

School Counselor Connection

August 2020

From your School Counselor Specialist

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year. As we continue to serve our communities in a new ways, I am amazed at the dedication, passion, persistence, and creativity I see from school counselors across our state.

Please reach out if you need anything. I am here to support you. I can be reached by email at amanda.nolasco@azed.gov or by phone at 602.542.5353.



Meet Andrea Glenn - Post-Secondary Coordinator at ADE



Andrea Glenn is ADE's new Post-Secondary Coordinator, joining our team June 1, 2020. Prior to her work at ADE, Andrea began her work in the field of education upon graduating from ASU and then being accepted into Teach for America as a high school English teacher. Teaching ninth and tenth grade English in Miami, Florida for two years, Andrea returned to Arizona and began working for the ASU Lodestar Center, as the first Program Manager for the AmeriCorps program, Public Allies Arizona. She served in this role for five years before returning to the classroom and eventually as the first College-Going Counselor for Phoenix Collegiate Academy. Andrea has over 20 years in the field of education, twelve of them specially serving first generation students get to and through college. Andrea is excited to join ADE in her new role and help bring schools, districts, and post-secondary organizations together to best support our PreK through 20 students.

School Counselor Connection PD & Collaboration

Join your ADE School Counselor Specialist for monthly "Office Hours" to get updates and connect with other school counselors from around the state.

These virtual meetups are a chance for school counselors across Arizona to connect, share, and support each other during this new educational landscape. Join our monthly meetup and connect with your colleagues to learn and lead from wherever you are in our state!

Click on the button below to register.

Elementary School Counselor Connection

Middle School Counselor Connection

High School Counselor Connection

ECAP Updates & Resources

ECAP is still a requirement for students in grades 9-12. Although AzCIS is no longer provided by ADE, students are still required to have an ECAP. AzCIS was never required to use for ECAP compliance. ECAP delivery and compliance doesn't require the use of a specific platform and it is up to the discretion of the school/district/charter on how to best meet the needs of students. You do not have to purchase an online platform for students to complete the ECAP process.

Here are some FREE resources you can use to help students navigate the ECAP process. It includes a link to the recorded webinar "ECAP without AzCIS". Please feel free to email me any other free resources you think should be added to the list. This can also be found at www.azed.gov/ecap.



ECAP Resources.pdf

[Download](#)
234.5 KB

Arizona Social and Emotional Learning Competencies

Earlier this month ADE released the Arizona Social and Emotional Competencies. The documents include guidance on how to implement, a funding guide and resources. Thank you to Superintendent Hoffman for supporting this important work.

Click [here](#) to visit read the statement from Superintendent Hoffman and view all the documents and resources. Below are the competencies and the funding guide.



Arizona SEL Competencies.pdf

[Download](#)
795.3 KB



SEL Funding Guide.pdf

[Download](#)
243.3 KB

Career Literacy Support for K-8

Check out the information below for Career Awareness resources for grades K-8 and a PD opportunity for Middle School educators on Career Exploration on September 26th and October 24th. Click on the flyer for a registration link.



Career Awareness Resources.pdf

[Download](#)
138.4 KB



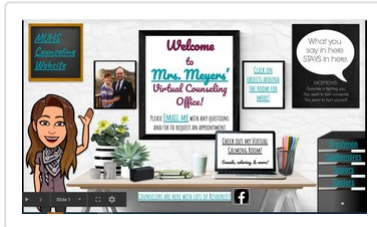
Career Exploration Middle School Flyer–Amended.pdf

[Download](#)
344.7 KB

Bitmoji Virtual Offices

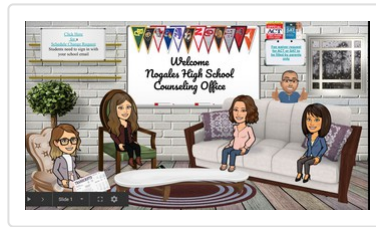
In an effort to capture students' attention and create more inviting websites, many school counselors have created Bitmoji Virtual Offices. Check out these examples from school counselors from around Arizona. Want to create your own Bitmoji Virtual Office? Check out these Facebook pages that offer a lot of tutorials and templates:

- Bitmoji Craze for Educators
- Elem. School Counselors BITMOJI and Online Learning
- School Counselor Bitmoji Classroom
- Bitmoji Classrooms for Teams
- Bitmoji Lounge for Educators



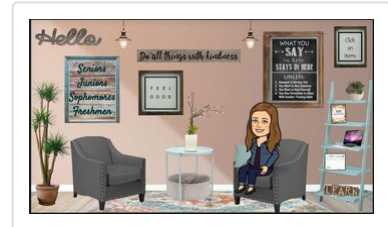
**Kristy Meyers -
Mingus High
School**

<https://bit.ly/2BPWe9D>



**Nogales High
School**

<https://bit.ly/NHsvirtualCounseling2020>



**Katie Williams -
Pima Schools**

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1yIgx6P_FTl7zTX23aA4o1206OibmHpaE/view?usp=sharing

