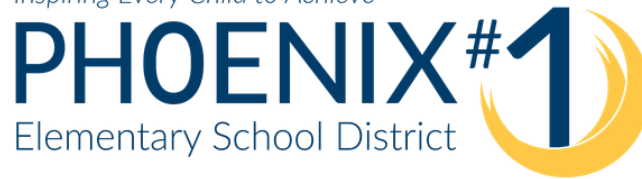


Inspiring Every Child to Achieve



AUGUST 6, 2026 GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

»»» RECAP «««



»»» BACK TO SCHOOL RALLY WELCOMES BACK NEARLY 900 PHOENIX #1 EMPLOYEES

Nearly 900 Phoenix #1 employees packed the Performing Arts Center for our 2026 Back to School Rally! This event served as a celebration and launching point to welcome back teachers and staff to kick off the 2026-2027 school year. Our new teacher retention rate from last year was so impressive that 3TV Arizona's Family photojournalist and reporter, Gibby Parra, emceed our event and even did a live news segment interviewing Dr. Deborah Gonzalez about what Phoenix #1 is doing right to keep new employees!

>>> WELCOME TO PHOENIX #1!

Nearly 60 new team members joined us for our New Hire Luncheon, where they met our Superintendent, Dr. Deborah Gonzalez, received welcome bags, and became part of the Phoenix #1 family. We are excited to have you on our team and can't wait for a great school year!



>>> CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 40 PHOENIX #1 INSPIRATION AWARD NOMINEES!

The Phoenix #1 Night of Inspiration is an annual event that celebrates our employees' contributions to our district, honors our nominees, and announces this year's award recipients. We had a total of 165 nominations for three Inspiration Award categories: Teachers, Support Staff, and Innovators. This year's theme, The Ripple Effect, reflects the powerful difference our staff make—not only in the lives of our students, but throughout our schools and our community. The winners will be announced at the Phoenix #1 Night of Inspiration on Friday, August 21st.

>>> CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 40 PHOENIX #1 INSPIRATION AWARD NOMINEES! (CONTINUED)

TEACHING PROFESSIONALS



Ana Alvarado
EL Interventionist (25/26),
IEIS (26/27)
Herrera School for the Arts



April Pettit
Music Teacher /
District Music Lead
Whittier



Cynthia Almanza
ELA Middle School
Teacher
Lowell



Daisy Andrade
ESS Preschool Teacher
Faith North



Edgar Toledo
4th Grade Teacher
Herrera School for the Arts



Edwin Maturino
EL Interventionist
Garfield



Fatima Lopez
Kindergarten/1st Grade
Dual Language Teacher
Lowell



Fun Chan
Upper Elementary
Teacher
Shaw Montessori



Holly Adamson
ESS Resource Teacher
Bethune



Jayden Hair
ESS Resource Teacher
Faith North



Jessica Boland
4th Grade Teacher
Whittier



Renee McGuire
ESS Preschool Teacher
Faith North

>>> CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 40 PHOENIX #1 INSPIRATION AWARD NOMINEES! (CONTINUED)

TEACHING PROFESSIONALS



Leena Colter-Clark
ESS Preschool Teacher
Faith North



Leslie Pozo
General and Instrumental
Music Teacher
Shaw Montessori



Maria Huitzil Flores
Lead Instructional
Assistant
Faith North



Marlee Davis
ESS 3rd-5th Grade
Bethune (25/26) Herrera (26/27)

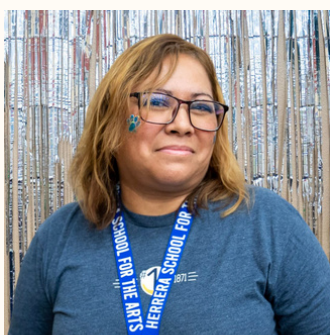


Melody Vanderveen
Instructional Coach
Kenilworth



Nayelli Muñoz
ESS K-4th Grade Teacher
Lowell

SUPPORT STAFF



Adriana Ramirez
Family & Community
Engagement Specialist
Herrera School for the Arts



Antonia Romero Gamboa
Child Nutrition Worker
Edison



Benita Meza
Lead Custodian
Shaw Montessori

>>> CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 40 PHOENIX #1 INSPIRATION AWARD NOMINEES! (CONTINUED)

SUPPORT STAFF



Bernadette Duguay
Social Worker
Faith North



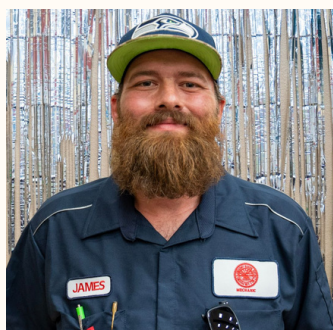
Brianna Scott
ESS New Hire Mentor
Exceptional Student
Services



Caitlin Fagan
Reading Assessment
Support Specialist
Services
Curriculum and
Instruction



Claudia Cardenas
Enrollment Specialist
Management
Information Systems



James Adams
Lead Mechanic
Transportation



Jennifer Rubbone
Student Information
Systems Specialist
Exceptional Student
Services



