

# CARTER COMMUNICATION BLOG

M. Williams, Principal

March

In an effort to better communicate with you all, I will be starting a monthly CARTER COMMUNICATION BLOG. We will add it to our Carter website, as well as send you all an email. They will not all be this long, but I want to offer another form of communication to everyone.

\* The third trimester begins on Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup>. Teachers will be completing report card grades this week. Grades are accessed via ParentVUE.

\* Parent-Teacher Conferences for the second trimester will be from March 27<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>. During this round of conferences, teachers will target families of students who are performing below grade level in curricular areas, have academic concerns, and/or have behavior concerns. However, teachers will schedule a meeting with any family requesting to meet.

\* **There will be no after-school enrichment or intervention classes during the week of Parent-Teacher Conferences (March 27<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>).**

\* Daylight savings time is Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>. Remember to set your clocks one hour ahead (spring forward).

\* Gum is not allowed on school grounds! Please do not allow your child to bring gum to school. Mints serve the same purpose and don't stick to shoes and get spread throughout the site. Also, please be reminded that food items such as cupcakes, donuts, pizza, etc. are not allowed to be sent in by parents to celebrate birthdays. Many parents choose to create goodie bags with pencils, erasers, or other small items that can be handed out at the end of the day to their classmates.

\* Our spring fundraiser is in full swing. Thank you all for the support. We are raising funds to purchase some indoor/outdoor industrial cooling fans to keep our breakfast-lunch area, and upgrade our misting systems in our Kindergarten yard during hot days. The fundraiser will be followed by "A DAY OF AWESOMENESS" on Friday April 7<sup>th</sup>, which will include multiple inflatables (examples include bouncy houses, ob, and a DJ). This will be a great day and ALL students TK-5 are invited to participate.

\* Our school takes a strong stand against bullying/harassment. I cannot stress to you enough that we cannot fix issues if we do not know they exist! Please encourage your child to speak up and let us know if something is happening to him/her or to someone else. You can also e-mail me at michael.williams@desertsands.us or our counselor at hristina.bonev@desertsands.us. Finally, we also have a district adopted anti-bullying website you can access, [www.PSSTWorld.com](http://www.PSSTWorld.com).

**\* Spring pictures will be taken on Wednesday, March 22, 2023. This one will help to get students who may have not been with us early in the year and add them to our class pictures in the yearbook. There is no obligation to purchase these photos unless you want them.**

**\* We will have a School Site Council (SSC) meeting on thursday, March 16th at 4:30 p.m. SSC meetings are open to the public for attendance and information. SSC meetings are in-person meetings only.**

**\* 5th Grade families... Time is running out! You are not guaranteed a spot at Palm Desert Charter Middle School! You must complete the attached link if you want to be considered for the PDCMS Enrollment Lottery for the 2023/24 school year. The timeframe to apply to be considered for the School Lottery ends on March 17, 2023. Students who apply after this day will be added to the waiting list in the order of applications that are submitted. Link: [PDCMS 2023-2024 Lottery Application](#)**

**\*Our modernization project is moving along. We were able to move our TK-K students into their new rooms the first week of March and have the 4th/2nd grade area underway currently. We are hoping to move those classes back into their new rooms in early May. The next phases will begin right after that with our third grade wing. Over the summer we have a lot of work planned, such as, new Heating/AC units installed, roof replaced, portables removed and begin work on a new building to replace them. The new building is expected to be complete by April of 2024.**

**\*These past few years have been challenging for all of us. Teachers and staff at Carter have been working extensive hours to be ready to educate our students. To this end I would like to share that our district has a program called "[When you see IT, Recognize IT award](#)" that can be accessed through our district website as well as on our Carter website. This is an easy way to celebrate any staff member on campus who exemplifies our district values. Any member of our community can fill one out and we will celebrate them with a certificate at our staff meetings. As we all know, it is nice to be recognized for the hard work we put in and it helps to create a culture of excellence.**

**\* As part of DSUSD's annual Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) review, we request your input on LCAP Goal 3 which states: "All students will develop and consistently demonstrate responsible, respectful and ethical behavior in a safe, clean and orderly learning environment." With your feedback, we can learn what's most important to everyone as we move forward together.**

**We will use your thoughts to analyze the actions and services designated to support students' growth/success. We will utilize the ThoughtExchange platform in an effort to allow everyone to share their perspectives and to better understand the perspectives of others. Participate in this Exchange by navigating to [tejoin.com](https://tejoin.com) and entering the following 9-digit code: 566-095-574 OR Click here to participate: <https://my.thoughtexchange.com/scroll/566095574/welcome>**

**\* Please remind your students to check the Lost & Found on Fridays, we currently have over 100 jackets or sweatshirts on our stage since we cleaned and donated in December. All remaining items will be discarded or donated due to safety precautions, odor, bugs, and mold. If the items have student names written on the tag or in the lunch box it makes it much easier to get back to the student.**