

# **COUNCIL MINUTES**

## **JOINT MEETING WITH MESA PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

September 17, 2025

The City Council of the City of Mesa met in a Joint Meeting with the Mesa Public Schools Governing Board at the Mesa Arts Center, 1 E. Main Street, on September 17, 2025, at 4:58 p.m.

### **COUNCIL PRESENT**

Mark Freeman  
Scott Somers  
Rich Adams  
Jennifer Duff  
Alicia Goforth  
Francisco Heredia  
Julie Spilsbury

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Scott Butler  
Holly Moseley  
Jim Smith  
Sarah Tolar

### **MESA PUBLIC SCHOOLS ATTENDEES**

Sharon Benson  
Lacy Chaffee  
Courtney Davis  
Marcie Hutchinson  
Matt Strom  
Rachel Walden

1. Welcome and introduction of Mesa Public Schools Governing Board and Leadership Team and Mesa City Council and Executive Staff.

Mayor Freeman welcomed the meeting attendees and invited the City Council and Mesa Public Schools (MPS) Governing Board members to introduce themselves. He stated that this meeting represents a valued tradition and ongoing partnership between the City of Mesa (COM) and MPS. He noted that the collaboration extends well beyond this annual meeting, emphasizing that it reflects a broader, continuous effort to strengthen education and service within the community.

2. Hear presentations, discuss, and provide direction on the following topics impacting the City of Mesa and Mesa Public Schools (MPS):

- 2-a. Facilities, Resources and Future Investments: including information about enrollment data, co-location with community partners and collaboration opportunities with respect to the MPS capital planning process.

Justin Wing, MPS Chief of Staff, displayed a PowerPoint presentation regarding facility use and capital planning. **(See Attachment 1)**

Mr. Wing reported that the projections for 2027–2028 indicate a significant enrollment decline, which will also result in reduced revenue. He provided a background of the MPS capital

planning process and confirmed that after making large investments in security and building renovations, the funds from the 2018 voter approved bond initiative were fully expended at the end of calendar year 2024, leaving no funds available in the bond category. He noted that with many MPS facilities aging and in need of ongoing maintenance, the MPS priority remains ensuring adequate resources for both current and future students. (See Pages 5 and 6 of Attachment 1)

Mr. Wing reviewed the current strategies to maximize existing district-owned buildings, including reducing building square footage where possible. He reported that over a three-year period, MPS will reduce 104 portables, saving 200,000 square feet and \$1.5 million, as each portable cost \$15,000 annually to maintain. He verified that in the future the MPS Administrative offices will consolidate operations to one location. (See Pages 7 through 10 of Attachment 1)

Mr. Wing highlighted the capital plan strategies for selling and leasing district-owned land, expanding public and private partnerships, including leasing space, and continuing to seek additional funding from the Arizona Schools Facilities Division, though available dollars are limited and largely directed to supporting infrastructure failures in older facilities. He pointed out other districts have closed schools due to similar challenges and emphasized a strategy of maximizing campus use rather than pursuing closures at this time. (See Pages 11 and 12 of Attachment 1)

Mr. Wing provided an overview of the three prongs of partnerships strategy which offers the possibility of internal partnerships within MPS, partnering with outside educational agencies and partnering with non-profit corporations to explore the possibility of a lease at an MPS facility. (See Page 13 of Attachment 1)

Development Services Department Deputy Director John Scheffer discussed the concept of co-locating by operating a COM service or function within one of the MPS facilities. He explained that the process would begin with a feasibility study to determine whether such an arrangement would benefit both parties. He noted that, given high construction costs, co-location could be more cost-effective than leasing commercial property or constructing a new City-owned building. He stated that the COM and MPS will continue to explore co-location opportunities. (See Pages 15 through 17 of Attachment 1)

In response to a comment from Councilmember Spilsbury regarding safety concerns related to separating the Bezos campus from the rest of the school campus, Dr. Matthew Strom, MPS Superintendent, explained that the Bezos program is in its initial phases and careful planning for ingress and egress has been implemented.

Mayor Freeman mentioned that as the city grows, additional fire or ambulance coverage may be needed, and collaboration between the COM and MPS, including data analysis, is ongoing.

City Manager Scott Butler highlighted the need to identify infill opportunities due to the increasing COM density, noting that land is expensive and limited, requiring thoughtful planning to address system gaps.

Responding to a question from Councilmember Goforth about the number of MPS administrative facilities, Dr. Strom clarified that administration includes transportation yards, non-profit partners, as well as 10 land parcels with non-student use, and three buildings.

Discussion ensued regarding possible community service partnerships.

In response to a suggestion made by Councilmember Adams related to ideas used in other districts or regions facing similar challenges, Lacy Chaffee, MPS Governing Board Clerk, reported that MPS is ahead of other districts in leveraging unused space and maintaining financially viable small schools while enhancing student outcomes.

Dr. Strom noted that past programs, including home school support and Education Saving Account (ESA) scholarships, were designed with the intent to serve all students equitably and continue to evolve to meet current needs.

Additional discussion ensued regarding possible field and facility partnerships with MPS.

Mayor Freeman thanked Mr. Wing for the presentation.

- 2-b. Student/Youth Safety and Well-being Resources in Mesa: including information about City referrals and MPS district discipline data, and information regarding collaborative programs and initiatives to support student safety, education, resources and awareness.

