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## Welcome from the School Director

Welcome to Grand Canyon Preparatory Academy. The 2009/10 school year will be our twelfth year of providing a small educational community that promotes individualized education and a rigorous program that emphasizes lifelong learning (Scholarship) and active citizenship (service). At Grand Canyon Preparatory Academy, we believe all children have the ability to achieve whatever they have the will to become.

At Grand Canyon Prep we continue our tradition of providing great educational opportunities for our students. During the past several years, most Grand Canyon graduates have taken advantage of these opportunities and earned college credit and scholarships for their service to the community. In the last six years, Grand Canyon Students have earned over 230 hours of college credit for free through our concurrent program, saving families close to \$45,000 in college tuition. Grand Canyon Students have also been nominated and awarded the Presidential Freedom Scholarship for their outstanding work in the community. We have helped mentor students at the Children's First Academy (formerly Thomas Pappas), performed at Senior Centers, and raised thousands of dollars of food, clothes, and gifts for those in need. We also have an overseas program where twenty percent of our students have journeyed to destinations like Italy and Japan and experienced cultures that they have read about in the History Books. Finally, our students have demonstrated their academic skills by winning the first round of the Cox Show Brainstorm.

We have high expectations that all students will have the responsibility to take advantage of the educational opportunities we offer. That means being prepared to work, conducting themselves in a professional and respectful manner, and focusing on being equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in both college and the workplace. We expect all our students to wear our school uniform. We expect all our students to come to school on time every day. We expect all our students to maintain a B average of 80 percent. Anything below C level will be considered a F. We expect all of students to have plans to attend a college (academic or vocational) when they leave Grand Canyon Prep.

Finally, we also expect all our students to realize that they are part of two communities. The first community is our school and we expect students to be both positive and contributing forces in this environment where they will serve and assist others in need. There is also the general community outside of school. We believe that all students' benefit by serving the needs of the community they live in. Our program even has a graduation requirement for service learning. We believe it develops skills, provides local community awareness, and fosters active citizenship and strong character. We expect all students to be a progressive and active part of both communities.

We believe that all children, with a passion for learning, can rise and meet the high challenges and expectations of a rigorous curriculum. We believe that all children have the potential to shape the world. We believe that all students who dream of a better tomorrow for themselves and others can shape that future. Always know that my office is open to you if you have an issue that needs to be addressed, a concern that needs to be solved, or a positive development that needs to be recognized. Thank you and have a great year at Grand Canyon Prep

David Gordon  
School Director

*David Gordon, Masters  
Founder, School Director*

*Lauren Antioco, Bachelors  
Drama*

*Melanie Alger, Masters  
Speech Pathologist*

*Jessica Burnquist, Masters  
English, History*

*Wei Chen, Masters  
Robotics*

*Andrea Domanik, Masters  
Biological Sciences*

*Jelena Eros, Masters  
Art Portfolio, Animation*

*Jo Gordon  
Administrator*

*Dave Grago, Masters  
Japanese*

*Steve Harmon, Masters  
Math, Science*

*Steven Lurenz, Masters  
History*

*Frederick Milton, Masters  
Middle School, Latin*

*Carol Payant, Masters  
Special Education*

*Bill Ramos, Masters  
History*

*Yolanda Ratliff, Masters  
Spanish*

*Robert Slusser, Masters  
Math, Social Studies*

*Career Pathways*

*Matthew Smith, Bachelors  
Math, Science*

*Tom Timpone, Masters  
Special Education*

*Jeffrey Virgin, Masters  
English*