

A PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT OF CHOICE



 **PEORIA**
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANNUAL REVIEW 2020

Every Student, Every Day, Prepared to Shape Tomorrow.

2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR HIGHLIGHTS



MEETING THE NEEDS OF OUR STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

565,000

free meals served to children from March - May

\$870

raised by two Peoria High School students creating COVID-19 safety kits for Sun City residents

9,400 produce boxes

3,680 gallons of milk

2,412 milk and cheese boxes distributed to families

5,000

masks created by district nurses

6,000

laptops distributed to students

5,400

mask ear guards created for first responders and health care workers by district Technical Life Careers and MET Professional Academy teachers

Student Support Line

for students in need to call for social and emotional help



PROUD OF OUR STUDENTS

\$66 million

in scholarships to post-secondary institutions secured by 2020 graduates

96%

graduation rate

20,000

books and chapters read by Sunset Heights Elementary School third graders

National Merit Scholar

2020 graduate

400

Holiday ornaments crafted by MET Professional Academy students for foster children

1st Place

Centennial High School Spiritline at USA Nationals Competition

3rd Time

Liberty High School state wrestling champions

Chairman's Award

received by the Cobra Commanders robotics club at the 2020 San Diego Regional Competition

14

National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Student Production Award nominations for Sunrise Mountain High School



ESSENTIAL DISTRICT INFORMATION

NOVEMBER
2020 BALLOT

PEORIA UNIFIED ELECTION BOND & OVERRIDE

OVERRIDE CONTINUATION

Maintenance and operations overrides fund people and programs. Peoria Unified has had one in place for 24 years to fund:

- Nurses/health services at every school
- Athletic programs
- Extra/co-curricular activities
- Art, band and chorus
- Assistant principals at every school
- All-day kindergarten
- Maintains class sizes
- Reading programs
- Physical education
- Gifted education

YES

A yes vote for the override continuation: The district would keep the programs and people listed above.

NO

A no vote for the override: The district will be required to eliminate 29 million a year from its annual budget, with reductions over the next two fiscal years. With the loss of funding, the positions and programs listed above are at risk of being reduced or eliminated.

The override continuation is not a new tax.

If approved, it would result in an estimated average annual tax rate of \$1.4486 per \$100 of limited assessed valuation for residential property owners.

CRITICAL NEEDS BOND

Bonds fund capital projects and cannot be used for salaries. This bond will address priority building and campus maintenance needs:

- Priority building and campus maintenance needs
- Safety and proper function of aging buildings
- Land purchase which can be used for northern district high school
- Buses
- Technology

YES

A yes vote for the critical needs bond: Fund building renovation projects at all schools including heating, air conditioning, parking, roofing and restroom repairs; implement safety features at all schools; replace student and staff technology devices, servers and technological infrastructure; replace student transportation vehicles; acquire land for future high school construction.

NO

A no vote for the critical needs bond: Required maintenance and facility updates will not take place, students and staff will go without technology, aging buses will not be replaced and land for future high school will not be acquired.

If approved, the bond rate will not increase.

The bond secondary property tax rate is expected to remain at or below \$1.4781 per \$100 of residential limited assessed valuation.

Register to vote at
servicearizona.com/voterregistration.

For additional information, visit
www.peoriaunified.org/bondsandoverrides or call 623-486-6100

OUR NEW SUPERINTENDENT



Thank you for the warm Peoria Unified welcome. I have worked in education in the state of Arizona for more than 20 years, most recently, as Peoria Unified's Deputy Superintendent.

In my time in Peoria, I have witnessed the Peoria Unified School District overcome and accomplish so much. My goal for our district is to continue its long-standing legacy of

providing the very best experiences to children throughout their educational journey.

As a husband, father, educator and your superintendent, I have seen what this pandemic has done in the lives of our children, staff and community. Today and everyday, Peoria Unified is dedicated to preparing every student to shape tomorrow. We want our students to be responsible citizens who actively contribute to society and the workforce. I am very excited to be a part of what Peoria Unified will achieve in the coming days, months and years. We know there are a lot of challenges ahead, especially as we continue to acclimate to this new environment. I am confident our teachers, support staff and leaders will continue to stand up to meet these challenges to support the future of our children.

