

**Every Student Celebrated | Every Student Prepared** 

### **Hello Marauder Families!**

The 2025-26 school year is in full effect! It is so great to have all our Marauders back in classrooms, on the fields, and on the courts. Class of 2029, welcome to the family! Class of 2026, this is your year! Go Marauders!

This is an exciting month with Parent Teacher Conferences on September 11th and 12th. Please use this opportunity to conference with your student's Advisory teacher and explore opportunities for improvement or celebrate successes.

Encourage your students to take advantage of their FLEX scheduling on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday to work with teachers from any class they are struggling with concepts in; or need to make up work in. Students can sign up for FLEX during their Monday Advisory class, or anytime they are logged onto a Mingus Chromebook or personal/home device that is connected to the internet.

Fall sports are now kicking off in full gear with football, swim, cross country, golf, cheer, and flag football all competing in September! Please show your Marauder Pride by coming out to our Homecoming events. Our students love having our stands and bleachers full of fans, so come out and cheer for your Mingus Marauders!

Homecoming 2025 will be at the end of next month. See page 4 of this newsletter for information on our Homecoming Closet which has grown into robust program to give students more options for dance and special event attire.

Our award-winning theater program is rehearsing for their first production of the year; their Fall production of TRAP will be sure to entertain!

Please check our website's calendar and follow our social media for the most up to date events



(More information on page 5)

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# CAMPUS EVENTS & RESOURCES

BERIIITH@6PM

Our governing board is comprised of five locally elected citizens. These individuals ensure the proper allocation of district funds and resources to best serve the needs and interests of our students.

Meetings are open to the community and are held at 6pm in the MUHS Library on the Second Thursday of every month.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, AGENDA & MINUTES:

WWW.MINGUSUNIONDISTRICT.COM/ABOUT-US/GOVERNING-BOARD

## MINGUS UNION HIGH SCHOOL

We value your opinion and welcome you to attend and participate in site council meetings

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 16TH 5:00 PM ~ MUHS LIBRA

## PARENT

NFERENCES

Let's share information and ideas to support the growth of your Marauder

September 11 & 12

Early Release @ 12:05pm



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Today's families are busy, and there's always something happening. Sync your family schedule with ours to avoid missing important testing dates and events when planning vacations and doctor appointments.











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## CAMPUS EVENTS & RESOURCES

## Strategic Planning

Our school is currently undergoing Strategic Planning. This process sets a path and objectives for our school for the next 3-5 years. Please contribute your thoughts and have your voice heard by completing our parent surveys.

English-- <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TPVZQHH">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TPVZQHH</a> Spanish-- https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SZ2LMGG



## SEPTEMBER 2025

Mingus Union Highschool

Breakfast - \$1.50 Lunch - \$3.00 For more information, please visit mingusunion.com

#### All Meals served with optional milk, and your choice of fruit and or veggies. The Salad Bar is open for all Students at no charge. Monday

#### Wednesday

3 All Beef Corn Dog Tater Tots

Thursday Chicken Egg Rolls Vegetable Fried Rice

Fresh Broccoli and Cauliflower

Cheesy Pizza Sticks Dipping Sauce Fresh Celery and Carrots

Friday



2 Cheesy Enchiladas Green Chili Refried Beans Salsa Cup

Tuesday

10 Mac and Cheese

11

12

8 Chicken Tenders Whole Grain Roll French Fries

Doritos Walking Taco Green Chili Refried Beans Salsa Cup

Soft Pretzel Steamed Peas

All Beef Hot Dog

Tater Tots

Orange Chicken Vegetable Fried Rice Fresh Broccoli and Cauliflower

French Bread Pizza **Dipping Sauce** Fresh Celery and Carrots

Boneless Chicken Wings Whole Grain Roll Fresh Celery and Carrots

Cheesy Nachos Green Chili Refried Beans Salsa Cup

16

24 BBQ Pork Rib Sandwich

17

25 Chicken Egg Rolls Vegetable Fried Rice

26 Pizza Slice Fresh Celery and Carrots

Country Chicken Bowl Whole Grain Roll Steamed Peas

Cheesy Enchiladas Green Chili Refried Beans Salsa Cup

Fresh Broccoli and Cauliflower French Fries

29 Chicken Tenders

15

22

Doritos Walking Taco Green Chili Refried Beans

MON: Breakfast Burrito TUE: Eggo Waffle + Pork Sausage WED: Breakfast Tornado or Breakfast Corn Dog THUR: Biscuits and Gravy FRI: Cinnamon Roll + Pork Sausage No. 1 Pork Sausage Poils Lunch Enterites Daily Lunch Favorites

