



# ANNUAL REPORT 2016

*Be Extraordinary!*

## Who we are...

**Chandler Unified School District** provides a safe, disciplined and productive environment where students and adults are meaningfully engaged in learning. We empower our students with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to be lifelong learners and responsible citizens.

EXCELLENCE | COLLABORATION | EQUITY | INTEGRITY | EFFICIENCY

**43,111** Enrollment: **43,111** Students  
Through reputation, retention, and attraction, our district continues to enjoy historic growth.

CUSD consists of **45** Schools covering 80 Square miles.

**24:1** Student-Teacher Ratio **24:1**  
CUSD provides outstanding educational programs at all grade levels.

Chandler Unified School District is the **3rd** largest school district in Arizona.

**2nd** As the **second largest employer** in Chandler, CUSD drives the economy for the community.

Our 2014-2015 graduates earned:

- **\$92.6 million** in scholarships
- **25,479 hours** of college credit (AP, Dual Credit, College-Level Testing)
- **97,119 hours** for service learning

GRADUATION RATE: **91.7%** • DROPOUT RATE: **1.0%**

# Premiere District of Choice

Our culture of success stems from innovative and stable leadership, an outstanding staff, a united school board and a supportive community. Joined together, our partners lift Chandler Unified to rank among the best in both Arizona and the United States. **Journey 2020**, our visionary strategic plan, continues to reinforce our core values and to guide us towards the goal of national recognition for producing ideal graduates.

**#1** CUSD has been rated the **number one** K-12 school district in Arizona for the past two years in a row based on data from Niche rankings.

A survey of the Chandler community indicates **92%** of our parents would give CUSD a grade of A or B.

**70** CUSD has earned **70** Arizona A+ and National Blue Ribbon Awards since 1983.

## Top Arizona Schools:

Knox Gifted Academy and ACP-Oakland are the **top two schools** in in the state for mathematics. Eleven CUSD schools ranked in the Top 100 for English Language Arts and Mathematics.

In 2016, CUSD offers parents even more choices:

- **Spanish Immersion** program
- **Elite Performance Academy**
- **Expansion of Mandarin Immersion** program



# Achievements

Maintaining a **culture of success** requires us to compete throughout the state and nation. Our achievements demonstrate the strength of our programs, attracting the best educators and garnering new student enrollment.

## District Achievement

Chandler Unified School District was ranked **# 1 School District in Arizona** by Niche.com.

Arizona Educational Foundation named **four CUSD schools 'A+ Schools of Excellence' for 2015**: CTA Humphrey, Haley Elementary, Bogle Junior High and Chandler High.

Chandler Unified is **one of only nine "A" rated districts in Arizona** and has never earned less than an "A." CUSD is also the only district with all of its high schools rated "A" every single year.

**Twenty-four National Merit finalists** hail from CUSD. The National Merit Scholarship Corporation recognizes and honors the top academically talented students of the United States. Earning this distinction puts these students in the **top 2% of students in the nation**.



## Academic Achievement



Cindy Tran, Chandler High graduate, was one of only four students in the world to earn a **perfect score on the AP Studio Art: 3-D Design Portfolio Exam**.

Bharath Tata, Hamilton High graduate, was named a **2015 Flinn Foundation Scholar**, one of the nations most prestigious awards for undergraduate studies.



At the Arizona Science and Engineering Fair (AzSEF), Hamilton High was named the **Outstanding Senior High Division School of the Year** for the second year in a row. Eight CUSD high school students also qualified for the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF), the premier global science competition with students from 70 countries. Nine of the fifteen possible projects advancing from AzSEF to ISEF were from CUSD.

Basha High students won **four gold medals at the FCCLA** (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America) national competition in Washington D.C. FCCLA is a national student organization promoting personal growth, leadership development and career development for students in Family and Consumer Sciences.

Willis Junior High jazz band was selected as the **only junior high school** to perform at the **Jazz Education Network** conference in Louisville, Kentucky. This is the world's largest annual international jazz conference.



ACP-Erie eighth grader Marcus Behling **won the state spelling bee** in March and continued to Washington, D.C. to represent Arizona in the 88th annual Scripps National Spelling Bee.

Chandler High won **two state championships** at the **Arizona FFA Career Development competition**. The Agriculture Mechanics and the Meat Evaluation teams both took first place. They went on to represent Arizona at the National FFA Career Development Event in Louisville, Kentucky.



For the third year in a row, Perry High students were **selected for the All-American Marching Band**. Cari Earnhardt (tuba) and Sienna Samour (clarinet) will receive an all-expenses paid trip to San Antonio, TX to perform halftime in the 2016 All-American Bowl Game. Only eight were selected from Arizona, out of 125 nationally.

## Faculty & Staff Achievement

Basha High Science Teacher Michael McKelvy was selected as a state **finalist for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching**, qualifying him for the national competition.



Sara Wyffels, Chandler High Spanish teacher, has been selected by the **AZ International Baccalaureate Schools** organization as the **2015 Teacher of the Year**.



Lauren Delfino-Karl, second grade teacher at San Marcos Elementary School, was named a **2016 Rodel Exemplary Teacher**.

