

Archway Veritas

July 19th, 2024



ARCHWAY CLASSICAL ACADEMY | VERITAS A Great Hearts Academy

3102 North 56th Street, Suite 200 | Phoenix, AZ 85018 | Office: (602) 489-7341 | Fax: (602) 759-1300 | www.archwayveritas.org

Dear Archway Veritas Families,

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year at Archway Veritas! I am thrilled and honored to serve as your headmaster, and our faculty and staff are excited to serve your child. I hope you and your family enjoyed a restful, and hopefully cooler, summer. Our teachers have been preparing for a rich and joyful year.

As we move forward this school year, focusing on our mission to cultivate the hearts and minds of students through the pursuit of Truth, Goodness, and Beauty, we ask for your continued involvement. We believe that education is a partnership between the school, students, and parents. Your involvement and support are crucial to the success of our students and our school community. We encourage you to stay engaged, attend school events, and communicate with us regularly. **This includes reading the weekly Headmaster Newsletter AND the grade level newsletters.** Grade level newsletters can be found below beginning August 9th. Together, we can create a positive and enriching environment where every child can flourish.

I look forward to seeing each of you and working together to make this school year a memorable and successful one. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions, concerns, or ideas. Let's make this our best year yet at Archway Veritas!

Warmly,

Mrs. Megan Opitz

You can also stay connected with the school via social media on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

Archway Veritas Leadership

Headmaster



Mrs. Megan Opitz

Asst. Headmaster



Mrs. Christine Gandy

Dean of Academics & Culture



Miss Erin Leahy

Dean of Students



Mrs. Victoria Van Leuven

Office Manager



Ms. Pat Del Duca

Dir. of Operations



Mrs. Ami Hosack

Front Office Asst.



Mrs. Mary O'Connor

Teacher Coach



Mrs. Erin Kinkel

Family Giving Officer



Mr. David Lins

Please feel free to reach out to us should you have any questions.
Our contact information can be found on the school website, [HERE](#).

Important Dates:

August 5th: AVPSO Back to School Bash at Altitude

August 6th: Back to School Night

August 8th: First Day of School | Coffee with the Headmaster & AVPSO General Board Meeting

August 14th: Homeroom Parent Orientation Meeting; 8:30-9:30, Cafeteria

August 15th: Homeroom Parent Orientation Meeting; 8:30-9:30, Cafeteria

August 21st: Library Volunteer Meeting | Kindergarten - 2nd Grade Curriculum Night; 5:00 - 7:00 pm

August 28th: 3rd - 5th Grade Curriculum Night; 5:00 - 7:00 pm

August 29th: Library Volunteer Meeting

August 30th: Half-Day/Spirit Day

Important Links:

[2024 - 2025 APPROVED Family Calendar](#)

[2024-2025 School Year Information](#)

[Archway Veritas Google Review](#)

2024-2025 School Year Information

The 2024-2025 calendar can be found by [following the link HERE](#).

Highlights:

August 5th: AVPSO Back to School Bash

August 6th: Back to School Night

August 8th: First Day of School

October 7th - 11th: Fall Break (No School 10/14-16 for Parent Teacher Conferences)

December 19th - January 3rd: Winter Break

March 10th - 14th: Spring Break

May 23rd: Last Day of School

If you have not had a chance to review the 2024-2025 School Year Information Packet, please do so by following the link [HERE!](#)

The packet includes important information, including dates, supplies/materials acquisition, uniforms, etc.

Please ensure that students have the correct copy of consumable texts for the school year prior to the first day of school.

So that all students use the text aligned with the class and curriculum, parents must purchase texts with the exact ISBN provided. Each grade level book list below provides a link to each individual book through Amazon and other vendors.

[Kindergarten Consumable Literature Book List](#)

[First Grade Consumable Literature Book List](#)

[Second Grade Consumable Literature Book List](#)

[Third Grade Consumable Literature Book List](#)

[Fourth Grade Consumable Literature Book List](#)

[Fifth Grade Consumable Literature Book List](#)

If you were unable to take advantage of the Edukit program, you can find the school supply lists by following the link [HERE](#). If you purchased your child's school supplies through the Edukit program, they will be on your child's desk at Back to School Night, August 6th.

Back to School Bash: Save the Date!



