



2021 ANNUAL REVIEW

INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

Your Bond Dollars at Work

Since the last voter-approved bond in 2012, Peoria Unified has invested in school security, replaced aging school buses and repaired air conditioning, roofing and fire panels to provide a better educational experience for students and maintain facilities to contribute to high neighborhood property values.



**A PUBLIC SCHOOL
DISTRICT OF CHOICE**

Maintenance and Operations Outcomes

Thanks to generous community and voter support, the district retained quality teachers, maintained class sizes and kept important positions like physical education and art teachers, as well as providing school nurses and all day kindergarten on every campus.

COVID-19 Relief Funding

The federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) grant provided personal protective equipment, student technology for home connectivity, summer learning and teacher training and support so our district could stay open to in-person learning.



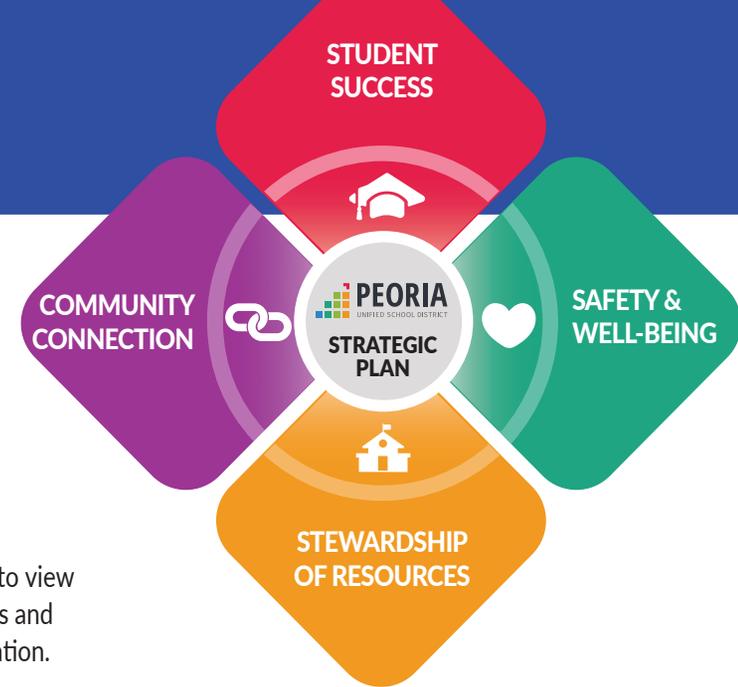
STRATEGIC PLAN FOCUSED

2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS



We understand that schools and the students that support them have a great impact in their community. The district wants to ensure it is a strong community resource that adds value to the quality of our neighborhoods.

Throughout the year, the district aligns its goals and programs with its Strategic Plan. This plan is the framework that focuses the district's efforts on student achievement.



Use the QR code to view videos with stories and additional information.

STEWARDSHIP OF RESOURCES

Solidifying and adhering to effective policies, practices and accountability for district resources.

Certificate of Achievement Excellence

Received the Excellence in Financial Reporting award from the Government Finance Officers Association for 31 consecutive years, as well as the Association of School Business Officials International Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting.

Upgraded Bond Sales Rating

Received from Moody's Investors, creating stronger bond sales and savings in interest rates for the district's general obligation tax. This upgrade reflects the district's commitment to transparency and fiscal responsibility.



STUDENT SUCCESS

Ensuring all students achieve college and career readiness while discovering and fulfilling their potential.

Flinn Scholarship

Earned by a Liberty High School and MET Professional Academy senior. One of the most coveted and competitive scholarships available.

\$72 million

Secured in scholarships by seniors. A record year for scholarship recipients.

96% Graduation Rate

2,533

Children enrolled in preschool and free, full-day kindergarten, giving them a strong start to their educational journey.

Summer Program

Made available for students to extend learning that may have been disrupted by COVID-19.

Special Programs

Provided gifted programs, supported students with disabilities and additional needs, expanded inclusive practices and offered career and college readiness curriculum.

*The National Bureau of Economic Research, June 4, 2020
"The Social and Economic Benefits of Public Education," Dana Mitra, Ph.D.



