

The Calling

The Pima County Joint Technical Education District

2013 ANNUAL REPORT



PIMA COUNTY

JTED

JOINT TECHNICAL
EDUCATION DISTRICT

The Calling | CONTENTS

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Images throughout publication by Sahuarita and Canyon Del Oro photography students
– Instructors Rebecca Warren and Lee Street

The Cover

JTED @ Tanque Verde Agriscience and Veterinary Assistant student Miriam Solinsky checks the teeth of Casper with instructor Jose Bernal.

We deliver premier career and technical education in partnership
with business, industry and community stakeholders.

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Produced By

Alan L. Storm, Ph.D.
Superintendent/CEO

Tina Norton
*Assistant Superintendent/
Chief Operating Officer*

Aaron Ball
*Assistant Superintendent/
Chief Academic Officer*

Greg D'Anna
*Director of
Public Relations*

Ann Jaress
Public Relations Assistant

Kayla Coe, MA
Graphic Design

JTED Governing Board

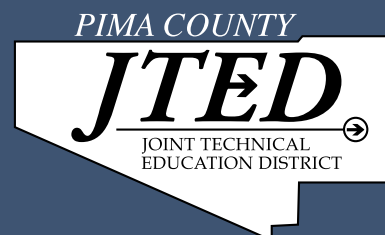
Ruth Solomon
Chairwoman

Alex Jácome
Clerk

Mary Jondrow, Ph.D.

Wayne Peate, M.D.

Robert Schlanger





Dear Pima County Resident:

News that Tucson is the sixth poorest city in the nation for a city of its size has our elected officials, CEOs, educators, and pundits talking about the effects of poverty and solutions. Reporters, and local leaders, such as Mayor Jonathan Rothschild, and the new Chancellor of Pima Community College Lee Lambert, recognize that organizations like the Pima County One Stop and the Pima County Joint Technical Education District are successful in helping people secure employment and earn a livable – or better – wage.

This past year, we secured two grants, the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant and the AmeriCorps Vista Grant, to help even greater numbers of students succeed.

The 21st Century Grant is a federally-funded program that supports after-school learning centers by providing academic enrichment and youth development – especially in the area of employability skills. In addition to teaching students how to secure and keep a job, Coordinator Danette Davis increases family participation in JTED, and provides academic tutoring, including arranging peer-to-peer tutoring.

Cassandra Crane is one of 12 VISTA members working with agencies in Tucson to create and expand programs bringing low-income individuals and communities out of poverty. At JTED she is building partnerships with local businesses and developing job and internship opportunities for our students.

At a recent meeting of the Arizona Technology Council we brought CEOs of engineering, biotechnology, and manufacturing firms together with our career and technical education teachers to forge new partnerships and create more pathways for students to enter the workforce. We will continue to work with industry partners to make sure our students are workforce ready.

Economists predicted our country won't return to the same levels of prosperity we saw in 2006 until 2017. Meanwhile, as JTED enters its seventh year, more research has confirmed that Career and Technical Education is not only one of the most successful education delivery models, but it's also where our country needs to focus its attention so that we have a skilled workforce to drive our new economy.

When one of our Law, Public Safety and Security students, Omar Pereya, enthusiastically thanked us on Facebook for suicide training that could help him save a life, a parent of one of our Fire Service students, Karen Treanor-Russell, wrote, "Nothing is more promising in this country than a young person who is educated and excited to be so. This young man will forever be an asset to his community; he is part of a greater future." A few months after Karen wrote that, her daughter, Victoria Russell, one of our Fire Service and EMT students, used the skills we taught her to save Karen's life when she went into anaphylactic shock at a restaurant.

Her statement about Omar holds true for Victoria and all of our students. Helping students find their calling – moving them to careers and college – is a solution that will work for us all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Alan L. Storm". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Alan L. Storm, Ph.D.
Superintendent/CEO

Building Careers



CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM A CONDUIT FOR CAREER SUCCESS

As a sophomore, Santa Rita High School student Candice Anderson (left) took first place in the Southern Arizona Regional SkillsUSA competition in the residential electrical wiring category, and then went on to win that category in the state competition. From there, she competed in the national competition at the SkillsUSA conference, which draws more than 50,000 students, teachers and business partners from all 50 states.

