

COMMUNITY**CONNECT**



*Celebrating Our
Students' Success*

SPRING 2024

THERE'S SO MUCH TO CELEBRATE!

In the Agua Fria High School District, students benefit from a well-rounded and individualized academic journey that prepares them for a variety of paths.

Whether their aspirations lead to college, trade school, entrepreneurship, immediate employment, or military service, our district emphasizes innovation, provides educational choices, and adaptable schedules to foster postsecondary success.

As we continue on this journey of educational excellence, we remain steadfast in our dedication to providing a supportive and dynamic learning environment that prepares our students for success in life!



“

The collaborative efforts of our educators, parents, businesses, and community partners have created an environment that fosters growth, cultivates ambition, and celebrates the diverse journeys our students are embarking upon.

”

Gina DeCoste
Governing Board President

ENLIST

Nurturing Leaders: Commitment to Civic Engagement and Service-Oriented Careers

Agua Fria High School District is dedicated to fostering civic engagement with students and providing opportunities for impactful service projects that contribute positively to the community. We understand the significance of cultivating the next generation of leaders and citizens committed to making a lasting impact on society. This commitment often serves as inspiration for students to explore careers in service-oriented fields such as the military, medical, law enforcement, or government leadership.

"Aside from the sense of pride and purpose that come with wearing our nation's uniform, enlistment and military service opportunities for our students are crucial, as they instill leadership skills and open many college and career pathways that are invaluable in life."



Trey Terry
Governing Board Member

"In a competitive job market, employment opportunities for students are more than just jobs; they are stepping stones to building a career foundation. Offering our students hands-on experience and networking opportunities that will support them in securing a fulfilling career path."



Eric Cultum
Governing Board Member

EMPLOY

Workforce Development: Creating Pathways to Career Success

Our district facilitates internships, job shadowing, and hands-on projects through strategic partnerships with the business community, allowing students to apply classroom learning in real-world settings. We prioritize the development of essential employability skills, including critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and responsibility. Our comprehensive approach includes mock interviews and industry credential programs, enhancing students' confidence and competence as they transition from high school to the workforce. Focusing on innovation and adaptability, we strive to equip our graduates with the tools they need to thrive in their chosen careers.

ENROLL

Empowering Excellence: Dedication to College Preparation and Academic Achievement

Agua Fria High School District is committed to preparing students for success in higher education. We offer a variety of Advanced Placement (AP), dual enrollment, and honors courses, providing opportunities for students to engage in intellectually stimulating content. Additionally, our dedicated counseling and academic support services guide students through the college application process, offering personalized assistance in navigating admissions requirements and scholarship opportunities. Through a combination of academic rigor, supportive resources, and a focus on individual student growth, we empower our students to thrive in the educational environments of colleges and universities.

"Higher education is a vital step in a young person's journey to becoming a well-rounded, informed, and capable contributor to society. Enrolling in a university after high school opens the door to a world of opportunities, equipping students with the critical thinking skills needed to excel in today's world."



Vickie Landis
Governing Board Member

ENLIST

VICTORIA MUNHOLLON

Enlisting in the Army

After high school, I leave for basic training in the U.S. Army to become a Military Occupational Specialist as a Military Police Corps Canine Handler. This aligns greatly with my family's military commitment and passion for working with dogs. I am also open to other job opportunities in fields where dogs must be trained, however, I plan to retire from the Army. A notable accomplishment I am proud of is my ability to maintain and earn the honor roll, even with a packed schedule.



 **VICTORIA MUNHOLLON**
Class of 2024

YANCY GOMEZ RODRIGUEZ

Enlisting in the Army

After high school, I've decided to enlist in the Army. This choice reflects my passion for serving others and allows me to contribute to a cause greater than myself. My inspiration for pursuing this path stems from a Canyon View High School teacher, Mr. Babin, who served in the Army and teaches sports medicine. His journey resonated deeply with me as I navigate post-graduation uncertainties and still deciding on a career specialty. A notable accomplishment I'm proud of is staying on top of my school work while balancing responsibilities, including a part-time job at a restaurant. Overall, I am excited to join the Army and start the next chapter of my growth, service, and self-discovery journey.



