

NEWS & VIEWS

A RATED ALL TVUSD SCHOOLS

BOND DOLLARS AT WORK

Inside is an update on community supported efforts to improve learning facilities in Tanque Verde

INTENTIONAL RESULTS

Superintendent Hagerman provides an update on state assessment information and outlines efforts by Team TVUSD to raise expectations

WE ARE TEAM TVUSD

Meet team members across the district and learn about how they bring their experience, passion, and knowledge each day.

ON A MISSION

NEW PLAN GUIDES KEY
SUPPORTS FOR STUDENTS AND TEAM



WWW.TANQUEVERDESCHOOLS.ORG

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The TVUSD Governing Board adopted a revised Mission and Vision, and added a set of Values at our meeting on July 26th, 2023.

Vision: Equip graduates for mastery, founded upon excellence and integrity.

Mission: Provide an academic environment where respect, high expectations, collaboration, and continuous process improvement develop a civic-minded student capable of mastery of any challenge.

Values: Integrity, Excellence and High Expectations, Student Centered, Professional Learning Community (PLC), Clear Communication, and Respect, Affirmation, Inclusion (RAI)

The development of the Mission, Vision, and Values included feedback from community members, parents, administrators, teachers, and students. The Values are a new inclusion to our guiding principles, additional detail can be found at our website.

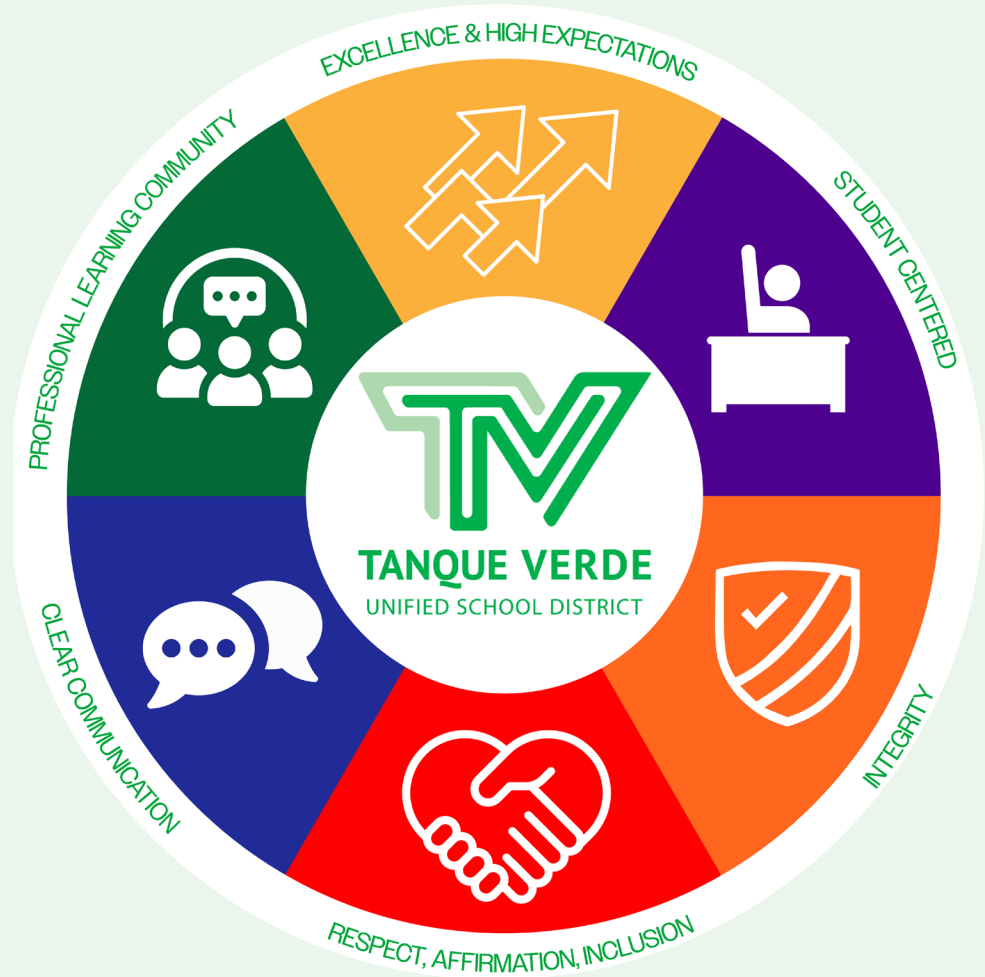
While these guiding principles are not necessarily new to TVUSD, the Governing Board wanted to ensure clarity and a solid foundation for how work is done every day for and by our Tanque Verde students at our community events, athletic venues, campuses, and in classrooms.

