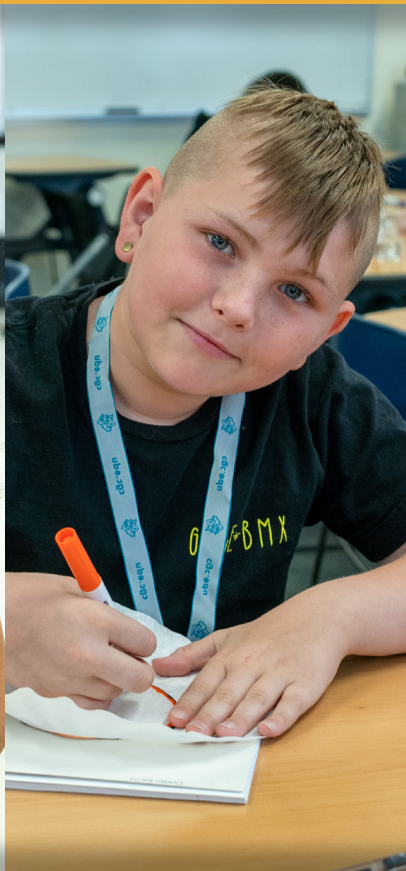


ANNUAL REPORT 2024



The BEST Public School
District in Arizona!



An A - RATED
District!



CUSD schools rank among
the TOP in the nation!





CUSD LETTER GRADES

**THE DISTRICT
AS A WHOLE
EARNED AN A!**

30

**A RATED
SCHOOLS**

7 MORE THAN LAST YEAR

10

**B RATED
SCHOOLS**

91

**% SCHOOLS
RATED A OR B**



35

**SCHOOLS
MAINTAINED
GRADE**

5

**SCHOOLS
INCREASED ONE
LETTER GRADE**

2

**SCHOOLS
INCREASED TWO
LETTER GRADES**



CUSD80.COM



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CUSD BY THE NUMBERS

WHO WE ARE

43,000 STUDENTS
5,000 EMPLOYEES
80 SQUARE MILES

COMMITMENT

22 STUDENTS
PER TEACHER

CUSD IS AMONG DISTRICTS WITH THE HIGHEST
NUMBER OF NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFIED TEACHERS

SCHOOLS

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS **31**
JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOLS **6**
SECONDARY SCHOOLS **3**
HIGH SCHOOLS **4**
ONLINE SCHOOL **1**

PROGRAMS

ATHLETICS PROGRAMS **11%**
FREE/REDUCED LUNCH **29%**
INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE **1%**
DUAL LANGUAGE IMMERSION **2%**
ENGLISH LANG. LEARNERS **5%**
GIFTED PROGRAM **5%**
SPECIAL EDUCATION **11%**

DIVERSITY

62 HOME
LANGUAGES
SPOKEN



SUCCESS

90%
GRADUATION
RATE

7K+
ADVANCED
PLACEMENT TESTS

82%
AP TESTS
PASSED

\$182M
SCHOLARSHIPS
& AWARDS 2023

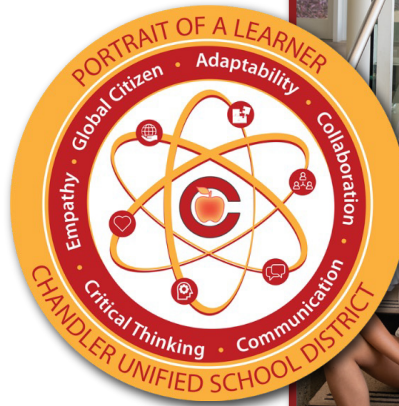
57K
HOURS OF SERVICE
LEARNING



INNOVATIONS

PORTRAIT OF A LEARNER

At the foundation of CUSD is our Portrait of a Learner. With input from more than 100 stakeholders, CUSD identified six attributes that our students will build and grow as they move through our schools and district. CUSD believes these attributes are essential to student success beyond graduation whether it be employment, enrollment in a post-secondary school, enlistment in the military, or entrepreneurship.



PARTNERSHIPS

CUSD is a recognized community partner, spanning 80 square miles and proudly earning the Chandler Chamber of Commerce Chandler 100 award. Notable collaborations include partnerships with the City of Chandler, towns of Gilbert and Queen Creek, and a groundbreaking initiative with Arizona State University and ASU Prep Digital. The K-12 Innovation Alliance honored CUSD with the Innovative District Award for this forward-thinking collaboration. The Superintendent Business Advisory Committee strengthens ties with the local business community, while a workforce development coordinator ensures students are prepared for the professional landscape. Additionally, CUSD's commitment to innovation led to recognition as a zSpace STEM District of Distinction, showcasing its successful use of augmented and virtual reality technology in elementary schools.



