



# NEWSLETTER



## MESSAGE FROM YUMA COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT TOM HURT

Can you believe how busy our office has been lately? It's an exciting time to be part of education in Yuma County. Over the past six months, we've had more than 600 student contest submissions from seven districts plus charter and private schools. We've helped schools apply for and receive grant funding. We've provided professional development for more than 200 educators and visited a dozen schools. And we've launched a user friendly new website!

Summer won't be a quiet time for YCESA with lots of trainings available. We hope you'll participate and stay up to date on the latest educational trends. Please reach out to myself or Eliana Osborn if you have specific training needs at your school. We're always looking for ways to build relationships and improve education in our community. Thank you for being part of that.



928-373-1006

## EXCITING NEWS FOR MENTAL HEALTH!



The Yuma County Education Service Agency has been awarded a \$45,000 grant to help support training about student and adult mental health. This grant from the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona Foundation for Community and Health Advancement, will allow us to create a cohort of 20 educators for a quarterly targeted training, along with a substantial stipend for participation.

Trainings will range from a focus on wellness for adults in education, to Zones of Regulation, to anxiety, and finally building bridges of support. All training will be provided by expert professionals rather than Yuma County ESA staff.

This program will be held on Saturdays, and trained individuals will be tasked with sharing knowledge with the rest of their staff. If you are interested in participating or have questions, please contact [Eliana.Osborn@azed.gov](mailto:Eliana.Osborn@azed.gov) as soon as possible.



## Important Dates

June 4-7 National Rural STEM Conference, Tucson  
 June 13-14 STAR Autism Support Training, Yuma East Headstart FREE  
 June 20 Arizona Literacy Road Show, Yuma FREE  
 July 4 Fireworks Spectacular, Desert Sun Stadium

## THANK YOU AZ HUMANITIES!

COMING TO YUMA THIS SEPTEMBER!

**Author Jose Pimienta**

**SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE & EDUCATION SERVICE AGENCY**

**azreads**

The Yuma County Education Service Agency was awarded \$5,600 to bring graphic artist and author Jose Pimienta to six area schools. Mr. Pimienta grew up in Mexicali, just 50 miles from Yuma, and has written a middle grade graphic novel about twins living on different sides of the border.

Mr. Pimienta will lead a workshop called "Tell Your Story," talking to students about his personal experiences and road to a publishing career. He'll work with sixth graders to brainstorm and begin creating their narratives in a graphic format.

Yuma Main Library will host a community event on Monday September 9. Mr. Pimienta will visit Mohawk Valley, Wellton, Rio Colorado, Orange Grove, and Encanto Elementary Schools.

AZ Reads is a program of Arizona Humanities focused on launching innovative and engaging literacy initiatives in K-12 schools in the state.

## YUMA CAREER EXPLORATION SUMMER INSTITUTE 2024

*Calling all career exploration educators and administrators in the Yuma region!*



The Arizona Pathways to Prosperity Team at Center for the Future of Arizona (CFA) and Arizona Business and Education Coalition (ABEC) are hosting professional development for educators and administrators on career exploration strategy, resources and best practices. This year's institute will consist of three tracks: Administrators, Middle School, and Elementary School. All Participants will receive a \$250 stipend per day.

Join us for a personalized training experience as detailed below. For any inquiries, please contact Maya Watts at [maya.watts@arizonafuture.org](mailto:maya.watts@arizonafuture.org).

Administrators Track - Half Day - July 10th 9 am - 1 pm	Middle School Educators Track - 2 Day - July 10 & 11th 9 am - 4 pm	Elementary School Track - 1 Day - July 11th 9 am - 4 pm
Sustaining Career Exploration Programs	Delivering Dynamic Career Exploration Experiences	Career Awareness with Elementary Students
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation Planning</li> <li>Funding Sources</li> <li>Data</li> <li>Goal Setting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scope &amp; Sequence</li> <li>ABEC Curriculum</li> <li>Possible Futures</li> <li>Edge Factor</li> <li>My Future Az</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lenses on the Future</li> <li>K-5 Possible Futures Curriculum</li> <li>Edge Factor</li> </ul>

**ARIZONA WESTERN COLLEGE**  
 SCHOENING CENTER, SOUTH WING  
 2020 SOUTH AVENUE 8E  
 YUMA, AZ 85365



**SCAN TO REGISTER**



## ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER TRAININGS

Serving students of all ages who are still learning English is a challenge for every educator in our community. Whether you provide targeted instruction just for ELL or support in a regular classroom with integrated instruction, understanding the process of language learning and appropriate scaffolds is crucial to success. Join OELAS right here in Yuma in July for two days of training focused on k-6 educators, and two days in September for grades 6-12. To register, visit <https://azed.gov/apld>.



