



COMMUNITYCONNECT

SUMMER 2023



AWARD-WINNING
HIGH SCHOOLS

ACADEMIC
SUCCESS

5+
SCHOOL
CHOICES

OUR PRINCIPALS
#MakeItHappen

FAMILY OF HIGH SCHOOLS

AGUA FRIA | CANYON VIEW | DESERT EDGE | MILLENNIUM | VERRADO



1481 N Eliseo Felix Jr. Way
Avondale, AZ 85323

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CAMPUS TOURS

COME CHECK OUT OUR SCHOOLS!



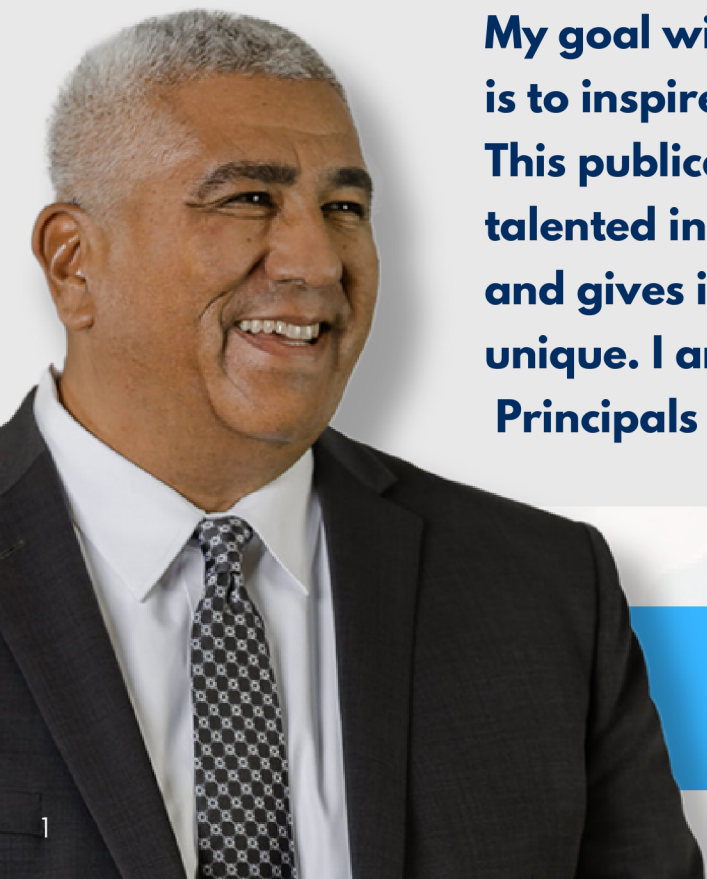
SCAN TO SCHEDULE A
CAMPUS TOUR





hello there!

As a member of the community, I invite YOU to help us become the best high school district in the nation! Whether you're a resident, business owner, retiree, parent, faith-based leader or non-profit organization, your partnership will impact our success.



My goal with this edition of Community Connect is to inspire you to build a relationship with us. This publication highlights the five highly talented individuals who lead our high schools and gives insight into what makes each campus unique. I am confident you'll be wowed by our Principals and high schools.

MARK YSLAS
SUPERINTENDENT



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**Your high school district believes in academic choice.
Students may attend any one of our five high schools,
regardless of home address.**

AGUA FRIA

EST. 1956

HIGH SCHOOL



HONOR FIRST, WIN OR LOSE.

Mrs. Autumn Daniels is proud to serve as the Principal of Agua Fria High School (AFHS), located in historic downtown Avondale. Throughout her 15-year professional career, she has poured her heart and soul into the school. "Being an Owl is truly a unique and extraordinary experience. The school is rich in history and filled with traditions," she said enthusiastically. Her favorite events are the Homecoming festivities including the school parade and bonfire, and assembly with spirit stomp and headbang.

As Principal, Mrs. Daniels is focused on providing students with a sense of belonging in order to foster their academic success. "Creating an exciting and enjoyable high school experience keeps students engaged in learning."