FINANCIAL REPORT

Chandler Unified School District's financial health is a result of strategic planning and resource alignment with our goals. By aligning our finances with the district's strategic plan, CUSD operates efficiently and effectively with a \$741.8 million budget. Notably, about 75% of the district's operational spending from Maintenance and Operations, Unrestricted Capital, and Classroom Site Fund is directly dedicated to instruction and instructional support for our students. CUSD is the 2nd largest school district in Arizona and is the 2nd largest employer in Chandler. The district is committed to our community and actively reinvests resources in maintaining schools, technology and supporting people.

Noted below are CUSD's six core funding sources:

\$373.1M

MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS

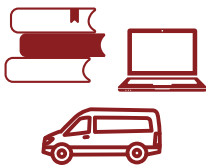
- Salaries
- Benefits
- Utilities
- Supplies



\$51.4M

UNRESTRICTED CAPITAL

- Technology
- Classroom Furniture
- Instructional Aids
- Service Vehicles



\$63.6M

CLASSROOM SITE FUND

- Teacher Pay
- Professional Development
- Performance Pay



\$44.7M

FEDERAL AND STATE PROJECTS

- COVID & ESSER Relief
- Entitlements, Title I-VI
- Special Education



\$80M

OTHER FUNDS

- Facility Rentals
- Tax Credits
- Intergovernmental Agreements
- Community Education



\$129.3M

BOND AND ADJACENT WAYS

- Construction
- Buses
- Technology



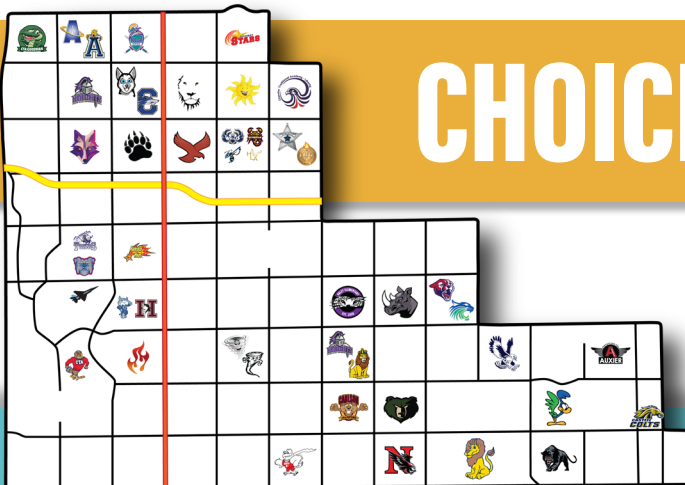
CUSD exhibits accountability for each expenditure through detailed financial reporting, as confirmed by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement and the Association of School Business Officials (ASBO) Meritorious Budget Award recognition.

Thank you to voters for endorsing both our present bond and override. Dollars approved by voters have significantly contributed to student success. Ongoing voter support allows CUSD to attract and retain top talent, uphold facilities to meet community expectations, and position the district for future success.



CHOICE

The Chandler Unified School District is a premier district of choice. Parents are able to choose from a variety of personalized learning experiences to find the program that best meets the needs of their children. Options include Preschool, Traditional Academies, Gifted Programs, Honors Classes, Advanced Placement Courses, International Baccalaureate Program, Dual Language Immersion, STEM/STEAM, Bioscience, Cyber Security, College Prep Campuses, Chandler Online Academy, Elite Performance Academy, and the Chandler Early College Program.





DISTRICT/SCHOOL

CUSD earned **the #1 spot** on the Best Public School District in AZ list by Niche.com.

33 CUSD schools were named among the **best** by US News & World Report.

CUSD is the **second largest employer** in Chandler and once again a recipient of a **Chandler Chamber 100 award**.

CUSD opened **the HOPE Institute** of Chandler Unified. No other district in the nation has a facility like it. It is the 1st school-based suicide treatment center of its kind.



CUSD named **#1 in AZ** for the American Heart Association's Kids Heart Challenge program.

CUSD earned the certificate of achievement for **excellence** in financial reporting.

The K-12 Innovation Alliance awarded CUSD the **Innovative District Award**.

CUSD was the only school district and one of the **top 50** company donors for the Valley of the Sun's United Way Mighty for Change campaign in Maricopa County.

Knox Gifted and **Weinberg Gifted** ranked **#1&2 best** AZ Elementary Schools.

