schools allow students to explore a variety of paths to future success. Middle school students can take advantage of an emphasis in language, expeditionary learning, pre-advanced placement or technology and engineering in addition to the variety of electives, which include music, art, culinary arts or woodworking. In our three high schools, students can continue the path they started in middle school through our high school programs and take advantage of the additional electives, which include; welding, autos, woodworking, engineering and theater arts. Students who do not have a chosen direction will most likely find something that sparks their interest through the options afforded them through FUSD schools. We are proud that all students are given the opportunity to "Discover Your Path" at FUSD schools.



Enroll Today!



**FLAGSTAFF UNIFIED**  
School District

928-527-6000  
FUSD1.ORG



# FUSD Welcomes New Teachers

## "New Teacher Quotes.

Below is representation of quotes from the 66 new teachers we welcome to the FUSD community.

### Cromer Elementary School

"My first few days as a teacher consisted of self-portraits, recess, dance breaks, and more recess... it was entirely lovely, chaotic, and exhausting bliss!"

Kaitlyn Keller - First Grade Teacher



### Killip Elementary School

"I am so happy to be teaching at Killip! It's true when they say that you never stop learning!"

Blair Johnson Resource Teacher,



### Knoles Elementary School

"My first few days as a teacher have been a crazy kind-of-fun."

Dina Barraza



### Sechrist Elementary School

"The weeks leading up to the start of the school year seemed to be very stressful with lots of orientations and paperwork to fill out, but it has all been worth it. I have an amazing group of 1st graders that I am so excited to learn more about and grow with throughout this school year!"

Sonja Shaffer - 1st Grade Teacher



### Mount Elden Middle School

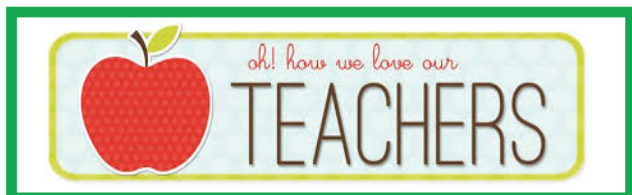
"My first few days as a teacher at Mount Elden Middle School have been early, fulfilling, welcoming, and exciting."

Morgan Vezeau

"I hope students will understand that some math problems can be easy and some can be challenging. But, a good mathematician is someone who overcomes difficult problems by having the attitude of trying to solve it, rather than to give up on solving it."

"Good mathematics is not about how many answers you know...It's how you behave when you don't know an answer" - Author Unknown

Janice Lyle - Seventh Grade Math Teacher



### Sinagua Middle School

"I experienced a wonderful week with hard working students, helpful staff, and supportive administration, but I was exhausted."

Kristine Penca - 7th grade MIT-e Program



"I am truly enjoying Sinagua Middle School and getting to know the wonderful people that fill it. The challenge and inspiration that come with the job have already gotten me feeling purposeful!"

Emily Lewis

### Coconino High School

So far I have been pleasantly surprised and impressed by how attentive, personable, and intelligent my students are. My fellow staff members have been nothing but supportive.

Casey Shove - CHS PE, Health, and Success.



My first few days have been great. I have really enjoyed getting to know the students and the other math teachers. I do miss air conditioning, though! LOL

Laura Rosensweet, M.Ed. - Algebra 2 and IMC Teacher

The students at Coconino are very polite and welcoming. The faculty and staff are supportive. Overall, I can't believe how friendly everyone is.

Mrs. Lily Stevens - English Teacher

"I feel I am exactly where I am supposed to be."

Gina Kugler - CHS Anchor Teacher

"My first few days as a Teacher we utilized the beautiful outdoor classroom at Coconino High School, students were given a ball of clay and told to close their eyes, after leading them through a series of steps to create a bird, they opened their eyes and saw their creations. We found places in the courtyard for our birds to rest and to always be there as reminders that in art and in life we have plans and think we know how something will turn out; yet, being open to change and challenges is where true discovery and originality blossom."

Kelly A. Woodruff - Fine Arts



### Flagstaff High School

I am so excited to be at Flag High teaching what I love, Culinary Arts! I am tired and my feet hurt every day after teaching 6 classes, but it's all worth it. This is what I was meant to do, and this is where I think I was meant to be. Hope it's a wonderful year for us all.

Ms. Marshall

## STEM Projects Will Be Displayed at City Hall

We invite the Flagstaff Community to share in our love of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math at City Hall. September 11th will be the 7th anniversary of Flagstaff becoming the "First STEM City in America". To celebrate this event Flagstaff Unified School District will display several STEM projects at City Hall from September 7th to September 20th. Projects from elementary, middle school and high school students will be displayed.



Thank you For choosing FUSD. We look forward to helping Your Student “Discover Their Path”

**Important Contact Information for Flagstaff Unified School District**

Administrative Center Main Number.....527-6000  
 Curriculum and Instruction Office.....527-6021  
 Human Resources.....527-6070  
 Exceptional Student Services.....527-6160  
 Food Service.....527-6090  
 Bilingual Education.....527-6107  
 Transportation.....527-2300



3285 E. Sparrow  
 Flagstaff, AZ 86004

Phone: 928-527-6000

E-mail: [keberhard@fUSD1.org](mailto:keberhard@fUSD1.org)