



Media Contact

LAVIDGE

[WestMECPRTeam@lavidge.com](mailto:WestMECPRTeam@lavidge.com)

**Western Maricopa Education Center school district superintendent says farewell**

*Greg Donovan departs after more than 20 years leading the career and technical education district*

**PHOENIX (June 27, 2022)** – Western Maricopa Education Center (West-MEC) Superintendent Greg Donovan is departing this June after leading operations and supporting the growth and success of the organization for more than 20 years. Donovan is the founding superintendent of West-MEC, a career technical education (CTED) public school district serving 12 public school communities in the north central and western portions of Maricopa County.

As superintendent Donovan has led the district through keen foresight and future-minded initiatives. His guidance has helped the organization grow to serve 200 adult students and 30,000 high school students daily, at 49 traditional schools in the West Valley. Donovan has also instituted numerous community and professional partnerships that provide hands-on career experience to West-MEC students.

Most notably, Donovan was key to the innovative partnership between a public utility, APS Palo Verde Generating Station; a community college, Estrella Mountain Community College and West-MEC's Southwest campus to encourage and provide a pathway into the power generation industry and augment an aging workforce.

Additionally, Donovan led efforts to develop the NEX building on the Southwest campus, the first certified zero energy education facility in Arizona.

West-MEC continues to expand as, just last year, 30 acres were purchased to build a campus at Loop 101 and Thomas Road in Phoenix. West-MEC has purchased 30 acres at Glendale Avenue and Glen Harbor Boulevard in Glendale. Even as Donovan makes his farewell, he is setting up West-MEC with more opportunities for growth.

“I am grateful for my time leading West-MEC, expanding access and awareness of career and technical education opportunities in Arizona – it has been the highlight of my career,” said Donovan.

Donovan has served for more than 42 years in the education industry. His career journey started in the classroom as a CTE teacher; he then went on to serve in the Arizona Department of Education. In his time at Northern Arizona University’s Institute for Future Workforce

Development, Donovan developed and implemented Career and Technical Education curriculum and facilitated CTED teacher districts. He also served eight years as an elected member of Peoria Unified School District's Governing Board.

"I am excited to see how the current staff will take West-MEC to greater heights to impact economic development in the state of Arizona," he said. "The future is always bright for CTE, and I intend to be a devoted advocate for CTE and public education in general on a state and national level."

This year Donovan was named a Lifetime Achievement Winner in the Phoenix Business Journal's Most Admired Leaders Award. Additionally, Donovan received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Arizona Association for Career and Technical Education. He has been recognized by the Arizona Career Technical Education (CTE) Administrators (ACOVA) with the Spirit of ACOVA Award and by SkillsUSA Arizona with the Pillar of Excellence Award.

###

#### **About West-MEC:**

**West-MEC is a career technical education public school district that focuses solely on innovative career and technical education (CTE) programs that prepare students to enter the workforce and pursue continuing education. West-MEC CTE programs provide students opportunities to earn college credit and industry credentials. West-MEC serves more than 37,000 students from 48 high schools, across 3,876 square miles in the northern and western cities of the Phoenix Metropolitan area. West-MEC now also offers adult education programs. Visit [www.west-mec.edu](http://www.west-mec.edu) for more information about West-MEC's career-driven education opportunities or follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.**