

A PUBLIC
SCHOOL
DISTRICT
OF CHOICE



ANNUAL
REVIEW
2 0 1 9

#PEORIAUNIFIEDPRIDE

ACCOMPLISHMENT HIGHLIGHTS

OUR SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS

Old Main at Peoria High School added to the **National Register of Historic Places**

1st place Arizona West Regionals Competition and prestigious Engineering Inspiration Award **Cactus High School** Robotics Team

FIRST PLACE

Skills USA Region V Construction Championships Auto Competition - **Centennial High School**
Construction Technology - **Peoria High School**
Crime Scene Investigation - **Sunrise Mountain High School**

1ST PLACE

Computer Science Coding Challenge at the AZ State MESA Day 2019 Competition **Peoria High School**

Arizona's Only

band to receive the privilege to perform in Washington D.C. over Veterans Day weekend **Vistancia Junior High**

AWARDED

Advance CTE's annual National Excellence in Action Award, Fire Science Program **Sunrise Mountain High School CTE**



Unified Champion School

from Special Olympics Arizona Featured on ESPN for the Special Olympics Unified movement story **Raymond S. Kellis High School**

ONE of FIVE

Arizona **MET** project teams to make it to the final round National Samsung Solve Tomorrow STEM Competition

Canyon Elementary selected as Best Buddies Arizona's **outstanding middle school** chapter



State Champions

varsity 5A football **Centennial High School**

AWARDED

2018 5A Conference Varsity Football Season Sportsmanship Award from Arizona Football Officials Association **Raymond S. Kellis High School**

OUR STUDENTS



5 National Merit Semifinalists

\$63 MILLION in **scholarships** to post-secondary institutions secured by graduating seniors

426 received the **highest score** possible on **one** of the AzMERIT assessments (17% increase from the previous year)



20 district students who received the AzMERIT **highest score** possible on **BOTH** English Language Arts and Mathematics

ONE of FOUR A Liberty High School Junior awarded one of the first ever national **ACT scholarships**

93% students in MET Professional Academy **earned** medical, engineering or technology **certifications**

FIRST Centennial High School Sophomore became Arizona's first female 2019 5A **Wrestling State Champion**, Arizona USA Wrestling State Champion and State Freestyle Wrestling Champion

FLINN SCHOLAR Ironwood High School student who was also a National Merit Scholar and the International Baccalaureate Club President

Since 1889 – beginning with a one-room school house with fewer than 50 students to one of Arizona’s largest unified districts – Peoria Unified continues to serve families with a legacy of tradition and excellence.

OUR TEACHERS

Our teachers continue to receive accolades, awards and recognitions. Below are just a few received over the year:

Arizona Theatre Teacher of the Year

2019 National Soccer Coach of the Year

by the National High School Athletic Coaches Association

2018 Arizona Air Force State Teacher of the Year

from the Air Force Association

Advance CTE Excellence in Action Award

Region IV Junior ROTC Outstanding Instructor

2019 American Modeling Teachers Association

Malcolm Wells Leadership Award Winner

from the American Association of Physics Teachers
and the American Institute of Physics

Strategic Plan

In December 2018, the Governing Board adopted the Strategic Plan Framework and began work on the Fiscal Years 2020-2024 Strategic Plan.



Student Success:

Ensuring all students achieve college and career readiness

while discovering and fulfilling their potential.

- Implemented K-3rd Grade Foundations Phonics supplemental reading program

Safety and Well-Being: Maintaining safe, inviting, nurturing and respectful environments for students, staff and community.

- Developed the Social Emotional Learning model to support mental health and security for students

Stewardship of Community Resources: Solidifying and adhering to effective policies, practices and accountability for district resources.

- Conducted a policy audit and compensation study

Community Connection: Enhancing a culture of active engagement that encourages and strengthens parent and community partnerships across all strategic areas.

- Supported a student-led voter registration program

2019 OVERRIDE ELECTION

If approved by voters in November, the Maintenance and Operations Override would sustain our current 13% override, which provides about \$27 million for our district and infuse approximately \$5 million more for safety - like counselors and behavior specialists - and teacher and staff compensation.

Our current override funds people and programs such as:

- All-Day Kindergarten for our Youngest Learners
- Arts Education Programs Including Band and Chorus
- Assistant Principals for Every School
- Attraction and Retention of the Best Teachers and Staff Possible
- Maintain Nurses/Health Services at Every School
- Athletic Programs
- Extra/Co-curricular Activities
- Gifted Education
- Physical Education Programs
- Reading Programs
- School Safety

If approved by the voters, the override will **continue to fund the above** and provide additional funding for safety and staff compensation.

