



**GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA ITEM
AMPHITHEATER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10**

DATE OF MEETING: **April 27, 2021**

TITLE: **Arizona K12 Center Grant**

BACKGROUND:

The Arizona K12 Center at Northern Arizona University serves as a vital hub connecting Arizona’s educators with the most current best practices in professional development. As the demands of our 21st Century economy and demographics emerge, the education community is called upon to respond in kind. New approaches are required to address new challenges. At the same time, we cannot afford to simply embrace innovation for its own sake. Now more than ever, research-based answers are essential to enhancing teacher performance and student learning. With the practitioner standing at the intersection of theory and practice, the Arizona K12 Center develops and facilitates leading professional development solutions for our classrooms today.

Districts make an investment in every new teacher they hire. The Arizona K12 Center trains and supports mentors who, in turn, support the newest members of the teaching profession. Learning opportunities specifically designed for the beginning teacher are provided throughout the year. An investment we make in our teachers is an investment we make in our students.


The Arizona K12 Center has reviewed and approved Amphitheater’s 2021-2023 Arizona New Teacher Support Program application for funding. As a result, Amphitheater has been awarded \$75,000 for the 2021-2022 school year. Funding is contingent upon the ratio of one full-time release mentor to 15 beginning teachers (0-2 years teaching experience) spending a minimum of two hours per week in the classrooms of the assigned beginning teachers as well as meeting the reporting requirements outlined in the application.

This grant provides funding for induction and mentoring support for beginning teachers and provides mentors and coaches with research-based tools to support those newest to the profession. The induction program focuses on ensuring that mentors have the knowledge, skills, tools, and resources to help beginning teachers provide every student access to relevant and rigorous, standards-aligned lessons and curriculum while using culturally responsive pedagogical practice to provide every student with equitable access to rigorous, grade-level content.

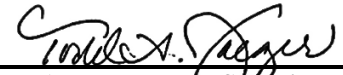
RECOMMENDATION:

It is the recommendation of the Administration that the Governing Board approve this grant.

INITIATED BY:


Michael Bejarano
Associate Superintendent for Secondary Education

Date: April 20, 2021


Todd A. Jaeger, J.D., Superintendent



March 26, 2021

Ms. Shannon McKinney
Amphitheater Public Schools
701 W Wetmore Road
Tucson, AZ 85705

Dear Ms. Shannon McKinney:

The Arizona K12 Center at Northern Arizona University has reviewed your 2021-2023 Arizona New Teacher Support Program application. We are pleased to inform you that the District has been approved for funding and, as a result, has been awarded \$75,000 for the 2021-2022 school year. It is contingent upon the ratio of one full-time release mentor to 15 beginning teachers (0-2 years teaching experience) spending a minimum of two hours per week in the classrooms of the assigned beginning teachers as well as meeting the reporting requirements outlined in the application. This letter is to confirm your participation and the district's commitment to meet the prescribed requirements of the program as set forth in your Arizona New Teacher Support Program Application.

This grant provides funding for induction and mentoring support for beginning teachers. You will be supporting these teachers at all qualified sites, utilizing the teacher leaders identified in your application as mentors. You will receive a Sub-Contract Agreement from the Arizona K12 Center at Northern Arizona University in the coming months. In the meantime, we would like to meet with you, your lead mentor(s)/mentor(s), and at least one representative of district leadership on Wednesday, April 28 from 9:00AM to 10:30AM to discuss the program, timelines, and expectations.

We look forward to partnering with you as we work together to support the newest members of the teaching profession. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have further questions.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kathleen Wiebke, NBCT
Executive Director

Cc: Mr. Todd Jaeger
Ms. Valerie Lombardi