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A WORD FROM OUR CEO

Dear Team/Partner,

I am excited to announce the start of a new year with some remarkable developments! This year, we have expanded our reach by adding two new schools: Victory Autism Academy GCU, conveniently located near the Grand Canyon University campus, and Escuela De Victoria (School of Victory) in Puerto Peñasco, Mexico. This unique school in Mexico is the only one in the region dedicated exclusively to children with special needs. With these additions, we now operate a total of eight schools under the Victory Schools brand—an impressive achievement in just eight years! Furthermore, we are on track to welcome our 1,000th student this year.

At Victory Schools, our commitment to serving the unique needs of underserved and vulnerable populations remains steadfast. Every child deserves equal access to a high-quality education, comparable to that offered in traditional schools. We accomplish this through our innovative "no lines, no box" approach, which positions us as pioneers in educational practices within our community.

I encourage you to visit our website at www.victoryschoolsaz.com to explore our various sites and learn more about the impactful work we are doing. We take great pride in our dedicated team, whose unwavering commitment and enthusiasm drive our mission forward every day.

Thank you for your continued support of our work and, most importantly, for our students.

For The Kids,

Founder/CEO (Victory Schools)

MISSION STATEMENT

Provide essential and equitable education opportunities to the underserved and vulnerable populations ensuring that ALL students have the opportunity to win and achieve future success.



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DAY 1 - WELCOME BACK STAFF A GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY

Before the school year began, Victory Schools hosted a special welcome-back event for all our staff at the GCU Arena. It was an inspiring day filled with excitement as we gathered to discuss the vision and goals for the upcoming year. The event kicked off with a presentation on our shared mission for Victory Schools, followed by engaging team-building activities that strengthened collaboration and camaraderie among staff. It was a great way to set the tone for the new school year!!







We were incredibly fortunate to have GCU President Brian Mueller join us as a guest speaker at our welcome-back event. His insightful and motivational address emphasized the power of leadership, education, and community, leaving a lasting impression on our staff. Having such a distinguished leader share his perspective and support meant a great deal to our Victory Schools team. We are grateful for his continued partnership and for setting an inspiring tone as we head into the new school year.





ADAPTIVE PE AT VICTORY AUTISM ACADEMY

In Adaptive Physical Education (APE), our students have been moving with joy and purpose, developing their physical skills while having an absolute blast. APE is designed to meet the unique needs of each student, offering modified physical activities that cater to different abilities, ensuring everyone can participate and thrive. Through carefully planned exercises and games, students build not only their motor skills but also confidence, teamwork, and social connections.

Each day in APE brinas new opportunities for our students to discover their passions and develop coordination, strength, and balance in a supportive, inclusive environment. Whether they're practicing yoga, engaging in group sports, or exploring creative movement. students are themselves learning to express physically in ways that matter to them. The week has been filled with new experiences, laughter, and growth, as our students embrace each activity with curiosity and excitement.





As we continue to journey through the school year, we're looking forward to many more exciting moments in APE, where every student can shine. The joy and progress we've seen so far are only the beginning of what's sure to be an incredible year of movement, creativity, and achievement.



ANIMAL THERAPY AT VICTORY AUTISM ACADEMY

Animal) therapy offers а unique and powerful way to support emotional and psychological well-being. Interacting with animals can reduce stress. improve mood, and foster a sense of connection and empathy. Recently, our school had the pleasure of hosting an animal therapy session featuring turkeys, roosters, ducks, and chickens.



Our students were thrilled to learn about these animals in the classroom and then have the opportunity to engage with them up close. It was an enriching experience that brought learning to life, and I can't wait to see what other exciting opportunities the rest of the year will bring!







GCU COLLEGE OF EDUCATION GIVES BACK TO VICTORY SCHOOLS



Victory Schools have had an exciting start to the school year, filled with engaging community events, robust sports, and club programs. One of the standout moments from August was our GCU Volunteer Day, where we partnered with volunteers from Grand Canyon University (GCU) for a meaningful and hands-on experience at Victory Collegiate Academy (VCA).

In this special event, twelve students from Victory Futures Academy (VFA) stepped up as leaders, joining forces with GCU volunteers, VCA cheer team, Victory Autism Academy (VAA) students, and Victory Schools staff to create an array of sensory tools for our students. From sensory bins filled with rice and cute toys, to colorful sensory tubes and squishy bags made with hair gel and sparkles, each station was a hub of creativity and teamwork. One VFA student even became the star of the hot glue gun station, nearly single-handedly managing it!



The collaboration between VFA students and GCU volunteers was inspiring. Our students not only led the way, displaying grace and patience at each station, but they also had the opportunity to engage in meaningful conversations with GCU volunteers. These discussions went beyond the day's activities, with many GCU students expressing a keen interest in future partnerships, including potential opportunities for our students to learn about science, engineering, and technology.

The impact of this event went both ways. GCU volunteers shared how much the experience meant to them, and many expressed a strong desire to stay involved with Victory Schools in the future. We are incredibly proud of our partnership with GCU and look forward to the continued collaboration. Their enthusiasm and commitment to our students are invaluable, and we're excited about the future possibilities this relationship will bring.

A huge shout-out goes to Director Sims for coordinating this event, as well as our hardworking paraprofessionals, facilities team, cheer squad, and all the students and staff who came together to make this event a success. The GCU Volunteer Day was not only a productive afternoon, but a powerful reminder of the strength that comes from community collaboration and leadership.



5 REASONS WHY MUSIC THERAPY IS GREAT AT VICTORY AUTISM ACADEMY

Our students were thrilled to learn about these animals in the classroom and then have the opportunity to engage with them up close. It was an enriching experience that brought learning to life, and I can't wait to see what other exciting opportunities the rest of the year will bring!

