



Tolleson Union High School District

In December 2010, the Tolleson Union High School District was one of 14 school districts in Arizona to be awarded the AZ Safe and Supportive Schools Grant (S3). This grant will run from October 2010 to September 2014 and grants the district approximately \$1,416 million to improve the learning conditions of our campuses. The priority of the grant is as follows:

“This priority supports grants to school districts for projects that take a systematic approach to improving conditions for learning in eligible schools through improved measurement systems that assess conditions for learning, which must include school safety and the implementation of programmatic interventions that address problems identified by data.”

Grant funds will be targeted at implementing prevention/intervention programs that address school community needs, with an emphasis on reducing reported bullying and substance abuse incidents. In accordance with S3 grant guidance, the Arizona Department of Education recommended two TUHSD high schools – Copper Canyon and Sierra Linda – as target implementation sites on August 5, 2011.

School sites were determined based on a variety of factors, including academic data, behavioral climate, and parent, school staff, and student input of S3 surveys. Participation from all stakeholders, including parents, school staff, and students, was essential to school selection. As a result of the grant, the following goals will be achieved by September 30, 2014:

Goal 1 – Improve conditions for learning in eligible schools by utilizing valid and reliable data to drive the use of research-based prevention and intervention strategies.

Goal 2 – Reduce high-risk student behaviors that present barriers to learning in eligible schools by using valid and reliable data to drive prevention and intervention strategies.

Tolleson Union High School District is dedicated to the success of this grant initiative and to assisting our school communities in the process. To support the implementation of the S3 grant, the Governing Board has approved, and the District has hired with the use of S3 funds, a District Prevention Coordinator, Sara Agostinho. This position will be working in conjunction with district and school level teams, as well as community stakeholders, in S3 program implementation.

The Tolleson Union High School District congratulates both schools and is dedicated to supporting their S3 efforts.