

January 9, 2020

Dear Salt River High School Stakeholders,

The purpose of this letter is to keep you informed about the status of the SRHS letter grade and possible school closure. In October, the <u>Arizona Department of Education</u> released school letter grades (A-F) for the 18-19 school year. **Salt River High School received an 'F' letter grade**. Division leaders at Salt River Schools appealed the letter grade; in December, the <u>Arizona State Board of Education</u> denied our appeal, so the SRHS final letter grade is an 'F.'

School letter grades are calculated using data measuring student achievement, student attendance, and the school graduation rate, among other things. Since the beginning of the school year, we have been working with the <u>ADE's Elevate program</u> to make improvements and raise student achievement. Unfortunately, SRHS has been unable to make the necessary gains to achieve a higher letter grade.

We have not lost hope and are still in discussions with the <u>Arizona State Board for Charter Schools</u> to find a solution that doesn't involve school closure, as our primary goal is to remain open and continue serving the Community for years to come. **We do not have any answers from the Charter Board at this time.** Unless a solution is found, we will lose the charter and close our doors on June 30, 2020.

This is what we know for sure:

- 1) SRHS is open and fully operational until June 30.
- 2) SRHS will offer summer school during the month of June.
- 3) SRHS is accredited through <u>AdvancEd</u>, a national accreditation organization, which means seniors graduating with the Class of 2020 will earn valid high school diplomas.

Our stakeholders will be notified immediately if we are unable to find a solution, and the final decision is made by Division and Community leaders to close our school. In that case, we will work to ensure smooth transitions into other districts for students and families. In the meantime, **we will continue focusing on school improvement**, **as well as improving student achievement outcomes.** We encourage students and families to remain engaged in our school community and consider attending the <u>SRHS Parent/Teacher Advisory Council</u>, which meets the third Thursday of every month from 6-7 p.m. Our goal is to make this a great semester and continue supporting all students and families to our best ability.

Thank you for your support as we battle through this challenge. If you would like more information about our school letter grade history and school improvement initiatives, please visit our website at SRHS.SaltRiverSchools.org.

Sincerely,

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