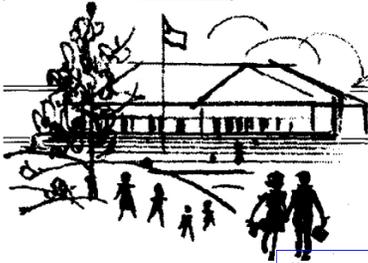


May 2014



Graham County School News



Graham County School Superintendent

Donna M. McGaughey

Volume 10, Issue 5

"Providing Quality Service and Support to Graham County Schools"

Please visit our website
www.graham.az.gov

Superintendent's Message

Last month our generous communities opened their wallets and hearts and assisted dozens of organizations with their fundraising events or good deeds. BBQ dinners, the famous Newman Center meal, and many other activities contributed to scholarships for our area's youth. The Safford Rotary hosted the 34th Annual Rotary Invitational Track Meet at SHS. This fundraiser, the club's largest, raised money that goes to each high school in Graham County.

I had the privilege of visiting several teachers in their classrooms where the Safford Rotary Club made their "Teachers of Distinction" awards. The teams visited 20 teachers and presented small tokens of their appreciation to these educators. Congratulations!

In April the Graham County School Office hosted four days of Visions Payroll training for our school districts which they found informative and worthwhile. We will be hosting an Advanced Payroll training on Oct. 27-28th.

Thanks go to all of our educators, from Pre-K to 14 for sending another group of graduates into the world with the skills to be successful.

Finally, farewell and best wishes to retiring staff members. Thank you for your contributions to our schools.

Contact us:

Donna McGaughey
Superintendent
921 Thatcher Blvd.
Safford, AZ 85546
928-428-2880
Fax: 928-428-8824
dmcgaughey@graham.az.gov

Jill Davis, Chief Deputy
jdavis@graham.az.gov

Polly Merriman, Deputy
pmerriman@graham.az.gov

Paulette LeBlanc, Education
Service Agency Coordinator
pleblanc@aznexus.net

Online Registration:
www.graham.az.gov

Click on:
School Superintendent,
workshops

The Graham County School Office is a member of the East Central Regional Service Center—ECRSC—which includes Gila, Greenlee and Pinal counties.

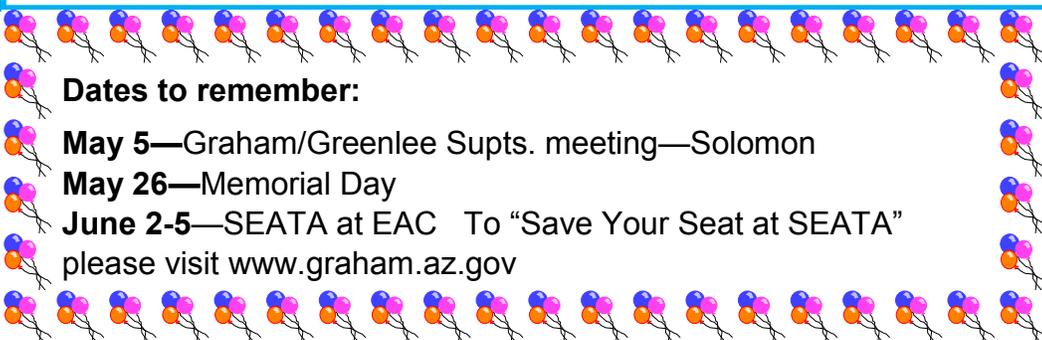
Our Goal: Provide regionally-based service, support and technical assistance, in collaboration with the Arizona Dept. of Ed. and the Governor's Office of Education Innovation.

Dates to remember:

May 5—Graham/Greenlee Supts. meeting—Solomon

May 26—Memorial Day

June 2-5—SEATA at EAC To "Save Your Seat at SEATA"
please visit www.graham.az.gov





EASTERN ARIZONA SCIENCE INITIATIVE

2014 EASI Summer Science Camp!

For students entering 6th & 7th grades

Only 50 students will be selected. Be sure to send in your application and essay to reserve your place!

Science Camp Daily Schedule: Students entering 6th and 7th Grade (Session 1)

Monday:	June 16 th	7:30 AM - 1:45 PM
Tuesday:	June 17 th	8:00 AM - 1:45 PM
Wednesday:	June 18 th	1:00 PM - 9:30 PM

2014 EASI Summer Science Camp! For students entering 8th 9th grades

Middle School Science Camp Schedule: Students entering 8th and 9th grade (Session 2)

Monday:	June 23rd	7:30 a.m.—1:45 p.m.
Tuesday:	June 24th	8:00 a.m.—1:45 p.m.
Wednesday:	June 25th	1:00 p.m.—9:30 p.m.