**"IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MINDSET,
YOU CAN CHANGE YOUR WHOLE WORLD."**



PRINCIPAL

AUTUMN DANIELS

"My team's overarching goal is to help students feel valued and involved. Employing this strategy has produced great results," she commented. **Agua Fria High School boasts a 91% graduation rate, higher than the National and State averages.** When students complete high school, they have the education and confidence to pursue their dreams.

Several notable AFHS graduates include actress Chelsey Crisp, professional athletes such as Everson Griffen, Sammy Solís and Randall McDaniel, and highly decorated service members like Eliseo C. Félix and Samuel Johnson.

AGUA FRIA HIGH SCHOOL WAS THE FIRST HIGH SCHOOL BUILT IN THE DISTRICT AND IS RICH IN HISTORY, TRADITION, CULTURE AND PRIDE. THE SCHOOL'S MOTTO, "HONOR FIRST, WIN OR LOSE," GUIDES ACADEMIC, PERSONAL AND COMMUNITY-RELATED INITIATIVES. AFHS IS HOME TO THE WELL-RESPECTED JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS PROGRAM, CONSTRUCTION PATHWAY AND ENTREPRENEURIAL ACADEMY.





EST. 2018

CANYON VIEW

HIGH SCHOOL

Leading Canyon View High School (CVHS) and managing its growth is Mrs. Lyn Reid, principal. "Canyon View High School is unlike any other campus in the country," remarked Principal Reid. "What sets Canyon View apart is our commitment to providing authentic learning experiences for all students. You can see this in the way our campus was designed and how educators engage with students in learning." Since its founding in 2018, Canyon View has been in the national spotlight for its uniqueness.



*"DIFFICULT ROADS OFTEN LEAD TO
BEAUTIFUL DESTINATIONS."*

LYN REID

PRINCIPAL

CULTURE STARTS WITH A VISION, AND THE VISION FOR CANYON VIEW IS STUDENT-CENTRIC LEARNING THAT TRANSFERS OWNERSHIP OF THE CLASSROOM TO THE SCHOOL,” SAID PRINCIPAL REID. “EVERY INDOOR OR OUTDOOR SPACE IS A PLACE FOR SOCIALIZING, MOVEMENT, GATHERING, PERFORMING, AND CREATING AS A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS.”

In addition to providing a flexible, **state-of-the-art campus**, Canyon View has developed a stellar reputation for its STEM-focused academic opportunities, championship-level athletics, extracurricular programs and career pathways. Those career pathways include film and tv, graphic design, medical sciences, agriculture, coding/computer science, marketing, and the visual/performing arts.

These programs are so popular, the school draws students from across the West Valley. Principal Reid proudly noted that “when a student steps foot onto the Canyon View campus they are excited to be part of something different and extraordinary. As educators, we feed off that positive energy to create a world-class learning experience for all our students.”

THE JAGUAR WAY



SCAN ME

DESERT EDGE

HIGH SCHOOL

Desert Edge High School (DEHS) has developed a stellar reputation for its **award-winning academics**, athletics, agriculture and performing arts programs. Principal, Mrs. Gretchen Hann says the campus culture makes the school successful. “We focus on academic rigor and building positive relationships between students, staff, parents and community,” she noted. This intentionality has led to countless positive outcomes and DEHS being designated as an A+ School of Excellence.



ENGAGE IN A CULTURE

THE HIGH SCHOOL HAS EARNED THE DISTINGUISHED A+ SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE. THIS AWARD RECOGNIZES THE SCHOOL'S INNOVATIVE INSTRUCTION, COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT. THE ONGOING SUCCESS OF OUR GRADUATES,

For decades, parents and businesses have supported DEHS. This has made a positive impact on students' academic success. Staff, alumni and current Scorpions often say being connected to DEHS feels like being part of a family.



Principal Hann values having parents as partners and understands how essential they are to their student's education. She believes that by working together, every student at DEHS has a pathway to their dreams, whether attending college or trade school, running their own business, or joining the military.

PRINCIPAL **GRETCHEN HANN**



OF LEARNING

**UNISHED DESIGNATION
RD RECOGNIZES DESERT
ITY/PARENT
T. "WE ARE PROUD OF
" SAYS MRS. HANN.**



**"TODAY IS A GREAT DAY TO LEARN
SOMETHING NEW."**



SCAN ME

MILLENNIUM

EST. 1999

HIGH SCHOOL



IN 2022, MILLENNIUM EARNED AN "A" LETTER GRADE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND BOASTS A 93% HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE.

