



March Cougar News

Message from the Principal

Cougar Families!

Thank you for coming out to parent teacher conferences. If you were not able to attend, please reach out to your students' teacher or our amazing counseling staff to arrange private conferences if necessary. As always, we advocate to partner with you to ensure student success.

The week of March 5th-March 9th, Combs Middle School will be conducting midterms. We appreciate your support in making sure students eat a healthy breakfast and arrive to school on time.

Great things are happening at CMS!



Principal Ridge



Exciting News

Congratulations to Advanced Orchestra and Mr. Scott Lloyd. We are proud to announce Combs Middle School Orchestra received a rating of **Superior** on February 28th, while they competed at the Junior High Orchestra Festival.

Counseling Corner

- We completed collecting next year's elective requests from all of our incoming 7th and 8th graders. We are so excited to start creating schedules for next year. **Please make sure** your student has turned in their signed copy of their Course Selections so they will have a better chance getting their electives of choice for next year. We create the schedule and hire teachers according to these course selections so they are very important.
- We have had questions regarding honors classes. We take teacher's requests first and build the schedule around that. We will take parent requests into consideration. When there is room in honors classes-we will check our parent requests, check their student's grades and they will be put in honors accordingly (on a first ask first consideration basis). Please email your requests to Dr. Wiberg at Lwiberg@jocombs.org
- Please remind your students that this year still has almost 3 months left and grades count!

Thank you so much and please let us know if you need anything.

Dr. Wiberg and Mrs. Shindledecker
lwiberg@jocombs.org ishindledecker@jocombs.org
CMS Counselor and Social Worker

District News

- Will you owe AZ taxes for 2017? Make a donation to your favorite J.O. Combs school and receive a dollar for dollar reduction of your tax liability! You have until April 15th, so donate today!

Help your neighborhood J.O. Combs schools
and receive your dollar for dollar state tax credit!

Combs
J.O. Combs Unified School District
Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

⇒ Available to all AZ residents, your tax credit donation supports extracurricular activities such as music, drama, clubs and athletics
⇒ Tax Credit donations appear as a credit towards your Arizona state income taxes rather than a deduction
⇒ You can contribute up to \$200 if filing individually or \$400 if filing jointly

Contributions can be made in person at the J.O. Combs district office at
301 E. Combs Rd, San Tan Valley 490-987-5300
or online at www.jocombs.org using the Tax Credits button on the home page.

- Combs High School recently had 20 staff members participate in a suicide awareness training called safeTALK. The purpose of the training is to provide students who are having thoughts of suicide a person to connect with on the campus to assist them with getting the appropriate level of support. The training is part of a continued effort to address the mental health needs of students.
- Combs Kidz Spring Camp registration is on-going up through March 9th. Students ages 5-12 will have fun with friends and enjoy arts & crafts, technology, outdoor activities and more! See the flyer for more information.
- Join us at the Job Fair, March 21st from 4p-7p hosted at Combs High School. We have several positions open for the 2018-2019 school year and are seeking individuals dedicated to making a difference in students' lives. Walk-ins welcome!

February Student of the Month

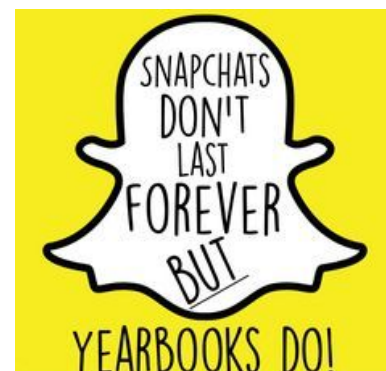


Marissa L. Thomas, 7th Grade.
Congratulations!

Open Enrollment Procedures for 18/19 School Year

The parents of students who attend Combs Middle School on open enrollment need to complete an open enrollment form for the 2018-2019 school year. Forms must be completed and returned to the administration office by April 13th. Hard copies of the forms are available in the front office. The form is also online.

Yearbooks



Mrs. Hutchinson and the students in the Yearbook class have been diligently working to produce this year's edition of the middle school

- [Job Fair 2018](#)
- [Spring Break Camp 2018](#)

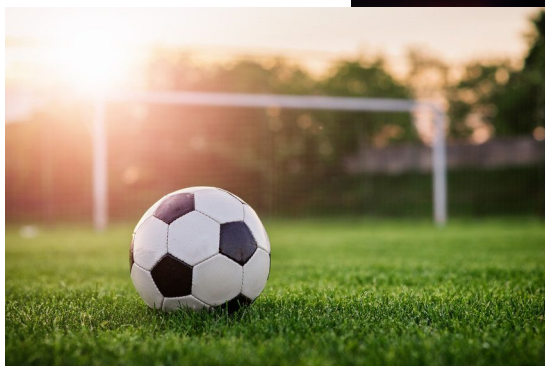
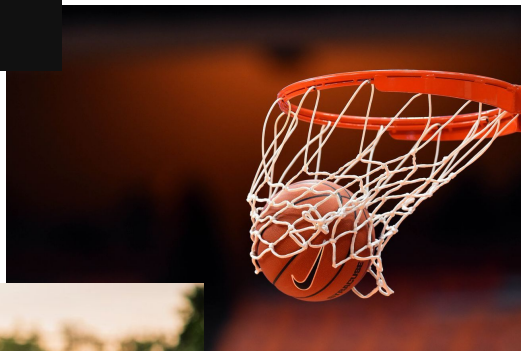
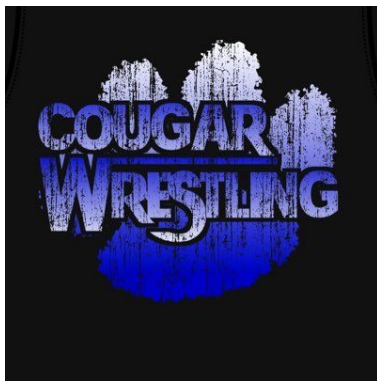
A Word from Athletics

What a month it has been for Combs Middle School sports! Our Girls Basketball team has made it to the playoffs! They worked so hard in the final weeks of the season to pick up huge wins against Ben Franklin, Maricopa Wells and Cactus Canyon. Be on the lookout for a potential 2nd championship trophy in our office soon.