SAFETY & WELL-BEING

Maintaining safe, nurturing and respectful environments for students, staff and community.

Social/Emotional Programs

District-wide student programs dedicated to assisting those with social and/or emotional needs.

Student Support Line

Students can call and talk about emotional and social issues they may be feeling.

Safe School Line

Students and parents can give information about a potential safety issue anonymously or be contacted for follow up.

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Good schools equal higher home values, less crime, a skilled workforce and economic development opportunities. All of these increase each community member's quality of life.*

Trending Peoria Podcast

Created as an additional way for the community to gain information and learn about the district.

Virtual Engagement

Online sessions to highlight field trips to schools, provide election information and answer questions, COVID-19 updates, kindergarten and ballot initiatives.

7

School resource police officers provide mentoring, a positive influence and additional safety at the high schools.

37

School nurses aided in keeping students healthy, especially throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

11

Social workers in schools providing support to students.

McKinney Vento Act

Provided support to students who were homeless or lacked a permanent residence.

Peoria Unified School District
AN ENGAGING AND RIGOROUS LEARNING EXPERIENCE FOR ALL STUDENTS

IN-PERSON LEARNING DURING COVID-19

We take pride in the fact that we were the first public school district in the West Valley that opened for in-person learning during the COVID-19 pandemic. By Sept. 28, 2020, all schools were open for kindergarten through 12th graders to be on site at our schools, while still offering parent choice for virtual learning. This provided parents a options for their children to learn in the best format to meet their child's needs.



District Ratings



Best District in AZ:
#6 out of 115*



Best District in AZ
for Athletes:
#3 out of 118*



District with the
Best Teachers in AZ:
#10 out of 149*



Most Diverse
District in AZ:
#13 out of 158*



College Readiness Rating:
9.6 out of 10,
far above the state average**

Sources: *Niche.com, **Great Schools

Connect with Us

peoriaunified.org/connect

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- @peoriaunified11
- /peoriaunified
- [pusdofficialchannel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)
- 6330 W. Thunderbird Rd., Glendale AZ 85306

From discussions about inclusion in the classroom to the importance of rigorous curriculum, you can learn more by listening to **Trending Peoria** anywhere you listen to podcasts. Learn more at peoriaunified.org/trendingpeoria.



Join our Team

IMPACT OUR FUTURE

EXCELLENT BENEFITS

- QUALITY CAREERS •
- PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

jobs.peoriaunified.org

The district is hiring for a variety of positions including teachers, assistants, bus drivers, administration, maintenance workers, office support, groundskeepers and more.



PEORIA UNIFIED AT A GLANCE

VISION

Every Student, Every Day,
Prepared to Shape Tomorrow

MISSION

Empowering students to
fulfill their potential.

VALUES

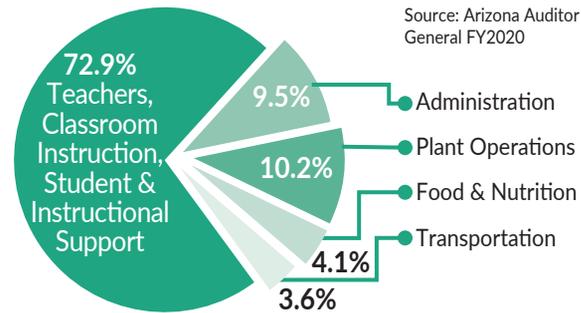
Integrity, Collaboration,
Excellence and Equity

36,335 Students

22,939 PreK-8th grades
13,396 9-12th grades



2019-2020 Expenditures



From the Superintendent

Peoria Unified School District's goal is to be the first choice for PreK-12 learning in the West Valley. We have made a promise that every child in our care has access to a safe, engaging and rigorous learning environment and by the time they graduate high school, they will be prepared to shape their tomorrow. We remain committed to partnering with our parents and community to fulfill our promise and ensure that Peoria schools are developing future leaders who positively impact our future economic and social success.



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



1 eCampus, virtual learning for kindergarten to 8th grade



28 Career & Technical Education (CTE) Programs featuring six pathways to many career fields

GOVERNING BOARD

David Sandoval, President
Cory Underhill, Clerk
Rebecca Hill
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SUPERINTENDENT

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