Cheeseburger or Hamburger, Spicy or Regular Chicken Sandwich, Deli Sub, Anytimers Snack Box, Uncrustable PB&J, or Bean and Cheese Burrito







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#### **GET CONNECTED with PowerSchool**

Use the PowerSchool Mobile App for quick access to grades and attendance! PARENTS: For more functionality, such as paying fees or reporting absences through the portal, log in online. Here's what to do once you're logged in:

### https://mingusunion.powerschool.com/public/home.html

- Monitor changes to grades and attendance with push notifications
- Register to receive email alerts for grades, attendance, or assignments
- See real-time updates of grades and attendance
- View assignment details
- Review teacher comments
- Check the school's daily bulletin board
- View a full course schedule
- View a calendar showing all assignment due dates

#### **Paying Fees:**

- From the public portal, the Parent/Guardian will select the icon at top right of screen
- The Parent/Guardian will then select **Purchases & payments**
- Parent/Guardian will then select the student's name for which they want to see or pay fees/fines
- Parent/Guardian will select the type of purchase/payment they would like to make
- Parent/Guardian will check boxes for items they wish to purchase
- Parent/Guardian will then click on Checkout and follow prompts to finalize payment





### **Reporting Absences:**

- From the public portal the Parent/Guardian will select Attendance Monitor from the left navigation menu
- The Parent/Guardian will then select the Report Attendance tab
- Parent/Guardian will then click the Report New Attendance button
- Parent/Guardian will enter the Absence Date (leaving the second date blank to report for today only)
- Parent/Guardian will select from the What is the reason for the absence drop-down
- Parent/Guardian will select Yes or No in the Is this absence for the whole day drop-down, or If No is selected the user will be prompted to enter the **Time Range**
- Parent/Guardian will enter a concise explanation in the Explanation text box
- Parent/Guardian will click Submit NOTE: Reporting attendance for previous dates is not allowed.

### PowerSchool is available online and in mobile apps!

For parents of returning students: If you already have an account from last year, you should be able to login the same as last year. If you are unable to login, you will need to click on the "Forgot Password" link and create a new password.

For parents of new students: A parent portal account has already been created for you! You should have received an email (to the address we have on file) with your login information. If you did not receive an email, would like additional accounts created (ex. for a 2<sup>nd</sup> parent), or need further assistance logging in to your account, please contact Dee Belzer at 928-649-4417 or dbelzer@muhs.com.

Parents/guardians with multiple students: you should be able to see all of your students on the same account - no need for multiple logins! If you don't see all of your students, please contact Dee Belzer at 928-649-4417 or dbelzer@muhs.com for assistance.

Once a Parent Portal account is created/established on the website, you can set up the PowerSchool Mobile App









### MUHS Counseling Office is pleased to announce that the SAT will be offered on Saturday, October 4, 2025 at Mingus Union High School.

This is a great opportunity for SENIORS - CLASS OF 2026 planning to apply to college or seeking scholarships.

#### Why Take the SAT?

- ☑ College Admissions The SAT is accepted by thousands of colleges across the country.
- **6** Scholarship Opportunities Strong scores may qualify you for merit-based scholarships.
- **©** College Readiness The SAT helps you assess your academic strengths and prepare for future studies.
- Keeps Options Open Even at test-optional schools, a good score can strengthen your application.

#### Important Dates:

- Test Date: Saturday, October 4, 2025
- Registration Deadline: September 19, 2025
- Where to Register: https://mysat.collegeboard.org/login (or scan the QR code below)

#### Don't miss this chance to take a meaningful step toward your college goals!

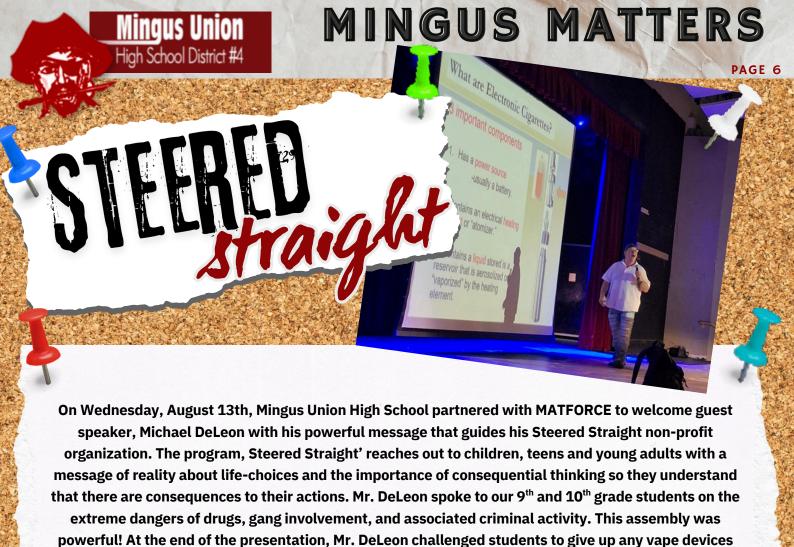
Please see your School Counselor if you have any questions about how to register for the test or explore how the SAT test may fit into your post-secondary plan!