 **YANCY GOMEZ RODRIGUEZ**
Class of 2024



QUA
Clas

QUARTON MCLEESE

Appointed to the U.S. Air Force Academy

After high school, I plan to become a fighter pilot in the Air Force through the United States Air Force Academy. This aligns with my interest in aviation, leadership, and the service to my country. I am excited about the opportunities it will provide for world travel and supporting a family. I am committed to working hard and achieving success in the Air Force Academy and any challenges I may face in the future. A few notable accomplishments I'm proud of include being a six-time varsity letter winner and track and cross country captain. I placed 15th in Cross Country AIA D2, state champion team finisher, and the AIA D2 state champion 4x800m relay team. I am also a Corp Commander of unit AZ-061 Agua Fria High School Air Force JROTC.

QUARTON MCLEESE
Class of 2024

ADRIEL VELASCO

Appointed to the U.S. Naval Academy

After high school, I will enter the U.S. Naval Academy, and I plan on studying aerospace engineering to become a Naval Aviator. Studying aerospace engineering has been a dream of mine for a long time, and I want to follow this path to NASA one day. I'm grateful for the chance to pursue this career while serving my country as I begin my journey in life and work. I aim to leave a positive mark on the world. A few notable accomplishments I'm proud of include being a senior swim and dive team captain and YMCA coach. I am actively involved in the Boy Scouts of America and a proud student government and National Honor Society member.



JAMES FARRIS

Enlisting in the Navy

After high school, I aspire to pursue a career as a Navy Corpsman. This choice resonates with my passion for aiding others, and I am enthusiastic about the avenues it opens for entering a first responder medical field program. I am actively preparing for this career path and am currently enrolled in the Law and Public Safety Program at West-MEC. Post-service, I hope to follow in my father's footsteps and become a firefighter. Some notable accomplishments I am proud of include my two electrician apprenticeships. I recently completed my first year of International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) apprenticeship.



ENROLL



MAYA GABRIELA CALUGARU
Class of 2024

MAYA GABRIELA CALUGARU

After high school, I plan to obtain my Bachelor of Engineering in Civil Engineering. This has been supplemented by my participation in both the Coding and Arts pathways, as I have both STEM-related and creative interests. Upon earning my degree, I plan to become a civil engineer with the National Park Service. A few notable accomplishments I am proud of include being the League of Arizona Youth Council's Co-Founder and Key Club International Distinguished District Secretary-Treasurer. Additionally, I have been awarded into the Barrow Neurological Institute Young Scholar Program and earned regional champion and national qualifier recognition for Arizona DECA Nationals Business Finance, Business Law, and Ethics categories.



ANDRES VELOZ-MEGINNIS
Class of 2024

ANDRES VELOZ-MEGINNIS

After high school, I'm set on attending university to pursue my interests in history and the natural sciences. I've applied to Harvard and eagerly await their response. I'm enthusiastic about the opportunities ahead to make new discoveries in my field. With a strong commitment to hard work, I aim to secure scholarships for my Master's Degree and ensure a successful future. A few notable accomplishments I am proud of include receiving the National AP Hispanic Scholar and AP Scholar with Distinction award. Outside of the classroom, I am proud to have earned the All-Academic First Team Track and Field and placed first in the Einstein Division at STEM Con.





MANUEL NUNEZ

After high school, I aim to study biology and global health at a four-year university, driven by a passion for advancing medicine and health equity. I am ranked #1 in my class, achieved a perfect score on the ACT, and scored a 5 on 6 AP exams, earning recognition as an AP Scholar with Distinction. I've received multiple academic offers from prestigious universities including Notre Dame and USC. Additionally, I'm a College Board National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholar and a National Merit Scholar Finalist. A few other notable accomplishments I take pride in are being a 2024 Arizona High School Weightlifting State Champion and my part-time tutoring job at Kumon Math and Reading Center.

MANUEL NUNEZ
Class of 2024



KEVIN REINHARDT
Class of 2024

KEVIN REINHARDT

After high school, I'm heading to Arizona State University's W.P. Carey School of Business as a Barrett Honors College member. This resonates with my passion for entrepreneurship and learning. I'm excited about the opportunities to delve into essential business skills like economics, finance, and management. A few notable accomplishments I am proud of include earning honor roll, being ranked eighth in my class, and my writing achievements, such as being awarded Best of School Newspapers Online Award Winner and Editor-at-Large of Verrado High School's News Publication. In my free time, I thoroughly enjoy being the Head Drum Major of the Verrado Viper Vanguard and an Eagle Scout.