Professional Development

CAP Classes

CAP Training: Financial Aid & College Applications

September 7 - October 9, 2020

This online module focuses on the college access professional's role in working with students & parents on accessing and understanding financial aid and completing the college application process. [Register here.](#)

View the [course schedule](#) and other [professional development opportunities.](#)

ACT College and Career Readiness Workshops

Register for the [2020 ACT College and Career Readiness Workshop](#)—a free, professional development event where you can learn about enhancements to ACT products and services as well as new ways to use data to help your students build toward their futures.

The workshop will cover [new options on the ACT® test](#) that will empower your college-bound students.

You will also:

- Learn about ACT's plans to offer remote proctoring while students test from home
- Explore how ACT data can help your students plan for success
- Learn about new ACT test prep offerings and college and workforce readiness tools
- Gain insight into ways ACT can support your students from K–career and across core academic and behavioral skills, career navigation, and more

College Board Counselor Workshops

This year's workshops will cover key updates on:

- SAT Suite of Assessments
- AP Program
- College Board Opportunity Scholarships
- Scholarships and recognition programs

This year our online workshops include two nationwide and international offerings and a series with a state focus that will provide more localized information. In addition, this year a newly designed New Counselor workshop is also provided to share extra college planning information.

- **New Counselor Workshop:** Designed for high school counselors with 0–2 years of experience, this free, 90-minute workshop will provide key information and best practices for guiding your students and their families through the college planning process. You'll learn about helpful resources to support newer counseling professionals and have the opportunity to ask questions of experienced high school counselors during the live Q&A.
- **State-Focused:** Join College Board staff from around the country for this free, state-focused, 90-minute workshop. The presentation will provide helpful updates on College Board programs and higher education trends so you'll be ready to support your students and their families for the 2020-21 school year

Click [here](#) to see available workshops and to register.

FAFSA Webinars

See the information below for online FAFSA webinars that will offered this July - November.



Fall 2020 webinar schedule- final.pdf

[Download](#)
123.1 KB

Resources Hub - New Project

Social media has been a great way for school counselors to share ideas. After joining the AzCSA virtual happy hour the other night, a lot of great resources were shared during the discussion. A follow up conversation with Janine Menard, past AzSCA chair, revealed just how much we need to share resources with each other including forms, lesson plans, presentations, etc. While the long term goal is to put together lesson plans for use in your comprehensive school counseling programs, we can start sharing our resources now. They will then be posted to the online for everyone to have access and adapt as needed to fit personal needs.

Below is an example of a form created by Janine to use with her students during remote learning. She also shared the Virtual Calming Room created by the Northshore School District in Washington that she is using with her students and families.

Resources from the Equity and Trauma Informed Practices webinar hosted by ADE featuring Ricky Robertson are also accessible below.

If you think you have a great lesson, form, activity, presentation, etc. please share with me at amanda.nolasco@azed.gov.

Beginning of the Year- Minute Meetings/Check-In (3-8)

Virtual Calming Room

Equity & Trauma Informed Practice Webinar Resources

Equity Database - Movie, Books, Ted Talks, etc.

AzSCA - Arizona School Counselors Association

If you are not a member, make sure to join your professional school counseling organization. AzSCA is very active in advocating for school counselors regarding our role, ratio, and respect in Arizona. Check out their new website at www.azsca.org.

New to School Counseling? Need a mentor?

Visit https://azsca.org/professional_development/ to learn about AzSCA's mentoring program.

WANT TO BE A MENTOR?

AzSCA is looking for volunteers to serve as a professional mentor for any new school counselor and any school counselor changing grade levels for the first time.

If you meet the following criteria we would love to add you to our Mentor Directory

- You must have at least 5 years experience in your current grade level
- You Must be available to check in with your mentee monthly by phone/email
- You Must be available to offer a career shadow day if requested
- You Must be a member of AZSCA- ASCA member optional
- You May be a retired professional

If you want more information and /or would like to be added to our directory please email Julie Cota at juliemcota@gmail.com

or us this link to add your information to the directory yourself

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1QGc62iee-OnTLzHDIqk7Uqy8j18xwRc7eOdJfw4PHTg/edit?usp=sharing>

ASCA - American School Counseling Association

ASCA has provided numerous FREE resources to school counselors to assist with virtual school counseling. Click on the buttons below to access these resources.