Monica Mesa, MPS Assistant Superintendent, displayed a PowerPoint and discussed recent changes to the MPS cell phone policy in response to new legislation requiring limitations on phone use during class time. **(See Attachment 2)**

Ms. Mesa stated that the policy, implemented at the start of the school year, aims to ensure students remain focused during instructional time. She highlighted the cell phone policy parameters. She stated that K–8 students are required to keep phones off and stored in backpacks during the school day, with access only through office staff in cases of emergency or medical need. She pointed out that older students have limited access to phones before and after school, during lunch, and passing periods, but phones must remain off and stored during instructional time. (See Pages 2 and 3 of Attachment 2)

Ms. Mesa explained the significant communication and implementation efforts that took place to ensure awareness of the new policy. She reported that the policy has been successful in supporting student access to instruction, and the Governing Board has received positive feedback on its impact. (See Page 4 of Attachment 2)

Al Moore, MPS Director of Student Safety and Security, provided an update on the implementation of weapon detectors and vape sensors in MPS schools. He announced that a weapon detector pilot program at Skyline High School was conducted at the end of last year, and by the start of the current school year detectors were installed at all high schools and junior high schools. He added that the effort has resulted in zero guns found on campuses this year, compared to seven the previous year. He provided an example of a student at Mesa High that was cited for bringing a 9mm to school. He confirmed that the detectors are comparable to

security measures used at events such as the Arizona Diamondbacks games. (See Page 5 of Attachment 2)

Mr. Moore reported that vape detector sensors were installed in all secondary school bathrooms, which were previously considered unsafe due to vaping and other drug use. He emphasized that the feedback received indicates that vaping incidents have decreased, and students are less likely to congregate in bathrooms. He reported that across six high schools, there have been 100 vaping incidents this year, with 72 detected through sensors that alert staff via camera monitors, enabling security to locate students immediately. (See Page 6 of Attachment 2)

Police Chief Dan Butler expressed gratitude for the long-standing partnership with MPS and recalled that the Staff Resource Officer (SRO) program began in 1994 at Dobson High School. He highlighted the success of the Sports, Programs & Activities Reuniting Community (SPARC) program, which under the mentorship of Mesa Police Officers adopts a proactive and positive approach to empowering youth, focusing on enrichment and growth rather than intervention.

Assistant Police Chief Tim Walker, a former SRO, discussed the Operation Chill Summer initiatives that focused on preventing juvenile crime, including parties and curfew violations which happen in June and July. He confirmed that this year, 40 curfew violations were reported, with enforcement emphasizing adult accountability. He discussed the public outreach efforts that included educational flyers and social media posts to help parents and kids understand the law. (See Page 8 of Attachment 2)

Commander Stephanie Derivan provided an overview of the school threats response. She confirmed that there is a full-time SRO at all junior high and high school campuses and discussed the role of SROs. She clarified that all threats are treated as credible until proven otherwise and that Mesa Police Department (MPD) investigates all threats, executes search warrants, and ensures that threats to students are taken seriously and addressed appropriately. She highlighted a county-wide reporting campaign and changes to mandatory reporting laws, emphasizing that reports must come to dispatch directly from the person. She added that the SROs are working with the school administration to facilitate proper reporting. She highlighted the partnership between MPS the MPD Real Time Crime Center (RTCC), which provides immediate access to cameras for emergency response, SWAT coordination, and rapid intervention. (See Page 9 of Attachment 2)

Responding to a question from Councilmember Adams regarding unlicensed dirt bikes and e-bikes near school zones, Commander Derivan confirmed that these bikes are an issue and said that MPD is working on a solution to the problem.

Responding to a question from Marcie Hutchinson, MPS Governing Board member, Commander Derivan recalled that the traffic cameras at certain high schools had been added in 2019 and reported that they are in the process of adding additional cameras at various schools around the city.

Mr. Butler pointed out that any revenue collected from red light traffic camera tickets goes directly back into roadway safety. He confirmed that while they are effective, they are expensive, costing approximately \$400k each.

- 2-c. Career Pathways and Higher Education Attainment in Mesa: including information about MPS College and Career Academy model and the connection to the City-wide Workforce Development Strategic Plan.

Education and Workforce Administrator Sarah Tolar displayed a PowerPoint presentation regarding Economic and Workforce Development in Mesa. **(See Attachment 3)**

Ms. Tolar provided an overview of Mesa's education and workforce landscape and highlighted the collaboration between the City and Economic Development to bridge gaps between education and workforce needs. She summarized the Mesa's demographics and explained that the city has a population of over one million within a 30-minute drive, making it an attractive location for business. She mentioned educational attainment in Mesa is currently 44%, with a goal of reaching 60% of adults holding higher education credentials, in alignment with the Arizona 60x30 initiative. She added that while a four-year university degree may not be appropriate for all students, higher education attainment is critical for the broader workforce ecosystem. (See Page 2 of Attachment 3)

Ms. Tolar summarized opportunities for industry in Mesa and pointed out that healthcare remains a top industry of opportunity, with MPS proactively preparing students for related careers. She explained that the projected occupational trends highlight growth areas over the next 10 years, showing that many positions range from high school diploma level to associate, certificate, bachelor, or doctoral degrees. She identified COM programs such as the Mesa College Promise supporting students in advancing to ASU or other institutions for high-demand jobs. She reiterated that Mesa's workforce development strategy aligns with the city's largest employers and focuses on preparing students for careers in key sectors through coordinated education and training initiatives. (See Pages 3 through 5 of Attachment 3)

Tracy Yslas, MPS Assistant Superintendent, discussed strategies to improve economic health and prepare students for college and careers. She emphasized the importance of understanding student needs and working collaboratively with parents and educators to understand what high school education looks like for successful careers. She confirmed that five of six high schools have implemented the College and Career Academy model.