At the end of the presentation, he challenged students to give up any vape devices they had, to him. After a few public calls, he offered a \$50 Gift Card to the first student to give one up. We had a courageous young man step up. Michael continued this incentive and several other students took the challenge. By the end of this opportunity, he received 11 vapes (some for the incentive and others just because students wanted to)!

they had. Incentives were offered and students rose to the challenge. Students stayed afterwards to share their gratitude for his message and how much it spoke to them! We are grateful for our partnership with MATFORCE to bring in such an exceptional speaker and look forward to more opportunities!

He shared that our students were AMAZING and that he was very grateful for the opportunity to be here.









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Here at Mingus Union High School we are starting the school year with extra safety! Driving on Fir Street and Camino Real, at the MUHS crosswalks, you may encounter the flashing pedestrian lights. The flashing pedestrian crossing features rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFBs) that

rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFBs) that enhance pedestrian safety by alerting drivers to the presence of someone utilizing the crosswalk. When the lights are activated, drivers must stop if a pedestrian is in the crosswalk or about to enter it and remain stopped until the pedestrian has cleared their lane. It's always advised that pedestrians should confirm it's safe to cross by looking both ways before stepping into the crosswalk. Additionally, the school district purchased portable speed bumps and coordinated with Cottonwood Police Department, to ensure the proper implementation.

The Fir Street lights were a split purchase between the school district and the City of Cottonwood. The lights on Camino Real were purchased utilizing Prop 202 funds also known as the Indian Gaming and Self-Reliance Act which authorized the Governor to approve new tribal gaming compacts and required tribes to share between 1% and 8% of their gross gaming revenue with the state for designated public programs.

Special thanks to the City Public Works
Department for installing the devices and to our
very own Cottonwood Police Department S.R.O.
Brandon Iurato, who advocated for the
installation of these safety devices and saw the
project though. Be well and stay safe!









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a. T. D. R. T. Proudly Presents.

By Stephen Gregg

CAN I TELL YOU A SECRET?

FRIDAY 10.3.25 @ 7 PM SATURDAY 10.4.25 @7PM SUNDAY 10.5.25 @3PM FRIDAY 10.10.25 @ 7PM SATURDAY 10 11 25 @ 7PM STUDENTS/CHILDREN - \$7

GET TICKETS NOW AT ATORT.LUDUS.COM ADULTS - \$11 SENIORS - \$10

ALL TICKETS \$3 MORE AT THE DOOR

DUE TO THE SUSPENSE IN THIS PLAY. IT IS RECOMMENDED FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL age children and above.

DON'T TELL THE SECRET.







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Rainbow League

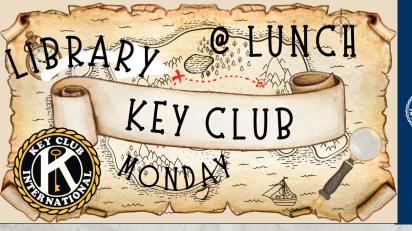
Every Tuesday at

lunch in room 105

Stay updated!

o muhs\_rainbowleague







#### DONATION DRIVE

toothpaste / toothbrush / shampoo / hand soap /
deodorant / etc.

Travel or Regular size

TO HELP OLD TOWN MISSION and OUR COMMUNITY

#### **Ongoing**

Bring items to Advisory.

Thinking about joining Key Club? Contact Ms. Rose, rm 426. Meetings Thursdays in the library at lunch.





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MORE OF OUR O



school. Room 107. If you dont know how to Crochet or Sew, thats absolutely fine.