2014 EASI High School Summer Forensics Camp

The EASI Summer Science “Forensics” Camp is specifically for high school students and will be held on the E.A.C. Main Campus in the Math & Science Building. The camp is open to all Graham and Greenlee students entering 10th—12th grades. Only 24 students (12 female, 12 male) will be selected for this special “Crime Scene” camp. Hurry and reserve your place!

Each camp requires registration and a fee due after confirmation of acceptance.

Teachers who don't already have the information for their students can contact Paul Anger at paul.anger@eac.edu



Grant Opportunities for Teachers from the United Way of Graham County

A new grant opportunity for Graham County teachers is now available! Please follow these steps:

1. Visit www.uwgraham.com
2. Click on “How to Apply”
3. Click on the 2014 Grant Funding Guidelines to read about the United Way’s programs and funding priorities.
4. Click on the UWGC-EducationApplication-2014

Please note that applications will be accepted and reviewed every month except December. Complete and eligible application received by the 1st of the month will be reviewed and a decision will be made and communicated that same month. Please submit your complete application packet to uwgraham@gmail.com.

About the United Way

The United Way of Graham County is an all-volunteer organization that provided grant support to nonprofit organization in southeastern Arizona. We serve Graham and Greenlee counties, providing funding support for causes in Education, Income and Health.

Our mission: to advance the common good by focusing on quality of life, health and education—the building blocks of a good life.

In 2013, during the February 19th Graham County Board of Supervisors meeting, the United Way of Graham County presented a check in the amount of \$158,000 to Donna McGaughey, Graham County School Superintendent. This amount was divided up and deposited in the accounts of all school districts in Graham County. On behalf of all Graham County Schools, we extend a big thank you to UWGC!

Updates from the ADE Certification Unit

- **STEM Certificate** Specialized Secondary Certificate Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics for grades 7-12.
- **Changes to CTE Certificates** Effective October 1, 2013, individuals may use professional development to meet up to 18 semester hours of education coursework required for a Standard CTE certificate. 15 clock hours of professional development is equivalent to 1 semester hour of coursework. PD training must be approved by the CTE Dept. at ADE, in order to be used in lieu of traditional education coursework. CTE Evaluation form —created to document satisfactory teaching experience in the CTE area the teacher is certified to teach.
- **Speech Language Technician and Speech Language Pathologist Renewals** District Human Resource Departments may verify PD hours and coursework needed for renewal of either an SLT or SLP certificate.
- **Comparable out of state exams** Score reports and verification of teaching experience forms **must** be submitted at time of application to accurately reflect test deficiencies an applicant may have. (Please see ADE's Certification website for further information on this topic.)
- **Social Studies Approved Area Reminder** Effective January 1, 2014, Social Studies will no longer be issued as approved area. Middle Grade Social Studies grades 7 & 8 may be added to a Secondary certificate that has a 7-12 Approved area. It may NOT be added as the only approved area on a Secondary certificate. (Please see ADE's Certification website for further information on out of state certificates.
- **Early Childhood Endorsement** Please see the memo on page 5 of this newsletter.
- **Rules Changes** Align Special Education Certificates to level of severity instead of disability category. Arizona would then issue the following Special Education certificates. 2016 changes: *Mild to Moderate *Early Childhood *Severe and Profound *Visually Impaired *Hearing Impaired. Repeal School Psychologist Interim Certificate effective January 1, 2014 (those that have it, keep it, unless it has lapsed.) Place a moratorium on Speech Language Technician certificate effective June 30, 2014. Early Childhood Special Education Certificate—increase age range from 0-5 to Birth to age 8 or Grade 3.

All questions regarding certification should be directed to the ADE Certification Unit at 602-542-4367 or email to certification@azed.gov

The Tucson Certification Office NEW Temporary Office Hours

April: Wednesdays only—9th, 16th, 23rd 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

May: Wed. & Thursdays only - 7-8th, 14-15th, 21-22nd 9:00—4:00 p.m.

June, July and August hours—To be announced

“Arizona McDonald’s Owner/Operators appreciate the dedication of our teachers in educating our youth and we hope they enjoy a wholesome meal choice from our menu with our compliments,” said Michelle Slayton, president of McDonald’s Owner/Operator Association of Phoenix and Northern Arizona “We are also excited to provide an extra free treat to teachers this year with our McCafé Beverage Keytag .”