Laura Moulder
Social Worker
Shaw Montessori



Lela Neff
Senior Accounting
Technician
Exceptional Student
Services



Lesley Lopez Peña
Senior Buyer
Business Services



Michael Trivelli
Psychologist
Herrera School for the
Arts



Yadira Brambila
Senior Administrative Assistant
Strategic Initiatives / Management
Information Systems

>>> CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 40 PHOENIX #1 INSPIRATION AWARD NOMINEES! (CONTINUED)

INNOVATORS



Alicia Zelvis
Director of Exceptional
Student Services
Exceptional Student
Services



Angela Edington
Principal
Faith North



Ashley King
Federal Programs
Coordinator
Federal Programs



Eden Goding
IEIS
Capitol



Jamie Oliver
Health and
Wellness
Coordinator
Exceptional
Student Services



Joseph Fuentes
Principal
Edison



Paul Garcia
Facilities Management
Coordinator
Plant Services



Sherry Zeeb
Director of Federal
Programs
Federal Programs

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

DR. DEBORAH GONZALEZ

7

With construction at Ann Ott, Garfield, Edison, and Herrera, our partners and the Construction and Facilities Team have had a busy summer and have managed everything seamlessly!

Our warehouse and custodial teams and grounds crews have been working in these high-heat days to make sure our schools were ready for our families and their children, and they have done a remarkable job. Our transportation team has added new routes to streamline the time on the bus and to be able to transport nearly 1200 students to our schools. That is an increase of 300 students from last year.



**ANN OTT
REVITALIZATION**

Our technology team has refreshed thousands of student devices and ensured our networks are operating safely for our students and our teachers.

I also want to thank our Child Nutrition team that worked this summer to serve nearly 30,000 summer meals across our community.

I am also incredibly proud of our teacher induction program we started last year. One hundred percent of our new teachers stayed with Phoenix #1, and these teachers have become natural mentors for this year's crop of new teachers, creating a support network that will continue to ensure our teachers are equipped for success in the classrooms.

Our Family and Community Engagement Specialists have signed up even more parent volunteers and were able to give families backpacks, school supplies, and uniforms thanks to great partners like BHHS Valley Legacy, Beyond Autism, Maricopa County Schools Superintendent Shelli Boggs and more.

These are the kinds of behind-the-scenes efforts that make our schools great for our students. I am so proud of our staff and so grateful to our partners. I know we all look forward to working closely with our families as our enrollment continues to grow and we continue to see our students meet their grade-level academic standards.

Thank you to everyone for making this a great start to the 2026-2027 school year.

➤➤➤ HERRERA SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS OPENS AT NEW DOWNTOWN PHOENIX CAMPUS

Herrera School for the Arts has moved to its new campus in downtown Phoenix, and construction on the new front office and reception area is complete. This relocation gives our students access to state-of-the-art fine and performing arts facilities and an amazing gym to start the year. Thanks to our partners and warehouse staff for helping make the relocation and renovation project go as smoothly as possible!



➤➤➤ NEW EDISON PARKING LOT FINISHED

Your bond dollars are at work, and construction crews made a lot of progress over the summer! Edison students, families, and staff arrived at a new parking lot on the first day of school. The demolition and total redesign were necessary to make pick-up, drop-offs, and parking safer. This is just part of a bigger plan to renovate Edison into the premier Zoo School and utilize each space to its full potential.



➤➤➤ MARICOPA COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE BACKPACK DRIVE

A big thank you to Maricopa County School Superintendent Shelli Boggs, the Maricopa County Home & Landscape Show, every generous donor, and the incredible volunteers who made this year's Maricopa County School Superintendent's Office Backpack Drive a success. Your generosity helped provide backpacks and school supplies to students across the District, giving them a great start to the new school year.



➤➤➤ CAPITOL STUDENTS SHOP WITH A COP

A big thank you to the Phoenix Police Department for inviting our Capitol students to participate in the Shop with a Cop event! This special opportunity helped students pick out the school supplies and essentials they need to start the school year with confidence. We are grateful for Phoenix PD's generosity and commitment to supporting our students and families.



>>> MCCARTHY DONATES SCHOOL SUPPLIES TO BETHUNE

Special thanks to McCarthy Building Companies, Inc. for donating school supplies to our Bethune Bears! Our students, families, teachers, and staff are grateful for your partnership and support.



>>> ARIZONA HEALTHY SCHOOLS ACT CHANGES FOOD AND BEVERAGE RULES ON CAMPUS

A new law, the Arizona Healthy Schools Act, is changing what's served and sold to students during the school day. Watch [this ABC15 story](#) featuring our Director of Child Nutrition, Tyler Ross, to learn what these changes mean for Phoenix #1 students and families. A big thank you to ABC15 and Eleneo Dao for helping us share this important information with our community!



>>> MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT WELCOMES FAMILIES BACK

Families across all 12 of our schools joined us for Meet the Teacher Night, where students connected with their teachers, explored their classrooms, and got comfortable in their new surroundings before the start of the school year. Thank you to our dedicated staff and families for making the evening such a success. We are excited to have our students back for another year of learning, growth, and new opportunities.