Ms. Yslas used Red Mountain and Westwood High Schools as examples and highlighted their College and Career Pathways programs. She explained that students begin in small learning communities to build relationships with teachers and explore career paths based on interests and aptitudes. She confirmed that 9th-grade students select an academy and continue through 10th–11th grades with tailored coursework that aligns with the Grad Plus model and integrates regular academic courses with career-focused learning, offering certifications and stacked credentials to prepare students for college and career opportunities. She pointed out that additional partnerships with East Valley Institute of Technology (EVIT) Health & Medical Science programs have been added along with local businesses to enhance experiential learning and workforce readiness. (See Pages 7 and 8 of Attachment 3)

Ms. Yslas confirmed that the overall goal is to align education and career pathways with sectors needed in Mesa, ensuring students are prepared for high-demand jobs to support economic opportunities in the community.

Mayor Freeman thanked staff and Ms. Yslas for the presentation.

3. Mayor and Governing Board President Closing Remarks.

Dr. Strom expressed his gratitude to the COM and emphasized MPS's ongoing commitment to this work. He acknowledged the significant responsibility of preparing students for their future and the pressure to achieve positive outcomes that will empower the next generation to keep Mesa thriving.

Mr. Butler voiced his appreciation for the strong partnership between the COM and MPS, noting that it extends well beyond the scope of the meeting. He reaffirmed the commitment to maintaining this partnership, addressing challenges collaboratively and finding innovative ways to achieve more with limited resources.

Courtney Davis, MPS Governing Board President, acknowledged consistent communication between the COM and MPS. She expressed appreciation to City staff for being mindful about scheduling construction during school breaks and keeping schools informed of road projects and closures that may affect students and parents during the school year.

Mayor Freeman thanked everyone for their commitment, emphasizing that this work represents the community's legacy and reaffirming that strong partnerships make great things possible.

4. Adjourn.

Without objection, the Joint Meeting between the Mesa City Council and the Mesa Public Schools Governing Board adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

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MARK FREEMAN, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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HOLLY MOSELEY, CITY CLERK

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Joint Meeting between the Mesa City Council and Mesa Public Schools Governing Board held on the 17th day of September 2025. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held.

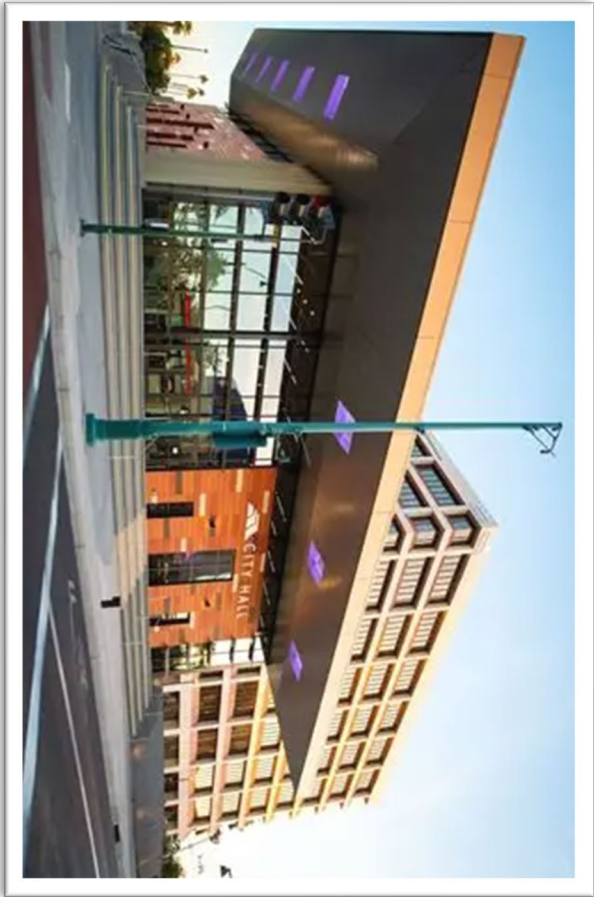
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HOLLY MOSELEY, CITY CLERK

# Mesa City Council and Mesa Public Schools Governing Board Collaborative Meeting

September 17, 2025





# City of Mesa

## Mayor and Council

**Mayor** Mark Freeman

**Vice Mayor** Scott Somers: District 6

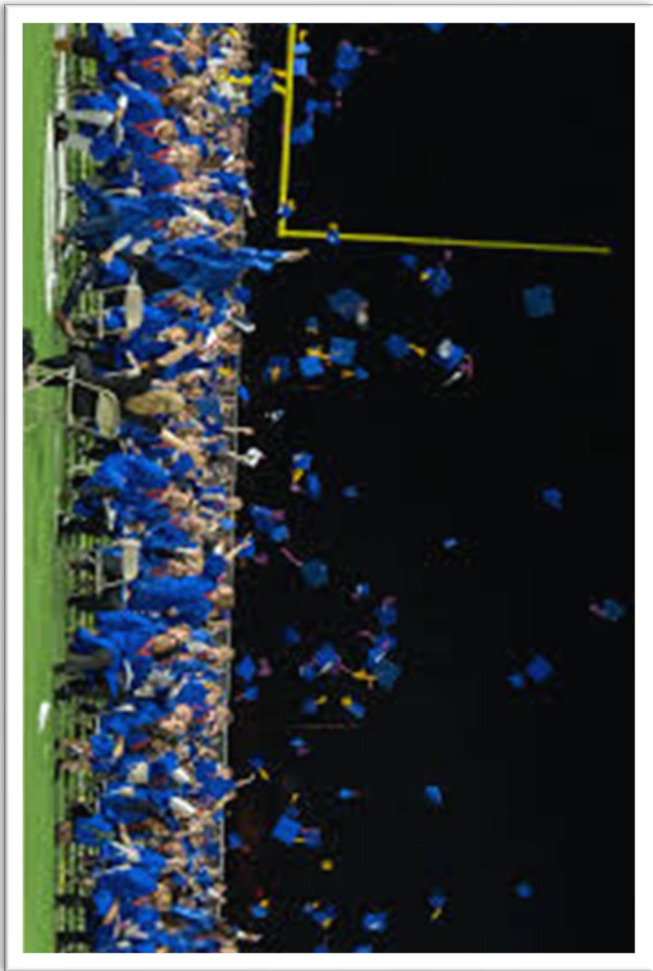
**Councilmember** Rich Adams: District 1