ARIZONA MCDONALD’S® TO HOST TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY MAY 6,

TEACHERS SHOW SCHOOL ID, RECEIVE FREE EXTRA VALUE MEAL

First 100 Teachers At Every Arizona McDonald’s Restaurant

Will Receive Free Small McCafé Beverage Keytag

McDONALD'S® HOSTS

TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY

TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2014

We're Honoring Teachers Across Arizona!

TEACHERS
Show your **SCHOOL ID** on May 6 and receive a
FREE McDonald's Extra Value Meal®*

**Breakfast: Choice of any breakfast sandwich, hash browns and choice of small coffee, juice or milk. Lunch Dinner: Choice of any sandwich, medium fries and medium soft drink.
Offer does not include shareable Value Meals.*

First 100 Teachers will receive a Keytag for a
Free Small McCafé® Beverage!

©2014 McDonald's VOX 365930-1

Learning on the Go

Are we there yet? Four words which still ring in my ears from my family's last visit to Arizona! I suggest you see this as an opportunity to use the time in the car to enhance natural curiosity and interact and connect with children. First of all, shut off the iPods, tablets, and DVD! Get them talking!

Rather than finding toys to amuse a child, use driving time to connect and enjoy being together. What interests children on car trips? Is it looking for signs or is it talking while you are together? Is it repeating new or silly words or sounds? Is it saying nursery rhymes, singing or watching for when the traffic lights change? If your toddler likes red cars, look for red cars as you drive along and see who can yell out "red car" first. Ask your preschooler about his day by posing specific questions. This helps your child talk about past experience to enhance memory.

Traveling exposes children to different people and new things. Use this time to heighten your child's sense of adventure. Traveling on a bus or to an unfamiliar destination, for example, can feel overwhelming to a young child. Encourage him to focus on the adventure of the trip. Help put words to your child's feelings about it. Notice how your child reacts to other people, sounds, sights, or anything he sees, feels and hears.

Taking your child on a walk is not only good exercise for both of you, but also allows a child to experience nature and learn about the outdoors. Focus on the present moment of being together; not all the things you have to do when you get back. Look at the walk through a child's eyes. How might a bug or big crack in the sidewalk look to your child? Is the sun shining? Talk about the weather. Stop! Close your eyes! What do you hear? There are so many sounds in our environment that we take for granted. Talk about them. In other words, stop and smell the roses. "Young children, like little scientists, have a hypothesis to begin with, but then they go out and make predictions and even do mini-experiments. And, those experiments cause children to change their minds; their hypothesis," notes Andrew N. Meltzoff, Co-Director of the Institute for Learning and Brain Sciences at the University of Washington.

And, don't discount the trip to the market. Errands can equal education! In other words, do not become a victim of the "Are we there yet?" whining. Seize the moment. You have the power to take hold of the travel experience and make it fun for the entire family.

By the way, the biggest whiner in the car was our 41-year-old son! I asked the grandchildren what we could do about it. They put him on the hunt, counting Harley Davidsons. It worked! Children come in all ages!





- Increase employment opportunities
- Decrease college or technical training costs

Gila Institute for Technology

GIFT now registering for 2014-2015

Central Programs Offered

Fire Science - Certified Nursing Assistant - Lab Assistant
Pharmacy Technician - Sports Medicine and Rehab Therapies
Cosmetology - Graphic Design - Individual Programs
Drafting - Welding - Autos - Media - Computers

Check out our website and apply at www.gift-tech.org

Or call 928-348-3393

Who is Eligible?

- High School students in Graham and Greenlee Counties
- Anyone under the age of 22 who does not have a high school diploma and meets the program entrance requirements.



"Service Above Self"

Safford Rotary / Phyllis Ann Bryce 2014 Teacher of Distinction Program

The Safford Rotary Club recently honored twenty Graham County teachers as "Teachers of Distinction." One nominee from each school in the county was sent to the Rotarians. They in turn visited those teachers in their classrooms and presented them with tokens of appreciation. The award is named after the first Safford Rotary Teacher of the Year recipient, Phyllis Ann Bryce. She went on to become the Graham County School Superintendent and she also served as president of the Safford Rotary Club. Upon her untimely death in 2004, the club renamed the award in her honor and chose to recognize teachers from each school. Congratulations to this year's teachers!

Bonita

Christal Adams

Dan Hinton

D'Anne Lutz

Discovery Plus Academy

Reyna Verdugo

Ft. Thomas

Ella Schulz (Elem.)

