



ANNUAL REPORT

2022 - 2023

www.gilbertschools.net



We are so glad you are here!

Gilbert Public Schools has been serving the communities of Gilbert and Mesa for over 100 years, delivering academic excellence, a comprehensive range of educational choices, and a well-rounded curriculum across 39 schools. As the Superintendent of this incredible district, I am committed to continuing to build on our foundation of academic excellence, while placing our students at the center of everything we do.

We are proud to have high-achieving schools, led by the very best educators and administrators. All of our schools exemplify best practices and achievement while inspiring excellence in every learner, and our teams work diligently to create safe and supportive learning environments for all students.

At Gilbert Public Schools we don't just say, we do! Together we learn to lead, give service, innovate, problem-solve, and ultimately succeed.

We are so glad you are here, and part of our GPS Family!

Sincerely,

Shane McCord



Our Governing Board

Our Governing Board leads our district by performing legislative, executive, and appraisal responsibilities including adopting general policies, placing policies into operation, and determining the efficiency of school operations and educational programs offered by the district.

Governing Board President -Mrs. Lori Wood

Governing Board Clerk - Mrs. Sheila Uggetti

Governing Board Member - Mrs. Jill Humpherys

Governing Board Member - Mr. Chad Thompson

Governing Board Member - Mrs. Ronda Page

Visit www.gilbertschools.net/board





Gilbert Public Schools is one of the largest in the state of Arizona, with 39 schools, 33,000 students, and more than 4,000 employees. Our geographical district area includes an estimated 71,552 households, and a population of 200,000+, in both the Town of Gilbert and Mesa, Arizona.

We are a district of choice offering a wide range of programs and curriculum options to meet the needs of all children and families Preschool - 12, including but not limited to: Traditional Academies, Sports Performance Academy, Classical Academy, Dual Language (Spanish), International Baccalaureate, Accelerated Middle School, Dual Credit, Gifted, Advanced Learning Programs, Career and Technical Education, and Special Education, Preschool, Before and After School programs. Our district is consistently recognized as leaders in the East Valley and across Arizona.



**Best of the Best
School District
East Valley**

**Gilbert Chamber of
Commerce
Employer of Choice**

**14 A+ Schools
of Excellence**

**21 'A' Rated
Schools**

GPS FAMILY ACHIEVES



Campo Verde is one of four high schools in the state of Arizona with two Flinn Scholarship finalists this year. Congratulations to Evan Hankinson and Tori Barrera! Both seniors were chosen among the 39 students to go on to the final stage of interviews in March. Ultimately, 20 high school seniors will be chosen to be part of the 2023 Class of Flinn Scholars.

Gilbert Public Schools is inspiring the next generation of women leaders to go out and pursue science, technology, engineering and math. The district held its first-ever 'GPS Girls STEMpowered' event. It was hosted by the Technology Services department and supported by the Gilbert Education Foundation. About 160 young girls, in grades 5-12, were invited to participate in the day-long activities, where they collaborated in small groups to build a 16-hole mini golf course.



Service to others is one of the many ways that students, families and staff at Sonoma Ranch Elementary are spreading love. This February, the Stallions are taking part in the Kids Heart Challenge put on by the American Heart Association. The challenge promotes healthy living and choices. It also raises money to save lives. Physical Education teacher, Troy Galvan, helps organize the challenge at the school every year.



Visit www.gilbertschools.net/GOLD to read many more stories of Gilbert Public Schools students, staff and community members achieving great things.

GPS FAMILY ACHIEVES



Six gifted students from Augusta Ranch Elementary qualified for a national academic math competition, after successfully performing at a regional event in Phoenix. Congratulations to the fourth through sixth graders, who were led by their teacher, Molly Koceja! “It was such an exciting day and so much fun to watch! They made a great name for Augusta Ranch Elementary.”

Kristi Peterson, a math teacher at Mesquite High School, has been selected as a state finalist for the prestigious **Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching**. The awards program is the highest honor bestowed by the U.S. government, specifically for K-12 science, technology, engineering and mathematics teaching. Every year, the President chooses up to 108 exemplary teachers for the honor.