[ASCA Back-to-School Resources](#)

[School Counseling During COVID-19](#)

[Virtual School Counseling - Position Statement](#)

[Webinar Series](#)

[Save the Date - Arizona FAFSA Kick Off \(Virtual\)](#)



The poster features a blue background with yellow and red text. At the top left is a yellow graduation cap icon. Below it is a stack of wooden blocks spelling 'FAFSA'. To the right, the text reads 'ARIZONA FAFSA KICK-OFF' in large yellow letters, followed by 'SAVE THE DATE' in red, and 'SEPTEMBER 30, 2020 9:30AM-11:30AM' in white. At the bottom right, there is a logo for 'Hosted by ARIZONA Department of Education AzCAN College Access Network'.

Scholarship Information

Horatio Alger

Application opens August 1 and will close on October 25. Plan now to submit your application.

The requirements:

- Household earnings of \$55,000 or less
- Exhibit integrity and perseverance in overcoming adversity
- High School graduation by June 2021
- Commitment to pursue and complete a Bachelor's Degree
- United States Citizen
- 2.0 GPA
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Visit scholar.horatioalger.org for more information or contact their Field Director, Zulema Fragoso, at zfragoso@nUSD.k12.az.us

The Dorrance Family established the Dorrance Scholarship Program in 1999 to provide financial and academic support for Arizona's eligible first-generation college students. The Program awards up to 36 scholarships annually to incoming freshman attending the state's three public universities: Arizona State University (Tempe), Northern Arizona University (Flagstaff), and University of Arizona (Tucson). The scholarship and program value are estimated at more than \$100,000. Scholarships are renewable based on academic achievement and exemplary participation in scholarship program activities.

To learn more about the Dorrance Scholarship Program, please encourage your students to sign up for an upcoming virtual information session. Registration is required to participate.

Student & Parent Information Sessions (Click on one of the dates to register.)

1. [September 10th at 6:00pm AZ time](#)
2. [October 13th at 6:00pm AZ time](#)
3. [October 15th at 6:00pm AZ time \(Spanish session\)](#)
4. [October 29th at 6:00pm AZ time](#)

Counselors and teachers can register to attend one of the following sessions below for recommenders

Counselor/Teacher Information Sessions (Click on one of the dates to register.)

1. [September 3rd at 11:00am AZ time](#)
2. [September 29th at 11:00am AZ time](#)

If you have any questions or cannot attend a virtual session, or if you want to refer a student who cannot attend a virtual session, please contact our office at dorrance@dorrancescholarship.org.

IDEA Conference

The poster features a blue header with the text "Converging Ideas: Connections for Student Success". Below this, on the left, are the logos for "Arizona's IDEA Conference" (a colorful sunburst) and "ADE/ESS" (a circular logo with "ADE" and "ESS"). On the right, the text "Upcoming Virtual Conference Series" is displayed in a large, bold font. A central section contains the text "Visit Website for Calendar and Registration" followed by the URL www.azed.gov/ideaconference. Below this, two event announcements are listed: "Kick Off Presenter for Professional Series" by Art Cernosia on Thursday, September 3, 2020, from 2:45 to 4:00 p.m.; and "Youth and Family Series in Conjunction with Raising Special Kids" featuring "High School Transition Training" on Tuesday, September 1, 2020, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. The "Raising Special Kids" logo is at the bottom.

The ADE/ESS is pleased to present the opening of registration for Arizona's 2020 IDEA Conference, *Converging Ideas: Connections for Student Success!* We are excited that the IDEA Virtual Conference is here and we are ready to open professional and personal development for this school year with rich and relevant learning opportunities.

Throughout the 2020–2021 school year, the conference will feature 24 sessions targeted to professionals in the education community, and 18 sessions targeted to youth and families. The youth and family sessions will be held on Tuesdays from 7:00–8:00 p.m., and the professional sessions will take place on Thursdays from 2:45–4:00 p.m. IDEA Virtual Conference professional learning opportunities will be provided to participants FREE for the entire school year!!

The IDEA Virtual Conference Kick Off begins next week! The youth and family strand kick off is Tuesday, September 1 – and the professional strand kick off is Thursday, September 3.

Please note: The IDEA Virtual Conference will host learning opportunities in a regular schedule throughout the year as follows:

- **Professional sessions will be held on the 1st, 2nd, and 4th Thursday of every month from 2:45 p.m.–4:00 p.m.**
- **Youth and Family sessions will be held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month from 7:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.**
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Information, session descriptions, dates, and registration information can all be found at <https://www.azed.gov/ideaconference>. Session information will be made available

approximately one month in advance on the website so that participants can reserve time in their busy schedules for important learning and connecting opportunities.




Amanda Nolasco -School Counselor Specialist

 @mrs_anolasco

If you no longer want to receive these emails, please email me at amanda.nolasco@azed.gov

Do you have colleagues who didn't receive this email? Please forward to them. And click [here](#) so we can add/update their information in our database.

 Arizona Department of Educati...

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 602.542.5353

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