ARIAH GIBSON
Class of 2024

ARIAH GIBSON

After high school, I head to California State University Long Beach to study public relations, acting, and singing. I'm thrilled about the opportunities for personal growth as a student and an artist. With dedication, I aim to excel in public relations and performance. A few notable accomplishments I am proud of include earning over \$30,000 dollars in combined scholarships. Schools for which I received scholarships include Loyola Marymount, Chapman University, and Pepperdine University. As for my acting and singing career, I pride myself on securing two lead roles in our school musicals, my leadership roles within choir and theater, and acting in a local TV commercial.

EMPLOY

ISABELLE DIAZ

Owner of Upcycle Addiction

After high school, I plan to attend a four-year university to study Business and Marketing. Alongside this, I'll continue growing my online vintage clothing business, Upcycle Addiction, and expand my business to a storefront. Simultaneously, I aspire to launch a marketing and social media agency, employing passionate youth to assist businesses. This aligns with my love for creativity and entrepreneurship, offering opportunities for personal and professional growth while making a positive impact. A few notable accomplishments I am proud of include a 4.5 weighted GPA and my role as a National Honor Society member and student body Social Governor. Additionally, I have secured a New American University Provost's Scholarship from Arizona State University and a paid internship with a local public relations and marketing firm.



ISABELLE DIAZ
Class of 2024

ABRAHAM GUADARRAMA

Future Entrepreneur

After high school, I plan to start my own business while attending a community college before transferring to Arizona State University. My passion for human anatomy and math drives me, and I'm eager to expand my education being a first-generation college student. Ultimately, I aspire to excel as both a chiropractor and entrepreneur, taking over my dad's landscaping construction and maintenance business. A few notable accomplishments I am proud of include receiving the ACE scholarship, attending the West-MEC physical therapist program, and being a part of the National Honor Society.



ABRAHAM GUADARRAMA
Class of 2024



GIANNA CRAYCRAFT
Class of 2025





JULIANNA GUEVARA
Class of 2024

JULIANNA GUEVARA

Future Business Owner

After high school, my goal is to pursue a degree in accounting while gaining work experience. This choice resonates with my passion for math and presents exciting career and business prospects. I am dedicated to working diligently to achieve success in accounting and aspire to start my own business, particularly investing in real estate. A few notable accomplishments I am proud of include earning honor roll, receiving the President's Education Award, and accumulating numerous volunteer hours and office work experience.

ZOE SCHMADEKE

Owner of TheZoeStore

After high school, I plan to attend Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University for global security and intelligence studies. Following college, I'll pursue pilot certificates to become an Air Force Pilot, aligning with my passion for air travel safety and inspiring women in aviation. Additionally, I run a successful Etsy business selling homemade enamel pins and other items, which began in middle school and expanded during the pandemic, attracting collaborations with vendors. A few notable accomplishments from my high school career that I am proud of include being President of the Film and TV Production Club, Vice President of the Welding Club, earning my private pilot certification, and managing my business TheZoeStore.



ZOE SCHMADEKE
Class of 2024

GIANNA CRAYCROFT

Future Business Owner

After high school, I plan to go to Arizona State University to earn my Masters in Graphic Design and Business. Graphic design is something I've always been passionate about, and I aspire to start my own graphic design firm. As a freelance designer, my goal is to bring unique ideas to life for my clients. From logos to merchandise, I envision playing a pivotal role in effectively communicating brand messages visually. A few notable accomplishments I am proud of include achieving honor roll while juggling a part-time internship, playing on the varsity badminton team, and competing with the Future Business Leaders of America Club.

STUDENT SPOT



TRINSON CAMERON
Class of 2024

TRINSON CAMERON

After high school, I plan to attend Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia. I will major in Computer Science to eventually achieve my goal of becoming a Software Engineer. I'm excited to see what technological opportunities this career will provide for my future. A few notable accomplishments I am proud of include achieving honor roll four consecutive years and being a member of the Governors Youth Commission. In addition, I was the drum major of the marching band, an alto saxophone player, and a proud student mentor.

YAZZMINE LONG

After high school, I intend to attend a four-year university and pursue biochemistry and mathematics services. This aligns with my interests in medicine, math, and STEM. I am excited about the opportunities it'll provide for my educational journey and the steps into adulthood that I will be taking. I am a first-generation college student committed to working hard and achieving success in any endeavor that comes my way. A few notable accomplishments I am proud of include achieving honor roll, being a Varsity basketball captain, National Honor Society Vice President, and Link Crew President.



