

District 49 Dispatch

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Major 3B Projects Complete for SY 18-19, Others on Track

By David Nancarrow
Director of Communications

As July comes to a close, while students and staff are getting ready for a new school year, construction crews are still hard at work to bring online major projects around School District 49.

The start of school year 2018-19 will see the grand opening of a new elementary school in the Falcon Zone in addition to the completion of multiple large-scale facility upgrades and improvements. These additions represent significant benchmarks in D49's Building our Future Community plan supported by the voter-approved 3B ballot measure in the fall of 2016.

That plan is addressing four priorities, which are on track, and include: \$1 million annually to recruit and retain top-quality teachers, \$20 million every ten years to invest in refreshing our existing schools, making additions to the district's largest high schools and the construction of two new neighborhood elementary schools, the first of which will open its doors to students in August.

Priority 4 Update - New Schools

The school mentioned above, Bennett Ranch Elementary School, is in the end-phase of construction. Final inspections are taking place as crews begin to install the new furniture arriving at the school. The final move-in and delivery of equipment will happen in the last two weeks of July. A ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the grand opening is scheduled for Monday, July 23, at 1 p.m.

D49 officially broke ground on the second new elementary school in May. As the initial foundations are poured, the naming process is underway for the school that will serve the Banning Lewis Ranch neighborhood. The school will have a strong focus on the arts, and is on schedule to open in August 2019.

See Projects page 2

BEFORE: Construction workers lay bricks at Bennett Ranch Elementary School in October of 2017. (District 49/Communications Department)



AFTER: Project supervisors report in July BRES is nearing completion and will be ready for the first day of school for 2018-19. (District 49/Aaron Villegas)



D49 Celebrates New School with Official Groundbreaking



Artistic Rendering of New Elementary School in Banning Lewis Ranch Neighborhood (Courtesy: DLR Group)

DLR Group
Architecture Engineering Planning Interiors



D49 leaders and special guests break ground at site of new elementary school in Banning Lewis Ranch (Left to Right) Pedro Almeida, D49 COO, Brett Ridgway, D49 CBO, Peter Hiltz, D49 CEO, Dr. Mike Pickering, POWER Zone Leader, Noelle and Evan Cruson, Kristina Rigdon, Principal of New School and Tyson Nunn, NUNN Construction. (District 49/Aaron Villegas)

By David Nancarrow
Director of Communications

A small team of School District 49 leaders put their shoveling skills to work on a breezy Tuesday afternoon. As one, the group of diggers scooped some softened earth, marking the official groundbreaking for a new elementary school in the Banning Lewis Ranch neighborhood.

About 70 people braved the breezy conditions to learn more about the new school. Principal Kristina Rigdon spoke about the vision set for the neighborhood elementary school which will have an emphasis in the arts.

"Through the process of creating, students learn critical skills that will carry them on any path they take," Rigdon said. "Self direction, self management, problem solving, perseverance, inquiry, analysis, communication, collaboration, creativity, and innovation. These are just a few foundational skills needed for career and life success. These are also skills that are developed through the arts."

The still unnamed school is the result of the 3B ballot measure overwhelmingly approved by voters in November of 2016, which brings in revenues for a list of priorities for the district, including two new schools. Initial phases of

construction began in April.

A list of guest speakers for the groundbreaking event included D49 Board of Education Marie Lavere-Wright, who introduced two members of the Power Zone, Julia VanWagenen, a parent, and Vista Ridge High School student Sierra Tune.

"The arts are where people discover themselves and how truly irreplaceable they are in this world, and how no one else can bring to the table exactly what they can," said Tune. The VRHS senior spoke about her appreciation for the arts and enthusiasm for new school that will soon take shape.

"This school means there is now a place where these feelings of love, diversity, and confidence are not only accepted, but encouraged," Tune said.

As the 2017 - 2018 school year comes to a close, Colorado-based Nunn Construction will continue work at the site on Vista Del Pico Boulevard, not far from Banning Lewis Preparatory Academy, a D49 authorized charter school. A planning committee is developing a list of potential names for the school, listening to feedback from the community and seeking more input as the project moves forward. Doors are scheduled to open in August of 2019.

FHS Grad Selected in NFL Draft

By David Nancarrow
Director of Communications

A one-time leader on the Falcon High School gridiron is getting ready to make a splash in the National Football League. Kalen Ballage, class of '14, was selected by the Miami Dolphins in the fourth round of the NFL draft at the end of April.

