



From the Office of Superintendent Nora Gutierrez

Updates from the Tolleson Union High School District

This is the newsletter where you can receive the latest information on what is going on in the Tolleson Union High School District

Tuesday, August 18, 2020

- **SAVE THE DATE – TUHSD Staff Professional Development Day**

Mark your calendars for September 16, 2020 for our full-day professional development day for staff members. We are currently making preparations to provide a high quality **virtual** professional development program. The theme this year is “TUHSD Strong: We Are All In This Together”.

Check-in will begin at 7:30 a.m. A **one-hour lunch** is built into the schedule.

If you do not have access to a computer, laptop, or smart phone, please notify your supervisor and we will work to accommodate you.

More information will be published soon including times, course offerings, and more!

Tolleson Union High School District STRONG: We're All In This Together!



• TUHSD Facilities receive prestigious recognitions

Two of the District's great facilities have been featured as award winners recently.

1. The Sierra Linda Performing Arts Center received the ["2020 Best Cultural Project" by ENR Southwest](#).
2. The Innovation Center at West Point High School received an award from American School and University for its amazing interior design.

We want to thank the ADM Group for their wonderful designs for these great facilities.



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Q&A with ADM Group, Inc.
Nina Sheriff, Principal | Director of Design
Jennifer Weskalnies, Principal | Director of Architecture

What was the biggest challenge in designing West Point High School?
With 310,000 square feet, West Point High School is one of the largest high school projects ever undertaken in Arizona. The size alone, however, was not the biggest challenge. The biggest challenge was the tight schedule for design and construction.

In order to open the school on time, ADM Group designed and permitted the campus in only seven months! Our team was able to develop over 800 sheets of drawings, obtain a building permit, and provide the highest level of creativity and design for the facility. The team then had 10 months to construct Phase I (198,000 square feet) of this brand-new high school! Staying on top of submittals, site visits, and field reports became crucial to the ultimate realization of the design and successfully opening on time.

What makes this campus unique?
West Point High School has quickly developed a strong reputation and media attention for its top-of-the-line security and innovative design. The campus features flexible spaces allowing teachers and students to engage in learning however they choose: teaming in collaboration rooms, creating in maker spaces, or connecting virtually in the outdoor, shaded quad.

Classroom interiors are designed with the latest in technology. Every classroom has an interactive television, flanked by walls of whiteboard paint and charging niche for a laptop cart. Furniture for both the teacher and the student is flexible to allow for various types of learning opportunities and are varied to allow for student choice.

What are you most proud of at West Point High School?
This state-of-the-art campus is the leading nation in educational design. ADM Group is proud of the entire project team for creating a unique, 21st-century learning environment. More importantly, students are thriving because of this one-of-a-kind school. The campus design sparks creativity, ignites problem solving and promotes innovation!

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Inside a maker-space classroom

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WEST POINT HIGH SCHOOL
Avondale, Arizona

West Point High School is the newest signature campus for the Tolleson Union High School District. Spanning 69 acres, this state-of-the-art school leads the nation in educational design. The beautiful 310,000-square-foot, energy-efficient facility can accommodate 3,000 students. ADM Group had just 10 months to design the campus with the highest level of creativity.

The heart of the campus is a two-story Innovation Center, where teachers and students can engage in learning however they choose: teaming in collaboration rooms, creating in maker spaces, or using a high-tech video presentation wall. Adaptable furniture and rolling bookshelves create a flexible space that can be used in multiple ways.

An aviation-wing pattern seen throughout honors the partnership with Luke Air Force Base and unites the spaces. Accent carpet, with flame-like pattern, provides connection to the school's dragon mascot. The best view is from the second-floor of the Innovation Center, where a winged soffit creates a dramatic frame showcasing the Estrella Mountains.

Undoubtedly, the Innovation Center's interior design sparks creativity, ignites problem solving and promotes innovation.

ADM Group, Inc.
Client: Tolleson Union High School District
Completion: August 2019
Photographer: Leland Gerhardt Photography

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Click on the link below to see the above article:

<https://secure.viewer.zmags.com/publication/8454a2b9#/8454a2b9/92>

- **TUHSD Mentors featured in K-12 Resources**

TUHSD teacher mentors, Elizabeth Sgrillo and Jesse Delgado, have both been featured in K-12 resources highlighting mentoring and the impact that mentorship has on teacher retention and student achievement. Ms. Sgrillo said it was a great opportunity to reflect and share their experiences. These are just two of our many TUHSD hidden gems.



Elizabeth Sanchez Sgrillo is a full release mentor and a secondary career and technical education certified teacher in the Tolleson Union High School District. She supports new teachers with less than two years of experience in the district, school, and profession. She began her teaching career for Tolleson Union High School 20 years ago and is in her seventh year of mentoring. Elizabeth is also a high school graduate of Tolleson Union High School.



Jesse Delgado earned an associate degree at Glendale Community College in 2006 and a Bachelor of Arts degree in cross-categorical special education from Arizona State University in 2008. He is dual certified to teach elementary education and K-12 special education. Through his role as a resource teacher and co-teacher, he has kindergarten through 12th grade classroom experience teaching students with disabilities. Currently, he serves in the Tolleson Union High School District as the special education mentor, supporting first- and second-year teachers to accelerate their pedagogical practices while building trusting and positive relationships. In addition to facilitating professional development at TUHSD, Jesse serves on the Arizona K12 Center's Arizona TeacherSolutions® Team and focuses on identifying and breaking down inequitable barriers that challenge both today's and tomorrow's learners.

To see the entire PDF where Ms. Sgrillo and Mr. Delgado are featured, please follow the link:
<https://www.azk12.org/homeroom-management/introducing-case-studies-in-mentoring/>

- **Kudos to our student athletes**

Congratulations to Cassandra Contreras from Tolleson Union High School as she commits to Central Methodist University's golf team. Good luck Cassandra. We know that you will represent us with pride!



Please check the #TUHSDStrong tab on our website (www.tuhsd.org) for archived versions of our updates. Take care and stay healthy.