YAZZMINE LONG
Class of 2024

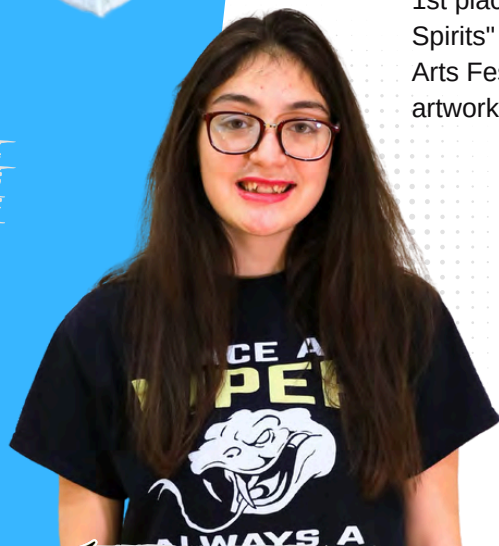


LINH TANG
Class of 2024

LIGHT

LINH TANG

After high school, I plan to attend the Culinary Institute of America (CIA) in New York, where I have secured a scholarship, earning my bachelor's in food business management. This aligns with my interest in pursuing a career as a pastry chef. I aim to run a pastry business, such as a coffee shop and bakery or a wedding cakes business. A few notable accomplishments I am proud of include my multiple leadership roles as President of FCCLA and treasurer of the International Baccalaureate Club. As for my culinary-related accomplishments, I was an Arizona C-CAP 2024 Finalist, won 1st place in the FCCLA Regional Cupcake Decorating Contest, and 2nd place in the FCCLA State Cake Decorating Contest.



JEANNA HAMMERQUIST
Class of 2024

AIDEN TIPPECONNIE

After high school, I plan to pursue a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) with a concentration in ceramics at Alfred University, the #1 rated university for ceramics, as I received the prestigious Art Portfolio Scholarship. This aligns with my interest in ceramic arts, and I am excited about all the personal growth and growth in my craft that I have yet to discover, as well as representing my Native American heritage. I want to continue growing my ceramic art business, "Tippeconnie Ceramics," and expand my brand nationally across various shows. A few notable accomplishments I am proud of include completing the Gallery 37 apprenticeship program and winning a ribbon for my art piece, "Cerulean Serenity," at SWAIA's Sante Fe Indian Art Market. Additionally, I earned 1st place in my category for my piece "Skyward Spirits" in the Oklahoma City Red Earth Indian Arts Festival juried competition. To see more of my artwork, visit aidentippeconnie.com.



AIDEN TIPPECONNIE
Class of 2024

JEANNA HAMMERQUIST

After high school, I plan to get a job as a babysitter. This aligns with my interests in helping or working with young children, and I am excited about the opportunities it will provide for future caretaking jobs. I am committed to working hard and achieving success in working with children. A few notable accomplishments I'm proud of include my ability to play the clarinet, receiving medals in multiple Unified Sports tournaments, earning Viper of the Month, and being named Student Worker of the Month for my cafeteria internship.

YOUR 2023 BOND DOLLARS **AT WORK**

SPRING 2024 UPDATE

PROMISED PROJECTS-ANTICIPATED COMPLETION

- Final phase of campus and classroom modernization. *Spring 2027*
- Performing Arts Center improvements. *Fall 2024*

CRITICAL NEEDS-ANTICIPATED COMPLETION

- Modernization and repairs to the kitchen, cafeteria, two classroom buildings, auditorium, O.K. Fulton Gym, student store, bookstore, locker rooms and signage. *Winter 2026*
- Security enhancements including fences, cameras, window film, weapons detectors, and a secure lobby. *Summer 2025*
- Maintenance of aging systems including plumbing, heating and cooling, and electrical. *Winter 2025*
- Improve competition fields. *Summer 2025*

AGUA FRIA
High School

PROMISED PROJECTS-ANTICIPATED COMPLETION

- Safety and security upgrades. *Summer 2025*

CRITICAL NEEDS-ANTICIPATED COMPLETION

- Security enhancement including access control, gates, fencing, cameras, campus vehicles, radios, weapons detectors, and window film. *Summer 2025*
- Increased student and visitor parking spaces. *Winter 2025*
- Classroom sound improvements. *Summer 2025*