**Councilmember** Julie Spilsbury: District 2

**Councilmember** Francisco Heredia: District 3

**Councilmember** Jenn Duff: District 4

**Councilmember** Alicia Goforth: District 5



# Mesa Public Schools Governing Board

**President** Courtney Davis

**Clerk** Lacy Chaffee

**Member** Sharon Benson

**Member** Marcie Hutchinson

**Member** Rachel Walden

# Facility Use and Capital Planning

## Mesa Public Schools

Chief of Staff, Justin Wing

Chief Financial Officer, Tyler Moore

# Enrollment

|                |  | School Year |           |           |           |           |
|----------------|--|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Grade          |  | 2023-2024   | 2024-2025 | 2025-2026 | 2026-2027 | 2027-2028 |
| KG             |  | 3782        | 3622      | 3547      | 3394      | 3248      |
| 1              |  | 4121        | 3858      | 3720      | 3598      | 3443      |
| 2              |  | 4071        | 4080      | 3887      | 3655      | 3535      |
| 3              |  | 4129        | 4055      | 4012      | 3834      | 3604      |
| 4              |  | 4225        | 4080      | 4051      | 3979      | 3802      |
| 5              |  | 4290        | 4211      | 4110      | 4028      | 3956      |
| 6              |  | 4194        | 4275      | 4203      | 4063      | 3982      |
| 7              |  | 4431        | 4138      | 4212      | 4186      | 4047      |
| 8              |  | 4568        | 4331      | 4051      | 4140      | 4115      |
| 9              |  | 5014        | 4820      | 4411      | 4509      | 4608      |
| 10             |  | 4820        | 4870      | 4650      | 3887      | 3973      |
| 11             |  | 4453        | 4525      | 4642      | 4198      | 3509      |
| 12             |  | 4598        | 4411      | 4512      | 4757      | 4301      |
| District Total |  | 56696       | 55276     | 54008     | 52227     | 50123     |

\* Based on October 1 numbers\*

# Capital Planning



## Expired Bond Funds

Mesa Public Schools last passed a bond in 2018. Voter approved initiative made large investments in security and building renovations.

## Assessing Current Assets

The average age of Mesa Public Schools buildings is 40 years old. Facilities are aging, building condition scores are dropping, and we have a backlog of deferred maintenance.

## Prioritizing & Projecting Future Needs

Mesa Public Schools is aware of the demographic shifts and enrollment trends. However, we still provide educational opportunities to over 50,000 students.

## Funding Strategies

The success of Mesa Public Schools capital planning efforts depends on a diverse set of funding sources including bonds, overrides, and various partnerships. We recognize that these resources are made possible through the trust, support, and shared commitment of our community.

FIND OUT WHAT'S INSIDE

# MPS Current Strategies

- Reducing square footage via portables
- Maximize campuses & reboundary
- Consolidating Administrative Buildings
- Three (3) Prongs of Partnership

# Reducing Building Square Footage

Mesa Public Schools has **8,321,886** square feet of building space.

- Approximately 640,152 building square feet was occupied by portables (prior to 2025)
- MPS created a plan to reduce portable square footage in three (3) cohorts over three (3) fiscal years (2025, 2026, 2027)



