

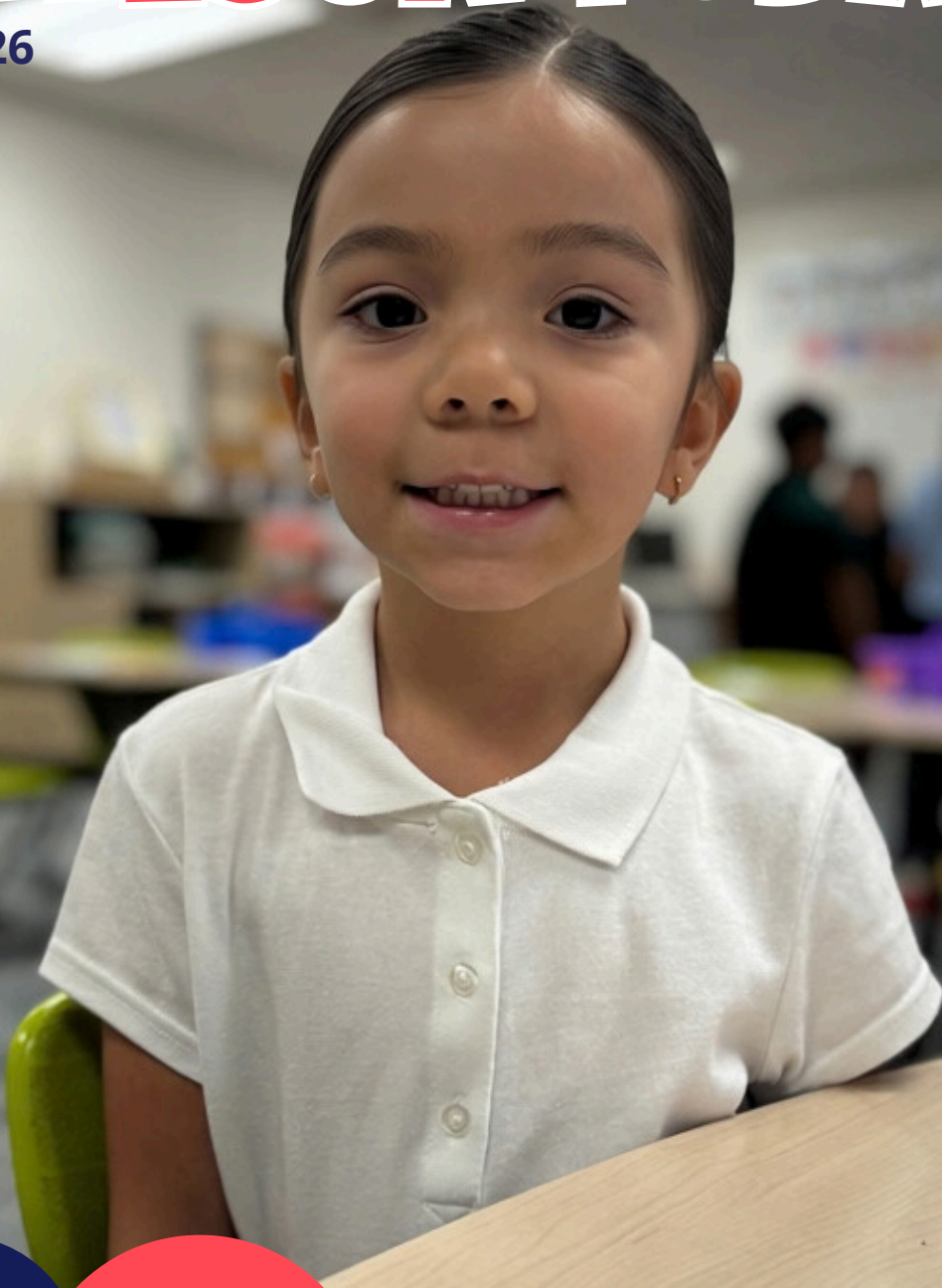


A TOLLESON ESD MAGAZINE

TOLLESON TODAY

FALL 2026

A KIDS AT HOPE
MODEL SCHOOL



**5 STAR
PRESCHOOL**

**2
DAYS IS
TOO MUCH**

**EDUCATION
PARTNER
OF THE
YEAR**

NEW TO TOLLESON?



