



## CORONADO K-8 SCHOOL

Gerad Ball, Principal

Amanda Magelli, Assistant Principal

Erika Genis, Assistant Principal

3401 E. Wilds Road, Tucson, AZ 85739

(520) 696-6610 • FAX (520) 696-6701

701 W. Wetmore Road • Tucson, AZ 85705 • (520) 696-5000 • [www.amphi.com](http://www.amphi.com)

GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

Deanna M. Day, M.Ed.  
President

Vicki Cox Golder  
Vice President

Scott K. Baker, Ph.D.

Scott A. Leska

Susan Zibrat

SUPERINTENDENT

Todd A. Jaeger, J.D.

October 15, 2018

Dear Coronado K-8 School Parent,

On Oct. 5, the Arizona State Board of Education publicly released a letter grade (A-F) for all schools in Arizona. These letter grade scores were calculated using the results of the AzMERIT tests and other data from the 2017-18 school year.

Based on the State of Arizona's A-F Accountability System, Coronado K-8 School's letter grade is a "B."

I would like to provide you with some background information that is useful in understanding our school's letter grade, and I would also like to tell you about some of the district's plans for the future.

Every elementary, middle, and high school in the state receives a letter grade each year. The State Board of Education sets cut scores, which determine the letter grade. These are set on a bell curve, which means the state sets a certain number of A's, B's, C's, D's and F's.

Preliminary information based on the State Board of Education's cut scores for this year leads the Arizona School Board to estimate the following: 17% of K-12 schools will earn an "A," 34% will earn a "B," 37% will receive a "C," 9% will receive a "D," and 3% will receive an "F" grade.

The state's definition of this letter grade is:

*"B" – Highly Performing: High performance on statewide assessment; and/or significant student growth; and/or higher 4 year graduation rates; and/or moving students to proficiency at a higher rate than state average.*

---

Amphitheater High • Canyon del Oro High • Ironwood Ridge High  
Amphitheater Middle School • Coronado K-8 School • Cross Middle School • La Cima Middle School • Wilson K-8 School  
Copper Creek Elementary • Donaldson Elementary • Harelson Elementary • Holaway Elementary • Innovation Academy • Keeling Elementary  
Mesa Verde Elementary • Nash Elementary • Painted Sky Elementary • Prince Elementary • Rio Vista Elementary • Walker Elementary • Rillito Center

Amphitheater Unified School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion/religious beliefs, gender, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation, creed, citizenship status, marital status, political beliefs/affiliation, disability, home language, family, social or cultural background in its programs or activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Inquiries regarding the District's non-discrimination policies are handled at 701 W. Wetmore Road, Tucson, Arizona 85705 by Anna Maiden, Equal Opportunity & Compliance Director, (520) 696-5164, [amaiden@amphi.com](mailto:amaiden@amphi.com), or Kristin McGraw, Executive Director of Student Services, (520) 696-5230, [kmcgraw@amphi.com](mailto:kmcgraw@amphi.com).

**Understanding How the Letter Grades are Calculated**

The State of Arizona assigned letter grades for K-12 schools is based on a complex formula which examines four measures of school performance, weighted for grades K-8 as follows:

<b>Student Growth:</b> Student growth on AzMERIT English Language Arts and Math in two categories: Student Growth Percentiles (compared to “like” performing peers) and Student Growth to Target	50%
<b>Student Proficiency:</b> Student proficiency (passing) on AzMERIT English Language Arts, Math, and AIMS Science	30%
<b>English Language Learners’ growth and proficiency</b> as measured by performance on AZELLA	10%
<b>Acceleration and Readiness Measures</b> , which consists of several measures including chronic absenteeism and the improved growth of subgroups (economically disadvantaged, special education, etc.).	10%

It is important to emphasize that in the A-F Accountability System, 50% of the letter grade is based on *student growth* on AzMERIT English Language Arts and Math. The higher the proficiency scores, the more of a challenge it is to show growth. In addition to these percentages, bonus points are given for things like science proficiency and special education inclusion.

Although we recognize and appreciate the importance of measuring student achievement through quantitative data, we believe in a variety of other important factors that contribute to a positive and successful school environment.

To that end, Amphitheater Public Schools has developed a Five-Year Strategic Plan that contains many goals for helping the district continue to grow and excel. Included in the Strategic Plan is the Portrait of a Graduate.

The portrait provides a vision of the skills and qualities our Amphi graduates will have obtained during their K-12 experience with us. Areas of emphasis are Academic Content, Communication, Critical Thinking, Creative Thinking, Caring, Problem-Solving, Citizenship and Collaboration. We believe that ensuring our students grow in these areas is the best way to prepare for college, career and the world beyond high school.

Amphitheater Public Schools takes great pride in the academic achievement of all students. Our teachers, staff, and the entire Amphi family are committed to students’ success and preparing them for their futures. Additional information regarding the State of Arizona accountability and school grading system is available on the Amphitheater Public Schools website: [www.amphi.com](http://www.amphi.com). You are welcome to contact me directly at 696-6627 should you have further questions or concerns regarding our academic success.

Sincerely,  
Gerad Ball  
Principal