Our Combs Cougar Cheerleaders are getting ready for their big competition season! Their first big competition will be April 21st! We will provide more information on the location and times as we move closer.

Who is ready for the final stretch and 4th quarter sports? I know I am! Combs Middle School is excited to begin Boy's Basketball, Girls Soccer and our newly added Wrestling. Tryouts for the Spring sports begin after Spring Break on Tuesday March 20th. Please make sure if your child is interested to get their physical packet filled out and turned in ASAP and if they have already played a sport this season at CMS all they will need is a consent form. All of this can be found in the front office. We are looking forward to a wonderful and competitive end to the 2017-2018 sports year! Come join us to all of our home games.

Also, we are still taking pre orders for our Combs Cougar Game Day Shirts. Please come to the front office to order your shirt today!



yearbook. This year's yearbook is going to be a great edition. Students always enjoy looking at past yearbooks as a way to remember the experiences that took place during their middle school years. The cost of the yearbook is \$40. Please turn in money (cash/check) to the front office or pay [online](#). Feel free to contact Mrs. Hutchinson at 480-882-3510 (ext. 1421) if you have any questions about the yearbook.

Parent Survey



CMS is request your participation in a brief survey about Combs Middle School We value your opinions and will use this information to improve the educational environment and services for your child. The survey should take less than 10 minutes to complete.

If you have multiple children attending our school, please complete **ONLY ONE** survey per school. If you have children who attend different schools in the J.O. Combs District, please complete **ONE** survey for **EACH** SCHOOL.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2018ParentJOC>



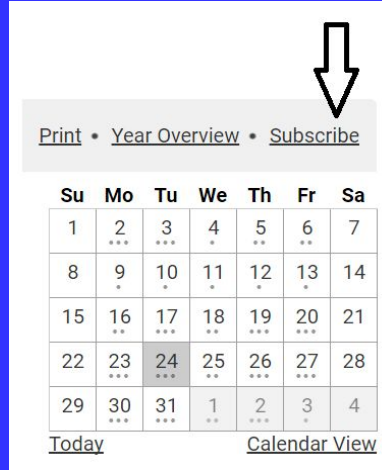
Save the Dates MARCH

1 - 9 Spring Book Fair
 5 - 9 Midterm Testing
 5 Orchestra and Choir Concert (6:00 pm)
 8 Band Concert (6:00 pm)
 12 - 16 Spring Break (NO SCHOOL)
 19 Professional Development Day (NO SCHOOL)
 20 4th Quarter Sports Tryouts Start (Girls Soccer, Boys Basketball and Wrestling)
 22 Spring Pictures
 26 - 29 AIMS Testing for 8th Grade Science
 30 Spring Holiday (NO SCHOOL)

Check Out CMS's New Website!

To make sure you never miss out on any fun and exciting events, make sure you subscribe to our school calendar!

CMS School Calendar



Print • Year Overview • Subscribe

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

Today Calendar View

3rd Quarter Report Cards

Report cards will be mailed out on over Spring Break. If you have any questions about the grades your child receives, please contact the teacher for that class. You may locate teacher phone extension or e-mail information by going to the "Contact Us" tab and then staff directory section on the middle school website at www.combsms.jocombs.org

District Website, All Site websites and all Publications Notice of Non-Discrimination J.O. Combs Unified School District #44 does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, age or sexual orientation in admission and access to its programs, services, activities, or in any aspect of their operations and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. J.O. Combs Unified School District #44 also does not discriminate in its hiring or employment practices. The following employees have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Compliance Officer for Title IX, Athletic Director, 2505 E. Germann Road, San Tan Valley, AZ 85140 or 480-882-3540 and Compliance Officer for Section 504/ADA, Director of Student Services, 301 E. Combs Road, San Tan Valley, AZ 85140 or 480-987-5300. El Distrito Escolar Unificado de J.O. Combs #44 no discrimina en base a su raza, color, religión, origen nacional, sexo, discapacidad, edad, o la orientación sexual para la admisión y su acceso a sus programas, servicios, actividades, o en cualquier aspecto de sus operaciones y proporciona un acceso igualitario a los Boys Scouts y otro grupos de jóvenes designados. El Distrito Escolar Unificado de J.O. Combs tampoco discrimina en sus prácticas de empleo y contratación. Los siguientes empleados han sido designados para manejar las preguntas en cuanto a las pólizas de no discriminación: Funcionario de Cumplimiento de Título IX, Director Atlético 2505 E. Germann Road, San Tan Valley, AZ 85140 or 480-882-3540 and Funcionario de Cumplimiento para la Sección 504/ADA, Director de Servicios Estudiantiles, 301 E. Combs Road, San Tan Valley, AZ 85140 or 480-987-5300.