## FOCUS ON SCIENCE

You may have seen Yuma County's state science scores—they are well ahead of the curve in 5th grade but that's where the good news ends. Rather than focus on the negative, we're working to bring high quality science education resources to the community.

First, July 15 is a full day session with the Arizona Science Center about Inquiry and the Engineering Design Process. In late August, SARSEF will be here for two days. There will be three training sessions at different sites, as well as a community night at Centennial Middle School. These SARSEF events will be science fair focused, including work on integrating Arizona Science Standards, running a fair, and doing class projects.

In September we are excited to hold our first Yuma based cohort of the STaR program from Arizona Science Center.

**TO FIND OUT MORE  
OR REGISTER, VISIT  
[HTTPS://YUMAESA.ORG/EVENTS](https://yumaesa.org/events)**



This is an intensive project taking place over two consecutive weekends where participants will receive \$500 and another \$500 in class supplies.

Finally, Arizona Game and Fish will be presenting a workshop called Building Literacy Through Wildlife. We hope this will be the first step in ongoing work with the organization.

We look forward to growing our educators so they are more confident and skilled teaching science concepts.

**Registration Now Open!**

Join us for a week of  
**Computer Science  
Professional  
Development for Arizona  
K-12 educators!**

**CSPD WEEK**  
 June 17th - 21st, 2024  
Arizona

**DETAILS:**  
 June 17th - 21st  
 Grand Canyon University

**CHOOSE FROM SEVERAL STRANDS  
TO MEET YOUR NEEDS:**

- K-5 Computer Science Fundamentals
- Computer Science Discoveries
- Computer Science Principles
- AP Computer Science
- Data Science

Learn more by visiting the  
event website:

[bit.ly/AZCSPD24](http://bit.ly/AZCSPD24)

Never stop wondering.  
"Never stop wondering"

Code.org  
Regional Partner

Brought to you by:

**Arizona**

**GRAND CANYON  
UNIVERSITY**

Data Sciences Academy

**ONLINE** ←.....

**Professional Development  
Opportunities for Teachers**

Pima Community College is the **ONLY** college in Arizona to combine the K-5 Literacy Endorsement AND Dyslexia Designee Training in one offering.

**PD for Certified Teachers**

- Literacy Endorsement and Dyslexia Designee (6 credits)
- Structured English Immersion Endorsement (3 credits)
- Special Education Mild/Moderate Disabilities Endorsement (7 credits)
- Optional add on:** Moderate/Severe Disabilities Endorsement (3 credits)
- Delusory Removal Phonics, Dyslexia, Ethics, AZDUS, Constitution

**Key Features**

- Trusted Institution
- ADE-approved courses
- Affordable (\$89 per credit hour)
- Fast 60-week courses
- Tuition online
- Administrators: We will work with your school district to develop a flexible schedule to meet teachers' needs

Earn endorsements  
and remove  
deficiencies from your  
teaching certificate  
with online PDI!

**To learn more, contact  
Program Manager Tirza Sanders,  
[tsanders4@pima.edu](mailto:tsanders4@pima.edu)**

70.206.4500 | [pima.edu](http://pima.edu)

Arizona Science Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. All proceeds from the sale of tickets and merchandise will be used to support the center's programs and services. For more information, please contact the center at 70.206.4500 or visit our website at [www.arizona-science-center.org](http://www.arizona-science-center.org).

**PimaCommunityCollege**

Keep striving.

Approximately 96,000 residents call the City of Yuma their full-time home, according to the 2020 Census

**Primary Election:  
July 30**

Arizona added more than 1 million people to its population between 2010 and 2023. 32% of adults in the state have a bachelor's degree or higher. Nationwide, 34% have that level of education.

Source: census.gov

## NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR GEOGRAPHIC EDUCATION CONFERENCE



## POSSIBLE FUTURES

We've had interest from a number of elementary schools wanting to bring career exploration down to primary grades.

