

PUHSD Highlights 11-12



• **Fredi Lajvardi**, Carl Hayden Science teacher and robotics coach was awarded an Honorable Mention for the DiscoverE Educator Award by the National Engineers Week Foundation and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. He was selected among educators from all over the country for his dedication in transforming student achievement through engineering in grades 6-12.

• **Cesar Chavez finished state runners up in the Division I Boys Basketball**, falling in the championship game. It was the second time in three years that Chavez has played in the title game. The Champions finished the season 27-6.

• **Maryvale dancers earned ratings of "Superior with Distinction"** in all three categories of adjudication, including choreography, technique and performance at the Arizona State Dance Festival.

• **Former Carl Hayden graduate Dulce Matuz was named one of Time Magazine's 100 Most Influential People in the World** for her advocacy for the DREAM Act, legislation that would provide a path to legalization for undocumented students brought to this country as minors. Matuz became involved in the school's Robotics program, and attended ASU where she earned an electrical engineering degree. She is now president of the Arizona Dream Act Coalition.

• **Central Speech and Debate was the winner of the Arizona District Cumulative Sweepstakes award**, which goes to the school that accumulates the highest number of team points over a period of years. **Nicole Mayberry** earned the Degree of Premier Distinction, the National Forensic League's highest degree of student membership which places her among the top half of one percent of NFL student members. She made the finals round at State seven times, placing 2nd four times in her career.

• South Mountain's Boys Soccer Coach **Carlos Aguilera** was named the Division II Section 3 **Coach of the Year**.

• Maryvale Athletic Director **Dr. Wendy Truvillion** was appointed as the **Head Women's Track Coach for the USA** for the 2012 International Association of Athletics Federation (IAAF) World Junior Track and Field Championships held in Barcelona, Spain in July 2012. The IAAF is the governing body for all track and field in the world.

• **PUHSD 2011 Teacher of the Year, Dan Dodge** of North, was one of five semifinalists for the Arizona Educational Foundation's 2011 Arizona Teacher of the Year.

• **The District developed a new website**, trained site managers and initiated social media into its communication efforts.

• **Alhambra teacher Ryan Adney was featured on CBS Sunday Morning**, using his collection of typewriters to teach writing to students.

• **The Phoenix Union Foundation for Education awarded scholarships in 2012 totaling \$67,400** to 64 District seniors to further their education. Its endowment fund reached \$100,000.

• Maryvale Boys Soccer Coach **Abel Hoyos** was named the Division I Boys Soccer Coach of the Year. Hoyos led the Panthers to the State Tournament, and were top-ranked, before being upset in the second round.

• Cesar Chavez sophomore **Dajour Reece** won a State Championship in Division I Wrestling in the 113 lb. weight class. He won five matches, and completed his season with a 40-4 match record. **Efren Hernandez** of Carl Hayden finished runner up in the 126-weight class.



Dan Dodge, North

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Phoenix Union High School District

2011-2012 Highlights

Preparing Every Student for Success in College, Career and Life.



• **Enrollment in 2011-12 increased 742** students from the previous year. Four weeks into the school year, PUHSD was at 26,311 students, the most in 32 years.

• **Franklin Police and Fire High School was designated an "A" School** in the first year of letter grades issued by the Arizona Department of Education. For the 10th consecutive year, Phoenix Union had all schools *Performing* or better under the original accountability system.

• **Over 90% of Bioscience 10th graders met or exceeded the 2011 AIMS Math (91%), Reading (97%), Writing (91%) and Science (93%) exams.** The Science and Math-focused school also had 62% of its students exceed the Science test, 31% exceed Math and 24% exceed Reading, all increases over the previous year.

• **Class of 2012 seniors were offered a District-record \$40 million in college and university scholarships**, \$16 million more than in 2011. Students earned millions more in grants and financial aid.

• **In the most recent report, 2,225 PUHSD graduates entered an Arizona college or university** in the semester after high school graduation in 2010, an increase of 365 more than 2009 and 505 more than 2008. This does not include out-of-state, or private colleges or students who delayed entry into college.

• **For the fourth year in a row, every junior in the District was offered the ACT College Entrance Exam for free.** Almost 5,000 juniors participated.

• **For the first time, freshmen and sophomores took the ACT EXPLORE and ACT PLAN**, new tests that lead into the ACT College Exam taken by all juniors.



• Six PUHSD schools—Central, Chavez, Metro Tech, North, Bioscience and Trevor Browne were cited as **Bronze Schools**, by *U.S. News and World Report Magazine* which looked at almost 22,000 high schools nationally, and ranked the schools based on state proficiency standards and how well prepared the students are for college. There were 500 Gold schools, about 1500 Silvers, and 2,869 Bronze.



• Academic Rigor continued to increase in 2011-2012, as 10,589 students attended 1,120 classes that were **Honors, Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate**.

• Central and Metro Tech piloted the **Move On When Ready** program that provides a new pathway to high school graduation and college-readiness through rigorous core curriculum and board examinations.