Her instructor, Chuck Gallagher, says it's unusual for a sophomore to have developed the skills required to make it to compete at the national level. SkillsUSA has 15 national competitions in 98 fields.

Thinking inside the box

Cargotecture is the latest, hippest and greenest trend in prefab architecture and construction.

It involves recycling old shipping containers into housing or commercial space and it's sweeping the globe. A group of small businesses recently developed a vibrant cargo community just outside of Mexico City. Similar projects can be found in New Zealand, Central Asia, and soon... Catalina, AZ - thanks to Jim Luckow's Architecture and Construction students at Canyon Del Oro High School (CDO).

The students are transforming shipping containers into a home by adding a full kitchen, living space and a bathroom. Containers are an ideal building material because they are eco-friendly, durable and relatively cheap. The cool cargo crib has hook-ups for sewer, power and water. All proceeds from the home sale benefit the program.

"The project allows students to demonstrate their skill sets and build something that has purpose," says Luckow.

But, it's not just about building and designing. The teens also learn how to deal with real clients, government



“It’s passing something on and giving back to the community. In the future, the students can drive by the house and say, ‘We built that.’”

Gary Repovsch, cargotecture home buyer

agencies, permits, ordinances, licensing, etc. After students forged through some serious red tape, the state even approved the project’s work area as a licensed and bonded facility to build manufactured homes.

Recent CDO graduate Isaiah Unruh has been with the project since planning stages got underway two years ago. He’s currently studying architecture in college and working at Lizard Rock Designs, where he had a paid internship prior to graduation.

“It’s very helpful to actually have to do it in real life with real clients, versus a fake project as a practice for a high school class,” he explains.

Those “real clients” are Gary and Tessie Repovsch of Tucson. Not only are they purchasing the 24 x 8 foot cargo home, they hope to add three larger units. The Repovsch’s plan on using the house as a secluded, get-away place in Catalina.

“It’s passing something on and giving back to the community,” says Gary Repovsch. “In the future, the students can drive by the house and say, ‘We built that.’”

Used shipping containers sell for about \$1,000 to \$5,000 each, and more after they’re renovated for housing. If all goes well, Luckow plans on offering the program to future students.

Building Careers



Maria Borquez (right)

A Valuable Trade for Vail School District

Michael Keck's JTED students at Cienega High School (CHS) are gaining relevant, hands-on experience not only as students in the Vail Unified School District, but by building it.

Since the Construction Technologies program began 11 years ago, students have helped a single dad of five provide a roof over his family's head with a three-bedroom Habitat for Humanity home, built elementary school playgrounds, constructed Cienega Stadium's press box, helped build the preschool

complex for the high school's Early Childhood Education program, and more.

The students' latest two-and-a-half year project is a new transportation administration building for the Vail School District. The 10,000 square-foot building, set to open in 2014, will house the district's transportation department offices, along with a training center and restrooms for school bus drivers.

Construction students will also gain experience working on a historic railroad foreman's house which the Vail district moved to the site of its new Esmond Station K-8 campus, where rail beds from the 1880's can be still seen.

"Not only are the kids learning a trade, they're learning what it takes to build a strong community," says Keck. "Not just in buildings, but in giving back together with community pride and partnership."

"JTED is a critical program," says senior Chris Gardner, who has a construction job secured following graduation while he studies heavy equipment operating at Central Arizona College. "It lets students test drive different fields."

“(JTED) lets students test drive different fields.”

Chris Gardner, Cienega High School Senior

As seen in many construction programs across Pima County, more females are opting to don hard hats and work boots at CHS. When the program initially began, there were no young women taking the class. Today, there are nine.

"I was scared when I first started two years ago," recalls senior Maria Borquez. "Some of the guys made fun of me. But, Mr. Keck told me I was one of the best workers, I listen well and I do construction well."

Maria is also enrolled in JTED's cosmetology program. After she graduates, she plans on working as a cosmetologist to pay her way through the Construction Management program at Pima Community College.