>>> FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

The first day of school was filled with excitement, learning, and smiling faces across our campuses! Students were welcomed by dedicated teachers and staff, ready to support them throughout the year. It was a wonderful start to another school year of growth, discovery, and success at Phoenix Elementary School District #1!





1. Request Approval or Ratification of Payroll Vouchers in the total amount of \$1,494,302.91 (Policy: DKA)
2. Request Approval or Ratification of Expense Vouchers in the total amount of \$636,561.29 (Policy: DKA)
3. Request Approval of Financial Reports for Student Activity Funds (Policy: JJF-R)
4. Request Approval or Ratification of Employment of Administrative, Certified and Support Staff (Policies: GCF, GDF)
5. Request Approval or Ratification of Employee Contract/Work Agreement Adjustments for Changes in Position (Policies: GCF, GDF)
6. Request Approval of Separation of Employment, Resignations and Retirements (Policies: GCQC, GDQC, GDQB)
7. Request Approval for Governing Board Out-of-State Travel for Professional Development (Policy: GCCE)

>>> SUPPORTING STUDENT SUCCESS THROUGH THE ITI PROGRAM

The Governing Board received an informational presentation on the District's Intensive Therapeutic Intervention (ITI) Program from ITI Coordinator David Vasquez. The presentation highlighted the program's structured approach to understanding and addressing student behavior, including identifying motivation and skill deficits and explicitly teaching social skills and coping strategies that help students succeed in a generalized learning environment. Mr. Vasquez also shared the program's success in helping students and staff feel more confident and successful in managing behaviors together, while creating predictable, supportive environments that promote positive learning outcomes.

[View the full ITI Program presentation.](#)

>>> FIRST READING OF ASBA POLICY ADVISORY NO. 1050

The Governing Board discussed proposed updates to the District's purchasing procedures ([Policy DJE – Bidding/Purchasing Procedures](#)). The changes reflect updated state financial guidelines, including raising the dollar amount at which the District must obtain written price quotes from vendors before making certain purchases. No action was taken at this meeting. The proposed policy will return for a second reading and possible adoption at a future Governing Board meeting.

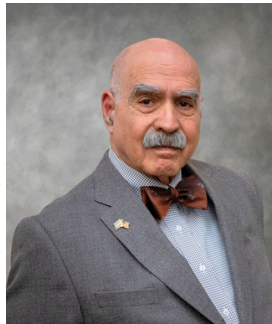
GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS



ERIKA OVALLE
PRESIDENT



SUANNE EDMISTON
VICE PRESIDENT



BARRY AARONS
BOARD MEMBER



**DAMIEN SANDOVAL
BARRERA**
BOARD MEMBER



**CARMEN
TRUJILLO**
BOARD MEMBER

>>> STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

The Governing Board appointed all board members to a committee where they will explore options for establishing new strategic goals, replacing the District's former governance model and strategic plan goals. The Board will meet on August 24th, where they will also consider opportunities for community involvement in the process.

>>> CHASSE BUILDING TEAM GMP2 APPROVAL FOR EDISON RENOVATION

The Governing Board approved Phase 2 of the [Guaranteed Maximum Price \(GMP\) agreement](#) with CHASSE Building Team, allowing the Edison Elementary School renovation project to move forward. The next phase includes improvements to buildings 400, 500, and 700, bringing the District one step closer to creating an innovative learning environment in partnership with the Phoenix Zoo. The project is funded through the District's 2022 Bond.

➤➤➤ ARCHITECTURAL FEES AMENDED FOR EDISON AND GARFIELD RENOVATION PROJECTS

The Governing Board approved fee addenda for the [Edison School Renovation Project](#) and the [Garfield School Additions & Renovations Project](#). As both 2022 Bond projects move forward through multiple phases of design and construction, the addenda reallocate the remaining architectural fees among the individual project packages to align with the District's phased approach to construction. The changes are administrative in nature and do not increase the total contract cost or expand the scope of services. The updated fee structure will support accurate accounting and administration of architectural services as the Edison and Garfield projects progress through construction.

➤➤➤ SOLICITATION FOR INTENSIVE BEHAVIORAL CLASSROOM SERVICES

The Governing Board [approved the solicitation](#) of a multi-year contract for On-Site Intensive Behavioral Classroom Operation Services at Bethune. The multi-year agreement will provide consistent support for students with intensive behavioral needs, strengthen the recruitment and retention of qualified staff, reduce administrative costs, and support long-term planning to enhance services.

The awarded contractor will operate three to four specialized behavioral classrooms, each serving up to 10 students. The estimated cost over the maximum five-year contract term is \$4,000,000. Actual expenditures will depend on student enrollment, service needs, annual appropriations, and Governing Board-approved funding. The contract is subject to annual funding and satisfactory vendor performance.

VIEW THE FULL GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA, ALL DOCUMENTS, AND STREAM MEETINGS ONLINE:
PHXSCHOOLS.ORG/BOARD