

# Falcon Flyer

[cfhs.cfsd16.org](http://cfhs.cfsd16.org)

Dear Parents and Guardians,

In the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) release of the year's A-F letter grades, we are proud to announce that Catalina Foothills High School--and all seven CFSD K-12 schools and the district--received A's! To receive an A grade (Excellent), schools must demonstrate distinguished performance on statewide assessments, significant student growth, students on track to proficiency, and overall performance that is significantly higher than the state's average.

When the letter grades were released late last week, the ADE misreported ours. After numerous inquiries, they responded that a data error had been made on their end. They confirmed what we already knew: CFHS is an A school.

We believe that our CFSD schools are performing well because we have highly capable people working with our students in a culture of high expectations. We credit our expert staff and faculty, caring school administrators, and strong partnerships with parents as the keys to our success. Thank you!

As we head into November, it's important to remember that the school year is moving quickly, and this can add to the stress of many. We understand that holiday stress and unexpected life events can make things even more challenging. So, we encourage you to take a purposeful pause and ensure that you are taking care of yourself and your family.

We know that some of our students and families may require additional support during this time, and we want to assure you that our partnership is here for you. The CFHS staff would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude for your unwavering commitment to our schools. We are dedicated to making a difference in the lives of our 1880 students, and we appreciate your support.

We hope you have a great month, and please know that we are here for you if there is anything we can do to support you or your child.

With gratitude,

Jody Brase  
Principal



**CFHS**

4300 E. Sunrise Dr.  
Tucson, AZ 85718  
Office: 209-8300 / Fax: 209-8520  
HYPERLINK <http://cfhs.cfsd16.org/>

Office hours: 7:30-4:00 on School Days Closed on all student holidays.

**CFHS Information**

Courtney Plantage—Reception Clerk 209-8301  
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Angie Boylan—Bursar 209-8317  
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**Principal**

Jody Brase 209-8302

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Jennifer Miller 209-8374  
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Ryan Tkalcevic 209-8412

**JTED Director**

Cari Burson 209-8351

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Jenny Couch-Counseling Clerk 209-8305

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Mike Bryan (A-C) 209-8376  
Lori Leary (D-H) 209-8380  
Robin Larson (I-ME) 209-8381  
Julie McCrear (MI-R) 209-8379  
Lyanne Glasner (S-Z) 209-8382

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**Assistant to the Athletic Director**

Gary Reed 209-8367

**Athletic Secretary**

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**Security**

209-8342

**Anonymous Tip Line**

209-8599

**Health Office**

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April Choi – Health Assistant 209-8304

**Bursar Office**

Gabriela Gallego - Accountant 209-8310  
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**Falcon Flyer Editor**

Julie Vanegas 209-8302

**Catalina Foothills District Office**

2102 E. River Road  
Tucson, AZ 85718  
520-209-7500  
[www.cfsd16.org](http://www.cfsd16.org)

**Important Dates to Remember:**

November 10	No School (Veterans Day)
November 22-24	No School (Thanksgiving Break)
December 20-22	Final Exams
Dec 25 – January 5	No School (Winter Break)
January 15	No School (MLK Day)
February 22-23	No School (Rodeo Break)
March 15	Half Day (Grading Day End of 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter)
March 25-29	No School (Spring Break)
May 17	Seniors Last Day
May 20-22	Final Exams (Gr. 9-11)
May 22	Graduation/Last Day of School

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Open Enrollment **application period** for the 2024-2025 school year **begins November 1, 2023**, and ends January 31, 2024.

Open Enrollment application for the 2024-2025 school year will be available on the district website, [www.cfsd16.org](http://www.cfsd16.org)

**2023-2024 Governing Board Members and Legislative**

Representatives  
Governing Board Members

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[mkam@cfsd16.org](mailto:mkam@cfsd16.org)  
520-209-7537

State of Arizona Legislative Representatives for CFSD  
(Please check [www.azleg.gov](http://www.azleg.gov) for contact information)

**Legislative District 18**  
Representative Nancy Gutierrez  
Representative Chris Mathis  
Senator Priya Sundareshan

**Anonymous Tip Line 209-8599**



CATALINA FOOTHILLS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT #16

2101 E. River Road, Tucson, AZ 85718

(520) 209-7500 (520) 209-7570 FAX www.cfsd16.org

A 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Community

October 1, 2023

To: Parents of CFSD Students  
From: Mary Kamerzell, Superintendent  
Re: CFSD Open Enrollment Program for the 2024-2025 School Year

The Catalina Foothills School District (CFSD) will begin its open enrollment application procedures for the 2024-2025 school year on **November 1, 2023**.