• **Central High School, Arizona's first Cambridge International Centre**, began offering the rigorous Cambridge Curriculum for most freshmen and sophomore classes in 2011-2012.

• Betty Fairfax High School began its **International Baccalaureate** program. Including North High, PUHSD is the only District in the state to have IB at two high schools.

• **Superintendent Dr. Kent P. Scribner** was selected to serve on **President Barack Obama's Advisory Commission** on Educational Excellence for Hispanics. Scribner joins a select group of educational leaders nationwide who will work with White House staff, U.S. Department of Education and other federal agencies to address the unique educational challenges faced by Hispanics.

• North High School was one of 14 Arizona schools that made *The Washington Post's 2011 High School Challenge*, which indicates the most challenging schools based on how effectively a school prepares its students for college.

• Metro Tech and Bioscience High Schools were recognized as two of **Arizona's Higher Performing Schools** by the National Center for Educational Achievement.

• **Five PUHSD seniors were named Gates Millennium Scholars**, tying the most ever in one year for the District since the Gates Foundation established the grant in 1999. **Fernando Chavez** of Maryvale; **Jessica He** of Cesar Chavez; **Balmis Lopez** of Carl Hayden; **Juan Mora** of Trevor Browne and **Julie Parker** of Betty Fairfax won the scholarships, which can be applied toward undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degrees and are valued at \$250,000.

• North High's **Steve Jozef** was a 2012 **Flinn Foundation Scholar**. Of the 550 Arizona students who applied, 22 were awarded to students who will attend state universities.

• **Steven Alley** became the first **National Merit Semifinalist** from Bioscience joining North's **Andrew Herschfelt** and **Steve Jozef** who qualified by being among the highest-scoring entrants in Arizona in the 2010 PSAT.



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• Four North seniors earned **Letters of Commendation from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation**--Alexander Enriquez, Gaelen Isaacson, Rebecca Peiffer and Molly Stoneman; **and four were named National Hispanic Recognition Scholars**-- Alexander Enriquez, Alexandra Barbosa, Jennifer Bottenstein and Benjamin Oaks.



• **A record five PUHSD schools qualified for the 40-school State Academic Decathlon** in March-- South Mountain, Cesar Chavez, Maryvale, Betty Fairfax and Trevor Browne. South Mountain led the contingent into State, winning the Region II competition with Chavez placing second.

• Voters approved a **\$230 million bond** in November

to meet the construction and renovation needs for the next seven years; much of the bond will be for facility maintenance projects.

• Phoenix Union High School District joined forces with Phoenix College and the City of Phoenix in a partnership called **Degree Phoenix**, in an effort to strengthen educational attainment for Latino students in Phoenix. The partnership is funded by a \$600,000 four-year grant from the Lumina Foundation. The projected outcome is a 20% increase in the number of students earning a postsecondary credential during a six-year period.

• Providing flexibility and opportunity for students, **Evening School expanded to eight PUHSD campuses**. The classes vary by campus, but Evening School allows students who work or have other scheduling challenges, or need to accelerate or make up credits to attend classes later in the day.



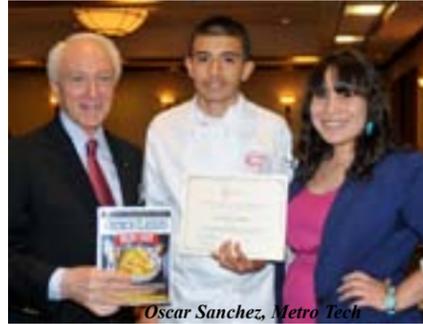
• **Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC)** continues to grow, with 1,910 students participating in the program. There are Army JROTC units on every comprehensive campus.

• **Seven Phoenix Union Schools began participating in a community solar program** purchasing electricity from a solar plant for a fixed price over the next ten years. The schools which are served by SRP-- Alhambra, Cesar Chavez, Maryvale, South Mountain, Fairfax, Camelback and Trevor Browne--will purchase up to 20% of their energy needs in solar from the Copper Crossing Solar Ranch.

• **Phoenix Union Governing Board President Linda Abril** was named the **2011 Outstanding Board Member by the Arizona Hispanic School Administrators Association**. She has been a board member since 1994 and is currently serving her 5th term. **Board member Randy Schiller (Ward 1)** was elected **President-Elect of the Arizona School Board Association for 2012**.

• **The Phoenix Union Governing Board underwent a redistricting process** for its five governing board election wards, and adopted a new map in March which was sent to the Department of Justice for approval. The map is a reconfiguring of the five wards based on 2010 population census data, but will not be in effect until 2014 ward elections.

• Metro Tech Culinary Arts student **Oscar Sanchez** won a **bachelor's program full scholarship to the Culinary Art Institute at Hyde Park, NY**, estimated at \$98,000 competing in the Arizona Careers through Culinary Arts Program in April.



Oscar Sanchez, Metro Tech

• Phoenix Union teachers, students and parents can now benefit from an online multi-media collection of over 12,000 videos, documents and images from **NBC Learn**, the education arm of NBC News.

