October 2015

BizL[IN]K focus

CONNECTING BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS WITH TEMPE UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Comments from the Superintendent

Dr. Kenneth R. Baca

I believe it is important for our business community to know that, despite declining capital funding, teachers and administration are working together to ensure students have top notch learning materials that will prepare them for college, career and life. The provided link contains a presentation to the TUHSD Governing Board representing the "Superintendent's First Quarter Goal" and how it is being accomplished. After reviewing it, you will recognize the importance of the District, businesses and community members collaborating together and advocating to support our students. Superintendents 2015—16 1st Q Goal (control + left click to open automatically). TUHSD is very proud of all the good work each person invests in our mission and vision.

#TUHSDstrong

With the new school year comes perhaps a new appreciation for our school community. Each Tempe Union student is an individual and each school has its own identity. While TUHSD students have a long history of strength in academics, athletics, arts and community service, last spring the entire community witnessed their strength in healing, compassion and gratitude in a time of heartbreak. In education we talk about the importance of hands-on learning and real world applications. We saw the best in our students as they dealt with tragedy, handling grief with grace and purpose.

In September, at the Business and Community Partnership Recognition Reception, District partners were presented with river rocks stamped with #TUHSDstrong. The rocks represent the importance and strength of our relationships with businesses and the community. Businesses and schools can operate with different sets of values and goals. Both are results-oriented, striving to accomplish more with fewer resources. Ultimately we share the same commitment of educational achievement for today's students and preparing them for the 21st century workforce.

Together we are #TUHSDstrong.

Our Future Workforce

Tempe Union remains academically strong. All six comprehensive high schools earned "A" grades from the Arizona Department of Education. A quarter of all TUHSD students are enrolled in advanced placement courses. Ten percent of students attending Barrett, the Honors College at ASU, are TUHSD graduates. Additionally, the class of 2015 was awarded millions of scholarship dollars to ease their transition to college, university or technical school.

Many TUHSD students earn college credit through dual enrollment partnerships with Maricopa Community Colleges, Arizona State University and The University of Arizona. Fifteen students from the 2015 senior class earned Associate Degrees from Rio Salado Community College before graduating from high school. Three of those students earned two degrees.

Tempe Union High School District continues to set the pace in the State of Arizona for the highest number of National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists. Thirty-four academically talented TUHSD seniors will compete for the 61st Annual National Merit Scholarship awards offered next spring.

Marcos de Niza High School theater and performing arts students are nationally recognized for their talent on stage during the 2014-15 season. They recently earned 24 nominations and six awards in the 10th Annual National Youth Arts Awards.

Read more about the amazing accomplishments of our students in TUHSD's online Newsroom at http://www.tempeunion.org/TUHSD_Newsroom

[IN]terested in [IN]spiring Students?

Tempe/Kyrene Business Advisory Council has started meeting with Career and Technical Education (CTE) teachers in Tempe Union, and STEM teachers in Tempe Elementary and Kyrene School Districts to implement a "reverse internship" program. Business leaders have the opportunity to inspire and prepare students for college and career readiness by presenting a business idea to a class, brainstorming problem-solving methods and developing a solution. Business leaders will work in the classroom on a monthly basis to provide expertise and guidance as the project is developed. Students will present the finished project and make final preparations for implementation into the business. Programs include mobile applications, bioscience, construction, finance, graphics design, film and TV, culinary, photography, fashion design and more.

Business professionals can also [in]spire students in many other ways:

* be a guest speaker in the classroom
* serve on an advisory committee
* host a worksite tour
* hire a student intern during the school year or in the summer
* allow students to job shadow you or your employees
* participate in high school career and science fairs
* judge student organization events

[IN]volved in Our Community

All registered voters in Tempe Union received mail-in ballots to vote on continuing to support the District's Capital needs. Tempe Union is asking voters to approve a $6.5 million Override over the next seven years to address capital needs such as textbooks, technology, buses and school facility maintenance. The current $6 million override expires June 2016. The increase is estimated to cost the average homeowner in Tempe Union an additional $2.19 per year. **Ballots must be mailed by October 29th.**

The Arizona Tax Credit Program

(A.R.S. 43-1089.01) allows Arizona taxpayers, regardless of whether or not they have children in school, to donate up to $400 to a school of their choice in support of extracurricular programs such as after-school clubs, sports, arts and music programs. Individuals filing a State tax return may contribute up to $200, married couples filing jointly $400. Tax credit is a dollar-for-dollar reduction in the actual tax owed, as opposed to a tax deduction, which reduces total taxable income from which the tax owed is calculated. Tax credit contributions can be made at any of the school sites, District Office or online at http://www.tempeunion.org/TUHSDWaystoDonate. **The new deadline date to donate is April 15.**

Space Still Available!
TUHS Education Foundation *On Par for a Purpose* Golf Tournament - Thursday, **November 5, 2015**

SAVE THE DATE: Friday, March 18, 2016 *HOPE in Education* - A whole new event!

Tempe★Union
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
A family of schools — A community of learning
Tempe • McClintock • Marcos de Niza • Corona del Sol
Mountain Pointe • Desert Vista • Compadre

SPOT LIGHT CORNER: Bridging Partnerships

ADM Group, Inc.
Ahwatukee Chamber
Arizona Cardinals
Arizona Diamondbacks
Arizona Game & Fish
Chandler Chamber
Chasse Building Team
City of Tempe
Commitment to Schools
CORE Construction
Cox Communications
DH Pace
Fiesta Bowl Charities
Freeport-McMoRan
Grand Canyon University
HDA Architects
Helios Foundation
Honeywell
Insight
Intel
Landings Credit Union
McCarthy Construction
Pascua-Yaqui Council
Progressive Services
RICOH
Rio Salado College
Safeway Foundation
SPS+ Architects
Sundt Foundation
TCH
Tempe Chamber
Tempe Diablos
Wholesale Floors

[IN]terested in a partnership with Tempe Union High School District?

Contact Dianne Welling at (480) 345-3764 or dwelling@tempeunion.org

Visit the District's website at www.tuhsd.tempeunion.org for more District information