Brian Leitner (Jr. High)

Dana Olson (High School)

GIFT

Doug Griffin

Pima Unified

Courtney Bond (Elementary)

Patti Kempton (Jr. High)

Jace Hancock (High School)

Safford Unified

Ana Gonzales (Dorothy Stinson School)

Treisa Taylor (Lafe Nelson School)

Kailee Jacquez (Ruth Powell)

Natalie Reynolds (Safford Middle School)

Chip Cheney (Safford High School)

Triumphant Learning Center

Amanda Leachet

Thatcher Unified

Terri Moore (Jack Daley Primary)

Teresa Boren (Elementary)

Cindy Rickert (Middle School)

Hank Hoeft (Thatcher High School)

*"If your actions in the classroom
inspire children to achieve more,
question more, and dream more,
you are indeed worthy of the title
"Teacher."
Robert John Meehan*

Scholastic Book Fairs®

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5120 W. Buckeye Suite 1

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May 7 - 28

Weekdays, May 7-28: 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

Saturdays, May 10, 17, & 24: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Closed Sundays and Memorial Day

(800) 859-2851

From I-10, turn south on 51st (left when coming from the east and right from the west). In approximately 2 miles, turn right onto W. Buckeye. Warehouse will be on the right.

23260

SAFFORD CITY
GRAHAM COUNTY
LIBRARY



808 S. Seventh Ave.
Safford, AZ 85546
(928) 432-4165

The Safford City / Graham County Library offers services beyond checking out books. The Graham County School Superintendent has partnered with the library to offer homework help for students from kindergarten through college. **It's free to Graham County students.** Visit the library's homepage at www.cityofsafford.us and click on the *Homework Help* icon. This will lead you to the icon for **Tutor.com**. "Check out" this free tool and get help on any subject.

Citizens looking for help with finding a job should take advantage of the services offered by Job Skills Instructor, Kevin Hansen. Mr. Hansen offers help in finding jobs and preparing resumes. Additionally, he will help coach job seekers as they practice their interview skills. This is a great service!

The library has partnered with *First Things First* to enhance literacy skills in our youngest population. In addition to story time, parents can bring their children to the Brain Box sessions and other preschool activities scheduled throughout the year. The library has secured a grant from First Things First to fund the Imagination Library Book Club. Children ages birth through five can be signed up to receive a free, age-appropriate book in the mail each month. These are just a few of the wonderful things families can explore due to the partnerships formed by the library.

Visit the Safford City / Graham County Library in person or online!



The Safford City—Graham County Library has partnered with the Arizona State Library to bring a fabulous FREE database of eBooks to our students!

Visit www.saffordlibrary.org

On the left side of the screen, click on "TumbleBooks / eBooks for Kids

"Check out" the titles, which now include non-fiction!

The books are indexed by reading levels, grade, and lexile.

Take advantage of this valuable opportunity—it's free!

Visit the Gift Shop!

Safford City / Graham County Library

808 S. Seventh Ave.

Safford, AZ 85546 928-432-4165

Hours: Mon.—Thursday 10:00 a.m. —7:00 p.m. Closed Friday—Sunday

Have You Saved Your Seat at SEATA?

The Southeast Arizona Teachers' Academy is right around the corner. Join the 160 educators who have already reserved their seats! We will have over 100 sessions spread out over four days, June 2-5, 2014 at EAC. Here is a *sampling* of the presenters/strands you can look forward to attending:

Math with Vickey Massey, Melissa Hosten, Cherie Stafford, Kathy Alexander, Becky Howell, Elsa Castillo, Madhuri Bapat **Early Childhood** with Tracy Phelps, Millie Archer, Paulette LeBlanc, Veronica Cordova, JoAnn Morales **Economics** with Becky Barry, Kerry Montano, Mandi Hering, Leanne McElroy, Giane Powell **Science** with Dr. Phil McBride, Duane DeSpain, Tammy Gillespie, Elsa Garcia, Kelsey Williams, Danica Chavez, Dr. Pam Wilkinson, Christie Rivera, Debbie Pearson, Paul Anger, Joan Bull, Karen Ramirez-Ragland, Shannon Perkins **Art Integration** with Denise Crockett, Madhuri Bapat **Technology and Technology Integration** with Carol Elders, Steve Napier, Darcy Barney, Kara Calloway, Cheri Stafford, Mark Becker, Duane Richins **Special Education/Special Needs** with Ann Gortarez, Mary Keeney, Yvonne Gill, Darcy Barney **English Language Arts** with Amanda Davis, Wendi Peterson, Brian Taylor, Sarah Gardner and ADE Team **Classroom Management techniques** with Dr. Phil McBride, Denise Crockett, Wendi Peterson, **De-stressing** with Gerri Branch and more!