Lehi Elementary Portables

# Portable Removal Summary

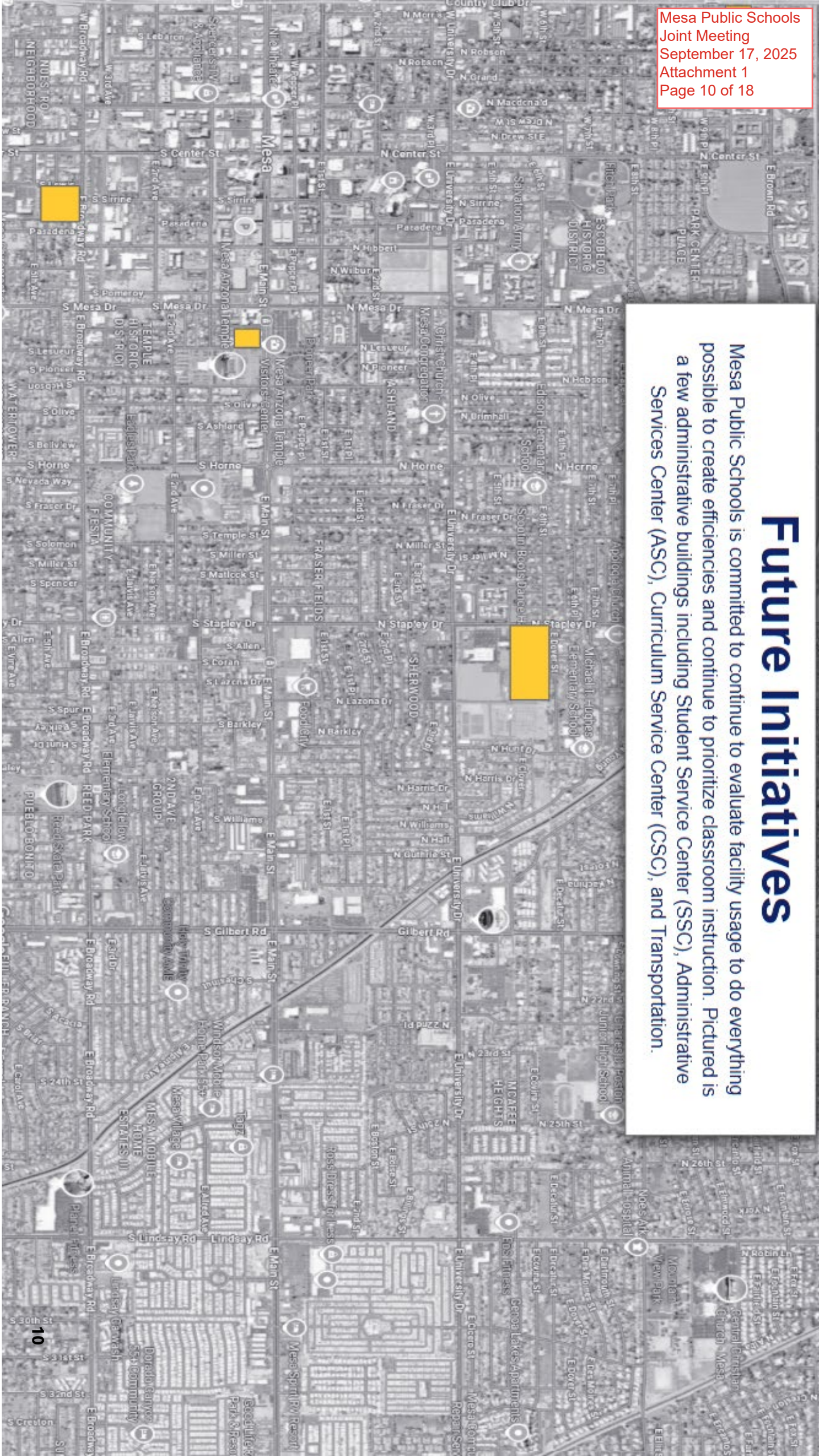
## End Goal by 2027

|                                                |             |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Number of Portables Removed                    | 104         |
| Square Footage Removed                         | 197,268     |
| Equivalent Number of Classrooms Removed        | 208         |
| Estimated Savings Per Year                     | \$1,484,600 |
| Equivalent Number of Elementary Schools Closed | 6.5         |



# Future Initiatives

Mesa Public Schools is committed to continue to evaluate facility usage to do everything possible to create efficiencies and continue to prioritize classroom instruction. Pictured is a few administrative buildings including Student Service Center (SSC), Administrative Services Center (ASC), Curriculum Service Center (CSC), and Transportation.



# Capital Plan Funding Strategies

- **Voter Approved Bond** - Long-term financing tool for major facility projects and new construction
- **Capital Override** - Provides up to 10% of the revenue control limit for capital purposes with voter approval. No interest on funding.
- **Land Sale & Lease Revenue** - Generating revenue through strategic disposition or leasing of district owned property.
- **Public Private Partnerships** - Leveraging collaboration to maximize resources and community benefit.
- **State Funds** - Targeted grants from school facilities division to support **failing** infrastructure. District Additional Assistance (DAA) lawsuit.

# School Closures (across the valley)

## Kyrene



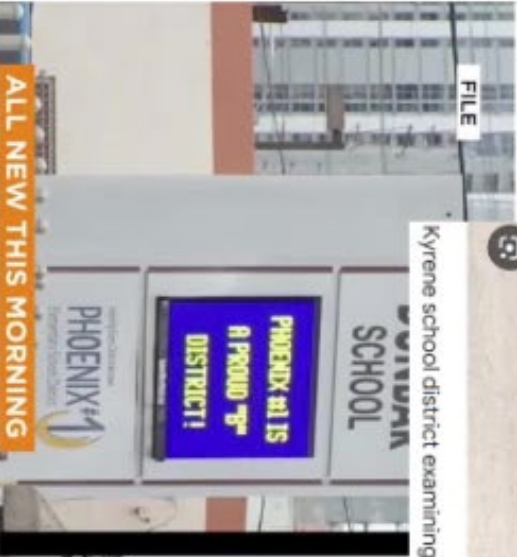
Kyrene school district examining whether to close multiple campuses |

## Roosevelt



Roosevelt School Board approves closure of five schools in south Phoenix

## Phoenix Elementary



PHOENIX ELEM. DISTRICT VOTES TO CLOSE TWO SCHOOLS  
HEARD & DUNBAR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS TO CLOSE

## PROPOSED SCHOOL CLOSINGS



## Cave Creek



FIND OUT WHAT'S INSIDE

NEW AT 5 PM  
ED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MORE SCHOOLS COULD CLOSE BECAUSE OF LOW ENROLLMENT  
CAVE CREEK SCHOOL DISTRICT COULD CLOSE 2 SCHOOLS

# Three Prongs of Partnership

- Partnering with Ourselves
  - Research & Evaluation Department @ Dobson HS
  - Pathways Department @ Taylor JH
- Partnering with Educational Agencies
  - Bezos, Polaris
- Partnering with Nonprofits
  - Arizona Brainfood

# Co-Location Exploration

## City of Mesa

Development Services Department

Deputy Director, John Sheffer

# Objective: Determine if co-location is feasible for future partnerships

- **Benefits:** Identify advantages of a shared facility
- **Site Exploration:** Evaluate availability of space that could meet needs for City functions/operations
- **Cost Consideration:** Co-location vs. new facility
- **Primary Focus:** District facilities with opportunities for space repurposing