CUSD Community Relations and Chandler Educational Television won **three Rocky Mountain Emmy Awards** for work on the documentary 'The History of Chandler Schools, Part 3: Summary of a Century.'



# Achievements

## Athletic Achievement

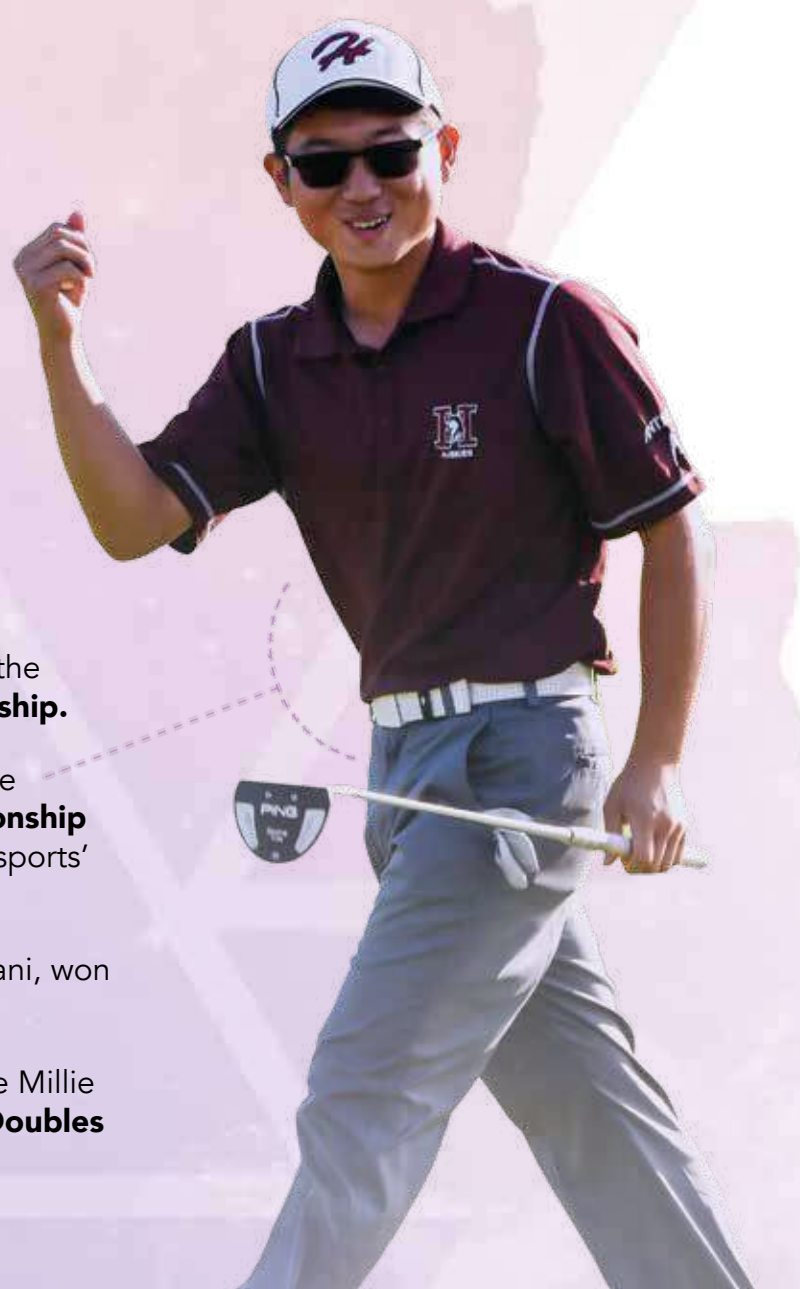
CUSD students won **eight 2015 State Track** titles: Chandler High won the Boys 100 Meter Dash, Girls 100 Meter Dash, Girls 200 Meter Dash, Girls 4x4 Meter Relay, Girls Long Jump and Girls Shot Put; Hamilton High won the Boys Pole Vault.

Hamilton High won the **Boys Volleyball State Championship** for the first time in 2015.

Chandler High won its first-ever **Division I Boys Soccer State Championship** in 2015.



In 2015, Chandler High's ladies team won the **Division I Girls Cross Country Championship**.



Hamilton High junior Trueman Park won the **2015 Division I Boys Golf State Championship Individual Title** and was named azcentral sports' **2015 Boys Golfer of the Year**.

ACP-Erie campus sophomore, Kesin Dolwani, won the **2015 State Tennis Championship**.