CANYON VIEW
High School

PROMISED PROJECTS-ANTICIPATED COMPLETION

- Agriculture barn expansion. *Fall 2024*

CRITICAL NEEDS-ANTICIPATED COMPLETION

- Maintenance of aging systems including plumbing, heating and cooling, and electrical repairs. *Summer 2025*
- Modernization and repairs to cafeteria seating, collaborative learning spaces, restroom improvements, and additional parking spaces. *Summer 2025*
- Additional special education facilities. *Fall 2025*
- Improve Performing Arts Center with sound enhancements, new lighting fixtures, and a paint refresh. *Summer 2025*
- Safety and security enhancements including fences, window film, and weapon detectors. *Summer 2025*

DESERT EDGE
High School

PROMISED PROJECTS-ANTICIPATED COMPLETION

- Campus and classroom modernization. *Summer 2025*
- Band concession improvements. *Fall 2024*

CRITICAL NEEDS-ANTICIPATED COMPLETION

- Security enhancements including fences, cameras, window film, weapons detectors, and a secure lobby. *Summer 2025*
- Modernizations and repairs of current classroom buildings and auditorium. *Ongoing*
- Maintenance of aging systems, including plumbing, heating and cooling, and electrical. *Summer 2025*
- Improve Performing Arts Center with sound enhancements, new lighting fixtures, and a paint refresh. *Summer 2025*

MILLENNIUM
High School

PROMISED PROJECTS-ANTICIPATED COMPLETION

- Safety and security upgrades. *Summer 2026*

CRITICAL NEEDS-ANTICIPATED COMPLETION

- Security enhancements including fences, cameras, window film, weapons detectors, and a secure lobby. *Summer 2026*
- Maintenance of aging systems including plumbing, heating and cooling, and electrical repairs. *Summer 2025*
- Modernization and repairs to cafeteria seating, collaborative learning spaces, restroom improvements, and additional parking spaces. *Summer 2025*
- Performing Arts Center repairs and improvements. *Summer 2026*

VERRADO
High School

PROMISED PROJECTS-ANTICIPATED COMPLETION

- Technology Enhancements - *Summer 2024*
- High School #6 - *Summer 2025*
- Buses - *Spring 2024*
- Workforce Development/Academies - *Ongoing*

DISTRICTWIDE
Updates



THANK YOU VOTERS,

FROM THE GOVERNING BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT YSLAS !





10-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

HIGHLIGHTS

Turning Dreams Into Reality: Strategic Plan Update

Our strategic plan, Decade of Dreams, continues to serve as a roadmap to achieve excellence and shape the future of the Agua Fria High School District. The strategic plan is reviewed annually because education is dynamic and constantly evolving. Action steps are added or realigned to ensure initiatives are meeting the ever-changing needs of our students and our community.

After our first year of implementation, the district accomplished 98% of all goals set forth by our stakeholders for the 22/23 school year. We are on course to have similar results for the 23/24 school year.

To access our strategic plan goals in detail and view our progress in real-time, visit aguafria.org/strategic-plan.



“ Agua Fria High School District is committed to excellence. Our strategic plan is firmly rooted in the success of our students and community.”



Kristen Acton
Governing Board Vice President



Our Journey In Motion

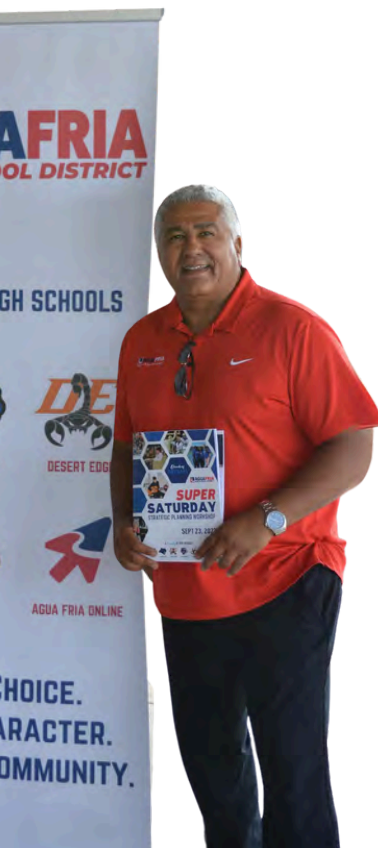
#BetterTogether

Our strategic plan emphasizes the importance of community involvement. The needs of our stakeholders are always at the forefront of planning and decision-making. We actively engage our community through various surveys, summits, forums, and workshops.

