



PRINCIPAL'S LETTER

August 2023

Dear Parents, Students and Community Members,

My name is Phil Garitson and I am honored to be the principal at Shaw Butte Elementary School. The previous 12 years, I have been the principal at Cholla Middle School. Prior to that, I was the principal at Ocotillo Elementary School. This is my 32nd year in the Washington Elementary School District and Shaw Butte! Since

I have been on this campus, it has been very evident that this staff cares deeply about students and each other. My goal is to continue to foster positive teacher-student relationships, as well as continue to build on the positive culture that is already in place. Everyone on this campus will feel valued because their opinion matters to me. I look forward to seeing you throughout the year and should you have any questions, my door is always open for you. In addition, please feel free to email me at phil.garitson@wesdschools.org should you have any questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

Phil Garitson
Principal
Shaw Butte

***Vision: Igniting a lifelong passion to inspire,
learn and achieve together!***

Mission:

- Hats and hoodies may only be worn outside of the classroom and must be school appropriate. No hats or hoodies should be worn in the classroom unless it is a special spirit day

Students who violate the dress code standards may be asked to do any of the following after an attempt to contact the parent:

- Turn inappropriate clothing inside out;
- Change into clothing that may be provided by the school
- Have other clothing brought to school.

Repeated violations of the dress code standards may result in appropriate disciplinary action being taken, including suspension from school.

The decision as to whether or not a distracting condition exists and how it is handled shall be left to the reasonable discretion of the building administrators. In accordance with ARS 15-843

what is expected on Step 2, then he or she chooses Step 3. **Step 3** is a place where the child may reflect in another classroom. If a child does not do what is expected on Step 3, he or she chooses Step 4. **Step 4** is where the child goes to sit in the Make Your Day room and places a call home. When a child chooses Step 4, he or she chooses to have a parent Step 4 conference. This must be completed before the student can return to class. A Step 4 meeting is simply a quick meeting between the parent, child and staff member(s) to discuss what that child must do to make better choices.

There are certain behaviors that are grounds for an Automatic Step 4 or Step 5 (a student goes straight to the Make Your Day room and skips Steps 1, 2 and 3). These behaviors include but are not limited to: fighting/physical violence; verbal/nonverbal intimidation or threats; any type of harassment (sexual or other) including threatening behavior; defiance towards a staff member; willful tampering with, abusing, or destroying school or private property; and stealing (depending on the severity). The following behaviors will result in a Step 5: possession and/or use of tobacco, matches or lighters; alcohol, illegal drugs or related paraphernalia; and/or possession and/or use of illegal weapons, knives, Chinese stars, stink bombs, firecrackers, or other dangerous objects. Severe theft/vandalism, severe threats, or severe classroom disruption can also warrant a Step 5. A Step 5 is an out of school suspension. For a Step 5, the behavioral support advocate or administrator will contact the parent/guardian