

Welcome to the Diamond Mind

DIAMOND VALLEY

MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Dear Students and Parents:

Welcome to Diamond Valley Middle School! Our staff is committed to making the 2020-2021 school year an exciting and demanding one where each student is pushed to reach their full potential. The DVMS staff has been working hard on developing policies and practices that align the *Taking Center Stage: Act II* framework for educational excellence. Our team of educators has revised several policies to better align with the California Schools to Watch framework around Academic Excellence, Developmental Responsiveness, Social Equity and Organizational Structures and Processes.

Diamond Valley Middle School is committed to academic excellence for all students. Teacher teams are committed to meeting each week to address the academic needs of students, while planning for increased student outcomes. This year, we have diversified our course offerings to allow for three distinct pathways for students: Visual and Performing Arts, AVID, and Career Technical Education (CTE). These pathways all offer unique opportunities for students to engage in academic excellence while exploring new interests and deepening 21st Century skills like collaboration and critical thinking. In addition to academic excellence, we also focus heavily on developmental responsiveness.

Middle School years are some of the most formative years for students. We are committed to providing resources, curriculum and programs that support the wide variety of developmental needs that our kids have. Diamond Valley fosters a multi-disciplinary approach to classroom instruction that helps students connect ideas across the curriculum. In addition, we offer multiple opportunities for students to engage socially via clubs, athletics, etc. A multi-tiered system of support is in place to meet the emotional and social needs of students and families as well. This multi-tiered approach includes a focus on addressing social equity as well.

We encourage and appreciate the voices of students and parents in the planning, performing and evaluation of school practices. Students are encouraged to start or join clubs, participate in weekly lunches with school administration and to communicate concerns without fear of reprisal. Stakeholders are encouraged to join any of our advocacy groups, including school site council, AACES, SPEAK and others who bring value and positive change to our school.

This year we are excited to implement several new initiatives around organizational structures that will reduce the variance of outcomes at our school. We are transitioning to a Passport system for rewards, a digital planner and feedback system, school-wide rewards for meeting positive expectations and three different community outreach events. We are very excited to partner with you to help create a wonderful year of engagement, opportunity and triumph.

Have a great year and GO DIAMONDBACKS! If you have questions, please contact the school at 951-925-2899.

Sincerely,

Jonathon Workman
Principal