## MINGUS UNION HIGH SCHOOL





## STEAM CLUB

Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math Fridays at lunch in room 424 (Selna)







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## SENIOR Ambar Anaya Martinez SPOTLIGHT

After graduation, Ambar is planning to attend the University of Arizona and major in Physiology and Medical Science. Afterward she plans to continue her education by applying to medical school with the goal of becoming a pediatrician.

Ambar has been involved in numerous extracurricular activities and clubs, including

Key Club, Interact Club, Link Crew, Bring Change to Mind, and Student Council during her junior year. She is currently enrolled in the CNA VACTE program. She feels the most impactful club was Interact club, as it got her involved in Rotaract and helped deepen her passion for community service. Her favorite memory was going to the Diamondbacks game with Student Council.

During her free time, Ambar enjoys drawing and hanging out with my siblings.

If she could go back in time, she would have told her freshman self not to overwhelm themselves by trying to do everything all at once, and that it's okay to take breaks and prioritize themselves first.

# Paige Bodam Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) Teacher

This year is Mrs. Bodam's fourth year as one of the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) Teachers here at Mingus. One of her favorite parts of the job is getting the chance to expose students to all the opportunities at our high school and beyond. Opportunities open doors of possibilities for our students and she is always thrilled to share them with our amazing students when opportunities come knocking.

Our students keep her motivated each day. She feels that it is a true joy and

blessing to be part of our students' educational journeys. When a student needs motivation, she reminds them of the team they have here and strive to help them identify their support system.

Mrs. Bodam grew up in the Verde Valley and walked these same halls as our Mingus students. She graduated in 2008 and attended Arizona State University for her undergraduate degree. She began teaching in Phoenix and spent the first 10 years of her teaching career at the same school serving as a classroom teacher and an assistant principal. She then returned to school and earned her masters degree from Grand Canyon University.

In her free time, her favorite thing to do is be with family. She and her husband like to attend Mingus events and support our students at school while also showing their own children what an amazing place the Verde Valley is to grow up in.



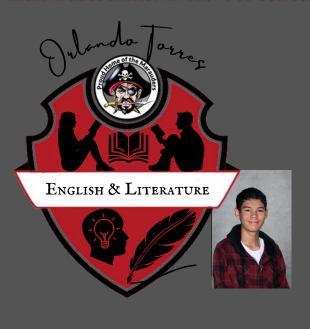




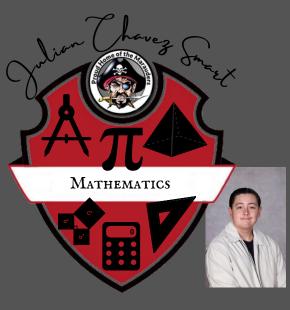
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## MARAUDER of the MONTH

TEACHERS AND COACHES ARE ASKED TO NOMINATE STUDENTS IN ALL ACADEMICS AND ATHLETICS DEPARTMENTS. THESE STUDENTS ARE THEN VOTED ON AMONGST THOSE TEACHERS & COACHES TO CHOOSE FINALISTS TO RECOGNIZE EACH MONTH. THESE STUDENTS ARE HIGHLIGHTED IN OUR NEWSLETTER AND INVITED TO RECEIVE RECOGNITION IN FRONT OF OUR COMMUNITY AT THE FOLLOWING MONTH'S BOARD MEETING.









