

**Country Gardens Charter School**  
**6313 West Southern Avenue**  
**Laveen, Arizona 85339**  
**(623) 900- 2230 or (602) 237-3741**  
**www.cgcsaz.com cgcs1 on Facebook**

## August 7, 2017

### WELCOME!

We are glad you chose Country Gardens as the school for your child. If you have any concerns or questions about your child please contact your child's teacher at 623-900- 2230.

### TRUANCY/SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Any student who is between the ages of six and sixteen must be in school. Truant means a child who has missed school for at least five school days/periods within a school year or exceeds 10% of the school days, which is 18 days for our school. There is a \$50.00 diversion fee if students are cited. If students are cited you will need to report to court with your child. Students who miss 20 days of school will be retained. Please help get your child to school. **Students will receive free ice cream on Fridays if they are not absent all week. Please make medical, dental and other appointments for Wednesday afternoons so students do not miss school. Call the office by 8:30 AM if your student is absent for the day.**

### PARENTS DRIVING TO SCHOOL

If you are dropping off/picking up students please pull up to the curb and have your child exit or enter the car quickly. This will help with the flow of traffic. If you need to leave your vehicle you must park in the designated areas. All kindergarten parents need to park to pick up your child. This is for the safety of all students. If your child arrives after 8:00 AM you must check in the office with your child.

### JOURNALS AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Please make sure that your child brings in their school supplies. K-8 students need to buy reading journals. Writing journals are needed for grades 3-7. American Dream Journals are free for grades 5-8. They will be \$5.00 if lost or destroyed. Reading guides are needed for grades 8 and 9. They can be purchased from the office for \$3.00 and are needed for their weekly homework assignments. Students need supplies so that they can complete their class work and homework. All students in grades K-3 must buy a Country Gardens tote for homework. These are available in the office for \$5.00.

### RESUMES OF CURRENT STAFF

These are available in the office for all teaching staff members. Please notify the Principal if you would like to see them.

**Check the school website for info:www.cgcsaz.com**

### E.E.L.S. PROGRAM

Experiential Education on Land N' Sea (E.E.L.S. Program) is a program available to all students in grades K-12. To qualify for the trips students must meet the following criteria:

1. Have good attendance and not miss more than 3 days for the first 100 days. That is 97% attendance.
2. No school suspensions.
3. Homework turned in at 90%. Including reading journals.
4. Have a good attitude and be trustworthy.
5. Attend all state testing.

### LABELING STUDENT ITEMS

Labeling your child's lunch bags and personal items will help if your child loses them.

### SCHOOL LUNCHESES AND BREAKFAST

Country Gardens does not offer free or reduced prices for lunches. Students in grades K-2 can eat for \$2.00. Older students should bring \$2.00 - \$3.00 depending on their choice of items. Students can not bring soda to school in their lunches. We do not have microwaves to heat up student lunches.

### STUDENT HANDBOOK

Students will be bringing home the copy of the handbook for you to preview and sign. Please have your child return the forms to their classroom teacher to attend zoo lab, barnyard, horsemanship and use the computers in class. **Due by August 11, 2017.**

### TUTORING

Tutoring will be for students who qualify. Information will be sent home with your child if they need to attend tutoring during the school year.

### *Important Dates*

<b>August 28</b>	<b>Clubs begin. No transportation. Gr. 7-12</b>
<b>August 21-25</b>	<b>Dibels testing for grades K-3</b>
<b>September 4</b>	<b>Labor Day - No School</b>
<b>September 15</b>	<b>School Pictures—must wear school shirts</b>
<b>September 15</b>	<b>Deficiency Notices sent home with students not doing homework and not at grade level on assessments.</b>
<b>September 20</b>	<b>Title I Meeting 5:45 - 6:30 PM Open House 6:30 - 7:30 PM</b>

August 7, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians of Students:

Welcome to Country Gardens! We are glad that you have chosen our school for your child's education. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher (s) if you have any concerns regarding your child.

It is very important to take time to review the student handbook with your child. Please be sure that your child is adhering to the dress code in the handbook.

Students may pay \$1.00 to wear a non school shirt Wednesdays all year. This needs to be a t-shirt or shirt that has sleeves. This money is used for the school trips and playground equipment.

The school office is now located in the new building. The office is closed in the log building. Please only call the office for emergencies to relay to students. Inform your child if they should ride the bus or be picked up daily before they come to school. If you do not call the office by 3:00 PM your child will be placed on the bus and by noon for Wednesdays.

As a reminder students **may not use cell phones** on the bus or at school. All students must turn off their cell phones once they enter the bus in the morning. All students must turn in their cell phones during the school day. The phones must remain off during the ride home on the bus. They may turn on their cell phone when they exit the bus. Phones in the office will be used if you need to be contacted. There will be suspensions for students who use their cell phones during school hours and on the bus. Review with your child the importance of turning in their cell phone daily. Students may only bring a cell phone to school if they are in the **4th grade or higher and ride the bus**. Please read the new cell phone policy in the student handbook.

Students will be using computers that are placed in each classroom. Remind your child that he/she must adhere to the appropriate use of technology and return the student handbook pages to use a school computer. If students are using the computers for personal use they will be suspended and will lose their privileges to use the computer for the rest of the year.

For the safety of all students and staff no adults are allowed past the front and middle gates during school hours. We will have these gates open during Open Conferences and special events.

We will be having an Open House on Wednesday, September 20 from 6:30—7:30 PM to showcase what the students are learning. A Title I Informational Meeting will be in room 13 to discuss the Title I program at Country Gardens on September 20 from 5:45 - 6:30 PM. This meeting is open to all parents/guardians.

Thank you for your support. We are excited for another great year!

# August 7, 2017 Updates

## Past Times Café

We now have a Café credit card system. Cards can be purchased for a one time fee of \$5.00. Cards can be loaded with cash periodically in the office. **\*All kindergarten students will be required to purchase these cards if they are buying breakfast and/or lunch at school in the Café. Any card that is lost or stolen will need to be repurchased for \$5.00. All cards will have a student photo on them.** As a reminder we do not have a free or reduced lunch program, thus all students must buy or bring their lunch to school daily. If students in grades K-3 forget their lunch you will be called.

\*These cards can be used for any school events, in the Café or for other purchases such as writing and reading journals and t-shirts.

## No Backpacks K-12

No backpacks of any kind are allowed on campus. No exceptions and no excuses! All swim clothes and towels must be in a typical plastic bag from a grocery store and brought to school as needed. **Draw string bags are allowed only if they are a net mesh.** You may purchase Country Gardens Charter School draw string bags for \$5.00 in the office.

## Teacher Qualifications

If you would like information on your child's teacher and his or her professional qualifications please contact [catherine.gerber@cgcsaz.com](mailto:catherine.gerber@cgcsaz.com) and information will be forwarded to you.

## Discipline

- Mr. Nick, Assistant Principal and Mrs. Way, Assistant Principal will be handling Grades K-12 discipline.
- Mr. Mario Gutierrez will be handling all bus discipline.

Please talk to your child about appropriate behavior at school and on the school bus and spend time on page 20 of the student handbook to review infractions for suspension.

## Staff Emails

These are located on the Country Gardens website.