**ENROLL YOUR
TREASURE AT OUR
SCHOOLS**



Message from the Superintendent

A Community Where Every Treasure Matters

Whether you have been part of our community for years or are new to the area, we are grateful you are here.

Behind every classroom, program, and accomplishment is an educator who genuinely cares about the success of our treasures. Our teachers, staff, and school leaders believe in building relationships, recognizing potential, and creating opportunities for students to discover what they are capable of achieving.

We believe all children are capable of success—no exceptions. That belief guides our work each day and reminds us that every student deserves high expectations, meaningful support, and a school community that believes in them.

Thank you for being part of Tolleson ESD. We look forward to continuing to grow, celebrate, and build a bright future together.

Gisselle Herrera

TOLLESON ESD NAMED EDUCATION PARTNER OF THE YEAR

Tolleson ESD was honored as Education Partner of the Year by the West Valley Chamber of Commerce for its commitment to collaboration, community engagement, and preparing students to contribute to the future of the cities and communities they call home.



The district understands that preparing students for success begins long before they enter the workforce.

Through programs such as Jobs for Arizona's Graduates (JAG), STEM, culinary arts, mariachi, music, athletics, and other enrichment opportunities, Tolleson ESD provides students with experiences that extend beyond traditional classroom learning.

- JAG helps students strengthen leadership, communication, employability, and career-readiness skills.
- STEM opportunities encourage creativity, innovation, critical thinking, and problem-solving.
- Culinary programs allow students to explore hands-on learning while developing practical skills, teamwork, and responsibility.
- Tigres de Tolleson mariachi connects students to culture and tradition while building discipline, confidence, collaboration, and performance skills.

These programs help students recognize that their future can take many forms. Whether they aspire to become educators, entrepreneurs, healthcare professionals, artists, engineers, business leaders, or something entirely different, the district is committed to helping them begin building the skills and confidence needed to pursue their goals.

These partnerships strengthen the connection between education and the communities' future, helping ensure that students understand they have an important role in shaping the West Valley.



TOLLESON ESD SEES 12-POINT REDUCTION IN CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM

Tolleson Elementary School District is seeing significant improvement in student attendance following the second year of its district-wide “2 Days Is Too Much” campaign.

The district experienced a 12-percentage-point reduction in chronic absenteeism when comparing the 2024–25 and 2025–26 school years, marking meaningful progress in its effort to increase consistent student attendance.

Launched to raise awareness about the impact of missed school days, “2 Days Is Too Much” emphasizes that even a small number of absences can add up and affect a student’s learning experience. Students who are frequently absent miss classroom instruction, opportunities to practice new skills, peer interactions, school activities, and important connections with educators.

The district is proud of the progress made, while recognizing that consistent attendance remains an ongoing focus.

Two days is too much. Every day counts.



Preschool Program Earns 5-Star Recognition

Tolleson Elementary School District’s preschool program has earned a 5-Star rating, recognizing the quality of the district’s early childhood education program and the work of the educators who serve its youngest learners.

The 5-Star recognition comes as the district continues to expand opportunities for students at every stage of their education. By investing in early childhood learning, Tolleson ESD is working to ensure students begin kindergarten with the skills, confidence, and experiences needed to be successful.

For Tolleson ESD, the goal is clear: give every child a strong start and help every Treasure build a foundation for lifelong learning.

PORFIRIO H. GONZALES NAMED KIDS AT HOPE MODEL SCHOOL



Porfirio H. Gonzales Elementary has been selected as a Kids at Hope Model School, recognizing the school’s commitment to creating a culture where every student is supported in pursuing their dreams and future goals.

The Kids at Hope framework is built around the belief that all children are capable of success—no exceptions. At PHG, that belief is reflected in the way educators build relationships with students, establish high expectations, and encourage children to think about the possibilities for their future.

The Model School recognition reflects work taking place throughout the PHG campus. From classroom instruction to student activities and schoolwide initiatives, the Kids at Hope philosophy is incorporated into the school’s culture and daily interactions.

Being selected as a Kids at Hope Model School recognizes the work of educators, staff, administrators, students, and families in creating an environment where students can envision a positive future for themselves.



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OUR SCHOOLS



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- ✓ FREE AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS
- ✓ ENRICHMENT CLASSES IN ART, PE, AND TECHNOLOGY
- ✓ HANDS-ON LEARNING THROUGH STEM
- ✓ AWARD-WINNING SCHOOLS, STAFF & PROGRAMS



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