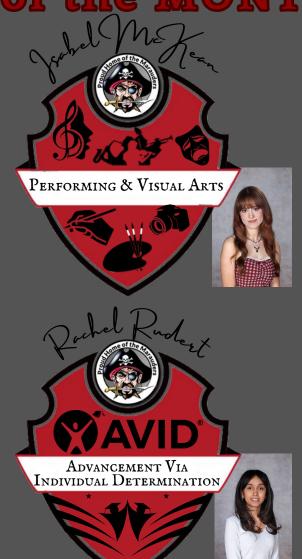




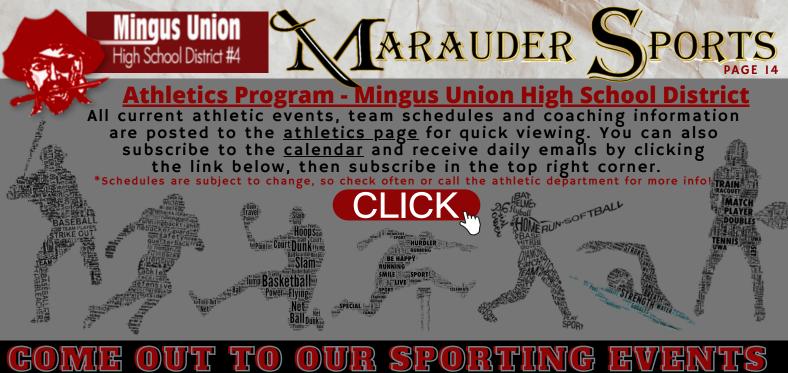
DAGE 13

## MARAUDER of the MONTH









#### COME OUT TO OUR SPORTING EVENTS & SHOW YOUR MARAUDER PRIDE!



BUY YOUR EVENT TICKTS AT GOTANT.CO

#### \$\$ TICKET PRICES \$\$

- ADULTS: \$6.00
- CHILDREN (Ages 7-12): \$4.00
- CHILDREN (6 & under): FREE
- MINGUS STUDENTS W/ID: \$4.00
- SENIORS (Ages 55+) & VETERANS: \$4.00
  \*GoFan collects a service fee (\$1/ticket) to support & grow a platform for schools. This covers the cost of the technology & credit card processing.

  Above prices include this fee.

or visit GOFAN.CO and search for Mingus Union High School



# FALL SPORTS SCHEDULES HERE CLICK ON THE ICON BELOW TO BE TAKEN TO THAT SPORT'S SCHEDULE

### Sports Registration for 2025-26 is now available!

Stop by the front office to pick up your athletic packet or visit

## https://www.mingusunion.com and click on "Athletics" for more info

You must be cleared by the Athletic Dept in order to participate in sports.

Contact the Front Office for more information

The following steps need to be submitted:

1.Family ID online registration needs to be created and/or renewed for the 2024/2025 school year.
2.Concussion course and Opioid course needs to be completed through the AIA online academy
3.All athletes need to turn in their 2024/2025 AIA sports physical evaluation form completed and signed.

4. Visit our website www.mingusunion.com/athletics for all your registration needs









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## National Competitions Report

#### **Construction Program - Travis Black, Instructor**



This summer, students from the Valley Academy for Career and Technology Education (VACTE) Construction Program proudly represented Arizona at the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference in Atlanta, Georgia.

Post-secondary student Matthew Rodriguez competed in the Commercial Roofing Contest, earning an impressive 5th place nationally. Matthew discovered his passion for roofing through mentorship with Dale Burns of Noah's Arc Roofing, which provided him with valuable hands-on training. His hard work and dedication have now led to employment with Harvey's Roofing. Ryon Beisecker, also a post-secondary student, competed in the Carpentry Contest, where he finished 9th place nationally. Ryon works full-time with Tierra Verde Builders and has been a leader in the program for several years, applying his skills in both classroom projects and professional construction work.

In addition, Sasha Barrera and Ivy Diaz served as SkillsUSA Voting Delegates at Nationals, where they gained valuable leadership experience and represented VACTE with pride in Atlanta.

The summer also brought recognition for the program's instructor. Travis Black, VACTE Construction Technology Teacher, was honored as the 2025 SkillsUSA National Outstanding Educator of the Year. He was also named a Top 50 Finalist for the Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Prize for Teaching Excellence, which recognizes outstanding skilled trades educators across the nation.

The VACTE Construction Program continues to provide students with industry certifications, real-world jobsite training, leadership opportunities, and pathways to rewarding careers. From competing on the national stage to earning the Presidential Volunteer Service Award, our students continue to demonstrate that career and technical education builds both skills and futures.

#### Law Enforcement and Public Safety Program – Jennifer Choate, Instructor

The VACTE Law Enforcement Chapter Display team made a powerful impression at the 2025 SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC) in Atlanta, Georgia, showcasing creativity, dedication, and the very heart of the SkillsUSA Framework.

Representing the team, Deziree Dominguez, Jacob Blake, and Kaleb Stapleton brought the Framework to life with a display built on:

- ✓ Personal Skills Passion, purpose, and professionalism
- ✓ Workplace Skills Teamwork, communication, and relentless hustle
- ✓ Technical Skills Precision and craftsmanship at their finest

This year's display celebrated both 60 years of student success and the theme,
"Ignite Your Potential." It also marked a milestone for three graduating two-year
members, Reyna Sotelo, Randy Holguin, and Baltazar Avila, who returned to
Nationals alongside first-year student Jayden Mollohan. Volunteering not only as
delegates but also serving as role models, they inspired the entire team with their leadership and perseverance.



A special highlight came from Baltazar Avila, who proudly represented Arizona, his hometown of Cottonwood, and the Cottonwood Police Department as a competitor. "The opportunity from VACTE Law Enforcement allows me to showcase my hard work and the values I have acquired through my CTE program," Avila shared. "It's more than a competition, it's a chance to grow as a leader and pursue a future in public service. I'm here to make Cottonwood and Arizona proud."