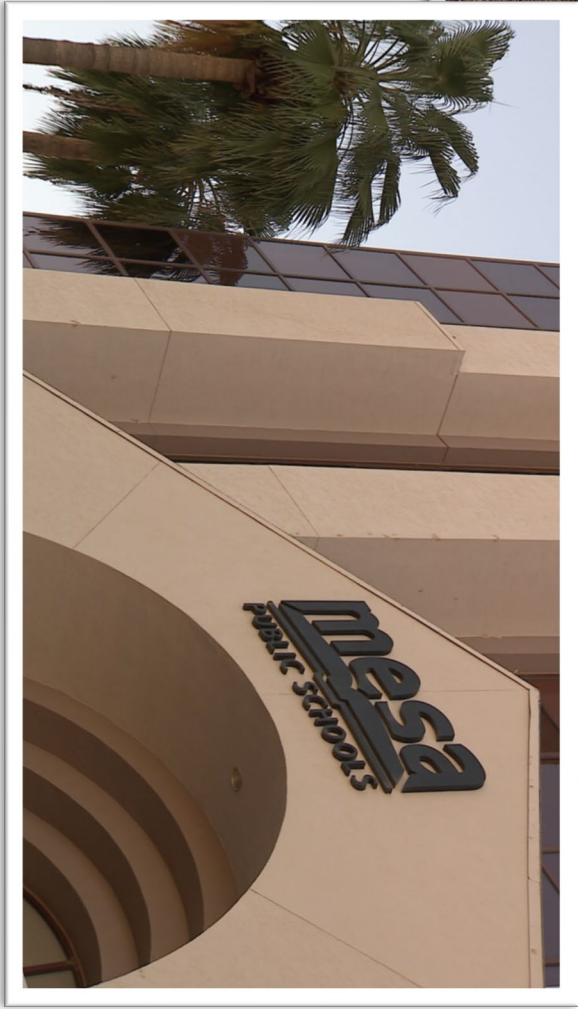
# Criteria for Future Site Evaluation

- Underserved area for services/function
- Space consideration (size and layout)
- Independent access
- Adequate parking
- Arterial street for visibility and access

# Benefits

- Shared infrastructure
- Increased community access in underserved areas
- Enhanced school resources
- Less expensive than new construction
- More cost-effective than leasing commercial property
- Infrastructure resource for future project consideration

# Questions & Discussion



# Student Safety and Well-Being

## Mesa Public Schools

Assistant Superintendent, Monica Mesa

Director of Student Safety and Security, Allen Moore

# Cell Phone Policy

## Statute Change

- Arizona Revised Statute § 15-120.05, established by House Bill 2484 and signed into law on April 14, 2025, requires all public and charter schools to create and implement policies limiting students' access to cell phones and personal electronic devices during the school day.
- The law mandates that schools allow access for emergencies, medical conditions, and teacher-directed educational purposes, while also restricting access to social media over school networks.

# Cell Phone Policy

| K-8 Students Implementation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | High School Implementation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Personal devices off or silent and out of sight.</li><li>• Devices must be in a backpack.</li><li>• Social media, texting, calls or games are not allowed during the school day.</li><li>• Before and after school: devices can be used in common areas like the cafeteria.</li></ul> | <p>Devices may be used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Before school</li><li>• After school</li><li>• During lunch (in designated areas)</li><li>• During passing periods (unless a school has stricter rules)</li></ul> <p>During class:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Devices must be turned off, out of sight and in a backpack.</li><li>• Devices may not be with the student or on their person.</li></ul> <p>No texting, calling, games or social media during class.</p> |

# School and Community Communication



Find out what's inside

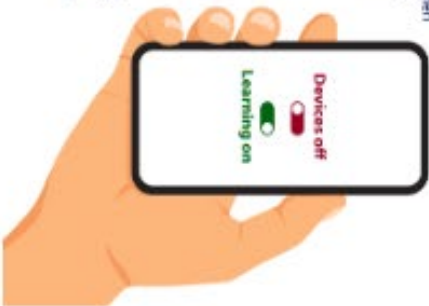
## Elementary & Jr High Student Cell Phone & Device Use

Mesa Public Schools has updated its rules about when students can use personal devices like cell phones, smartwatches, and tablets during the school day.

Here's what families need to know:

- During school hours, personal devices must be off or on silent and put away, like in a backpack.
- Texting, calling, games, and social media are not allowed during the school day.
- Students can use their devices before and after school in areas like the cafeteria.

If you need to contact your child during the school day, please call the front office, and we'll help get the message to them. Thanks for helping us create a focused and respectful learning environment!



Find out what's inside

## High School Student Cell Phone & Device Use

Mesa Public Schools has updated its rules about student use of personal devices like cell phones, smartwatches, and tablets.

Here's what families should know:

- Students can use devices:
  - Before and after school
  - During lunch in approved areas
  - During passing periods (unless restricted by school rules)
- No texting, calling, social media, or games during class time.
- If a student needs to contact a parent, they must get permission from a staff member.

Parents who need to reach their student during the day should call the front office.



