# ADE EDUCATOR RECRUITMENT & RETENTION NEWSLETTER





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#### **Thankful**

The ADE Educator Recruitment and Retention is so very thankful for all of our Arizona Educators. We hope you have a happy holiday season and take care of yourselves.

Thank you for everything you do for Arizona students!

#### **Current Projects**

#### AZK12/ADE Induction and Mentoring Symposium

On October 28, 2022 ADE co-sponsored the 1st annual Induction Symposium with the AZ K12 Center. The day was well attended by over 200 educators from across the state and included a keynote by Dr. Richard Ingersoll who shared Arizona workforce data and the importance of a beginning teacher induction program as a high-quality retention strategy. Participants also heard from statewide leaders through ignite sessions who are mentees, mentors, and leaders. A panel of educators shared the importance of induction and mentoring, and the positive impact it has made in their district. Follow up speakers shared insights about federal and state policy, funding sources for sustainability for programs, and finally the AZ Induction Standards were shared. The Recruitment and Retention team looks forward to follow up sessions and presentations regarding the importance of Induction support for educators.





#### **ACOVA Presentation**

The Educator Recruitment and Recruitment (ERR) team recently presented at the annual fall ACOVA conference. Information was shared with the state's CTE leaders regarding the purpose of the ERR team, current projects and initiatives, as well as the next steps for support regarding Ed Professions and Ed Rising in Arizona's high schools.

#### **ASPAA Conference**

As a follow-up to the 1st annual Induction Symposium, members of the ERR team presented workforce data, the AZ Induction Standards, and the need for a robust induction program at the annual fall ASPAA conference. Networking opportunities occurred with various human resources professionals about recruiting efforts and induction programs as an effective retention strategy.

### **Issue Spotlight- ESS Grow Your Own Toolkit**

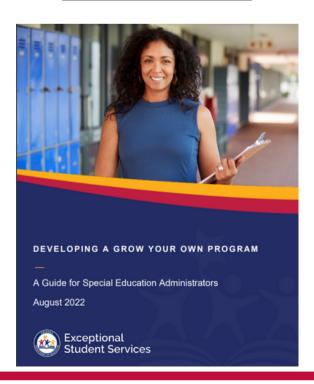
Responding to high demand from the field, the ADE ESS Recruitment and Retention team designed a grow-your-own toolkit for ESS programs.

#### From the toolkit:

"Why Grow Your Own? Fill the Educator Shortage Gap and Increase the Ranks and Diversity of the Educator Workforce A Grow Your Own (GYO) program is designed to increase the ranks of educators by recruiting and preparing people who already have a strong connection to the school and community. GYO programs focus on the recruitment of high school students, career changers, paraprofessionals, non-teaching-school faculty, and community members (Espinoza, Saunders, Kini, & Darling-Hammond, 2018). There are multiple benefits to a grow-your-own approach to address critical special education personnel shortages: • People who already work in your school are more likely to have a sense of commitment to the community, which may lead to greater retention. • 60% of all educators teach within 20 miles of the schools they attended as children. • Recruiting from within the community capitalizes on community cultural wealth and increases the cultural and linguistic diversity of the teacher workforce. Additionally, GYO programs can help reduce the barriers for paraprofessionals who wish to enter the teaching profession or pursue another special education-related career. Schools in turn benefit from growing new teachers or other related service providers who already have significant experience working in classrooms."

The toolkit is a fantastic resource to assist administrators to develop a program aimed at retaining Special Education personnel and other related service providers.

#### Check out the toolkit here!





The Heard Museum is excited to celebrate the relaunch of guided school tours at our FREE, K-12 Educator Night! Teachers from across the Valley are invited to this exclusive, educators-only takeover of the Heard.

Join us on Tuesday, December 6th from 5-7:30pm for networking, food, drinks, music by flutist Jonah Littlesunday (Diné), information on resources at the Heard Museum, a presentation by current Indigenous Nations Poets fellow Kinsale Drake (Diné), and special freebies for your classroom or workspace.

Head to our website to register for the event and secure your spot before we reach capacity.