Pursuant to A.R.S. §15-816 and A.R.S. §15-816.01 all Arizona school districts follow a prescribed procedure and timetable for admitting out-of-district transfer students and resident transfer students (those who live in the District but are attending a school outside the attendance area of their residence). All students who currently attend CFSD schools and reside in other districts, and all CFSD resident students who attend a school outside of the attendance area of their residence, are impacted by this law.

We require *all open enrollment students to apply for admission each year*. Therefore, if your child is a resident transfer (open enrollment) student and you want them to continue in that capacity, or if your child resides outside of the district, either as a continuing or a new open enrollment student, please complete an open enrollment application online **between November 1, 2023, and January 31, 2024**.

**Open enrollment applications and information regarding the application process are on the district Web site, [www.cfsd16.org](http://www.cfsd16.org) (as of November 1, 2023). Under Parents, select Open Enrollment.**

Electronic applications must be submitted **no later than January 31, 2024**. Decisions about admission, based on capacity, will be made by March 1, 2024. At that time, all applicants who applied during the application period will be notified by email whether their applications were accepted, waitlisted, or declined. *Note: A separate application must be completed for each student.*

Please keep in mind that annually, the open enrollment process involves three steps for all students who reside outside of the attendance boundary of the school that they wish to attend: application, notification of our decision and, if accepted, online registration.

# From the Counseling Office

Website: <https://cfhs-counseling.cfsd16.org/>

**9th GRADE ECAP (Education and Career Action Plan)**- Counselor Randie Collier will be working with students in 9th grade English classes during the month of November to complete a Career Interest Profiler, discuss the importance of applying oneself academically starting freshman year, and getting involved in school and community activities. All 9th graders will log into MaiaLearning and learn to navigate the many useful aspects of this college and career readiness platform.

## **ACADEMIC RESOURCES**

Is your student struggling with one or more classes? If so, please look at the [CFHS Academic Resources](#) available to our students.

## **ASVAB**

Save the Date: CFHS will be giving the ASVAB vocational assessment on Friday morning, March 22, 2024 for interested juniors and seniors. A link to register will follow in 2024.

## **ACT PRACTICE TEST:**

Save the Date: Sunday, February 4 in the CFHS Cafeteria.

## **COLLEGE APPLICATIONS**

Students applying to colleges with January deadlines need to meet with their counselor no later than November 30. Reminder: The Senior Lab continues to be held every Monday, 2:30-4:00, through Jan 9. Drop in with questions or for assistance to the Counseling Office in House 1.

## **FAFSA ~ OPENING SOON!**

In preparation for completing the FAFSA, all families should create their [FSA ID](#). Both student and parent need a FSA ID. Your SSN will be needed. CFHS will host a FAFSA workshop in January. The new application will be opening in December 2023, the exact date is TBD.

## **COLLEGE VISITS**

CFHS was fortunate enough to have over 50 university and college representatives visit and meet with our students in September and October.