Our keynote speaker this year will be Dr. Nicholas Clement from NAU!

Please reserve your seat by visiting the Graham County School Office website at www.graham.az.gov, then click on workshops or look for SEATA registration.

In mid-May, the session choices will be emailed to those educators who have preregistered.

We look forward to seeing you at the 2014 SEATA!



2013 participants at the Mt. Graham International Observatory



Grant Funding Alerts

It's never too early to start working on a grant!

Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold, Inc. Grants

Mini-Grants for Education Application Window: May 1st –Oct. 30th

(Start planning for next year!)

Please visit www.freeportinmycommunity.com Click on: Our Programs

Grants in the range of \$100—\$500 a school is eligible to receive up to four mini-grants per year. Additional grant opportunities are available including the STEM Education grant. Graham County received nearly \$500,000 in the recent round of Community Investment Fund grant awards held in August. Thank you Freeport-McMoran!

PEOPLE All-Star Teachers Contest

Deadline: May 6

Major League Baseball, PEOPLE, and Target invite you to nominate a current or retired teacher who is a classroom all-star. Someone who has made a difference in the lives of students as well as the community. Thirty teachers will attend and be honored at the 2014 MLB All-Star Game at Target Field in Minnesota.

Go here to nominate: <http://mlb.mlb.com/allstar-teachers/>

Dollar General Youth Literacy Grants

Deadline: May 22

Youth Literacy Grants provide funding to schools, public libraries, and nonprofit organizations to help students who are below grade level or experiencing difficulty reading. Maximum award is \$4,000

http://www2.dollargeneral.com/dgliteracy/Pages/grant_programs.aspx#ylg

Annie's Grants for Gardens

Deadline: June 2

Annie's offers grants to school gardens that connect children directly to real food. These funds can be used to buy gardening tools, seeds or other needed supplies. There's no need to have an existing garden!

<http://www.annies.com/giving-back/school-gardens/grants-for-gardens/>

Professional Development Opportunities/ Grant Funding Alerts

Strengthening Secondary Education

Deadline: Open

Amount: \$100,000—\$200,000

Sponsor: Arthur Vining Davis Foundation

Type: Education

Grants are made for innovative professional development programs that strengthen teachers and their teaching in grades 9-12.

<http://www.avdf.org/FoundationsPrograms/SecondaryEducation.aspx>

D-Backs Program Grants

D-Backs program grants are given statewide to non-profit organizations. Funds for these grants are raised throughout the season through team fundraising events, including the annual Evening on the Diamond benefit dinner, Shirts Off Our D-Backs and additional events. All 501(c) 3 non-profit organization in Arizona are welcome to apply for funding, however, funding must be serving the people of Arizona. The deadline is open and the amount of grant funding available for projects is \$1,000—\$5,000. For more info:

<http://arizona.diamondbacks.mlb.com/ari/community/grants.jsp>

KaBOOM! Let's Play Grants

Deadlines: Rolling

Dr. Pepper Snapple Group & KaBOOM! Are excited to offer \$500 Let's Play Completion Grants to qualifying Do-It-Yourself communities to be used toward the improvement of an existing playground built using the KaBoom! Community build model and \$750 Let's Play Maintenance Grants to communities who wish to make their playgrounds cleaner, safer and more inviting.

http://kaboom.org/about_kaboom/programs/grants

KaBOOM! Spruce Project Grants

Deadline: Rolling

Are you itching to serve? Organize your friends, clean up a playground, and you can be eligible for \$750, courtesy of Dr. Pepper Snapple Group. The grant is part of the Let's Play initiative to get kids and families active.

<http://grants.kaboom.org>

VEX Robotics

Schools interested in learning more about VEX Robotics and available grants should visit

<http://www.vexrobotics.com>
www.roboticseducation.org
www.robotevents.com

Daily Point of Light Award

Deadline: Rolling

The power of the individual to spark change and improve the world—that's what the Daily Point of Light Award celebrates. Nominate a local hero for this award. Recognition includes a certificate signed by President George H.W. Bush.

<http://www.pointsoflight.org/programs/recognition>

Youth Program Grants

Deadline: Open

Sponsor: The Entertainment Software Association Foundation

Amount: Varies

Type: Social & Economic, Arts & Culture

The ESA Foundation is dedicated to supporting positive programs and opportunities that make a difference in the lives of America's youth.

<http://www.esafoundation.org/application.asp>