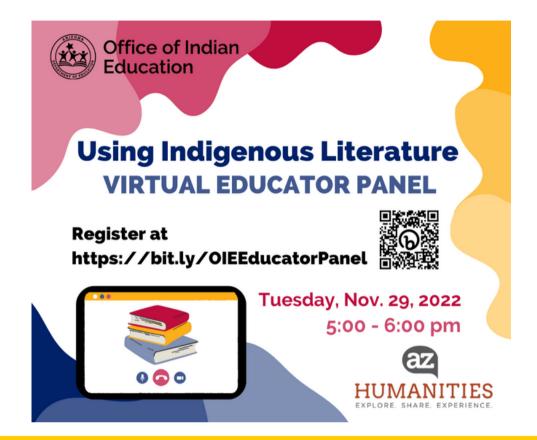
#### **Attention Rural Educators!**

Check out this professional learning opportunity if you are interested in learning how to help your students connect Rural America's past to the present using historical inquiry, public history, place-based education, and service learning. Registration is now open.

Click here for more information

Check out this month's <u>Arizona Council on Economics Education Newsletter</u> for professional learning opportunities for educators of all subjects and grades.





#### **AZ Teacher Residency**

The Arizona Teacher Residency will join Urban Teachers, Breakthrough Collaborative, City Year, and the Peace Corps for a joint event spotlighting each organization's opportunities for those interested in education.

The event will take place on 11/15 @ 5:00 PM (Phoenix) and all are welcome!

Registration Links:

<u>Zoom Registration Link</u>

<u>Handshake Registration Page (links back to the Zoom registration link)</u>

<u>Eventbrite Registration Page</u>



#### Looking for self-paced professional learning on current special education topics of interest?

Special Education Learning Experiences for Competency in Teaching (SELECT) is a federally funded program sponsored by ADE/ESS and offered through the Institute for Human Development at Northern Arizona University. SELECT courses are recommended for special and general education teachers, administrators, related service personnel, paraeducators, and other interested individuals.

Certified school personnel can take SELECT classes for renewal hours.

- SELECT classes can be taken for university credit for those teachers or administrators who are required by their school districts to have official transcripts and for those who may need to transfer hours out of state (tuition and associated fees apply).
- The classes can also be taken for professional growth contact hours for free.

<u>Register at the NAU SELECT webpage</u>. Courses are offered in 5-week and 8-week sessions. Registration closes when classes are full or two (2) weeks before the start of class.

For more information, please email the ESS Recruitment and Retention Inbox.



Tucson-area educators, a local resource is featured below. TREC Director Jen Kinser-Traut shared with us an overview and recent updates about the organization.

#### **Tucson Regional Educator Collaborative Retreat**

Tucson Regional Educator Collaborative (TREC) works to bring together the region's educators, resources, and partners to support their evolving professional growth. The effort began in 2018, officially launched in July 2021, and today is continuously growing. TREC's current key efforts are: 1.) The TREC website (www.TRECarizona.org), a one-stop shop for finding professional learning, with over 60 PD Partners; 2.) The TREC Teacher Leader Program is a 2-year cohort program that focuses on four teacher leader competencies (Professionalism, Professional Learning, Communication, and Advocacy for Teaching and Learning); 3.) Offering Professional Learning opportunities, including webinars, the June Summit, and Communities of Practices led by the teacher leaders focused on educator emotional resilience, equitable grading, mentoring, and more.

To support TREC's growth and work collaboratively with our partners and the region's educators, TREC regularly brings together various stakeholder groups and hosts bi-annual retreats. Teachers are at the forefront of this work and included in TREC decision-making bodies. The first retreat of this school year was focused on strategic planning, led by our consultant Catherine Tornbaum, with Interfuse Associates. This retreat included 16 teachers from 12 districts and 1 charter school, including Amphitheater Public Schools, Baboquivari Unified School District, Catalina Foothills School District, Flowing Wells Unified School District, Tanque Verde Unified School District, Tucson Unified School District, Sunnyside Unified School District, and several others. There were also representatives from district administration from many of the above districts and partners from 20 different organizations including ADE, AZK12, CRR, COE, PCC, SAYZEC, and TVT. Beginning the day, attendees engaged in a retrospective of what TREC has done since it began in 2018. Building on these successes, the group looked ahead to brainstorm future successes, which led to a rich discussion of grouping these key efforts/priorities until we had three key strategic initiatives. These strategic initiatives are 1.) Collaborating to showcase and support teacher expertise, 2.) Promoting retention by creating a series of pathways to nurture and develop teachers, and 3.) Developing strategic partnerships and relationships that increase support for educators. It was an insightful and successful day full of shared ideas on how to move forward with spreading efforts, connecting, and building up the educator community in future years. The TREC Advisory board is continuing the work of Strategic Planning and the spring retreat will focus on fine-tuning the action plans around these three initiatives. TREC looks forward to continuing these efforts and supporting the region's educators.

