

## SMOKETREE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2395 SMOKETREE AVENUE N

LAKE HAVASU CITY, AZ 86403

TEL: (928) 505-6020

WEBSITE: <https://smoketree.lhusd.org/>



COUGARS  
ROAR

August 2020

School Year: 2020-2021

# Cougar Connection

### PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Hello. My name is, Nina Mersing, and I am the interim Principal of Smoketree Elementary. I look forward to meeting and working with you in supporting our Smoketree students.

As we begin the 2020-2021 school year, we will be providing a lot of new information. In addition to our monthly reminders, we will work to give information for parents to support students both academically and behaviorally at home as well. Please see our newsletter at <https://smoketree.lhusd.org/>. Hard copies will be available in the office and it will be displayed in the office bulletin board located just outside the front door. Please watch for this information and stay informed.

### SAFETY AND SECURITY

At the start of the school year, our campus may be under construction. Please be sure to follow any signs to get into our campus safely, as our office staff may be working from classroom locations as necessary while our office updates take place.

Our campus is open to families who need to submit registration paperwork, purchase school shirts, or obtain information.

Feel free to contact Mrs. Des Pres or Mrs. Morris in our front office should you have any questions.

**\*\*Please note that per the governor's order we will require a face covering on campus until the state requirement is lifted. Thank you in advance for working with us to keep our staff and students safe.**



## — WELCOME — BACK TO SCHOOL

**Smoketree is offering a Virtual Back to School Night on July 30, 2020. We will be providing a training on how to use Google classroom. Zoom invitations will be sent to you by Class Dojo. Teachers will be offering two sessions, one at 5:00 pm and one at 6:00 pm. We look forward to seeing you online on Thursday, July 30, 2020.**

### STATE SCHOOL GUIDELINES

From AZ State Superintendent Kathy Hoffman:

- ✓ ☐ By 8/7, the Arizona Department of Health Services will create reopening benchmarks based on public health data
- ✓ ☐ Full funding for distance learning
- ✓ ☐ Face covering requirements
- ✓ ☐ School facilities closed until 8/17
- ✓ ☐ Schools can start distance learning before 8/17
- ✓ ☐ Schools can continue distance learning after 8/17 as long as districts or charters provide an onsite learning option for at-risk students while enforcing physical distancing + safety protocols

<https://azgovernor.gov/governor/news/2020/07/arizona-open-learning>

Our local school board will be working with administrators to create a plan to address these guidelines that works in the best interest of our staff and students. More information will be shared before August 17<sup>th</sup>.

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## DRESS CODE



Families are welcome to come in any-time between 7:30am-3pm. School shirts will be available. All dress code requirements for on campus attendance are listed in our school handbook, which can be found on our Smoketree Website.

**\*\*Dress code will be enforced, and students will be required to change if they do not follow dress code. There will be NO exceptions.**

For any virtual learning environments, please ensure that students are dressed in school appropriate clothing (shirts and bottoms), as they will be visible in their distance learning classroom (i.e.: No swimming suits, etc.)



## Parents Right to Know Title I School-Wide Programs

We are pleased to notify you that in accordance with the Elementary and Secondary Act (ESEA), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), you have the right to request information regarding the professional qualifications of your child's teacher. Specifically, you may request the following:

- Whether the teacher has met the State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency or substitute status.
- The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.
- Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

If you would like to receive any of this information, please contact your child's school principal.

## TAHER SERVICES

Grab and Go Meal Service will be available Aug 3rd through (at least) Aug 14th

Monday through Friday 10:30 am - 12:30 pm  
at the LHHS football field Sports Concession Building

To ensure that students enrolled in the Lake Havasu Unified School District #1 are provided access to meals during remote learning, parents/guardians will be given the flexibility to pick up meals to take home to students without having to have the student present at the point of distribution.

Parents and Guardians must submit a registration form in order to be eligible to pick up meals without the student being present. Once registration is on file, the parent or guardian will only need to provide the student name and I.D. number for meal pick up.

Please go to the district website for more information and to download the meal pickup registration form.

Payment for meals will be in accordance with current meal eligibility status.

As a reminder, families must submit a new meal application each school year to qualify for free or reduced price meals. To apply, please visit: [Family.TitanK12.com](https://Family.TitanK12.com)

For the safety of you and our staff, NO CASH OR CREDIT CARDS will be accepted at meal pickup location. Load any additional funds onto your student's account, using the [Titan Family Portal](#), in advance of visiting the site to receive meals.

The District's [meal charge policy](#) will remain in effect during this time. Please refer to the district website at [LHUSD.org](https://LHUSD.org), Child Nutrition Department web page for more information.



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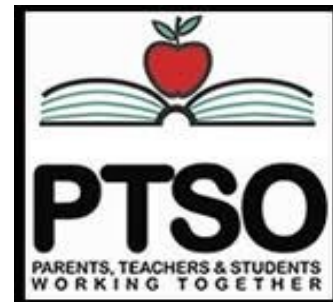
## **PTSO**

This year's events may look different as we start the year. However, we will work hard with our PTSO board and volunteers to bring opportunities to enrich and engage our families' lives and continue to keep our school community strong.

Here are some of the possible ways we may be supporting our families this year:

- ◇ Virtual Spirit Days
- ◇ Virtual Challenges
- ◇ Community Kindness Challenges
- ◇ School Fundraisers
- ◇ Student workshops
- ◇ Parent workshops
- ◇ School events when appropriate

We will provide more information in the near future.



Our school nurse, Shannon Ward, is here full time to offer support to our families.

Ms. Ward will be providing information on our school website, please be sure to look for the important information and resources.