From left: Jenna Poarch,
Jaylynn Laulusa, Brehanna Boone

A Woman's Place is Building the Home

JTED's construction technology program at Sahaurita High School has seen a steady increase in non-traditional students, according to Roger Condra, JTED construction technology teacher. Out of 130 students enrolled this year, 40 are female.

"The first time you show a boy you know more than he does, it's pretty gratifying," says Jenna Poarch, a three-year program veteran and SkillsUSA president.

With confident young women on board, Condra's class continues to build safe, affordable and quality Habitat for Humanity homes for families in need. They've completed two homes and are working on a third, scheduled to be finished this spring.

“The first time you show a boy you know more than he does, it's pretty gratifying.”

Jenna Poarch, Three-year program veteran and SkillsUSA president

Each house is a two-year project that starts with the frame one year, and following up with sealing and interior finish the next. Habitat provides students with the house plans, and the students take it from there to about 60 percent completion. Habitat then moves the structure to its permanent location and volunteers finish the job.

"In the end, they don't just end up with a house, they build a home," says Condra. "Somewhere kids will grow up, where stories will be told, and lives will be lived in a happy home."

Before students are eligible for the Habitat class, they must first undergo two years of exhausting training in all areas of construction and safety. While the program has specialized in carpentry, this year electrical, plumbing and concrete training has been added.

Other projects currently underway include the construction and installation of a shade structure for the tennis courts, a supply shed for the Walden Grove High School robotics class, work stations for the automotive program, ROTC lockers, sets for the drama department, and repairing student desks.

Alumni Spotlight



Aden Abdi

Moving forward to give back

Like hundreds of thousands of refugees before him, Aden Abdi fled war-torn Somalia for a better life in the U.S.

It worked. He got one.

But now, he'd like to go back.

Following the horrors of escaping Somalia and living in a Kenyan refugee camp, Abdi completed the Pima County JTED Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program. He hopes to become an RN and eventually a doctor, to return to Somalia and help other refugees with medical needs.

"I would like to go back to Somalia and use what I'm learning to help the refugees there one day," he says.

Somalia has been subject to widespread violence and instability since the collapse of the central government in 1991. The UN Refugee Agency considers the conflict one of the world's worst refugee and humanitarian crises, with about 1.4 million people internally displaced.

Abdi, 18, first moved to the U.S. when he was just nine years old and didn't speak English. The UN helped Abdi, his parents, grandmother and nine siblings relocate to the U.S. He's quick to point out his new life is much better than what he formerly endured living in squalor, misery and distress.

"It was very hard," he recalls. "There were limits on food, water and medical help. A lot of long lines. We needed to be somewhere to survive and the UN brought us to the U.S. I like it here."

Today, he's a JTED CNA and Pueblo Magnet High School graduate with his medical career off to a healthy start. He's had two internships with the Tucson Medical Center (TMC), participated in both the Anatomy and Health Occupations Students of America clubs, has volunteered at the Somali Bantu Association of Tucson, and at Handmaker's assisted living home. He's also secured a phlebotomist job through TMC's GO! Program.

"Aden exemplifies the perfect CNA student," says JTED Nursing Services Program Manager Beth Francis, RN. "He is compassionate, empathetic and a very loving human being. He went through a tremendous amount of violence and deplorable conditions prior to him coming to our country."

But in coming to our country, Abdi says he's gone from barely surviving, to thriving.

"The CNA program is my dream, to be in the medical field," he says. "I enjoy helping people and the class really improved my skills. It's been a great start by joining JTED."

"I would like to go back to Somalia and use what I'm learning to help the refugees there one day."

Aden Abdi, CNA Program Alumni



MA student Michael Clayton

Medical Assistant students chart careers early

This past summer, 20 JTED students left their classroom and laboratory after 800 hours of instruction and entered externships, the final step before working as medical assistants.

Medical Assistant instructor Carla Lopez says 13 students from her first class have since been offered jobs, and the others entered college. Students are working in highly-respected medical organizations including Arizona Community Physicians, New Pueblo Medicine, Specialists in Dermatology, and the Pima Heart Clinic.

Lopez says new medical assistants earn about \$12 per hour with full benefits. MA jobs are expected to grow roughly 40 percent by 2015.