Carlson CTA & Classic Elementary was named an **A+ School of Excellence** for 2023 by the Arizona Educational Foundation.

Knox Gifted Academy and **Hull Elementary** were named **CS100 Schools** for their remarkable commitment to computer science education.

The Chinese Language Teacher Association named **Tarwater Elementary** as a **National Distinguished** K-12 Chinese Program.



STUDENTS/STAFF

In 2023, CUSD students, staff and schools achieved a remarkable total of **710 state or national academic awards**. Noteworthy accomplishments include producing **53 National Merit Finalists** (2022-2023), as well as **69 National Merit Semifinalists** (2023-2024). Additionally, 306 students earned **diploma seals**, while 43 were recognized as **National Hispanic Scholars**, and another 48 as **Capstone Scholars**.

A **Basha AMS** student competed in the **national spelling bee**.

A **Hamilton** student was the first ever AZ winner of a **\$40k scholarship** from College Board.



Principal Shirley Mathew of **Rice Elementary** was awarded the prestigious **Exemplary Principal Award** from Maricopa County School Superintendent Steve Watson.

Basha High's Miranda Thornton was named the 2023 **Outstanding Biology Teacher** for AZ.

Casteel High baseball coach **Matthew Denny** was named the regional coach of the year - **twice**.

Chandler High wrestling coach **Vidal Mejia** was inducted into the **National Wrestling Hall of Fame** - Arizona Chapter.

Megan Driving Hawk of **Perry High School** was the 2023 Arizona State **Art Educator of the Year**.

CUSD Chief Technology Officer **Colleen Flannery** was honored as a finalist for the prestigious **Orbie Awards**.

Four educators were recognized with the **Milestone Award** by the United Chinese Association of Arizona and the Chinese Language Teacher Association, while ten teachers from CUSD received a **\$2,500 grant** from the Fiesta Bowl "Wishes for Teachers" program.

Chandler High School's **Stephanie Likes** is among the top 15 candidates for the 2024 **Arizona Teacher of the Year® Award**, as announced by the Arizona Educational Foundation

Chandler High Spanish Teacher **Sarah Wyffels** was selected as the **School Connect Summit ambassador** in 2023.

The **Chandler Chamber of Commerce** presented the 2023 **Administrator of the Year** award to **Dr. Craig Gilbert**, Associate Superintendent of PreK-12 Educational Services. Recognized alongside him were **Nina Hardin**, the school receptionist at Hamilton High, who received the Support Staff of the Year award, and **Jennifer Kraemer** from Rice Elementary, honored with the **2023 Educator of the Year award**.

2023 was a standout year for CUSD Athletics, with **all CUSD High Schools** securing team **state championships** or **runner-up accolades**. Throughout the year, CUSD teams and individuals garnered recognition on more than **85** occasions, including a national recognition of **Hamilton golf**, multiple **Gatorade Players of the Year** and accolades from the **Arizona Interscholastic Association**, affirming our status as the **best in the state**.



CUSD LEADERSHIP

SUPERINTENDENT

Franklin R. Narducci is CUSD's seventh Superintendent. Mr. Narducci has served as a principal and director in CUSD for 25 years, the last nine years serving as the Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education. Under his leadership, CUSD's Community Education Department was formed, and schools have received State and National recognitions such as: The National Blue-Ribbon Award; America's Best; and Arizona A+ Schools of Excellence.

Frank is well known for his work in the field of education. He has taught educational leadership and theory courses as an adjunct staff member for Northern Arizona University and is an advocate for Early Childhood Education, having served on the East Maricopa County First Things First Council.

Frank has received numerous recognitions including National Distinguished Principal, Chandler Chamber Administrator of the Year, and was featured in the June 2018 Chandler Lifestyle Magazine as one of the Amazing Men of Chandler. He also received the Si Se Puede Foundation's Cesar E. Chavez Educator of the year Award, First Things First Service Award, and was recognized for his leadership role with the Chandler Downtown Community Partnership and the Chandler Center for the Arts.

Frank is honored to serve CUSD's students, families, and staff.



GOVERNING BOARD

Our district relies on the vision and stability provided by our governing board. The Chandler Unified School Governing Board, like many elected bodies, contains many diverse opinions and ideas. Individual board members retain their First Amendment rights to free speech; however, personal comments do not represent the official position of the district. Governing board members are elected by the public, serving four-year terms. The board sets all district policies and has final authority over all district business. The public is welcome at governing board business meetings, usually held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month (7 p.m.). Study sessions are held as needed.



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