# CLASS OF 2024 ~ CFHS SENIOR PLANNING TIMELINE

Nov 22	Last day for on-time senior Cap & Gown and Announcement orders – contact Herff Jones/Rembrandt <a href="http://rembrandtgrad.com">rembrandtgrad.com</a>
Jan TBD	Deadline for Senior Falcon Tributes submissions [2023-24 Yearbook]. This is online through Herff-Jones and does NOT include/cover the actual purchase of a yearbook.
Feb 7-8	Distribution of caps & gowns on the plaza by Herff Jones/Rembrandt
March 8	Senior Group Picture (graduation gowns required): 8:30 am – Stadium
April 15	Senior Graduation Meeting– 8:30 in the Music Hall. <b>ALL</b> seniors <b>must</b> attend this <b>mandatory</b> meeting in order to participate in the graduation ceremony. Attendance will be taken. Senior Announcements distributed during this meeting. “ <a href="#">Green Sheet</a> ” and Faculty Reader/Peer Recognition forms.
April 21	Deadline for Student Graduation <a href="#">Speaker / Performer sign up</a>
April 29	Student Graduation Speaker/Performer Auditions – 8:00 am – House 1 Seminar Room
April 29	Deadline for college and other post high school plans “ <a href="#">Green Sheet</a> ”
TBD	Falcon Fly Out
May 17	Seniors’ last day
May 20	Senior Honors Ceremony – 7:00 pm – Music Hall (Recognizing seniors with 3.75 cumulative weighted GPA after 7 <sup>th</sup> semester; invites/info will be sent by May 7)
May 21	Graduation Practice 2:15 – 3:30 pm; start in the Auditorium. <b>Participation required for the ceremony.</b> Backpack check-in for Grad Night: 12:00 noon – 2:00 pm (no late bag check in)
May 22	<b>Graduation Ceremony @ 7:30 pm – CFHS Stadium.</b> Seniors arrive at 6:30 pm for line up. <b>Grad Night</b> - Senior Celebration following the graduation ceremony.

## Important Contacts regarding Graduation:

Jennifer Miller  
Assistant Principal - House 1  
209-8474  
[jmiller@cfsd16.org](mailto:jmiller@cfsd16.org)

[Herff Jones/Rembrandt:](#)  
(Grad Supplies)  
Bill Waldrup 745-5289  
4444 East Grant Rd Suite 107

Grad Night:  
Jill Harlow  
[Grad.Night@CFHSFFO.org](mailto:Grad.Night@CFHSFFO.org)

# State & District Testing at CFHS in 2023-2024

The Catalina Foothills School District (CFSD) is Tucson's leading educational choice for PreK-12. Academic achievement is a high priority as evidenced by test scores that exceed state and national averages. The Arizona Department of Education (ADE) recognized CFSD as one of the top performing school districts in the state of Arizona, and Niche recognized CFSD with the highest ranking for a unified school district in Arizona from 2015-2022.

The district uses a variety of assessments to measure student achievement and inform instruction. Statewide achievement tests, required by federal and state law, are part of a larger local and state assessment system.

More information regarding these exams can be found under [Testing Information](#) at <https://cfsd16.org>.

## Required State Testing

### The ACT (State Achievement Test)

**Who:** All 11th grade students (required)

**When:** Wednesday, April 3, 2024

### AzSCI (State Achievement Test)

**Who:** All 11th grade students (required)

**When:** Wednesday, March 20, 2024

### ACT Aspire (State Achievement Test)

**Who:** All 9th grade students (required)

**When:** Tuesday, April 16, 2024

### AZ Civics Test

**Who:** All students taking US History (required)

**When:** Typically in late February as determined by the US History teacher.

**Note:** Passing the AZ Civics Test is a graduation requirement. Students may retake as necessary.

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## Optional District Testing

### STAMP (for AZ Seal of Biliteracy Program)

**Who:** Open to any 9th-12th graders who register.

**When:** 5 opportunities between September through January. [Click here for more information.](#)

### AP Exams

**Who:** Primarily open to any students currently enrolled in an AP Course at CFHS.

**When:** May 6, 2024 through May 17, 2024. [Click here for more information.](#)

# FFO – Family Faculty Organization

## **FFO Contacts:**

WebSite: [www.cfhsffo.org](http://www.cfhsffo.org)

The website can also be accessed from the FFO button under the 'For Parents' tab at the top of the CFHS homepage.