MA student Michael Clayton is taking advantage of that job market. The Pima Heart Clinic recently offered the aspiring cardiologist a medical assistant job, following his externship. Clayton, 18, plans on continuing his education at ASU. He credits the real-world experience obtained through JTED for his early success.

"It is a great opportunity," says the Sahuaro High School graduate. "I won't face problems other college kids face who don't have the experience."

Medical assistants are responsible for recording a patient's medical history, taking vital signs, collecting specimens, administering injections, assisting with medical procedures, and performing health screenings.

In an effort to better prepare her students for those responsibilities, Lopez is also working with Specialists in Dermatology for on-site training to accommodate physicians with electronic health records implementation.

Students interested in becoming a medical assistant must first take the JTED Healthcare Foundations course during their junior year of high school.

Students may speak with a school counselor or contact an Enrollment Services team member to sign-up.



Jennifer Atterberry-Pierpont,
CDO Early Childhood Director

JTED's Early Childhood Center wins five-star rating

Pima County JTED's Early Childhood Center at Canyon del Oro High School (CDO) in Tucson is the first Career and Technical Education preschool to receive a five-star rating from Arizona's First Things First Initiative.

Funded by state tobacco taxes, First Things First (FTF) partners with parents and communities to support early childhood education and health for Arizona children from birth to age five.

FTF assesses all preschools in the state, and only four others have earned a five-star rating.

"This has been a multi-year process that has taken us through five grueling assessments," says Jennifer

Atteberry-Pierpont, Early Childhood director/teacher and CTE department head at CDO. "This is a fantastic accomplishment."

According to the FTF website:

- 90 percent of a child's brain develops by age five
- 60 percent of Arizona children spend all or part of their day with caregivers other than their parents
- Children in quality early learning programs do better in school, have better relationships with classmates and are more likely to graduate

Students and employers finding success with Project SEARCH

What does Brandon Panizo love about his job?

“Everything!”

How did it feel to get his first paycheck?

“Awesome!”

Panizo is among the 75 percent of Pima County JTED Project SEARCH graduates who have found jobs, well over the national average of about 35 percent for employees with special needs. Project SEARCH is a national program bringing employers, educators, and vocational and rehabilitation leaders together to help young adults with disabilities train and find meaningful work.

JTED’s Project SEARCH curriculum works with a variety of business partners, including Job Corps and the University of Arizona (UA), to meet that goal.

As part of their training, students must complete on-site internships with hands-on experience prior to graduation and employment.

Glen Loftis, UA program coordinator, hired Panizo and his classmate James Mott to work in UA Student Union Event Services.

“The training made them ideal candidates for us,” says Loftis. “For us it’s a big advantage because they already know their way around the place and the job. They’re very reliable, very good guys.”

Moreover, JTED Project SEARCH students take the program and their jobs very seriously as they advance



Project SEARCH alumna
Kaitlyn Blumenthal

toward self-sufficiency. “It’s common to hear back from supervisors that Project SEARCH students are impressive because they view tackling tough jobs as an opportunity to grow,” says Project SEARCH instructor Daniel Habinek.

“I get excited when my dad sees that I’ve paid \$60 for my own TV cable bill,” says Kaitlyn Blumenthal, a program alumna working at the University of Arizona Medical Center-South Campus’ Emergency Department in inventory control. “I have a savings account and I’m starting to pay a couple of bills in preparation for when I get out on my own. I’m part of a team at work, and I feel like I’m doing something important.”

“I’m part of a team at work, and I feel like I’m doing something important.”

Kaitlyn Blumenthal
Project SEARCH alumna

JTED curriculum writing project captures state's attention

JTED's Curriculum Writing Project has grown from a few teachers spending their summers writing math and automotive lesson plans integrating Career and Technical Education with AIMS standards, to a new statewide consortium.

Having proven lesson plans that can be quickly downloaded by substitute teachers, as well as new and experienced teachers, has instructors, superintendents, Arizona Department of Education officials, and the governor's office working together.

Lesson plans are being developed for all CTE programs which are aligned to Arizona's College and Career Ready standards and can be accessed on a Wiki.