Monday, August 5th, 10:30 am - 3:00 pm

Altitude Trampoline Park (3921 E. Indian School Rd.)

Feel free to attend any time between 10:30 and 3:00, Archway Veritas teachers will attend to meet their new classroom families during the following windows:

Kindergarten--10:30 am-12:00 pm

1st Grade--11:00 am-12:30 pm

2nd Grade--11:30 am-1:00 pm

3rd Grade--12:00 pm-1:30 pm

4th Grade--12:30 pm-2:00 pm

5th Grade--1:00 pm-2:30 pm

This is a community GIVEBACK event. 20% of all proceeds will come back to support our school!

Altitude's waiver policy has changed and now ALL ATTENDEES (both jumpers and non-jumpers) need to have a signed waiver on file. Please click [HERE](#) to sign your waivers before the event!

New Student Orientation; 1st - 5th Grade

New Student Orientation takes place Tuesday, August 6th from 4:00 - 4:20pm. All 1st - 5th grade new students are required to attend, along with at least one parent/guardian. Students will have time with administration to learn the ins and outs of what it means to be a Veritas student. Faculty will help students gain familiarity with the campus. During this time, parents will get early access to the gymnasium to learn about social events and community building, sign up to volunteer, order yearbooks, and purchase spirit wear through the Archway Veritas Parent Service Organization (AVPSO) beginning at 4:00 pm. Families will be reunited at 4:20 and proceed to their classroom to meet their homeroom teacher, find their desks, and receive their textbooks before Back to School Night begins for returning families at 4:30 pm.

Back to School Night

Back to School Night is Tuesday, August 6th from 4:30 - 6:30 pm. The evening is an open house format for students and families. We highly recommend that families allot 1 hour for the event. Families will enter through the gymnasium on the south side of the building beginning at 4:30 pm.

Families will have an opportunity to learn about social events and community building, sign up to volunteer, order yearbooks, and purchase used uniforms and spirit wear through the Archway Veritas Parent Service Organization (AVPSO).

Students will meet their homeroom teacher, find their desks, and receive their textbooks.

Parents will receive an email from their child's homeroom teacher on Thursday, August 1st to let you know which classroom they are in. The school will not post rosters on the front doors of the school. Class maps will be available at the front desk.

Arizona State Guidelines

Current/existing students who completed last school year at their academy and are returning to same academy for the new school year are considered pre-registered and are expected to be in attendance on the first day of school. According to A.R.S. 15-901(a)(2), students who do not meet attendance requirements will be withdrawn and must apply to the academy again to be considered for another possible offer of enrollment.

First day of school: Thursday, August 8th

First day of School

We've all eagerly been counting down the days, and now that most wonderful time of the year has almost arrived! We are excited to see all those smiling faces on the first day of school! Students should be in their seats, ready to learn, at 8:15am.

The first day of school, August 8th, ALL families may walk their children to their classroom if they wish.

Beginning Friday, August 9th, guardians will no longer be able to walk their child back to their classroom. Students should be dropped off in the designated drop-off lanes.

Please click [HERE](#) for the traffic flow map.

Drop off & Pick Up

Drop Off: 7:45am is the earliest drop-off time for students. Please make sure your children are left at school no earlier than 7:45am. Faculty supervision will be available to *all* students on the playground and cafeteria beginning at 7:45am.

*Students should never be dropped off prior to 7:45am except students enrolled in Sunrise Club @ 7:15am

OR

Veritas Prep siblings @ 7:30am.

Students who arrive at school after 8:14 am will need to be walked in by a guardian and signed in to receive a tardy pass. Students are not authorized to walk into the building unaccompanied after school has started. Families who fail to do so will be called to return to school to sign their child in.

If your child is going to be absent please call the school, 602-489-7341. You are welcome to email the teacher to advise them of their absence, please include the attendance email as well so we can enter it into the State Compliance System, attendance@archwayveirtas.org and/or Mrs. O'Connor, moconnor@archwayveritas.org.

Pick Up: Although the first few weeks may be more chaotic as we all resume our routines, please know that this too shall pass. Don't forget to use your family car placard when picking up. The car placards assist our faculty pick up helpers to safely and quickly get students into the family car. Students are dismissed at 1:30pm on Wednesdays, 12:00pm on Half-Days and 3:15pm on regular school days,

Click [HERE](#) to complete the walking waiver

Click [HERE](#) to complete the sibling pick-up waiver

For your child's safety...