Beyond the competition floor, students also participated in the SkillsUSA Give Back project, building bicycles for the local Boys & Girls Club proving that service to others is just as important as skill mastery.

With professionalism, pride, and purpose, the VACTE Law Enforcement and Public Safety Program didn't just attend NLSC, they ignited their potential and left a lasting mark.









## Valley Academy for Career & Technology Education **National Competitions Report**

#### Teacher Training Program – Genna Adams, Instructor

Four students from the VACTE Ed Professions Program attended the FCCLA Nationals in Florida, which had a total of 10,000 attendees. Our Verde Valley students embraced the challenge of competition like champions. Their projects were rigorous and included many components that had to meet the criteria for gold medals at the state competition to qualify for Nationals. They needed to secure first and second place at the state level to advance! Reaching Nationals is a testament to their hard work and achievement Jade Kuhn, Chance Canning, and Jubiana Dominguez successfully completed their competitions, earning excellent scores, with Jade finishing sixth in the nation. Additionally, Abel Villa was selected by Bob Weir, the VACTE Superintendent, to serve as a delegate at the national level.





#### Fire Science Program - Sal Unale, Eric Ostler, & Jeremy Doerksen, Instructors

Fire Science student, Marcus Lucas competed at the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. Marcus placed 12th overall in the Firefighting competition. His performance was noticed by evaluators as top notch and motivating!! Marcus stated that this was a once in a lifetime experience. He was very grateful for the time and dedication that our staff gave him.

#### **Certified Nurses Assistant – Sabrina Conway, Instructor**

Mrs. Conway was honored with the Outstanding Local HOSA Advisor Award. recognizing her exceptional leadership and dedication to student success. Additionally, Gabriela Guerrero Jimenez earned a top score on the Healthcare Issues Exam at the state level, qualifying her to compete at HOSA Nationals in Nashville, TN. Their achievements reflect the hard work and excellence of the entire HOSA chapter!







## We are so proud of all of our VACTE

instructors and students!
We look forward to seeing what amazing accomplishments lie ahead for our '25-'26 school year!







### ommunity Resources

There's no doubt that our Verde Valley community knows how to come together to support those who live here!
This page will list some of those amazing Community Resources and let you know some of the events and happenings they have planned this month.



**Neighbors Helping Neighbors** 



Old Town Mission 116 E. Pinal Street Cottonwood 928-634-7869

Mission Thrift Store 810 W Mingus Ave 928-634-1644

#### **FOOD PANTRY**

Wednesday: 9 am - 2 pm & 4 pm - 6 pm Thursday: 9 am - 2 pm

#### **COMMUNITY MEALS**

Monday, Tuesday & Friday: 11:30 am-12:30 pm Monday: 5 pm - 6 pm Wednesday: 4 pm - 6 pm (Served to-go only)

#### RESOURCE CENTER

\* Available for those without residence: Showers, breakfast, clothes, hygiene & resources

Monday, Tuesday & Friday 9 am - 11 am

#### THE KIDS SHOP

Monday - Thursday 9 am - 2 pm Monday 5 pm - 6 pm or call for an appointment 928-634-7869

#### HAIR SALON

Monday 4 pm to 5: 30 pm Tuesday: 9 am - 12:30 pm

#### VISION

LEGAL Call: 928-634-7869

1st Tuesday/month 10 am - 11 am

#### MISSION THRIFT STORE

Tuesday - Saturday: 9 am to 5 pm 810 W. Mingus Ave. in Cottonwood

#### The Mission is a SNAP Community Partner

This project has been funded at least in part with Federal funds from the USDA.

This institution is an equal opportunity SNAP employer and provider.





### **CHECK OUT THE NEW** MOHELP.ORG!

Now featuring comprehensive services. Find out what you are eligible for!

MOHELP.ORG





**Supporting Student Success Through Community Compassion** 

Some ways LISA can assist your student:

- · Medical bills, prescriptions, therapy, etc
- · Clothing, shoes, coats
- Hair cuts & personal hygiene items
- Outstanding cafeteria balances
- Book purchases & class tuition
- · Admission to school events
- · Graduation Expenses
- · School supplies & special needs devices
- · Childcare costs & pre-school tuition
- · Fees for extracurricular activities
- College deposits & testing fees Birthdays & Holidays





LISA Aid

Request Form

