



## 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

Friday, May 15, 2020

- West Point High School's Engineering Teacher wins EPICS Award

### 2020 EPICS High Virtual Showcase

Awards Announcement



West Point's Gabi Gabaldon has won this year's Pioneer Award. There were 27 teams, 8 teachers, and 7 schools that participated in the first ever EPICS High Virtual Showcase. The EPICS High program brings meaningful engineering learning experiences to students and valuable resources to our communities. The EPICS High program allows middle school and high school students the opportunity to work with community partners to address real challenges and deliver engineering solutions that make a difference. EPICS High teams submitted a poster that provides an overview of their EPICS High projects for the 2019-2020 school year. A panel of reviewers, including engineering graduate and undergraduate students, engineering faculty, and industry professionals scored each poster.

To watch a video announcing the award winners, along with a special message from Dr. Tirupalavanam Ganesh, Assistant Dean of Engineering Education at ASU's Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering, **please click on the link or cut and paste it into your browser.** This page also includes a gallery of all posters submitted.

<https://outreach.engineering.asu.edu/epics-high-virtual-showcase/>

## EPICS High Virtual Showcase Poster Gallery



**ECO-ARC**  
Benjamin Smith, Eric Ramirez, Graciela Amavisca, Daniela Ramirez, German Urias, Kenneth Phung, Kristin Phung, Katherine Snaithem, and Anthony Gillespie.  
**West point High School**  
Gabriela Gabaldon

**Section I: Community Partner & Problem Statement**

• The community partners of our project are Maricopa County (JAG) and the developer (JAG) (JAG is for Arizona (JAG) and we are also partnering with the staff and administrative instructors at West Point High School.

• Our stakeholders are the West point high school student body, and the teachers and staff at the school. We are hoping to take the project to home events at this school to encourage recycling because, from what we have observed, students do not dispose of trash into correct containers.


The problem in our school has a large amount of material that is not recycled due to lack of knowledge that the students have of how to recycle, because of this, at the end of each each day, there is trash littered all over the floor and plastic not in the right bin. Purchasing recycling bins for this purpose will not significantly reduce the amount of waste.



**Section II: Ideation & Design Process**



Some ideas we had to solve the problem of recycling in our community were, making different types of arcade games to solve it, or to set up a presentation for the students. Eventually we decided on the idea of making an **arcade game**, and making information on the posters to give the students to help encourage recycling in our school. After we had made the prototype, we took it out during our lunch periods and let students play the game and taught them a little about recycling, when we took a poll of their thoughts about the game.

Since this is a new school and it is our first year being open, we would like to preserve the beauty and cleanliness of the campus and encourage recycling among the student population. How we gathered feedback from our stakeholders is by creating surveys on our 1st prototype to see if people are willing to try.




**Section III: Solution and design docs**

Our project is a arcade game that helps students and younger children at all events held at our school. It is a game where you take recyclable materials and throw it into a higher bin on the game to earn points and prizes (i.e. stickers) and after playing the game you get a little handout with very helpful information about how to recycle and how it can impact the environment.



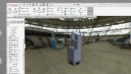
The solution to our problem is that hopefully our project can encourage students at West Point to recycle more by making recycling fun and enjoyable.





**Section IV: Delivery and next steps**

Our project will only be brought out of storage during school events to reduce wear and tear. Only some of the materials will be waterproof because the machine will be kept out of the rain and liquids will not be allowed in. The side of the machine will have pictures that show what can or cannot be recycled. There will be at least two people supervising the use of the machine to ensure that people are following the rules.

These people will give a small prize to people who get a certain number of points. Once implementing our final product, the potential impact to our stakeholders would allow them to have fun playing game with recycling. This will allow more people to recycle while having fun and competing for prizes. The reason why we know our stakeholders have fun recycling is because we have observed our stakeholders that they enjoy playing games and they would like to compete when it comes to prizes.



**ENGINEERING PROJECTS  
IN COMMUNITY SERVICE****ASU** Ira A. Fulton Schools of  
Engineering  
Arizona State University



- **Graduating Dual Enrollment Students - Sierra Linda High School**

For many years, Rio Salado College and Sierra Linda High School have partnered to provide dual enrollment opportunities for high school students to get a head start in college. This year, five dual enrollment students are earning an associate degree, a certificate or completing the AGEC. The students completing certificates from Sierra Linda High School are:

- **Jennifer Arredondo**
- **Arisa Caayon**
- **Yazmin Marin**
- **Maria Mendez**
- **Erick Salazar**

Thank you for your commitment and dedication to dual enrollment and the remarkable accomplishments of these students.



- **We continue to celebrate our Class of 2020 Graduates**



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