Click here for more information!



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#### ASU PEER LEARNING PROJECT

Active Student-Centered Learning

An evidence-based technology, funded by the National Institutes of Health, that guides and supports engaging small-group lessons, making peer learning easy and fun for both teachers and students.



\*Due to successful pilot study findings, the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) is funding the expansion of this program to high schools across the country.

## WHY SHOULD SCHOOLS PARTICIPATE?

- Participation is FREE for schools
- · Customized lesson plans
- Increased student engagement and academic performance
- Improved social connectiveness
- Supports for teachers and staff
- Help close the achievement gap
- Enhance educational equity
- Access to cutting edge learning technology

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTIPATE?

The ASU Peer Learning Project Team is looking to partner with a limited number of **Arizona high schools** to implement this free evidence-based learning tool into classrooms beginning in Fall 2023.

#### WHAT IS PEERLEARNING.NET?

PeerLearning.net, a web-based platform that provides teachers with an accessible and affordable tool to deliver customized small group lessons using their existing lesson plans or by drawing from a library of available lessons included in the software.

#### PILOT STUDY RESULTS

Students in classrooms using PeerLearning.net engaged in cooperative learning and experienced:

- Increased levels of peer support
- Higher levels of selfregulatory and social emotional skills
- Higher academic achievement (especially for minority students)
- Lower levels of loneliness and mental health symptoms

The ASU team will provide staff training, technology support, and resources to facilitate successful program implementation into current lesson plans.

#### WATCH VIDEO



Hear what teachers have to say about the program at PeerLearning.net TEACHER: "I DON'T THINK! HAVE EVER SEEN THE KIDS SO ENGAGED!"

ENROLL NOW

\*To request more information or to reserve your school's place in the program SCAN the code or click <u>HERE!</u>

Questions? Sabina.Low@asu.edu

Click the image or here to register for this incredible opportunity from ASU

#### **Educator Spotlight- National School Psychologist Week**

November 7-11 is National School Psychologist Week and we are so grateful for all of the work our Arizona School Psychologists.

Click here to learn more and to watch videos of these #amAZing educators!

Congratulations to our 2022 Award Winners

2022 Keith Perkins Lifetime Achievement Award



Samara Way, Ph.D., NCSP Mesa Public Schools

2022 School Psychologist 2022 Administrator of the



Noreen Roman, M.A., NCSP Gilbert Public Schools



Suzanne O'Dea, M.A. Paradise Valley School District

2022 Minority Scholarship Recipient \$1000.00 Award

Joscelyn Santos-Kendra

NAU, North Valley Campus

We heard from some amazing Arizona educators at the Induction Symposium- Thank you for sharing your stories!



Lake Havasu USD Jaime Festa Daigle, Dr. Rebecca Stone

Scottsdale USD Stacey Pasquel, Alexis Wilson



Treva Jenkins- Maricopa USD



Justine Casper- Lake Havasu USD



Dr. Schavon Waggoner-Phoenix Union High School District

**Job Fair** 



### LEAS REGISTER TODAY bit.ly/3Pyc5Jx

#### **NEW CAREER EXPO**

ADE is partnering with education HR leaders to provide a Career Expo as a resource for job seekers. Sessions will introduce the benefits and career pathways available to those working in Arizona schools. Workshops will provide tips for resumés and interview practice.

February 4th 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

www.azed.gov/teach/ade-state-educator-job-fair
Renaissance Phoenix Glendale Hotel & Conference Center
9495 W Coyotes Blvd, Glendale, AZ 85305



## **Click here for more information**