This school year, we held our second **Super Saturday Strategic Planning Workshop** and an inaugural **Partnership Summit**. Collectively, these events were attended by over 600 participants from the West Valley—including businesses, faith-based groups, parents, students, staff, local governments, and community members. Over 10 hours of sessions and collaborative discussion helped us set priorities for the upcoming year.

Stakeholder collaboration provides a wider range of resources and opportunities that are vital to student achievement, safety, and workforce development. When there is a shared responsibility between the district and the community, there are no limits to what can be achieved.

Thank you to the community for your essential role in shaping the Agua Fria High School District. Your support and feedback are key to building top-notch academic programs, creating a solid workforce pipeline, and fostering character through community service.

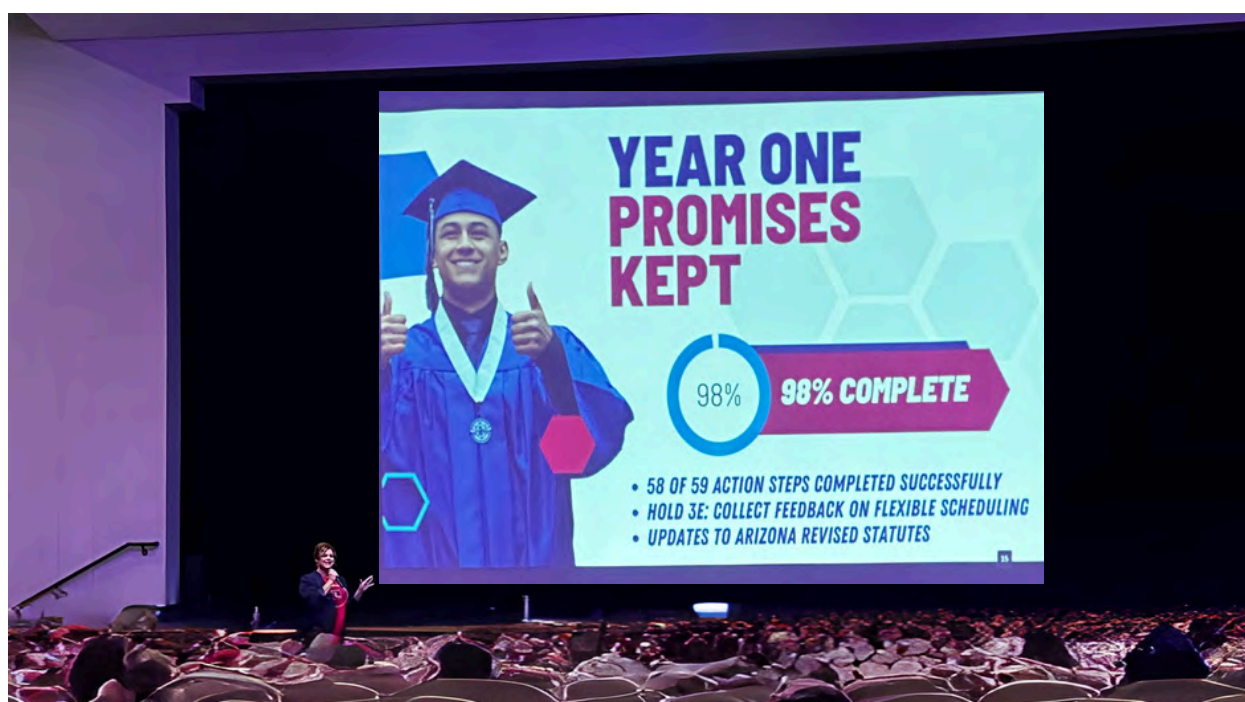


WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

Scan the QR Code to receive invites to future surveys, workshops, partnership opportunities, and more.



Committed to inclusivity and collaboration and ensures that our shared visions and needs of those we serve. ”



AGUA FRIA HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**WE'RE
LOOKING
FOR NEW
PARTNERS!**

**MENTORING
INTERNSHIPS
EXTERNSHIPS
GUEST SPEAKING
JOB SHADOWING
WORKPLACE TOURS**

SCAN TO LEARN
ABOUT BEING A
PARTNER



COMMITTED ACADEMY PARTNERS



ESTRELLA MOUNTAIN
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