Find out what's inside

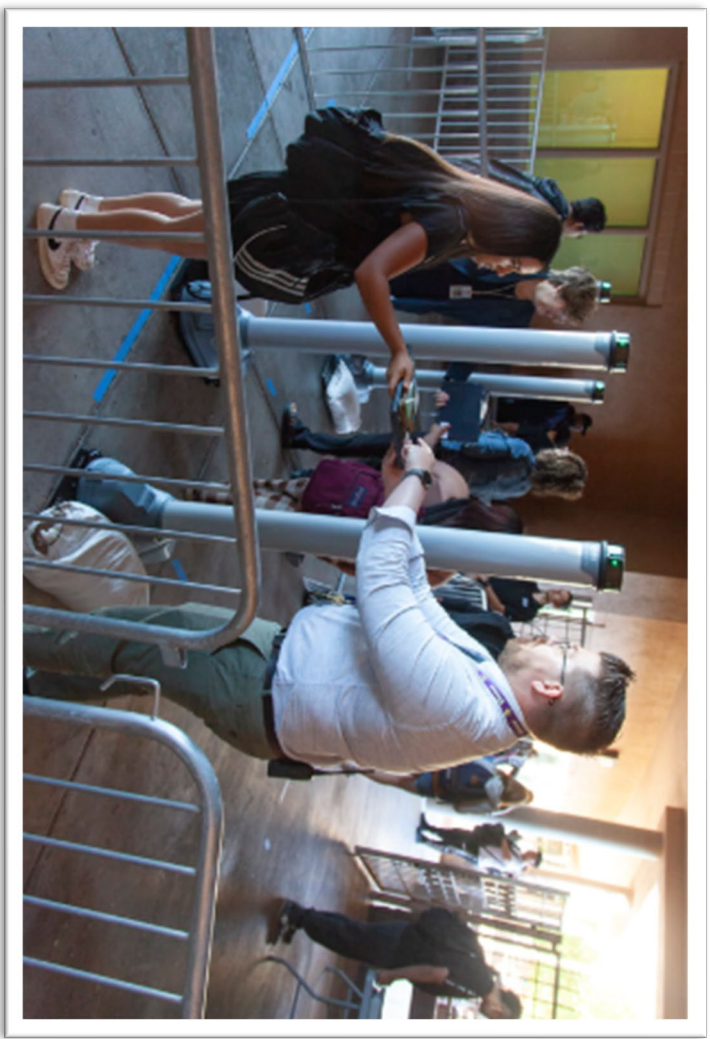
**Phones and smartwatches must be put away.**



**FIND OUT WHAT'S INSIDE**

# Weapons Detection

- Weapons detection is at all high schools and junior highs
  - This includes large campus events such as athletics and arts
- No firearms were detected in SY 2024-25 and zero so far this year.



# Vape Detectors

- Bathrooms were viewed as “unsafe”
- Installed in all secondary schools’ student bathrooms
- Picks up the chemicals in vape/picks up yelling/shouting
- Reports from principals-
  - Less bathroom issues to deal with this year.
  - “Kids don’t hang out in bathrooms anymore”



# Mesa PD Partnership

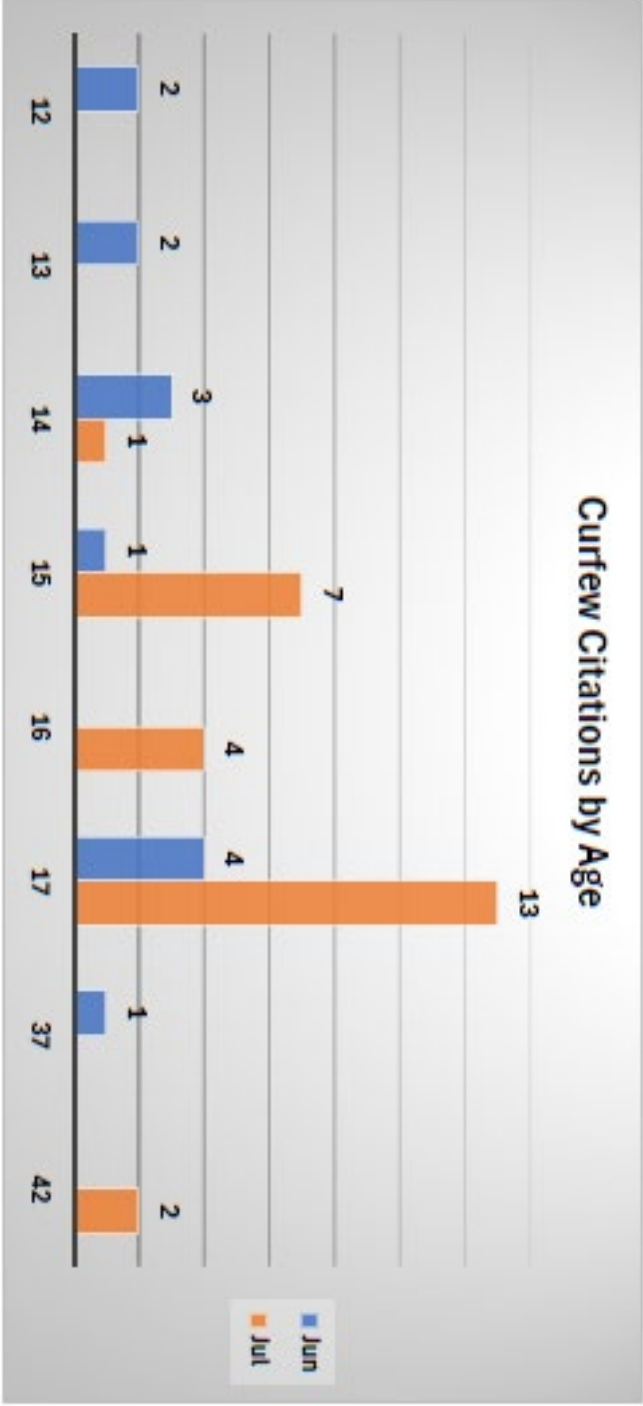
Police Chief, Dan Butler

Assistant Chief, Tim Walker

Commander, Stephanie Derivan



## Curfew Citations June 1 – July 31, 2025



## School Threats Response

- Full time SROs at all Junior High and High School Campuses
  - MPS covers additional SRO for the high school campuses
- All threats are treated as credible until proven otherwise
  - MPD thoroughly investigates the threat including interviews, intel research, search warrants, etc.)
  - Criminal charges when appropriate
- MPD and MPS education to parents and students – Report, Don't Repost