Music therapy can assist individuals in exploring their emotions, enhancing their mood, and developing problem-solving skills. It can also aid in conflict resolution and in strengthening relationships.

Music can affect the amount of stress hormones the body releases, and can also release dopamine and endorphins, which can make people feel good and relieve pain.



Music therapy can help people practice social skills that they can use in their everyday lives. Sessions are often done in a group setting.





Music can activate cognitive, motor, and speech centers in the brain, which can improve quality of life and overall functioning. Music can also facilitate neuroplasticity, which can have positive effects.

Music therapy can also improve heart rate, motor skills, and the immune system.



BRAND NEW SCHOOL -VICTORY AUTISM ACADEMY - GCU

The first month at our brand-new Victory Academy Autism campus, in partnership with GCU, has been filled with excitement and enthusiasm! We are thrilled to see how quickly our students have settled into their new environment and embraced the learning opportunities with open hearts and minds.

The partnership with GCU has been instrumental in bringing this vision to life, offering our students access to top-tier facilities and resources. It's been amazing to witness the joy on our students' faces as they make the most of bouncing on trampolines, the gym, climbina. and engaging in various activities that promote their physical and social growth.

We are excited for the future and grateful for the continued support from GCU in making this new campus a reality.



Additionally, our new collaborative learning spaces have been a huge success, fostering creativity, teamwork, and independent thinking. Students are actively engaging in group projects, sharing ideas, and supporting each other in these dynamic environments.

Our teachers and support staff have also been doing an outstanding job implementing new teaching strategies that cater to the diverse needs of our students. From sensory-friendly classrooms to personalized learning plans, the focus has been on creating an inclusive and supportive environment where every student can thrive.

We have also been delighted to welcome new families to our community. The bonds that are forming among students, teachers, and parents are truly special and are helping to create a warm and welcoming atmosphere for everyone.

Overall, it has been a fantastic start to the school year, and we are looking forward to all the amazing things to come. Thank you to our incredible staff, students, and families for making the GCU campus such a vibrant and positive place to learn!





INAGURAL SPORTS AT VICTORY FUTURES ACADEMY

Victory Futures Academy (VFA) is excited to launch its inaugural tackle football season, and the enthusiasm is electric! Our boys are hitting the field with energy, passion, and dedication, enjoying every moment of this new venture for our school.

The team has been working hard to build strong fundamentals, improve their skills, and, most importantly, foster a sense of teamwork and sportsmanship. Under the guidance of our committed coaches, the players are learning not only the technical aspects of the game but also valuable life lessons in discipline, perseverance, and collaboration.

Our coaches have been putting in countless hours to ensure the team is prepared for every challenge ahead, organizing intense training sessions, reviewing game strategies, and providing mentorship both on and off the field. Their dedication is paying off as the team shows incredible growth and camaraderie with every practice.

This is an exciting moment for VFA, as tackle football adds a new dimension to our sports program. We are proud of the boys for their hard work and determination, and we look forward to seeing where this season takes them.





VICTORY FUTURES ACADEMY 2024 CAMPING TRIP

Victory Futures Academy (VFA) recently embarked on its very first camping trip, and it was a resounding success! With over 50 students participating, this adventure marked a memorable milestone for our school and provided a unique opportunity for students to experience the great outdoors together.

The trip was filled with excitement and learning as students bonded over campfire stories, hiking, and team-building activities. For many, this was their first time camping, and they embraced the challenge with enthusiasm. From setting up tents to exploring nature trails, the students displayed teamwork and a spirit of adventure, creating unforgettable memories along the way.

In addition to the fun and games, students also participated in leadership activities that reinforced key life skills such as communication, problem-solving, and collaboration. The camping trip provided the perfect backdrop for personal growth and relationship-building, strengthening the VFA community.

Our dedicated staff worked tirelessly to ensure that everything ran smoothly, from planning meals to organizing activities that engaged everyone. The trip was a fantastic blend of fun and learning, and the students returned to school more connected than ever.

#FORTHEKIDS



VICTORY SCHOOLS COMES TOGETHER FOR ESCUELA DE VICTORIA



Escuela de Victoria, our newest campus in Mexico, is already thriving thanks to the incredible support from the entire Victorv Schools community. This initiative has brought together employees from every part of our organization—custodians, teachers. principals, and district office staff-who are volunteering their time and skills to make this new school a success.

The sense of unity and dedication has been inspiring. Groups of staff members travel down to Escuela de Victoria, providing hands-on assistance where it's most needed. From preparing classrooms and maintaining facilities to mentoring staff and offering guidance to local teachers, the contributions have been invaluable. In addition to volunteer efforts, we've seen an outpouring of generosity in the form of donations. Our community has come together to gather much-needed supplies for the school, including educational materials, technology, and equipment. These donations are crucial in providing the resources needed for students to succeed.

The overwhelming response and commitment to Escuela de Victoria demonstrate the heart of Victory Schools. Together, we are not only helping build a new school but also creating a vibrant, supportive learning environment for students in Mexico. We look forward to seeing the continued growth of this campus and the lasting impact it will have.





VICTORY IN SNAPSHOTS

Welcome Back Staff



VFA First Football Home Game



First day at VCA





VFA & VCA Students making sensory items for VAA students



EDV Students in their first day









EDV first day wall with students names







GCU Womens Basketball player, Ale'jah Douglas, with VCA student at our annual camp



Grandparent

S KNGHT



VAA student petting duck at our animal therapy class





VFA Students with GCU staff making sensory items at our **GCU Volunteer Day**







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