Since their adoption, Dr. Hagerman and his leadership team have been working to incorporate these guiding principles into everyday business and interactions. One example includes the 2023-2024 District Goals and Strategic Plan, also recently approved by the Governing Board.

Due to the efforts of our staff and teachers, TVUSD students receive a rich educational experience. The newly adopted Mission, Vision, and Values provide a template for ensuring continued Excellence for and by Every Student, Everyday.

Speaking of ensuring excellence... A gigantic thank you to everyone who makes TVUSD an A-Rated District!

President Anne Velosa
Tanque Verde Unified School District





SUPERINTENDENT SCOTT HAGERMAN UPDATE

INTENTIONAL EFFORTS, DESIRED RESULTS

Midway through our first semester is the time of year when we see our students and teams engaged in their routines. This is also the time when we are given the opportunity to reflect on the work from our previous school year as the school letter grades are announced. In October, we learned that Tanque Verde Unified School District and all of our individual schools have been designated as “A” schools through the Arizona Department of Education based on our scores on mandated assessments. We are exceptionally proud to have this designation for the second straight year.



Beyond this designation, we also saw growth in our student achievement in comparison to other districts and charter schools with at least 1,000 students. In the area of English Language Arts (ELA), our schools moved from 16th out of 107 to 2nd overall. In mathematics, TVUSD moved from 19th to 2nd overall. Both mark tremendous growth for our students as we look at these assessments as a means to ensure student growth year to year while adjusting supports and resources to meet potential challenges.

Such data is one piece of the puzzle when it comes to student learning. As a system, we want to make sure the appropriate supports are available to students. We are utilizing a system of school improvement called Professional Learning Communities (PLC's) where our team members utilize student work and data to make shared instructional decisions with students at the center of the decision making process. This means we are using data and measurement to collectively evaluate and coordinate - a key practice that I believe has been instrumental in our assessment scores and the knowledge base of our students.

Academic growth has also had a connection to the types of programs students are participating in throughout the school year. We have seen significant growth in AP programs where students are eligible for college credits and our Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs where students can achieve industry certifications that can lead to careers upon graduation.

We have also seen that student utilization of fine arts programs continues to help students think in new ways and that their academic abilities grow when engaged in the arts. Our orchestra program continues to grow from less than 30 students in 2017 to almost 200 students this year. If you have a chance to see these musicians, I highly recommend watching their performances.

TVUSD, like all employers, has seen the impact of reduced childcare opportunities for young families and believe that we can be a resource to help. This year, we have started our Reggio-Based preschool program that is already earning awards. We hope that interested families will look into this growing program.

None of these great developments occur without the efforts of Team TVUSD and the support of our students, families, and the community. Thank you for your ongoing support of our students and our efforts.



BOND PROJECTS



The crane booms and construction fencing have come down around TVSUD, unveiling the completed projects from the 2020 voter approved bond referendum. In Arizona, communities can vote to approve additional resources to fund projects in school districts beyond the minimum facility standards (buildings or fixed assets) established in the statewide funding structure.

Partial funding for the projects completed through the bond also utilized this statewide funding structure, administered through the School Facilities Board (SFB) where some assets reach the point of deterioration or failure. TVUSD was eligible for \$30 Million from SFB.

TVUSD, through the Bond Oversight Committee composed of residents, team members, school sites, administration, and Governing Board members, was able to maximize the use of these resources to complete almost 30 projects across the district. The types of projects included improving the learning environment at each of the school sites in addition to tackling large facility maintenance issues for schools that operate in an extreme climate.

“Collectively, this is a great step forward for our community.”