This is a **MAIL IN ONLY** election, so you will not be able to go to the traditional polling place on election day to cast your vote. As long as you are registered to vote, your **ballot will come in the mail and will need to be placed back in the mail** so it makes it in time to be counted by November 1.

To help our community understand the tax impact of their support, we've created a **property tax calculator** at peoriaunified.org/bondsandoverrides.

Register to vote at servicearizona.com/voterregistration.

To learn more about the 2019 Override Election, visit peoriaunified.org/bondsandoverrides or call 623-486-6100.



SUPPORT STUDENTS & SAVE MONEY! SCHOOL TAX CREDIT

Did you know that anyone who resides in the state of Arizona and pays state taxes can contribute to a school or towards a child's extracurricular activities through a tax credit donation? **You don't have to have a student in school to donate.**

The Arizona School Tax Credit Law allows taxpayers a Tax Credit for contributions made to extracurricular activities: \$400 for those filing personal taxes as "married filing jointly" or \$200 for those filing "head of household" or "single." Peoria Unified recommends consulting a tax adviser about qualifications for the dollar-for-dollar credit.

Donate at www.peoriaunified.org/taxcredit



**THANKS
FOR YOUR SUPPORT
OF OUR STUDENTS & SCHOOLS**

Peoria Unified School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in admission to its programs, services, or activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The lack of English language skills shall not be a barrier to admission or participation in the district's activities and programs. The Peoria Unified School District also does not discriminate in its hiring or employment practices. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Holly Harper, Section 504/ADA Title II Coordinator, 6330 W. Thunderbird Rd., Glendale, Arizona 85306, 623-486-6068, HHarper@pusd11.net.

El Distrito Escolar Unificado de Peoria no discrimina en base a raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, edad o discapacidad en la admisión a sus programas, servicios o actividades y proporciona igual acceso a los Boy Scouts y otros grupos juveniles designados. La falta de habilidades en el idioma inglés no será una barrera para la admisión o participación en las actividades y programas del distrito. El Distrito Escolar Unificado de Peoria tampoco discrimina en sus prácticas de contratación o empleo. La siguiente persona ha sido designada para manejar las consultas relacionadas con las políticas de no discriminación: Holly Harper, Sección 504 / Coordinador del Título II de la ADA, 6330 W. Thunderbird Road, Glendale, Arizona 85306, 623-486-6068.

PEORIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT WHERE EVERY CHILD CAN SUCCEED

OUR DISTRICT



37,418 students
25,353 PreK-8th grades
12,065 9-12th grades

33 Elementary Schools

7 High Schools

16 Preschool Programs

1 Non-Traditional High School

12 Signature Programs

1 Sunflower School serving students with disabilities



96% high school graduation rate*



19.1:1 students per teacher average*



11.6 years teacher experience average*

*Source: Arizona Auditor General FY2018

10

specialized programs of choice

25

Career & Technical Education (CTE) Programs featuring six career fields

Best District in AZ

#7
out of 130

Best District in AZ for Athletes

#3
out of 131

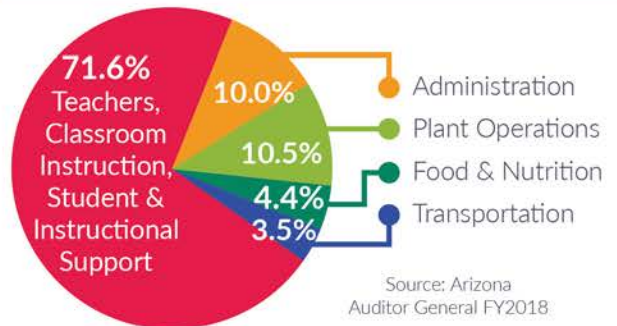
District with the Best Teachers in AZ

TOP 20
out of 177

Niche.com

5,600+ VOLUNTEERS
with nearly **28,000** HOURS

2017-2018 Expenditures



District Leadership

GOVERNING BOARD

Monica Ceja Martinez, President
Beverly Pingerelli, Clerk
Judy Doane David Sandoval Cory Underhill

SUPERINTENDENT

Linda Palles Thompson

VALUES - People • Excellence • Opportunity • Respect • Innovation • Achievement