One great FREE, option comes from the Center for the Future of Arizona. Lenses on the Future can be applied to elementary grades and gives students a chance to reflect on the concepts of jobs, goals, and money. Learn more at the CFA website [here](#) or reach out to Eliana Osborn to get connected with the right people.



## GET SET FOR STEM!

The Arizona Department of Education wants to help teachers "Get SET for STEM!" Our Scholarships for Effective Teachers program offers Arizona educators **\$2,000 per year for up to three years** to pursue coursework or programs that will:

1. Prepare them to add a STEM area (calculus, physics, biology, etc.) or CTE Certificate, **and**
2. Bolster their STEM teaching knowledge & skills

**What's an Applicant's Commitment?** Scholarship recipients agree to teach in Arizona public schools for three years after completing their coursework or program.

**How often are scholarships awarded?** Applications are accepted year-round and scholarships are awarded on a rolling basis. Applications must be submitted prior to enrollment in a program or coursework. Funding is awarded directly to the recipient after submitting paperwork that proves you have enrolled & paid for a course or program.



Visit Academic Achievement on the ADE website and search for "Get Set for Stem" to learn more

**View the application at:**

**[https://www.azed.gov/sites/default/files/2023/07/AZTeacherPDScholarshipAppRevised\\_6.26.23.pdf](https://www.azed.gov/sites/default/files/2023/07/AZTeacherPDScholarshipAppRevised_6.26.23.pdf)**

**And email it to [tpds@azed.gov](mailto:tpds@azed.gov)**

Source: Arizona Department of Education





WE HAD A FANTASTIC MATH  
EXTRAVAGANZA MAY 15! THANK  
YOU TO ALL WHO ATTENDED.



## MONTHLY MIGRANT PROGRAM MEET-UPS

75% of Arizona's migratory students live in Yuma County, touching nearly every school district. The Arizona Migrant Education Program administers the grant with funds from the federal government for this specific population.

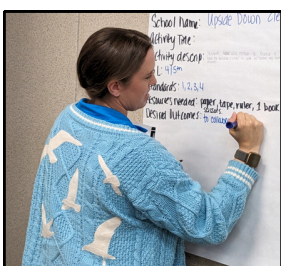
Rogelio Ruiz, Arizona Migrant Education Program Director, will be in Yuma each month to hold training and listening sessions with all area directors. Eliana Osborn in the County Superintendent's Office is working to support our local programs and serve as a liaison to the state.

If you recognize that you don't understand the many components of identifying and supporting migratory students, please reach out so that we can help you and your school utilize the many available resources

## LIBRARY TRAINING EVENT



Susan Farretta of ADE's CTE Career Development team, visited with other state staff to offer ideas on how school libraries can be hubs for career exploration at all grade levels.



Visit <https://www.azed.gov/migrant> to explore more.

## SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE TRAINING

Thank you to all who attended our May 8 training from ASBA about what being on a school board really looks like--and the rules and regulations involved.

After the November election, ASBA representatives will be returning to Yuma for a second event geared toward **all** school board members. So if you have a successful race or are already on a board, block out some time on November 21 at 1pm for a useful event. More details to come as it gets nearer.



There is a whole page on our new website with information about grants available to teachers or schools.

Check it out -- especially the Futureshaper STEM grant program-- [here](#)



## CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

With the end of the school comes the end of high school for many local students--2400 of them. In our office we have two young men who graduated from Cibola and Kofa High Schools. We are so grateful for the many educators over the years who have supported our children in their different interests and paths. We appreciate your help in raising our children to be useful, intelligent young people.

## PRINCIPALS' LEADERSHIP ACADEMY, YUMA EDITION

We would like to offer the Arizona Department of Education Principal Leadership Academy here in Yuma so that more people can participate. But we need to see if there is enough interest. Typically held in Phoenix for \$300, trainers are willing to travel to Yuma for the six sessions and offer the experience at no cost.

If you are interested, please fill out the form at this link:

**Yuma Principals' Leadership Academy Interest Form:**

<https://forms.office.com/r/6fHbfLnkxx>

**Elevate your leadership practices...**



**ADE Principals' Leadership  
Academy**

August 2024 - March 2025