Since its opening in 1999, Millennium High School (MHS) has been a top choice for families. What draws students to the campus is the **rigorous academic opportunities**, robust performing and visual arts, competitive athletics, and career and technical education programs such as culinary arts, sports medicine, and media production. The school is also home to the District's distinguished International Baccalaureate program, which enrolls approximately 300 students annually.

When asked what makes Millennium special, Mrs. Nichole Bundy, the principal proudly shared, "Our team of educators is motivated by a mission to create a better world through education. Millennium staff make genuine connections with students both as individuals and as learners. The commitment to creating a world-class learning environment has proven successful."

"I have immense pride in MHS and take personal responsibility to ensure every student graduates from high school ready to succeed," said Mrs. Bundy. "Life in the 21st century's interconnected globalized world requires critical-thinking skills and a sense of international-mindedness. So at MHS, we ensure each student has a four-year plan that prepares them to accomplish their goals and dreams. Our students understand their talents will help shape the world."





TIGER PRIDE

Millennium High School is a sound academic institution with a successful track record of preparing students for post-secondary opportunities. The home of the Tigers offers a rigorous curriculum and exceptional opportunities for participation in athletics and extracurricular activities.



PRINCIPAL **NICHOLE BUNDY**



"NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE. THE WORD ITSELF SAYS 'I'M POSSIBLE!'"



SCAN ME

VERRADO

HIGH SCHOOL

Verrado High School (VHS) is a place where students can find their passion. The classrooms were intentionally designed with just three walls to enhance collaboration among teachers and interaction between students. The open concept provides an **engaging learning environment** that benefits students and staff alike. "VHS is an inclusive campus. As Vipers, we think of ourselves as one Verrado community and that we are more successful when we work together," Principal Mr. Kevin Thomas explained.

EST. 2006



ONE VERRADO

"PEOPLE WON'T ALWAYS REMEMBER EXACTLY WHAT YOU SAY OR DO, BUT THEY WILL REMEMBER HOW IT MADE THEM FEEL."



PRINCIPAL

KEVIN THOMAS



That positive mindset helped Verrado High School recently earn an “A” from the Arizona Board of Education. The letter grade is calculated by measuring academic growth, scores on the statewide assessment, high school graduation rates, and educational acceleration. “This is an educational accomplishment the entire community can be incredibly proud of,” Principal Thomas

expressed. “The letter grade is a testament to our students' hard work and dedication, recognizes our teachers' educational excellence, and is a nod to the ongoing support our community has provided our school.”

In addition to this and other academic accolades, VHS has a long list of awards and accomplishments. On the

walls at VHS are numerous plaques and trophies showcasing athletic wins and club accomplishments. Among the items is a banner that was given to the school by pop singer Katie Perry, when a student-produced video of her song “Roar” caught national attention. Plus several Emmys won by the student TV and Film program are displayed.

IN 2022, VERRADO EARNED AN “A” LETTER GRADE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.



Verrado High School prides itself on being a project-based learning school. This educational method engages students in real-world and personal meaningful projects. Verrado is a magnet high school for students interested in pursuing engineering.



 **SCAN ME**

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE)

PATHWAYS

5

CAMPUSES

17

PATHWAYS

84

COURSES

1

ACADEMY*

**AgriScience
Air Force JROTC
AP Computer Programming
Baking & Pastry
Culinary Arts
Construction Technologies
Digital Photography
Early Childhood Education
Engineering
Entrepreneurship*
Film & TV
Graphic Design
Law & Public Safety
Live Entertainment Production
Marketing
Medical Assisting
Sports Medicine
Internship**

AGUAFRIA.ORG/CTE



AGUAFRIA ONLINE DISTANCE LEARNING *Program*

Your high school district offers an online option for the highly motivated student that has shown previous success in this type of learning environment.

aguafria.org/AFO



JOIN OUR

Family

JOBS.AGUAFRIA.ORG
APPLY ONLINE