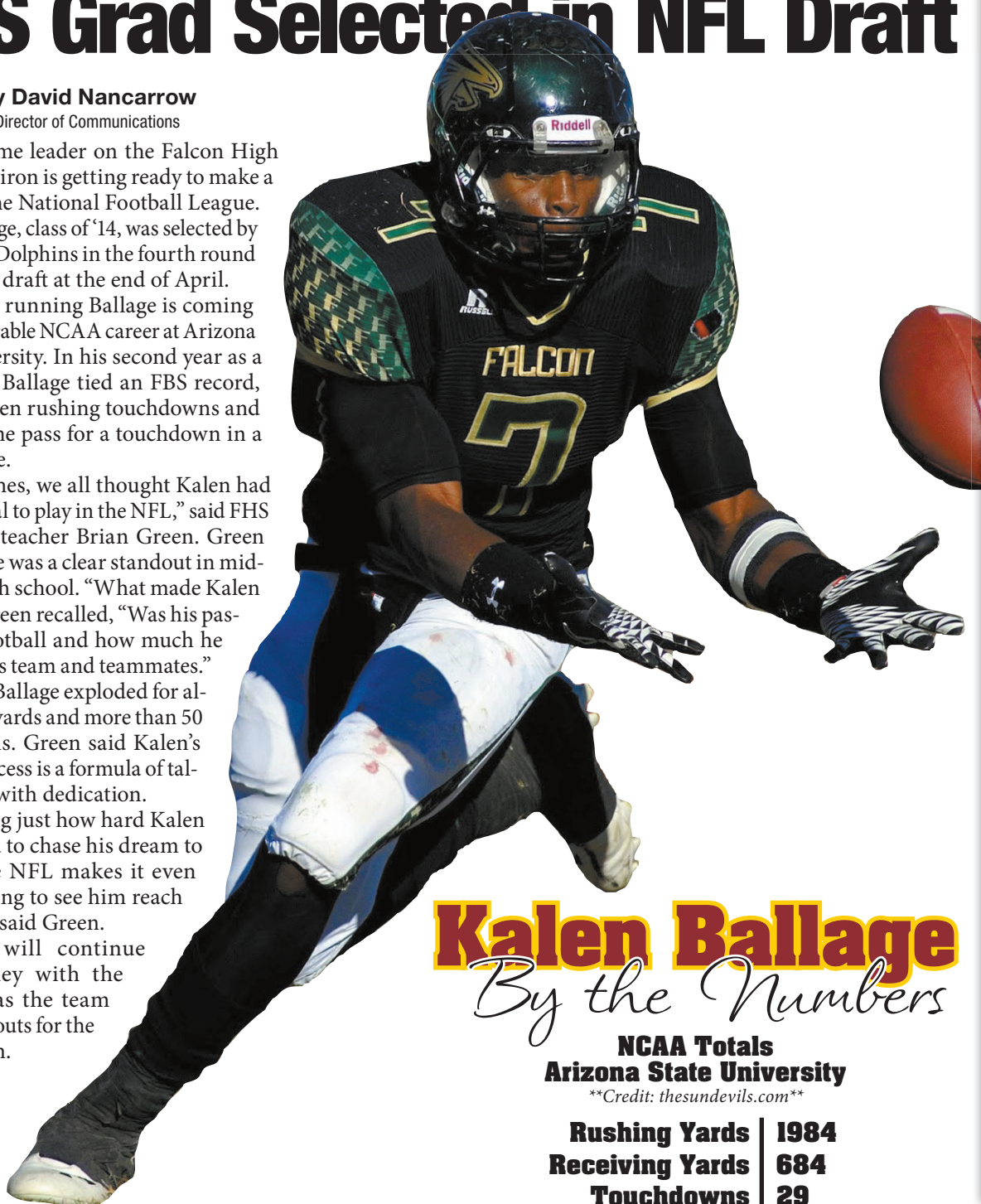
The hard running Ballage is coming off a memorable NCAA career at Arizona State University. In his second year as a Sun Devil, Ballage tied an FBS record, scoring seven rushing touchdowns and catching one pass for a touchdown in a single game.

"As coaches, we all thought Kalen had the potential to play in the NFL," said FHS coach and teacher Brian Green. Green said Ballage was a clear standout in middle and high school. "What made Kalen special," Green recalled, "Was his passion for football and how much he cared for his team and teammates."