These improvements included weatherization, air conditioning, roof replacements, sewer line repairs, transportation improvements, technology, infrastructure, and other modernization efforts to make sites more efficient.

The most visible changes have been those that have included new construction. The impact of these efforts has added additional space across all campuses that included additional kindergarten classrooms, fine arts space at the middle school, and revamping the high school for its current space demands.

Tanque Verde High School had originally been a junior high school and has since been repurposed. With over 75% of the funds of the project coming from

SFB, bond proceeds were used to fully furnish the school.

“This has been a team effort and we appreciate all of the work from our Bond Oversight Committee, our vendors, and the community to make this possible,” said Superintendent Scott Hagerman. “Collectively, this has been a great step forward for our community.”

Technology has also been a key focus through the use of the bond and SFB resources. TVUSD has completed a network rebuild utilizing federal funding through e-rate dollars. The previous network was 15 years old and the update is a beneficial update for students, teachers, and team members.



- New Building for Student Commons and Classrooms
- New Building for Science Classrooms and Labs
- Barn and Agriscience additions
- Renovation of Outdoor Learning Spaces
- Renovation of High School Main Office
- New Campus Intercom System
- MPR Improvements - Bleachers Replaced
- Complete Roof Replacement
- Grading and Drainage Improvements
- Weatherization of Exterior Walls
- Partial Sewer Line Repair and Replacement



- Demolition of the former District Office Building.
- New Building for Performing Arts - Classrooms for Band, Orchestra, Choir and Theatre
- New Building for the Sorenson Adult Community Center





- New Building for Kindergarten Classrooms
- Complete Roof Replacement
- HVAC Repair and Replacement
- New Campus Intercom System
- Partial Sewer Line Replacement

- Renovation of School Garden and Greenhouse
- Weatherization of Exterior Walls
- New Doors and Hardware - campus wide



- New Building for Kindergarten Classrooms
- New Campus Intercom System
- Complete Roof Replacement
- Grading and Drainage Improvements
- Weatherization of Exterior Walls



THE TANQUE VERDE FOUNDATION PRESENTS
THE THIRD ANNUAL



17 FEB 2024 TUCSON RC CLUB
1PM-5PM 10801 E VALENCIA RD

NO RULES PINEWOOD DERBY
AIR SHOW CAR SHOW
FOOD TRUCKS
FREE STEM ACTIVITIES
ALL AGES! LEARN TO FLY A UAV!

SCAN ME  TANQUEVERDE.ORG 

Follow Us!

KGUN 9 and Tanque Verde High School have formed a partnership to showcase TVHS students' viewpoints on community news.

Please follow us on the KGUN9 Instagram page.



KGUN 9 is also publishing the TVHS monthly school newspaper on the KGUN 9 website page kgun9.com/tvhs



STUDENTS & SERVICE



Civic minded, TVUSD students continue to be active participants in the Tanque Verde community. In the last year, these experiences have included volunteer efforts, committee participation, and working with elected officials. A pillar of the TVUSD is to encourage students to be civically minded community participants willing to take on problems through critical thinking.

STATEWIDE IMPACT



TVHS Junior Saturino "Satu" Pajkos has been selected to serve on Governor Hobb's Youth Commission for the 2023-2024 school year. Youth commissioners are appointed by the Office of the Governor and chosen for their demonstrated commitment to civic engagement and service oriented leadership. Satu and his fellow Commissioners will work to identify and address the greatest challenges facing Arizona's youth by developing innovative community impact projects, establishing partnerships with young leaders and serving as youth advisors to the Governor.

Established in 1989, the Governor's Youth Commission (GYC) is a diverse body of high school students from across the State, representing the demographic and geographic diversity of Arizona. The GYC is committed to empowering generations of civically engaged and service-oriented leaders to create a brighter future for Arizona. Commissioners are selected based on their demonstrated commitment to the school and their community, and their oral and written ability to communicate effectively through the application process.

CITIZENSHIP IN ACTION

Tanque Verde High School Seniors Sarah and Tess Herron were representing the West Region of the Jack and Jill of America Teen Leadership Program in Washington DC.

