



PRESS RELEASE

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High School District Launches Entrepreneur Academy: Empowering the Next Generation of Innovators

Agua Fria High School District is proud to announce the launch of the Entrepreneur Academy, a groundbreaking initiative aimed at fostering innovation, creativity, and entrepreneurial skills among high school students. The inaugural cohort of the Entrepreneur Academy has launched at Agua Fria High School. Currently, 15 students are in the Academy.

Through strong partnerships with the local business community, the Entrepreneur Academy will revolutionize how young minds approach business and innovation.

"The Entrepreneur Academy is a response to our students' desire to become entrepreneurs. So it has become a District priority to equip students with the knowledge, skills, and local business connections to succeed," stated Superintendent Mark Yslas. "The Academy will give students a unique opportunity to cultivate their entrepreneurial spirit, learn from industry experts, and develop practical business acumen."

The Entrepreneur Academy is a game-changer in education. The goals for students who are part of the Entrepreneur Academy are simple. When they graduate with their high school diploma, they will have established an LLC and developed a revenue stream for their business.

Students enrolled in the Entrepreneur Academy will also benefit from:

- **Comprehensive Curriculum:** Our carefully designed curriculum covers various topics including idea generation, market research, business planning, financial literacy, marketing strategies, and more.
- **Entrepreneur Mentorship:** Local and regional entrepreneurs, business leaders, and industry experts will serve as mentors, guiding students through real-world challenges and offering valuable insights.
- **Hands-on Experience:** Students will work on real business projects, enabling them to apply classroom knowledge in practical scenarios.
- **Networking Opportunities:** Regular workshops, seminars, and networking events will provide students with a platform to connect with like-minded peers, potential investors, and industry professionals.
- **Pitch Competitions:** The Academy will include a pitch competition where students will present their innovative business ideas to a panel of judges for a chance to win seed funding and other exciting prizes.

Parents, if you have a child with an entrepreneurial spirit and would like to learn more about the Entrepreneur Academy, please connect with Debbie Eissner, deissner@aguafria.org. Business leaders who are interested in donating their time and talent can connect with Megan Griego via email at mgriego@aguafria.org

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Agua Fria Union High School District was established in 1955. Today, the district serves the communities of Avondale, Buckeye, Goodyear, Litchfield Park, Waddell and part of Glendale with its six high schools: Agua Fria, Canyon View, Desert Edge, Millennium, Verrado and Agua Fria Online. Plus the District offers two alternative programs: Coldwater Academy and New Directions. More information can be found at aguafria.org