At FHS, Ballage exploded for almost 3000 yards and more than 50 touchdowns. Green said Kalen's current success is a formula of talent mixed with dedication.

"Knowing just how hard Kalen has worked to chase his dream to play in the NFL makes it even more exciting to see him reach that level," said Green.

Ballage will continue that journey with the Dolphins as the team holds workouts for the 2018 season.



Kalen Ballage *By the Numbers*

NCAA Totals
Arizona State University
Credit: thesundevils.com

Rushing Yards	1984
Receiving Yards	684
Touchdowns	29

Board of Education Hears Initial Information on Next Phase of Building our Future Community Plan

By David Nancarrow
Director of Communications

During its work session at the end of June, the D49 Board of Education heard some initial information from the D49 Business Office about an exciting opportunity for our families and the district. This November voters will have the chance to ensure D49 funding grows steadily to meet the ever-changing needs of our community. To do this, the business office proposes to lower your tax rate and freeze it for the future.

The Plan: A re-structuring of the 2014 3A MLO from a fixed dollar amount to a fixed rate. This gives us the flexibility to lower that figure for homeowners and pair the redefined 3A with 2016's 3B MLO into a combined flat rate of 18.500 mills moving forward.

The Results: Homeowners

- Lower tax rate for D49 mill levy override
- Future changes to your D49 tax dollars will only relate to changes in your property value

The Results: School District 49

- D49 improves its ability to continue investment in people and facilities
- D49 funding grows in step with the growing community

The D49 Business Office is in the early stages of seeking board approval for the November ballot. We will provide updates in the coming weeks.



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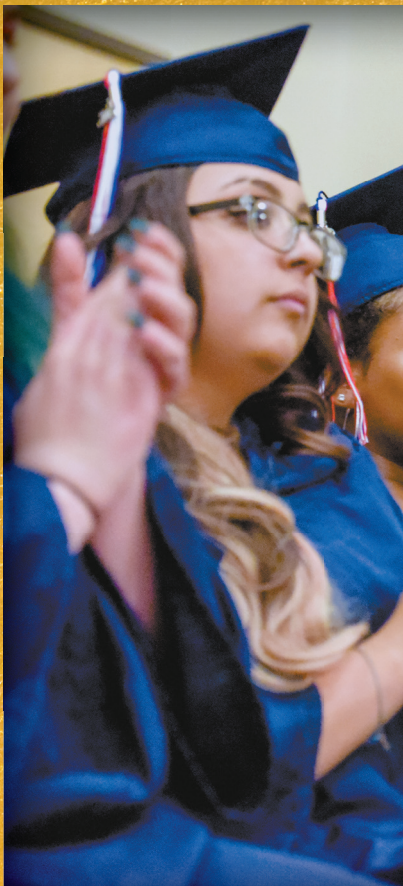
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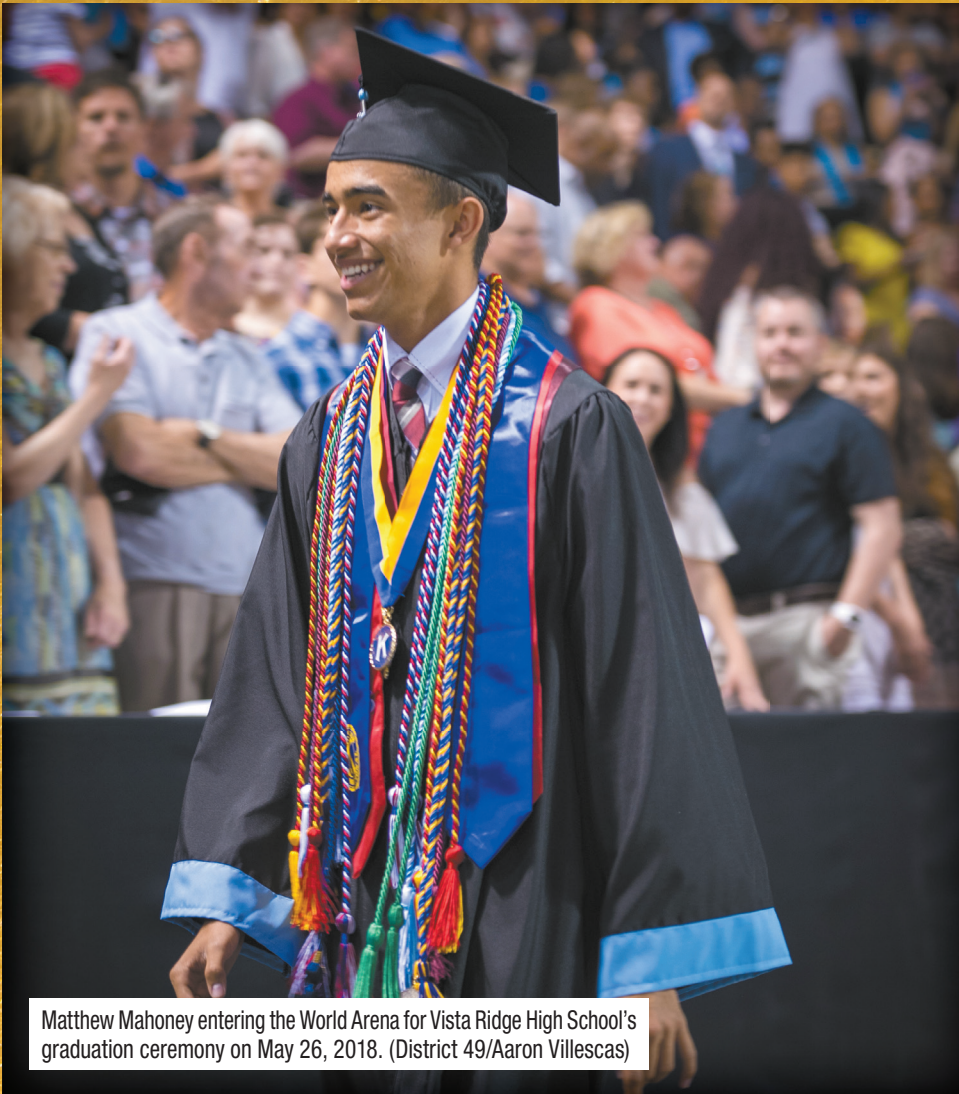
Ararah Stair (right), who was honored by teacher Beth Rohr, re-ates of Arts in English from PPEC. (District 49/David Nancarrow)