In addition, Gov. Jan Brewer's staff is working to secure needed funding for the program's advancement.

"JTED and CTE programs benefit the students, their families, and the state's economy by providing relevance, skills, and strong connections to the employers in our state," says Rebecca Gau, the Governor's Office of Education Innovation director.

The consortium also added staff to help move the project along.

"We have taken what was an excellent Pima JTED Curriculum Writing Project and expanded it into a statewide initiative where 92 percent of Arizona school districts are using the curriculum for their CTE programs," explains Lisa Doll, the new AZ CTE Curriculum Consortium director.

CTE instructors with little teaching experience say the lessons make a big difference in the classroom.

"My educational background is all healthcare, so as a first year teacher the consortium was honestly my saving grace," says Lisa Cox, CTE health occupations teacher at Queen Creek High School. "The lessons are written so any teacher, or even a substitute, could walk into a classroom and have a guide for the day."



Lisa Doll, AZ CTE Curriculum Consortium Director

“JTED and CTE programs benefit the students, their families, and the state's economy by providing relevance, skills, and strong connections to the employers in our state.”

Rebecca Gau, Governor's Office of Education Innovation Director

JTED @ Tanque Verde student earns top FFA honors

JTED @ Tanque Verde student, Miriam Solinsky, joins an elite group by earning her FFA State degree at the State Leadership Conference.

Program officials say only about two percent of all FFA members are awarded this honor, and usually at the end of their senior year. Solinsky was a junior at the time. "I've done so much through FFA, it means the world to me," she says. "It's become my life."

Solinsky has been with FFA for three years. She was chapter president in her junior year and currently chapter reporter for her senior year. She's also represented the program on several state winning teams including District Forestry, Horse Evaluation and Veterinary Medicine. She says the experience prepared her to compete at the National FFA Convention for the third time in a row.

"I love all of the competitions and career development events," she says. "It's really helped me with my public speaking and leadership skills. I feel more confident with myself as a person." Solinsky says.

The aspiring veterinarian is in both the JTED agriscience and veterinarian assistant programs. After high school, Solinsky plans on studying veterinary science at the University of Arizona.

The National FFA Organization was organized as the "Future Farmers of America" in 1928 in Kansas City, Mo. In 1988, the organization began doing business as The National FFA Organization to reflect the broadening field of agriculture, which today encompasses more than 300 careers in everything from agriscience to biotechnology to turf grass management.



Miriam Solinsky (right) plans on studying veterinary science at the University of Arizona. Meghan Marner (left) won 1st Place and a scholarship at the National FFA Veterinary Science Career Development Event.

“I love all of the competitions and career development events. It's really helped me with my public speaking and leadership skills. I feel more confident with myself as a person.”

Miriam Solinsky, Jted @ Tanque Verde student

Congressional Art Award Winner



As the winner of Rep. Raúl Grijalva's Congressional Art Competition, JTED photography student Jose Coronado's piece, *Diffused Delicacy*, is displayed in the House of Representative's Canon Tunnel in Washington, D.C. The Amphitheater High School student's work will remain there for one year, where it will be seen by members of Congress, their staff, and the public.



photo by: James Riely Gordon

Legislative Update

- A recent law passed by the Arizona State Legislature is expected to improve partnerships between local businesses seeking skilled workers and JTED students who could become future employees. HB 2499 allows JTED to lease classroom and laboratory space from businesses and school districts, instead of asking taxpayers to pay for separate buildings on JTED campuses. This is crucial to JTED's Project SEARCH program, located at the University of Arizona and at the UA Medical Center - South Campus, which helps students with developmental disabilities find meaningful employment. The law also enables JTED to offer classes to students who will work alongside world renowned scientists and researchers at the UA Bioscience Park, and to offer a mining program in one of the industry's multi-million dollar training centers.
- An amendment to SB 1447 levels funding for JTED students attending charter schools and those attending traditional public schools. While the classes are free for students, the state previously paid for a limited amount of class hours for a charter student before deducting the rest of the money from the charter school's base level funding. This prompted some charter school administrators to discourage students from enrolling in JTED. Under the new law, charter school administrators can comfortably encourage students to take advantage of JTED programs without losing funds.
- The Legislature restored funding to rural JTED districts that had been held to 91 percent of their budgets since 2007. Unfortunately the three largest JTEDs in Arizona, including Pima County JTED, are still cut each year to 91 percent. This, coupled with the the loss of freshman funding in 2011, continues to wreak devastating effects on JTED's ability to provide programs to all high school students.

