

**A Message  
from  
Principal Okyere**



Dear Whittier Families,

I hope you had a wonderful break. As you may have seen in the news, the Arizona Department of Education recently released school letter grades. **We are proud to report Whittier has improved to a B school!!!** We were three points shy of being named an A school, and that is the goal we are working toward.

School letter grades are based on student academic growth, student proficiency on the state assessment, and a variety of factors that influence student success (attendance, improvements in English language proficiency, etc.). Students, staff, and families worked extremely hard to earn this B status, and we will continue to do so as we work to provide ***all*** students the academic and social-emotional foundation needed to excel in school and in life.

We need your help! You are your child's first and most important teacher, and your partnership greatly influences his/her success. Please read this month's newsletter to find at least one way you can come alongside us this month as we work to provide a high-quality education for your child.

Onward to the A,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C. Okyere'.

Clare R. Okyere, Principal

**Are you ready for some PIZZA???**

Join us Friday, October 27th any time between 4:00-9:00 pm at the Peter Piper Pizza on Thomas and 40th Street. There is a costume contest and various games for students, as well as a drawing for 1,000 tickets!!! Please invite your friends, family, neighbors, etc. to join us. We get 15% of all proceeds for customers who state they are with Whittier. Last year, we earned \$891.00 from this event! The money goes directly toward student field trips and extracurricular learning activities.

## *Wildcat News*

*Edition 4: October-November 2017*

### **Whittier Elementary**

2000 N. 16th Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85006

### **Volunteers Needed!**

YOU have the power to make our school a better place for your child to learn and grow. Please contact us to volunteer for one of the following events:

#### **Building Garden Beds**

Saturday, October 21st from 7:00 am—Noon

\* Work alongside our community partners from Trinitas as we add 3 raised garden beds for our students to apply their science skills outdoors

#### **Peter Piper Pizza Night**

Friday, October 27th from 4:00—9:00 pm

\* Greet families and friends for 30 minute timeslot during Peter Piper Night

#### **Kids at Hope Day**

Friday, November 17th from 9:00 am—Noon

\* Share your profession as we help students dream and set goals for the future. There are also opportunities to volunteer in a variety of field day and classroom activities on this day.

#### **Holiday Store**

December 4th—21st (various hours available)

\* From gift wrapping to monitoring sales to helping students find that “just right” gift, there are various ways to get involved with our holiday store as we offer students an affordable and user-friendly way to show their appreciation for family and friends.

#### **Classroom Parent**

Are you interested in leading the charge to involve parents and guardians in making Whittier a better place for students to learn and grow? We are looking for one parent from each classroom to serve on our Parent Advisory Committee. This group will meet once per month. We will work to better connect families with the school as we work together to increase student success. Our first meeting will be November 1st from 12:30-1:30.

*Please contact our Parent Engagement Liaison, Liliana Martinez, at (602) 523-8663 to support your child's education by signing up for at least one opportunity listed above.*