## **President:**

Jody Ponzo

[cfhsffopresident@gmail](mailto:cfhsffopresident@gmail.com)

## **Communications:**

Leslie Beckett

[communications@cfhsffo.org](mailto:communications@cfhsffo.org)

## **Secretary:**

Eileen Pastorious

[secretary@cfhsffo.org](mailto:secretary@cfhsffo.org)

## **Treasurer:**

Lisa Kramkowski

[treasurer@cfhsffo.org](mailto:treasurer@cfhsffo.org)

## **Grants:**

[grants@cfhsffo.org](mailto:grants@cfhsffo.org)

## **Grad Night:**

Jill Harlow

[grad.night@cfhsffo.org](mailto:grad.night@cfhsffo.org)

## **Administration:**

Jody Brase

[jbrase@cfsd16.org](mailto:jbrase@cfsd16.org)

209-8302

General FFO meeting dates are below. Meetings begin at 9:00am in the Library

## **Meeting Dates:**

**Nov 14**

**Jan 23**

**Feb 20**

**Mar 19**

**Apr 16**

**May 14**

Hello Falcon Families,

November 2023

“Volunteering is at the very core of being human. No one has made it through life without someone else’s help.” – Heather French Henry

In this month of giving, I am appealing to you to give your time in helping our FFO. We have a variety of opportunities available and need you.

## **Executive Board:**

**President Elect** – This position shadows the current FFO President and fills in when needed.

## **Committees:**

**Spirit Wear** – Two of our three members have Seniors and will be moving on next year. We will not be able to sell spirit wear next year without your help on this committee.

## **Grad Night:**

- **Sponsor Solicitation:** We need someone to work with a committee to coordinate our sponsorship solicitation. We have a variety of opportunities for people to sponsor Grad Night and would like to have someone who would be the lead in this effort.
- **Decorations:** Please consider signing up when the volunteer list goes out to help with the construction of decorations or decorating the gym for the event. Most of last year’s committee have Seniors and will be unavailable the day of the event.
- **Volunteering:** We need you to help us with the running of the event. Please consider volunteering for one or two slots to help this night run smoothly.

I do know “time” is a precious commodity and there are so many directions you are being pulled. I thank you for any time you can carve out to help the FFO.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting, **November 14th** at 9:00 am in the CFHS Library.

Jody Ponzo  
CFHS FFO President

# STAMP Test Dates & Registration Info

Are you proficient in English?

Can you demonstrate proficiency in one of the following languages?

Spanish, Mandarin Chinese (Simplified or Traditional), Arabic, French, German, Hebrew, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Polish, Portuguese (Brazilian), Russian, American Sign Language (ASL)

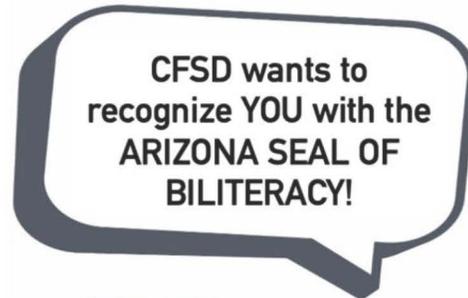


**Demonstrate your foreign language proficiency by taking the STAMP Test and work towards adding the Arizona Seal of Biliteracy to your Diploma and Transcript!**

Scan for Registration and Eligibility Information



[bit.ly/CFHS-STAMP](https://bit.ly/CFHS-STAMP)



REGISTRATION DEADLINE (by noon on)	FEE PAYMENT DEADLINE (by noon on)	TEST DATES	LOCATION & TIME
August 29	September 1	<b>Friday, September 8</b>	<b>HOUSE 2 - ROOM 403</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> The STAMP Test is untimed; testers moving at their own pace. Average test time is 3 hours. Exam starts before school. Bring your own lunch in the event you test through cafeteria service.
October 17	October 20	<b>Friday, October 27</b>	
November 6	November 9	<b>Friday, November 17</b>	
November 28	December 1	<b>Friday, December 8</b>	
January 9	January 12	<b>Friday, January 19</b>	

**REGISTER EARLY** - Seats are limited and additional sessions are NOT available.

Cost is \$22.90 for most languages. Prices for all languages can be found on the registration form.  
 Test Coordinator - Justin Robinson ([jrobinson@cfhd16.org](mailto:jrobinson@cfhd16.org))

# Ranked

# #1

school district  
in Arizona

**ENVISION<sup>21</sup>**  
DEEP LEARNING • CFSD

Catalina Foothills School District #16

# Kindergarten Show & Tell

- Full & half-day programs offered
- Certified Teachers
- World Languages
- Robotics
- Music
- Art
- PE

Families with kindergarten-age children\* are invited to discover our commitment to early childhood learning. You will learn about the school's free half-day Kindergarten program and the optional, supplemental, fee-based Kindergarten Plus (K+) program. We'll also talk about how we can work together to help ensure your child has a smooth transition to school.