## Mandatory Reporting Law Change

- Mandatory Reporters can no longer report crimes involving sexual abuse, physical abuse or neglect only to the SRO-calls must go in through dispatch
- SROs working with school admin and mandatory reports to facilitate proper reporting



# Questions & Discussion



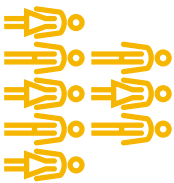
# Economic and Workforce Development in Mesa

**City of Mesa**

Education and Workforce Office

Administrator, Sarah Tolar

# Mesa At-A-Glance



523,220

Population



1.2M+

workforce population within  
30-minute drive



37<sup>th</sup>

Largest U.S. city  
Larger than Miami,  
Minneapolis, and Kansas City.



44%

Residents age 25+ with  
associates degree or higher



2<sup>nd</sup>

Largest city  
in the Phoenix-Mesa  
Metro. 3rd largest in AZ.



38

Median Age

# Industries of Opportunity

## Industries / Sectors

- Healthcare / Biotechnology / Medical Devices
- Aerospace / Aviation / Defense
- Technology / Semiconductors / EV / Batteries
- Advanced Manufacturing
- Education
- Tourism



# High Growth Occupational Trends

**Education Requirements**  
High School Diploma/GED  
Associate's Degree and/or Industry Certification  
Bachelor's Degree  
Bachelor's Degree + Master's/Doctorate

| Occupation Title                                                   | 2023 Estimates | 2033 Projections | Percentage Change |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Nurse Practitioners                                                | 4,971          | 8,881            | 78.7%             |
| Physician Assistants                                               | 2,987          | 4,668            | 56.3%             |
| Medical and Health Services Managers                               | 7,031          | 10,820           | 53.9%             |
| Solar Photovoltaic Installers                                      | 672            | 1,019            | 51.6%             |
| Physical Therapist Assistants                                      | 1,008          | 1,508            | 49.6%             |
| Occupational Therapy Assistants                                    | 939            | 1,396            | 48.7%             |
| Data Scientists                                                    | 2,389          | 3,540            | 48.2%             |
| Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors | 7,043          | 10,190           | 44.7%             |
| Home Health and Personal Care Aides                                | 55,725         | 79,537           | 42.7%             |

# **Mesa Workforce Development Strategic Priorities**

1. Support Workforce Alignment & Growth
2. Build Intentional Connections
3. Enhance Internal Workforce Development Opportunities
4. Improve Post-Secondary Attainment

# College and Career Academies

## Mesa Public Schools

Assistant Superintendent, Tracy Yslas

# Red Mountain High School

| <div><div><div><div>college &amp; career academies</div><div>HEALTH &amp; MEDICAL SCIENCES</div></div><div><div>9th Grade   Exploration</div><div>Life Skills</div><div>College &amp; Career Exploration</div><div>Educational Path Development</div></div></div></div>                                                                                                                                                            | 10th & 11th Grade +  <br>Career Connected Learning & Exposure                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 12th Grade +  <br>Focused Preparation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Year 13 +  <br>College & Career Launch                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <div><div>Core Subjects Through an Healthcare Lens</div><div>Graduation + Options</div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Industry Cert   OSHA 10 Healthcare</li><li>WBL   Job shadows, field trips, guest speakers, industry projects, mentorships</li><li>College Ready  AP/IB/DE, ULC Courses; College visits</li><li>Diploma Designations</li></ul><div>Academy + Electives or EVIT<br/>Ex: AP Computer Science</div></div> | <div><div>Core Subjects Through an Healthcare Lens</div><div>Graduation + Options</div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Industry Cert   OSHA 10 Healthcare</li><li>WBL   Job shadows, field trips, guest speakers, industry projects, mentorships</li><li>College Ready  AP/IB/DE, ULC Courses; College visits</li><li>Diploma Designations</li></ul><div>Academy + Electives or EVIT<br/>Ex: AP Computer Science</div></div> | <div><div>College &amp; Career Focused</div><div>Coursework and WBL Experiences Internships / Apprenticeships</div><div>DE/AP/IB/ULCs, additional certifications aligned to careers</div><div>EVIT Aligned Programs</div><div>Dental Assistant, Emergency Medical Technician, Massage Therapy, Medical Assistant, Mental &amp; Social Health Technician, Nursing Assistant, Pet Grooming, Pharmacy Technician, Physical Therapy Technician, Veterinary Assistant</div></div> | <div><div>Seamless transition into:</div><div>Community College/University (certifications, majors aligned to sector) and/or</div><div>Career (employment, apprenticeships)</div><div>EVIT</div><div>Military</div><div>Entrepreneurship</div></div> |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

Partners - Honorhealth, Banner Health, Sonora Quest Labs, CVS Pharmacy, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Mesa Fire & Medical, ASU, MCC, EVIT

City of Mesa Sector Alignment

Healthcare & Social Assistance; Biotechnology & Life Sciences; Health Information Technology; Behavioral & Mental Health Services: Public Safety & Emergency Services; Education & Training Services; Government & Regulatory Agencies; Healthcare Technologies



# Questions & Discussion



# Mesa City Council and Mesa Public Schools Governing Board Collaborative Meeting

## Closing Remarks