Each Family will need to print out a **CURB** Pick-Up placard to pick-up their child. Go to the enrollment portal, greathearts.schoolaxis.com and log in to your account.

CURB Placards will be available for you to print on Monday, August 5th

If you do not have a placard you will be required to PARK and present your driver's license to Mrs. O'Connor in the front office in order to pick up your child.

Returning families: Print out a new placard as it is linked to your child's classroom.

Sample QR Placard - DO NOT PRINT:



0323184
Opitz, Megan



Families will also receive two ACV placards with last name at Back to School Night to use later in the school year.

Archway Veritas



TEARS &

Cheers



IT'S THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL!

Thursday
AUGUST

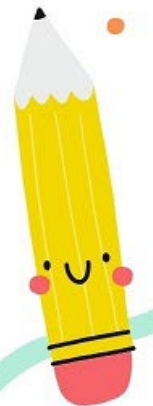


8:15 am
VERITAS BASIN

Whether you are an old friend or a brand new face, the AVPSO welcomes parents to give their kiddos a hug goodbye and then mark the start of the school year with us.

Grab an iced drink as we spend a few minutes getting to know each other and hearing from Headmaster Opitz.

general board meeting to follow



Plan on Volunteering?

"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart."

Want to make a difference? We have many volunteer opportunities! Volunteer opportunities can be found by following the link [HERE](#).

Every year, volunteers need to complete the Raptor process. If you would like to be approved to volunteer this school year, please [follow the link here](#). The process should only take 10 minutes to fill out the information and you will receive an answer from the Raptor system within 48 business hours. The cost is \$5.00.

Interested in being a homeroom parent for the 2024-25 school year? Please fill out the interest form [HERE](#).

Would you like to get more involved with the AVPSO this year? Click [HERE](#) for available opportunities, or contact [Shauna Marvin](#) with general interest or questions.

Please watch MTK during the coming weeks for lunch and library volunteer sign ups!

Volunteering includes: Chaperoning field trips, reading groups, on-site events, etc.

54th Street

For the safety of our students and out of respect for our campus neighbors, vehicle pick-up on 54th Street is **prohibited**. Exit through the 54th street gate will be limited to **only** those students who walk/bike directly home and not to a parked car on 54th Street.

The safety and security of our community is of the utmost importance, and we appreciate your cooperation and understanding by following this campus-wide policy.

School Messenger Communication

Great Hearts and Archway Veritas continue to utilize the system School Messenger for emails, robo-calls, and text messaging to inform families of campus related emergencies and other communications. School Messenger has a new automatic opt-in for text feature. During the registration/re-enrollment process families confirmed their wish to participate in text communications. Great Hearts will now automatically opt-in contact information given during the registration/re-enrollment process with the options you selected. You will notice at the beginning of July you will be opted in for text messaging. If you would like to opt-out of text messages simply reply STOP to block any text messaging. Please note, if opting-pout, you will not receive texts regarding emergencies on campus.

Community Courtesy

When teachers, students, staff and parents follow arrival/dismissal expectations, we all work together to keep everyone safe. School parking lots can be incredibly busy places in the morning when children arrive and in the afternoon during dismissal. Safety is a primary concern of the school staff, but it requires everyone's participation. Please model the virtues of patience and charity when entering and exiting the parking lot. **There is no more immediate way to show we are a true community**, and the stakes are high.

Here are some safety tips for safe arrival and dismissal:

- Stay in designated pick up areas as directed by school personnel. **Do not arrive before 3:00 pm on regular dismissal days.**

- Yield to pedestrians, crossing guards, and buses, and be aware that children who are walking/riding bikes may not look both ways before venturing in or across a roadway.
- **For those walking or riding** themselves to campus, please remind them to stay on designated pedestrian/bike routes, look both ways, and cross only at designated areas (do not walk/ride in between cars). Wait for crossing guards, and walk bikes, skateboards, etc., across school driveways.
- Put your phone down and keep your eyes forward.
- Speed on school campus is to be kept at or below 10 mph and drivers must operate their vehicles with due care and caution at all times.
- Be sure to drive the proper direction through parking lots and nearby streets.
- When waiting for students to be released, pull all the way forward on the curb to allow other cars ample room and minimize driving around.
- Make sure your child is fully buckled in before pulling away.
- **Do not arrive before 3pm on regular dismissal days.**

Most important, parents should be patient, respectful, and courteous to other drivers while they pick their students up from school as well as the faculty and staff who are keeping students safe while on duty in the parking lots. Anger and frustration can lead to careless, unsafe behavior, and being a positive role model can help students learn safe procedures.