- Children will participate in classroom activities with one of the school's kindergarten teachers.
- "Show and Tell" sessions are one hour long, followed by a thirty-minute tour of the school.
- K+ information and registration can be found by visiting the CFSD Community Schools website at [communityschools.cfsd16.org](http://communityschools.cfsd16.org).

**To sign up for a Kindergarten Show & Tell experience,  
call us or scan the QR code below:**

**Canyon View Elementary 520-209-7700** – December 4 and January 22, 2:00 p.m.

**Manzanita Elementary 520-209-7800** – December 6 and January 24, 2:00 p.m.

**Sunrise Drive Elementary 520-209-7900** – November 30 and January 25, 2:00 p.m.

**Ventana Vista Elementary 520-209-8000** – November 28 and January 23, 2:00 p.m.



Families who live outside of District #16 are welcome to attend.

\* Children who will be five years old prior to September 1, 2024, are eligible to attend kindergarten at one of our four elementary schools.





# Chinese

## Immersion Program

in Catalina Foothills School District

**Families with children entering Kindergarten through Fifth Grade\* are invited to enroll their children in Catalina Foothills School District's Mandarin Immersion Program at Sunrise Drive Elementary School for the 2024-2025 school year.**

### Goals for Students:

- Meet or exceed academic achievement levels in all areas of the district's curriculum as aligned to state standards.
- Acquire communicative and academic proficiency in English and Chinese.
- Gain an appreciation of other cultures and a deeper understanding of their own culture.
  - Increase capacity for creative thinking and problem-solving skills.

In our half-day kindergarten program, 100% of core instruction (Language Arts, Math, Science, Health, and Social Studies) is taught in Chinese. In Grades 1 and above, Language Arts, Math, and Social Studies are taught in English, while Science and Health are taught in Chinese. Chinese literacy is developed at all grade levels in our immersion program.

**Open Enrollment applications are currently available on the district's website ([www.cfsd16.org](http://www.cfsd16.org)). Under Parents, select Open Enrollment.**

**Open Enrollment applications should be submitted by January 31, 2024.**

\*Students in grades 2-5 must meet language proficiency criteria for enrollment.

### How to Learn More About the Program:

- Sign up to attend a Chinese Immersion Program Informational meeting scheduled for January 18 from 6:00 - 6:30 p.m. at the Sunrise Drive Elementary School Library by using the link: <https://forms.gle/mCdeQgFXsN9RwLW79>
- Click on the Academics tab on the Sunrise Drive Elementary website at <http://sdes.cfsd16.org>



# Spanish Immersion Program in Catalina Foothills School District

Families with children entering grades K-5\* are invited to apply to enroll their children in Catalina Foothills School District's Spanish Immersion Program at Ventana Vista Elementary School for the 2024-2025 school year.

## Goals for Students:

- Meet or exceed academic achievement levels in all areas of the district's curriculum as aligned to state standards.
- Acquire communicative and academic proficiency in English and Spanish.
- Gain an appreciation of other cultures and a deeper understanding of their own culture.
  - Increase capacity for creative thinking and problem-solving skills.

In our half-day kindergarten program, 100% of core instruction (Language Arts, Math, Science, Health, and Social Studies) is taught in Spanish. In Grades 1 and above, Language Arts, Math, and Health are taught in English, while Science and Social Studies are taught in Spanish.

Spanish literacy is developed at all grade levels in our immersion program.

**Open Enrollment applications are currently available on the district's website ([www.cfsd16.org](http://www.cfsd16.org)). Under Parents, select Open Enrollment. Open Enrollment applications should be submitted by January 31, 2024.**

\*Students in grades 2-5 must meet language proficiency criteria for enrollment.

## How To Learn More About the Program:

- Sign up to attend a Spanish Immersion Program Informational meeting scheduled for November 29 or January 24 from 5:00-6:00 p.m. in the Ventana Vista Elementary School Library by using the link: <https://forms.gle/L7zkMRZuSAApJ8gn8>
- Click on the Academics tab on the Ventana Vista website at <http://vves.cfsd16.org>