2013

JSED Financials

These figures, the most recent at publication date, represent year-to-date revenue and expenses reported for the fiscal year July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013.

Revenue (fig. 1)

State Equalization Assistance	\$10,114,232.49
Property Tax Revenue	\$3,969,223.03
County Equalization Assistance	\$1,336,219.28
Misc Revenue	\$671,851.37
Tuition (from non-member districts)	\$181,617.73
Rent	\$168,393.95
Fee for Service	\$206,540.04
Prop 301 Money	\$84,954.20
Interest	-\$58,287.83
Total Revenue	\$16,674,744.26

	State Equalization Assistance
	Property Tax Revenue
	County Equalization Assistance
	Misc Revenue
	Tuition (from non-member districts)
	Rent
	Fee for Service
	Prop 301 Money

fig. 1

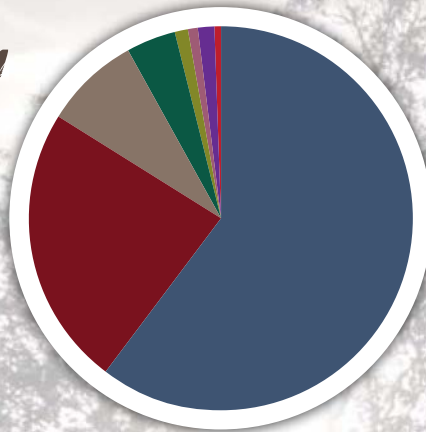
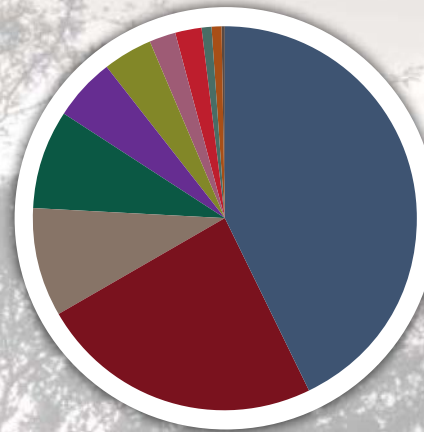


fig. 2



Expenditures (fig. 2)

Allocation to Districts and PCC Tuition	\$7,155,430.37
Salaries	\$4,004,747.30
Benefits	\$1,499,039.47
Prior Year Obligations	\$1,381,119.75
Central Learning Facility Purchase	\$898,254.23
Supplies and Textbooks	\$671,596.97
Purchased Professional Services	\$377,742.61
Rent, Repairs, Cleaning	\$363,237.19
Technology, Furniture and Equipment	\$175,869.70
Dues and Memberships	\$125,982.58
Communications, Travel, Printing, Insurance	\$21,724.09
Total Expense	\$16,674,744.26

	Allocation to Districts and PCC Tuition
	Salaries
	Benefits
	Prior Year Obligations
	Central Learning Facility Purchase
	Supplies and Textbooks
	Purchased Professional Services
	Rent, Repairs, Cleaning
	Technology, Furniture and Equipment
	Dues and Memberships
	Communications, Travel, Printing, Insurance



Central Campuses

JTED @ Master Pieces
JTED @ Camino Seco
JTED @ Baboquivari
JTED @ Empire
JTED @ Flowing Wells
JTED @ Mountain View
JTED @ Project SEARCH
JTED @ Santa Rita
JTED @ Tanque Verde

Serving all students who reside in
the following school districts:

Ajo
Amphitheater
Baboquivari
Catalina Foothills
Flowing Wells
Mammoth-San Manuel
Marana
Sahuarita
Santa Cruz Valley
Sunnyside
Tanque Verde
Tucson
Vail



Moving Students to Careers & College

District Office | 2855 W. Master Pieces Drive
Tucson, AZ 85741 | (520) 352-JTED (5833)

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