School spirit is at an all-time high for two of our GPS high schools. Congratulations to the Campo Verde Coyotes and the Highland Hawks, who are celebrating their first-ever state championship titles in boys basketball! **Both teams showed amazing heart, grit and synergy in their fight for victory.**

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GPS FAMILY ACHIEVES



One of the largest non-profit hospitals in the United States opened its doors to Gilbert Public Schools students who are interested in the medical profession. Banner Gateway Medical Center and MD Anderson Cancer Center welcomed students to their internship program in November. Over the course of several months, the students will have the opportunity to learn all about what happens in a hospital, including the medical and non-medical career opportunities available.

Positive role models can help young children stay on the right path. They inspire good behavior and habits as well as promote a favorable environment for all. Student-athletes at Mesquite High School are modeling good behavior to second grade students at seven elementary schools across the Gilbert Public Schools district.



Gilbert Public Schools held a celebration banquet for the 2023 Employee of the Year nominees, finalists and winners! More than 400 guests gathered for the event to recognize the incredible work of our GPS family, and the ways they go above and beyond to provide students with the best educational experiences possible.



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AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCE AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS STUDENTS AND TEACHERS AND DEPARTMENTS

- Best School District in Gilbert and the East Valley from East Valley Tribune
- 2023 NAMM Foundation Best Communities for Music Education Award (4th year)
- PLTW Distinguished School - Campo Verde High Biomedical Program
- Finalist Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching Mesquite High
- AIA Central Region Athletic Director of the Year Award Highland High
- AIAAA 6A Conference AD of the Year Highland High
- NFHS state and regional Football Coach of the Year for 2022 Highland High
- Arizona 2022 J. Eugene Grigsby Jr. COMC Award Gilbert Elementary Art Teacher
- Desert Ridge Jagwires DRH Division Champions in National Robotics Competition
- Campo Verde student appointment to United States Merchant Marine Academy
- Campo Verde student US Air Force J-100 Scholarship
- Flinn Scholarship Finalists
- Bio-Med competition state champions Campo Verde High
- Student winner of IB DP Spirit of the Year Award Gilbert High
- Arizona 2022 Art Education Association Elementary Art Educator Award
- Speech and Debate Arizona Interscholastic Association (AIA) Division II State Champion Mesquite High
- Original Spoken Word Poetry AIA State Champions



AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

STUDENT & TEACHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS - CHEER

- 2023 USA Spirit National Champions in Show Cheer - Campo Verde High
- Cheer & Pom - State Champions - Division I All-Girl Stunt - Highland High
- Pom - State Champions - Hip Hop - Desert Ridge High
- Gameday State Champions in Division III - Mesquite High

STUDENT & TEACHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS - ATHLETICS

Cross Country

- Highland High Boys Division 1 State Champs
- Highland High Girls Division 1 State Champs

Swim and Dive

- Gilbert High - Lorin Tolber Division 1 - 1st in 100 yds Back and 2nd in 100yds Fl
- Campo Verde Girls Division 2 State Runner Up

Wrestling

- Alexander Sweeney placed 2nd in the Division 1 120 lbs Weight Class Desert Ridge
- Eli Conde placed 2nd in the Division 3 138 lbs Weight Class Mesquite High
- Aaron Callirgos placed 2nd in the Division 1 132 lbs Weight Class Highland High
- Majel Morones-Campo Verde Division 2 Heavyweight Champion Campo Verde

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

STUDENT & TEACHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS - ATHLETICS

Football

- 6A State Champions Highland High

Track and Field

- Vance Nilsson 10M Hurdles Champion, 300M Hurdles Champion 2nd Gilbert High
- Girls Division 1 Champions Highland High
- Josh Howard - 3200m Champion Highland High
- Zach Bingham - Pole Vault Champion (#1 in the USA with a Vault) Highland High
- Girls Division 2 Runner-Up Campo Verde High
- Boys Division 2 Runner-Up Campo Verde High

Basketball - Boys

- 5A State Champions Boys Basketball Campo Verde High
- 6A State Champions Boys Basketball Highland High





FINANCIAL REPORT

Gilbert Public Schools understands the importance of maximizing resources that directly impact our classrooms and students. Our approach is designed to increase efficiency, expand classroom resources, and maintain quality educational facilities while delivering a wide range of academic options for our students, families and community in a fiscally responsible manner.



