



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

DATE OF MEETING: September 11, 2018

TITLE: Study and/or Approval of a New Intervention Program for Substance Abuse Student Violations

BACKGROUND:

The Amphitheater School District Student Code of Conduct states in part:

“While the District and its parents, students, and public have expectations for what student behavior should be like, and while we hope every student will strive to meet those expectations, we know that some students will violate those expectations and need some action to help ensure that the violation does not re-occur. The severity of these violations will vary, but many violations will warrant correction – some action to help ensure the violation does not recur.”

When students break the rules, discipline may need to be imposed. The purpose of such action is to create a path for them to rehabilitate and learn from the experience. Thus, there are circumstances where discipline can exceed its purpose and where learning has occurred. To continue discipline beyond that point is mere penalization from which a child can learn little good. As the board knows, in exchange for an early return from suspension or a waiver of an expulsion hearing, student hearing officers will often offer conditions designed to give the student the chance to demonstrate their willingness to change behavior. However, barriers such as financial constraints or lack of support agencies exist. Consequently, students and their parents are left with few options to learn from mistakes and re-enter the school system. In order to alleviate these barriers and better support Amphi students, the District would like to collaborate with Arizona Youth Partnership (AZYPA) to provide intervention programs designed specifically for students involved in drug and/or alcohol use.

AZYP was founded in 1990 by a group of concerned Pima County citizens who sought to provide rural communities in the county access to services available in the Tucson metro area. In 2006, AZYP expanded to serve rural communities across Arizona. AZYP employs a root case approach to fighting poverty and building healthy, self-sufficient youth and families through evidence based prevention programs and community involvement. The Wake Up Program is the only diversion program in Pima County that takes participants one-on-one through Banner University Medical Center’s Trauma, Emergency Department and Intensive Care Units to observe real life consequences of alcohol and drug abuse. The program is designed to address behaviors and attitudes towards drugs and alcohol by exposing youth to real life consequences of impaired decision-making. Participants have the opportunity to reflect on their beliefs about alcohol and drug use and its effect on their lives, themselves, and family.

AZYP would like to partner with Amphi and provide use of the program at a reduced rate of \$40 per student. To ensure we eliminate these barriers, we propose the District pay the \$40 fee.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Administration recommends associating with Arizona Youth Partnership to provide its Wake Up! Program to students in the Amphitheater School District as needed.

INITIATED BY:



**Anna Maiden
Equal Opportunity & Compliance Director
Student Hearing Officer**

Date: August 31, 2018



Todd A. Jaeger, J.D., Superintendent