SUPERINTENDENT

Susan W. Reynolds



STRATEGIC PLAN

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



THE DISTRICT AT A GLANCE

37,860 Students



24,815 PreK-8th grades
 13,045 9-12th grades



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

Source: Niche.com



33 Elementary Schools



7 High Schools



16 Preschool Programs



1 Non-Traditional High School



1 Sunflower Center

serving students with disabilities

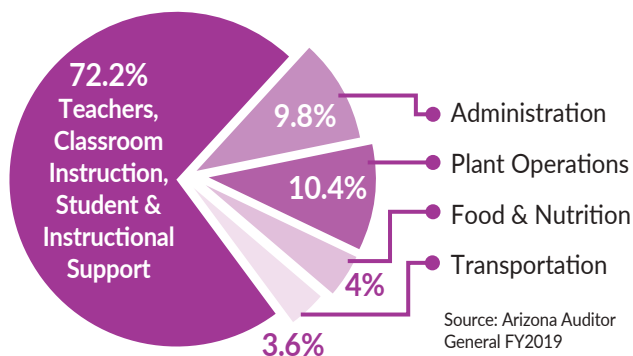


10 Specialized Programs of Choice



28 Career & Tech. Education Programs
 featuring six pathways to many career fields

2018-2019 EXPENDITURES



Source: Arizona Auditor General FY2019

Peoria Unified was awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the fiscal year ending in 2018 by the Government of Finance Officers Association

DISTRICT LEADERSHIP

GOVERNING BOARD

David Sandoval, President

Cory Underhill, Clerk

Monica Ceja Martinez Judy Doane

Beverly Pingerelli

SUPERINTENDENT

Jason W. Reynolds, Ed. D.



18.7:1 students
 per teacher average



11.8 average years of
 teacher experience

Source: Arizona Auditor General FY2019

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.

The Peoria Unified School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression 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. The Peoria Unified School District also does not discriminate in its hiring or employment practices. The following employees have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Title IX Coordinator, Executive Director of Exceptional Student Services, 6330 W. Thunderbird Rd., Glendale, AZ 85306, 623-486-6068, HHarper@pusd11.net

El Distrito Escolar Unificado de Peoria no discrimina en base a raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, discapacidad, edad, orientación sexual, identidad de género o expresión de género en la admisión y acceso a sus programas, servicios, actividades, en cualquier aspecto de sus operaciones y proporciona igual acceso a los Boy Scouts y otros grupos juveniles designados. El Distrito Escolar Unificado de Peoria tampoco discrimina en sus prácticas de contratación o empleo. La siguiente empleados ha sido designada para manejar las consultas relacionadas con las políticas de no discriminación: Coordinador del Título IX, Director Ejecutivo de Servicios para Estudiantes Excepcionales, 6330 W. Thunderbird Rd., Glendale, Arizona 85306, 623-486-6068.

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 enrolled in Peoria Unified 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 ONLINE!

Use the donation form on the left and follow the steps below. You can also donate at www.peoriaunified.org/taxcredit.

Your contribution will be forwarded to the school(s) you have indicated. Receipts will be provided for all contributions.

Tax credit contributions are non-refundable.

Noteworthy ACHIEVEMENTS

Zuni Hills teacher Jennifer Cheesman received a Fulbright Distinguished Award in Teaching Short-Term Program (Fulbright DAST) grant for a six-week teaching assignment.



Grand opening of the Sunrise Mountain Art Center (SMart Center) on the campus of Sunrise Mountain High School to serve students in a variety of fine arts classes.

Copperwood Technology, Life & Careers (TLC) Teacher Scott Collins was awarded by Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Arizona as 2020 Middle Level Advisor of the Year.

Opened a new early Childhood Learning Center in partnership with Glendale Community College.



Jeff Wooten, principal of Raymond S. Kellis High School was named Administrator of the Year by the Executive Board of Arizona Thespians.

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT
of our Students & Schools