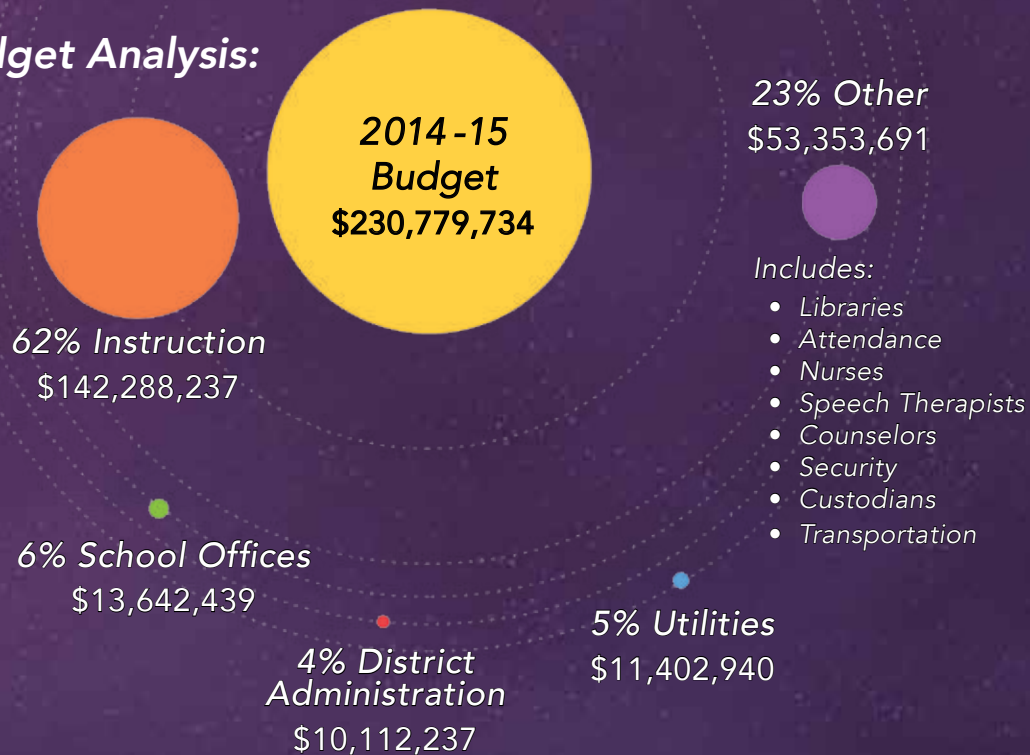
Hamilton High students Rena Han and Ellie Millie won the **5A Division I Badminton State Doubles Championship** in Fall 2015.

Santan Junior High won first place in the **2015 State Cheer competition**.

# Financials

**Effective resource management** has helped us meet financial challenges through careful and efficient allocation of our limited resources while maintaining our vision and mission for students.

## M&O Budget Analysis:



As the **second largest employer in Chandler**, CUSD is a sizeable operation that requires substantial funding. To help you understand how big we are, here are some numbers:

- 4,900 employees
- 4.4 million square feet of school space
- 12,000 miles traveled by students in CUSD school buses every day
- 5.5 million meals served annually

## Thank You for successful passage of the bond!

Over the past 8 years, the district has suffered state capital budget cuts of \$77,030,564. In order to navigate these hardships, stable leadership from the top down has been imperative to continue providing great educational services to our families. Bond funds will allow us to make up this gap in "capital" funding, providing:

- Renovations
- Technology
- Final lease funding for new schools
- School buses
- Parking lot repairs
- Roof repairs
- Carpeting

Concerns or questions about our spending? We encourage all community members to get involved with our Budget Committee. For more information, email: [frost.belinda@cusd80.com](mailto:frost.belinda@cusd80.com)



# Leadership

## Superintendent

Dr. Camille Casteel has dedicated her professional career to the success of Chandler schools. Beginning as a first grade teacher, she advanced to become the first principal of Weinberg Elementary, and then associate superintendent, before being appointed Superintendent in 1996. Since then, she has led CUSD through its greatest period of growth and expansion, all the while improving and increasing partnerships with key advocates, community groups, municipalities, and businesses.

Dr. Casteel is a former Arizona Superintendent of the Year and recipient of leadership awards from the Chandler Chamber of Commerce, Tribune Newspapers, and East Valley Partnership. In 2014, the Arizona School Administrators (ASA) Association honored her with the Dr. Raymond Sterling Kellis Leadership Award. In 2015, the Governing Board voted to name the newest high school in her honor. She also received the Diversity Award from the Chandler Chamber of Commerce and the Extraordinary Superintendent of the Year from the Maricopa County Education Service Agency.



## Governing Board

Our district relies on the vision and stability provided by our governing board. Transcending their diverse backgrounds, the board's efforts to collaborate and find consensus is observed in district as well as externally. In December 2011, CUSD received the Arizona School Boards Association's Total Board Award, recognizing its members commitment to continuing education and training. Additionally, in April 2013, Governing Board member David Evans was elected as the National School Boards Association Black Caucus Pacific Region Director. David also served as the Black Caucus Founder and as President for the Arizona School Boards Association 2011-2013.

### Annette Auxier

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*Term expires December 2018*

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### Karen M. McGee

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### Barb Mozdzen

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*Term expires December 2016*

### Robert Rice

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*Term Expires December 2018*



*Left to right: Barb Mozdzen, David Evans, Karen M. McGee, Robert Rice, and Annette Auxier*

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 to attend governing board business meetings, usually held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month (7 PM). Study sessions are held as needed, to explore specific issues in further depth.

**CHANDLER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
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