

Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians,

Welcome to the 2023/2024 school year at Utterback Middle School! I am excited and honored to serve as your Principal. I am looking forward to a fantastic year of learning and growth together.

At Utterback Middle School, we are committed to providing a supportive and nurturing environment that fosters academic excellence, character development, and a passion for lifelong learning. Our dedicated staff is ready to guide and challenge our students to reach their full potential.

This year, we have set ambitious goals to enhance the educational experience for our students. Our primary focus will be on four key areas:

- **Attendance:** Regular attendance is crucial for academic success. We will closely monitor attendance and work with students and families to ensure that every student has the opportunity to participate fully in their education.
- **Grades and Assessment:** We believe in a growth mindset, where mistakes are seen as opportunities for learning and improvement. Our teachers will provide constructive feedback to help students thrive academically and achieve their goals.
- **AVID Demonstration School:** We are proud to announce our commitment to becoming the first National AVID Demonstration School in the Tucson Unified School District. The Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program will equip our students with essential academic and organizational skills to excel in their studies and beyond.
- **Increasing Student Population:** We are eager to welcome new students into our diverse and inclusive school community. We encourage families to enroll their children at Utterback Middle School and be a part of our exciting educational journey.

As a B school in accordance with the Arizona Department of Education (ADE), we are continually striving to improve and excel. This year, we will build upon our accomplishments and work collaboratively with students, parents, and the community to provide an exceptional learning environment.

I encourage you to stay actively involved in your child's education by attending school events, parent-teacher conferences, and staying connected with their teachers and counselors. We believe that strong partnerships between school and home are fundamental to student success.

Please explore our school website for essential information, updates, and resources throughout the school year.

Thank you for choosing Utterback Middle School for your child's education. Together, we will create a positive and transformative experience that prepares our students for future success.

Let's make this academic year memorable and meaningful for all!

Sincerely,

Taranika Sanders
Principal, Utterback Middle School