Sand Creek graduates celebrating after their tassel ceremony on May 26, 2018. (District 49/Sam Dosen)



Patriot High School graduates eagerly await receiving their diplomas at their ceremony May 18 at the Creekside Success Center. (District 49/Amy Matisek)



Matthew Mahoney entering the World Arena for Vista Ridge High School's graduation ceremony on May 26, 2018. (District 49/Aaron Villescass)



Falcon High School's class of 2018 lining up for the ceremony at the World Arena on May 26, 2018. (District 49/Sam Dosen)



2018-2019

District Calendar

CALENDAR

RSS, iCAL Feeds at D49.org

JULY 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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DECEMBER 2018						
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Important Dates

July 4 **Independence Day**
July 24 New Teacher Orientation Begins
July 27 Teachers Return From Summer Break

Aug. 1 First Day for Kindergarten, 6th Grade & 9th Grade
Aug. 2 First Day for All Students
Aug. 6 First Day for Preschool
Aug. 10 Elementary School Assessments*
Aug. 31 Professional Development, No Students

Sept. 3 **Labor Day**
Sept. 28 End of 1st Quarter

Oct. 4 Work Day, No Elementary Students
Oct. 5 Parent Teacher Conferences, No Students
Oct. 8-19 Schools Closed for **Fall Break**

Nov. 12 Schools Open for **Veterans Day**
Nov. 19-23 Schools Closed for **Thanksgiving Break**

Dec. 14 Elementary School Assessments*
Dec. 20-21 High School Finals
Dec. 21 Work Day, No Elementary School Students
Dec. 21 End of 2nd Quarter
Dec. 24-Jan. 4 Schools Closed for **Christmas Break**

Jan. 1 **New Years Day**
Jan. 7 Professional Development, No Students
Jan. 21 **Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday**

Feb. 15 Parent Teacher Conferences, No Students
Feb. 18 **Presidents Day**

March 7 End of 3rd Quarter
March 8 Professional Development, No Students
March 15 Work Day, No Elementary School Students
March 18-29 Schools Closed for **Spring Break**

May 3 Professional Development, No Students
May 10 Elementary School Assessments*
May 23 Last day of Preschool
May 24 End of 4th Quarter
May 27 **Memorial Day**
May 29 Teachers' Last Day

* Elementary school assessment days are used to assess student progress at different times of the school year. See school specific websites for information on schedule impact for each campus.