The Teen Leadership program advocates for the awareness and interests of children including the development, growth, quality of life and child care for the children in their community and the promotion of children's rights.





Walk to End Alzheimer's



Math and Science Night for the Elementary School Students



Make a Difference Day



Love of Reading at Agua Caliente School





Ms. Zreda works with students at TVHS.

MEET THE TEAM

From the moment students and families step on our campuses, Team Tanque Verde takes pride to ensure students feel valued, accepted, and safe. Our team members are the foundation for creating the positive relationships and setting the foundation for student learning and trusted partnerships with our families and the community.

TVUSD continues to set high standards and earns the respect of families in the Tucson area with top school rankings at the national and state levels. A strong reputation and high levels of student achievement are at the cornerstone of TVUSD, and made possible by the contribution and collective efforts of our experienced and dedicated staff.

LYNETTE GILMARTIN

Lynette Gilmartin can be found working with the Agua Caliente Elementary School Professional Learning Committee (PLC), - connecting team members in supporting literacy and reading growth for all students. Utilizing formative, summative and assessment data, she supports teachers with researched based strategies to strengthen each students' literacy skills and proficiency in reading.



"She embraces and accepts the students where they are in learning continuum," shares Kindergarten Teacher Mai Ly. "With that level of comfort, our students feel safe to make mistakes or experience the struggle as they decode new words with her."

Gilmartin continues to make an indelible mark on area students as she decodes their learning process with grace and support. Through her work and those of other team members throughout TVUSD, the school and district continue to see growth in student reading and literacy assessments.

As Kindergarten Teacher Molly Garcia shares, "The students always love to work with Mrs. Gilmartin. Not only is she essential for helping students, but Lynette also works with teachers with the curriculum and during the PLC process."



JESSICA FELDMAN

Mentor. Leader. Connector. Aqua Caliente Elementary School's Librarian, Jessica Feldman, does it all. Focused on encouraging literacy for all students, Ms. Feldman can be seen scouring the shelves finding resources to support student and team members work.

"She pulls books for teachers and students based on interest at a moment's notice," says Fifth Grade Teacher Solvej Kristensen. "Jessica is always willing to jump in and get involved and always has a kind and nurturing attitude whether it's while working with kids or with teachers."

Always going above and beyond, she can also be found organizing key school events supporting literacy like book fairs, storybook character pumpkins, reading fair poster projects, readathons, Love of Reading celebrations, holiday experiences and more.



JORDAN HAMILTON

Seventh grade Social Studies teacher, Ms. Jordan Hamilton, represents a unique cohort of teachers who were once themselves TVUSD students. Former students seeking a career in education is a testament to the impact our teachers have on their students and can inspire a special commitment to making a difference through teaching.

Ms. Hamilton, vividly recalls her 7th grade social studies teacher, "who always helped me and encouraged me do better". As this teacher's student aide, she fell in love with the content. By 8th grade, she was so inspired by the EGJH trip to Washington DC trip she decided then that she wanted to study American History.

While it wasn't until college that Ms. Hamilton decided to turn her passion for history toward the field of education, she always remembered the impact her 7th grade teacher had on her and how because of his belief in her she felt her purpose.

"I want to be that same source of encouragement to them," says Hamilton. "Being a teacher allows me to share my passion for learning history and be wildly creative in finding ways to engage students".

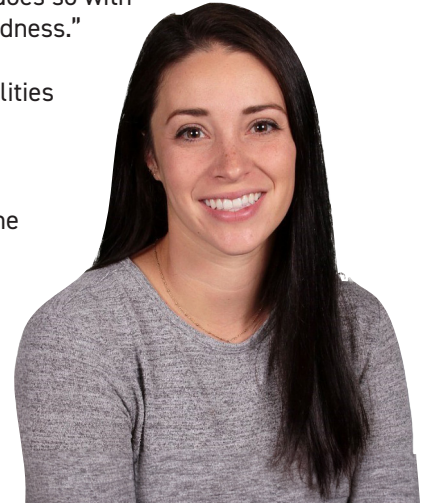


ELAINE ARMIENTE

Recently named to the "40 Under 40" 2023 Class by the Tucson Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, TVUSD Director of Business Services Elaine Armiente keeps our area schools and district running. She is charged with fiscal planning, working hand in hand with the Governing Board and Superintendent as all working to keep a seamless education experience for team members and students.