• The 2011-2012 **Alhambra DECA club** was one of only two schools in the state of Arizona to win two national DECA Aspire Higher awards. DECA is a student marketing and entrepreneurship organization. This is the first time in school history that Alhambra DECA has won a national award.

• Central began a partnership with the United Way and Communities in Schools called "**Destination Graduation**." Through funding and volunteers, the program includes **full time Graduation Coaches**, a freshmen curriculum called "Success Highways," and a community closet, providing access to a food bank, medical/dental services and community support for students and their families.

• **Monica Contreras** of Carl Hayden was named the **Arizona Journalist of the Year** by the Arizona chapter of the Journalism Education Association. Contreras has been with Hayden's newspaper, the Cornerstone, for four years, and is currently editor-in-chief.



Monica Contreras, Carl Hayden

• **Heidi Bonfante** became PUHSD's newest **Master Teacher Mentor**, successfully completing the portfolio process for the Arizona K-12 Center. Bonfante is a professional development specialist for small schools Sun-Diamondbacks and Franklin Police and Fire High School and is a National Board Certified Teacher.

• **Sunny Chen Guan**, copy editor for the Carl Hayden's yearbook took top honors for two stories submitted in the Arizona Interscholastic Press Association Fall Journalism Convention.

• **Metro Tech's Future Business Leaders of America** won the **Gold Chapter Award** at the FBLA State Conference, topping 101 chapters and 4300 student members in Arizona. The Metro FBLA has 168 members. With state-best performances, twelve students qualified for the national conference.



• **Edgar Robles** and **Christian Escobar** took second place in the National Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Virtual Business Management game. The duo competed against 287 High School teams from 28 states across the country. The online contest helps teach high school students entrepreneurship, management, and supervision.

• **Central Student Government** achieved **Council of Distinction** at the 2012 Arizona Association of Student Councils Convention in February. To attain this honor, a council must work the entire year and document a variety of projects such as community service and campus activities. Only eight other councils in the entire state were awarded this honor.

• Led by individual state chess champion **Tin Phan**, **Alhambra tied for second in the Arizona Team Chess Championships in November**.



Tin Phan, Alhambra

• **Metro Tech's Boys Soccer team** won the **Arizona Charter Athletic Association (CAA) State Championship**. The Knights finished with a 10-0-1 record.

• **Metro Tech added girls and boys basketball to its sports line-up in 2011-12**. Volleyball, Boys and Co-ed Soccer are the other sports at the school, introduced in 2007-08.

• **The Trevor Browne JROTC Adventure team** has won the state title for the **fourth year in a row**, and fifth in the last six years. The Bruin cadets also won the State Drill Team Championships, beating 23 teams from Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines JROTC units.



Dillon Dayea, Carl Hayden

• Carl Hayden's **Dillon Dayea** was recognized as the **High School Student of the Year at the 29th Native American Recognition Days (NARD) banquet** honoring outstanding community members from the American Indian community. Dayea, who is Navajo, is actively involved with the Robotics team and plans to major in aerospace engineering.

• **Carl Hayden's Alan Rodriguez** medaled at the **2012 Army JROTC Service Rifle Championships** in Anniston, Alabama, leading the team to a 14th place national finish. He competed in the All Services Rifle Championship in March where he received a Distinguished Shooters Badge ranking him among the top 50 marksmen in the nation, surpassing over 2000 shooters in the United States.

• **The Maryvale JROTC Orienteering Team** took the **First Place Unit Award** at the JROTC Arizona State Orienteering Meet at Lake Pleasant in March. A total of 33 high schools and 172 teams from throughout Arizona participated.

• Central's **River MacDonald** was the 10th-12th grade state finalist for Arizona in the **Doodle 4Google Design Contest**. Out of over 114,000 entries across the country, 250 students were chosen as state finalists.



• Three freshmen girls from Bioscience will be featured in a **PBS television program called SciGirls in the fall of 2012**. The show showcases bright, curious "tween" girls putting science and engineering to work in their everyday lives.

• Trevor Browne math teacher **Eric Heim** became a National Board Certified Teacher, the 24th in the District. Cathy Ballman of South Mountain renewed her certification in 2011.

• Trevor Browne Dance teacher **Kathy Silk** was awarded the Bill Evans Award by the Arizona Dance Education Organization in 2012. This is one of only two annual awards presented to dance educators in the state of Arizona.

• **The Sustainable Table dining room**, Metro Tech's signature project for its sustainability grant project called Eco-Tech, opened in 2011, serving locally grown, organic foods.



• Trevor Browne Social Studies teacher **Suzanne Vogt** was named the 2011-2012 National Council for Geographic Education's Teacher of the Year.

• South Mountain's **Scott Simpson** took state titles in the 100 and 200 meters, and teammate **Jordan McLamb** won the 400-meters, at the Division II State Track meet.



• **Carl Hayden Robotics** won the **Arizona FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics** competition for the second consecutive year. Betty Fairfax won the FIRST Regional in Las Vegas.