*There are so many great reasons to ride your bike: It offers fun, freedom and exercise, and it's good for the environment. Please be safe and remember to ensure your child is **wearing their helmet** when riding their bike.

Community Courtesy

Do not block driveways of homes in the neighborhood

Be sure to drive the proper direction through parking lots and nearby streets

Extracurricular After-School Clubs

We are gathering a multitude of club offerings for the upcoming school year. Please check the next Headmaster Newsletter on Friday, July 26th, for a list of club offerings for the first semester.

Clubs will open for registration on August 1st at 9:00 am. Registration will close on August 8th.

Clubs begin the week of August 12th.

Curriculum Night

Parents are encouraged to attend Archway Veritas' Curriculum Night!

Walk the halls, meet the teachers and learn about your child's school day. Each teacher will lead parents through a short lesson.

Kindergarten - Second grade: Wednesday, August 21st

Third - Fifth grade: Wednesday, August 28th

The evenings will begin in the Lund Center at 5:30pm.

Message from the Health Office

Water is essential! In our very hot and dry climate in Arizona, we need to be aware of how easily it is to become dehydrated. Please send your child **daily** with a reusable water bottle. Their water bottle can be refilled at any one of our rehydration stations. Apply sunscreen to any exposed areas before school.

We monitor the Maricopa County heat index very closely. Any time the temperatures exceed 90-105 degrees or above in conjunction with humidity levels, the heat advisory guidelines are put into effect which means limiting or canceling outdoor recess. Your students' safety is our number 1 priority!

Hearing and Vision Screening will be done the week of September 9th, on Kindergarten, First, Third, and Fifth graders. All new students will be tested as well.

Reminder for parents of Fifth Graders who will be turning 11, **Tdap** and **Meningococcal Vaccine** is required when the student turns 11. Please send in the records to the Health Office.

If your child comes to school sick, they will be sent home. Our aim is to provide a safe campus for everyone.

If your child is known to have asthma, severe food allergy, diabetes, seizure disorder, or any other condition that may require further management, please visit our Health page on our website by following the link [HERE](#). Please complete any forms necessary and drop off or send to Nurse Morse.

NEW Lunch Program



This school year, we will be working with a new hot lunch provider. Follow the link [HERE](#) with some information about My Hot Lunchbox!

Please watch for an email next week about how to create an account and place orders. Contact [Jill Sassenberg](#) with any questions.

AVPSO Calendar 2024-25



August

- **August 5th:** Back to School Bash at Altitude
- **August 6th:** Back to School Night
- **August 8th:** AVPSO General Board Meeting and Coffee with the Headmaster

September

- **September 17th:** Donuts With Dads
- **September 17th-20th:** Book Fair

October

- **October 15th:** Movie Night in the Basin
- **October 23rd:** AVPSO General Board Meeting and Coffee with the Headmaster

November

- **November 2nd:** Fall Festivitas
- **November 15th:** Super Sons +1

December

- **December 16th:** Faculty Holiday Appreciation Luncheon

January

- **January 22nd:** General Board Meeting and Coffee with the Headmaster
- **January 31st:** Dads' Club Parents Poker Night

February

- **February 28th:** Celebrate Veritas

March

- **March 7th:** Athletic Field Day
- **March 19th:** AVPSO General Board Meeting and Coffee with the Headmaster

April

- **April 4th:** Dear Daughter
- **April 26th:** Dads' Club Adventure Day

May

- **May 5th-9th:** Teacher Appreciation Week
- **May 21st:** That's a Wrap! (Yearbook Pickup & Used Consumables)

Please contact
**psopresident@
archwayveritas.org**
with any questions!

School Hours: 8:15-3:15 (M, Tu, Th, F) | 8:15-1:30 (W) | 8:15-12:00 (Half-Days)

P: 602-489-7341 | F: 602-759-1300