"Lainie exemplifies selfless leadership and embraces productive collaboration that supports the greater good," says Emma Batty, Principal at Tanque Verde Elementary. "In every interaction, Lainie is approachable as she attends to business and does so with aplomb, humility, and kindness."

Outside of her responsibilities with TVUSD, Lainie is an active member of the Rincon Rotary and has served as a member of the Community Investment Committee for the Freeport McMoRan Foundation where she currently serves as the foundation's treasurer and board secretary.



GRAZYNA ZREDA

"Arizona Science Teacher of the Year", Dr. Grazyna Zreda is as comfortable in the acclaimed science journals as she is at Tanque Verde High School where she has taught since 2005.. Published and highly accomplished, her work is highly regarded in the fields of geochemistry and volcanology. To teach is to ignite a growth mindset within her students that can help them accomplish their goals through science..

"I want to keep going, so I keep learning and incorporating new ideas," says Zreda. "If I keep growing, then I am modeling that for my students."

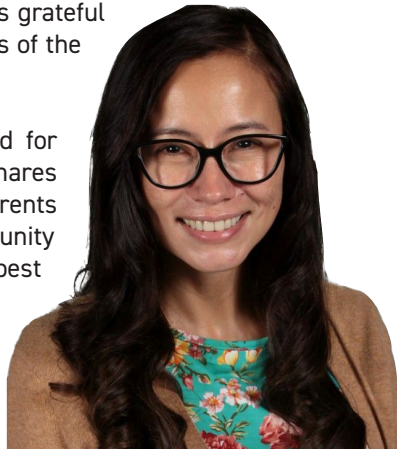
It is with this growth in mind that Dr. Zreda's continues with her involvement in the ASU Helios Decision Center for Educational Excellence. She was selected as one of 12 high-achieving teachers from around the state to serve on the ASU Impact Corps - a cohort of teachers collaborating to share best practices and mentor teachers across the state.



ALIA VERGEL 

School counselor Alia Vergel sees herself as a helper and a partner in the development of our students. A Nationally Certified Counselor in Arizona and Pennsylvania, Ms. Vergel values the opportunity to work alongside our staff and families to support our students and see them grow as individuals. Ms. Vergel is a Nationally Certified Counselor in both Arizona and in Pennsylvania where she attended Temple University.

Ms. Vergel's approach is to build connections with her students that provide a sense of safety and security so students feel welcome and free to express their true selves. As a TVUSD staff member, Ms. Vergel she appreciates the support she receives and is grateful for the parents and families of the TVES.



"The PTG works very hard for our students and staff," shares Vergel.. "Both staff and parents come together as a community to provide students the best educational experience they can have." Their heart is in all they do, and I am blessed to be part of it."



TANQUE VERDE SORENSEN COMMUNITY CENTER

ADULT CLASSES
MONDAYS THROUGH SATURDAYS
NEXT SESSION BEGINS ON
MONDAY, JANUARY 8

Hand Building & Wheel Thrown Pottery



Sit and Stitch Knitting Social

Loom Weaving



Printmaking

Interested in bringing your time and talent to Sorensen by means of teaching? We're looking for new instructors and content. Please contact Michelle Kowalik, Program Coordinator, at mkowalik@tanq.org



SIGN UP
www.tanqueverdeschools.org/adultleisureclasses



TANQUE VERDE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOW HIRING

CERTIFIED & CLASSIFIED SUBSTITUTES

We are looking for K-12 substitute classroom teachers and aides to support our schools.

"Substitute teachers and classified staff play an important roll in our schools."

APPLY NOW

tanqueverdeschools.org/employmentopportunities

TV Excellence for Every Student!



OPEN ENROLL TODAY!

- ★ CAREER & COLLEGE PATHWAYS ★ TOP RANKED ★
- ★ INDIVIDUALIZED SUPPORT ★ STRONG SCHOOL COMMUNITY ★

tanqueverdeschools.org