

AGUA FRIA
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
PRESS RELEASE

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**District Hosts Third Learning and Collaboration Day Featuring
Industry Experience Opportunities**

(AVONDALE, Ariz. - February 11, 2026) The Agua Fria High School District recently hosted its third Learning and Collaboration Day of the school year, offering a variety of professional learning opportunities across the District. Held on February 4th, a key highlight of the day was Industry Experience Day, during which the majority of site-based staff participated in immersive, real-world learning experiences.

Teachers, counselors, site administrators, ESS paraprofessionals, English Learner paraprofessionals, Instructional and Academy Coaches, Library Media Specialists, and College and Career Specialists engaged in hands-on industry visits designed to strengthen connections between classroom instruction and today's workforce demands.

Participants were assigned to one of 16 industry partners and traveled by school bus to their designated sites. During the visits, staff toured facilities, interacted with industry professionals, and gained firsthand insight into a wide range of career pathways and workforce expectations.

"The Industry Experience Day provided our staff with an invaluable opportunity to step outside the classroom and see how learning translates directly into real-world careers," said Nate Showman, Executive Director of Career and Technical Education and Academies. "These experiences help our educators better understand industry needs and, in turn, better prepare students for life after graduation."

Following the site visits, participants returned to their campuses and engaged in structured debrief sessions within their Academy Professional Learning Community teams. These collaborative discussions allowed staff to reflect on what they learned and explore ways to integrate industry knowledge into classroom instruction, student advising, and career pathway development.

"By partnering with local industries, we are strengthening the bridge between education and the workforce," Showman added. "The conversations and connections made during this day will have a lasting impact on how we support career readiness across our District."

Industry partners who generously hosted District staff included: Abrazo Health; ASU Mix Center; Banner Health; Be Kind Foundation; Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona; CHASSE Building Team; City of Goodyear Police Department; COSIC; EPCOR; Estrella Mountain Community

College; LV8 Design Group; Phoenix Center for the Arts; SUNDT Construction; Sun Health; Vantage Data Centers; and What's Happening in Art Movement (WHAM)

Industry Experience Day reinforced the District's ongoing commitment to collaboration, career readiness, and continuous professional learning, ensuring students are equipped with the knowledge and skills needed for success beyond graduation.

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Agua Fria High School District was established in 1955. Today, the district serves the communities of Avondale, Buckeye, Goodyear, and Litchfield Park, with six high schools: Agua Fria, Canyon View, Desert Edge, Goodyear, Millennium, Verrado, and Agua Fria Online. Additionally, the District offers two alternative programs: Coldwater Academy and New Directions. More information can be found at www.aguafria.org