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- Important Date
- No Students
- No Students, No Teachers
- District Closed

Check school websites for campus-specific events at D49.org

JANUARY 2019						
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MARCH 2019						
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APRIL 2019						
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MAY 2019						
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JUNE 2019						
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Helpful Links on D49.org

Services & Information

3B Projects: D49.org/3B
49 Pathways: D49.org/49Pathways
Before and After School Care: D49.org/Base49
Board of Education: D49.org/BOE
Bus Fees: D49.org/BusFees
Calendar: D49.org/Calendar
Enrollment: D49.org/Enroll
Financial Information: D49.org/FinancialTransparency
Gifted Education: D49.org/Gifted
Human Resources: D49.org/HR
Job Postings: D49.org/careers
Map: D49.org/Map
Meal Fees: D49.org/MealFees
Mill Levy Oversight Committee: D49.org/MLO-Oversight

Nutrition Services: D49.org/Nutrition
School Nurses: D49.org/Nursing
Special Education: D49.org/SPED
Transportation: D49.org/Transportation

Direct to the Schools

Falcon High School: D49.org/FHS
Falcon Middle School: D49.org/FMS
Bennett Ranch Elementary School: D49.org/BRES
Falcon Elementary School of Technology: D49.org/FESoT
Meridian Ranch Elementary School: D49.org/MRES
Woodmen Hills Elementary School: D49.org/WHES
Vista Ridge High School: D49.org/VRHS
Skyview Middle School: D49.org/SMS
Odyssey Elementary School: D49.org/OES

Ridgeview Elementary School: D49.org/RVES
Stetson Elementary School: D49.org/SES
Academy for Literacy, Learning & Innovation Excellence: D49.org/ALLIES

Sand Creek High School: D49.org/SCHS
Horizon Middle School: D49.org/HMS
Evans International Elementary School: D49.org/EIES
Remington Elementary School: D49.org/RES
Springs Ranch Elementary School: D49.org/SRES

Banning Lewis Academy: blracademy.org
Falcon Homeschool Program: D49.org/FHP
GOAL Academy: goalac.org
Imagine Classical Academy: imagineclassical.org
Patriot High School: D49.org/PHS
Pikes Peak Early College: D49.org/PPEC
Pikes Peak School of Expeditionary Learning: ppsel.org
Power Technical Early College: jamesirwin.org/power-tech
Rocky Mountain Classical Academy: rmcacs.org
Springs Studio for Academic Excellence: D49.org/SSAE

Students Across District Win with Track and Field Day

By Amy Matisek
Internal Communications Manager

Nearly 400 fourth and fifth-graders from 10 schools across D49 participated at the all-district track meet May 17 at Falcon High School. Students were gathered together to practice physical education skills learned throughout the year and to experience competition.

“It’s my favorite day of the year,” shared Jeff Ingram, P.E. teacher from Springs Ranch Elementary School. “This day shows great collaboration with all the P.E. teachers in the district.” The event began 16 years ago and has expanded to include more events over the years.

Some elementary students were happy just to be there. “This is my first track meet,” remarked Delaila Pena, 10, fourth-grader at Stetson Elementary School. “I’m

so excited.”

Student-athletes competed in individual dashes such as the 100m and 200m, relays, frisbee toss, long jump, softball throw and shot put.

“I am pretty athletic, and I like running with my dad,” commented Cori Flanagan, 11, fifth-grader at Remington Elementary School. “But, I learned that if you have fun, you win.”

Students were selected to participate based on sportsmanship, respect and grades. “The day was about giving students a taste of track and field,” stated Kelly Morton, P.E. teacher at RES. “Kids could see if it’s something they like.”

For those students who do want to pursue the sport in the future, they may someday be representing a D49 high school track team together.



Ethan Falkenberg, 11, fifth-grader at RVES, participates in the long jump event at the all-district elementary school track and field day May 17 at FHS. (District 49/Amy Matisek)



Taylor Yazzie, 11, fifth-grader from OES, smiles about her efforts throwing the shot put at the D49 track meet that took place at FHS May 17. (District 49/David Nancarrow)



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