

BUSD 40 students are getting accustomed to hybrid system of in-person and virtual learning

Sells, AZ- Students attending schools in Baboquivari Unified School District 40 started on July 19, and they are getting used to a hybrid system where some students are in classrooms, while most are taking classes virtually, much as they did last school year because of the ongoing pandemic.

BUSD Superintendent Dr. Christopher Bonn, said student enrollment in the district's three campuses is over 1,000, which is close to normal since annual enrollment in BUSD ranges from 1,000 to 1,200 students.

More surprising is that enrollment in the district's secondary campus—Baboquivari Middle School and Baboquivari High School—is 406, which is much higher than the 350 students that the campus anticipated.

He said the school district is using a hybrid system to meet the mandates of the executive order that is in effect for the Tohono O'odham Nation. One of the mandates is the maintaining of social distancing while indoors, which means only ten classroom desks are allowed in a classroom. Bonn said in-person, in-classroom teaching is done two days a week, the rest of the

time students attend classes virtually.

Those students who attend in-person classes signed up early on a first-come-first-serve basis, he said.

Also, bus transportation is being done on a safety-first basis. Only one student per bench seat is allowed. Bonn said this does not meet the 6-foot social distancing requirement, but the school district received an accommodation from the Tohono O'odham Nation's health agency for student transportation.

As for after-school activities and sports, Bonn said the district has approval from the school district's COVID-19 Committee to offer them to students, but it is proposing that students who participate get vaccinated. Fall sports include football, cheerleading, and cross country, he said, but he cautions that the logistics involved in making sure after-school activities and sports are safe can be complex.

Bonn said the district is also considering setting up COVID-19 vaccination clinics for students 12 to 18 years old, but he estimates that over 60 percent of students attending schools in BUSD 40 have already been vaccinated.

BUSD plans Back to School Drive-Thru Celebration

Sells, AZ- A Back to School Drive-Thru Celebration will be held Aug. 12 by Baboquivari Unified School District 40, and participants can collect free supplies for school.

The event will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Indian Oasis Elementary School parking lot in Sells. Given out free will be back packs, school sup-

plies, hygiene items, and food boxes. The items and supplies will be distributed while supplies last.

BUSD acknowledges sponsors who have contributed to the event: Desert Diamond Casinos, Air National Guard 162nd Flight Wing, Shadetree Wellness Center of Arizona, and the Food Bank of Southern Arizona.

COLLEGE CREDIT PATHWAY

The College Credit Pathway is an option for adults seeking to obtain their High School Equivalency (HSE) Diploma in Arizona. Effective July 1, 2018, adults can earn their HSE Diploma by demonstrating completion of 25 specific college credits along with passing the AZ Civics Test.

What is College Credit Pathway?

The College Credit Pathway is one way to earn a high school equivalency diploma through the Arizona Department of Education. The program requires students to complete a minimum of 25 credits and completion of Arizona Civics exam

Who is eligible for the College Credit Pathway?

Individuals must be sixteen years of age or older, not enrolled in secondary school or required to be enrolled in secondary school, and lack a high school diploma to be eligible for the College Credit Pathway.

Requirements

- Earn 25 college credits in specific areas.
- Courses must be at the 100-course level or above.
- Passing grade letter of 'C' or above.
- Credits must be earned at or validated by an Arizona public state university or community college.
- Pass the Arizona Civics Test.

The last day to enroll in classes is Friday, August 27, 2021



25 Required College Credits*

Course Areas	Credits
English Arts	6
Mathematics	6
Science	4
Social Sciences	3
Computer	3
College/Career Exploration	3
Arizona Civics Test	Pass

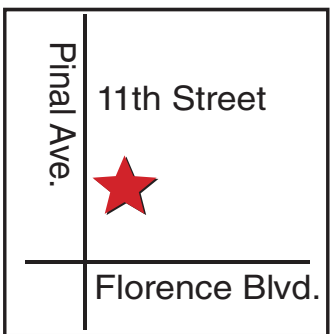
*It is the applicant's responsibility to work with an advisor at Tohono O'odham Community College to ensure that all coursework meets the credit requirements of the College Credit Pathway.

Have Questions?

Contact Avis Becenti, Student Support Specialist I
Office: (520)479-2300 EXT: 1213 Email: abecenti@tocc.edu



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Three organizations that serve the Tohono O’odham Nation split \$180,000 from Desert Diamond Casinos charity

Tucson, AZ- As it has for well over two decades, Desert Diamond Casinos through its charity wing, presented checks for \$60,000 each to three organizations that serve the Tohono O’odham Nation.

The checks were presented to the or-

ganizations at a July 16 event held at the casino’s venue located in San Xavier District near Tucson. The proceeds are from the 17th Annual Desert Diamond Casinos Golf Classic.

The recipients of this year’s award were:

- The Tohono O’odham Nation Department of Health and Human Services Dialysis Advocate Program. Cody Lee Juan, Community Health Services Program Manager received the award for the program.

- The Tohono O’odham Nation Cultural Center and Museum. Museum Director Myles Gallagher and Archivist Sara Guzman received the award for the museum.
- Ha:san Educational Services. James Merino, Director of Ha:san Education Services received the award for the school.

Desert Diamond Casinos officials said this year’s fund-raising event was held in March at Omni Tucson National Golf Course, with more than 230 individuals playing in the tournament. All participants followed COVID-19 safety measures.

This year’s major sponsors were Hunt Penta Joint Venture, Delta Diversified Enterprises, Bel-Aire Mechanical, and Shippy’s Rolling Plains Inc.

TOCC has another way to finish high school education

Sells, AZ- Do you need to complete your high school education? TOCC is offering the “Community College Pathway” program, also known as CCP, starting Aug. 23.

The Community College Pathway (CCP) is an alternative to the General Education Diploma, or GED. In the CCP, students take 25 credits of college coursework covering specific fields, including English, mathematics, science, social science, computers, and college/career exploration. While TOCC continues to offer a GED program, the advantage of the CCP over the GED is that CCP students gain a head start on earning college credits.

Students who enroll in the CCP must earn 25 college credits and must maintain a grade of “C” or higher throughout the program. Once a student has completed the CCP program, they can submit a copy of their TOCC transcripts to the Arizona Department of Education–Adult Education Services and be issued a High School Equivalency transcript, and their 25 credits can be applied to a college certificate or associate degree. TOCC is offering free tuition to Native Americans this semester. Laptop computers are available for checkout from the College Library.

Anyone sixteen years of age or older, not enrolled in high school, not required to be enrolled in high school, and not having a high school diploma is eligible for the CCP program.

To apply for the Community College Pathway, use the online application to Tohono O’odham Community College on the website www.tocc.edu. Select the New Students menu and go to Admissions. In the “Purpose of Enrollment” item, the applicant should select “High School Equivalency” or HSE.


In Arizona, all options for earning High School Equivalency include taking and passing the Arizona Civics Test.

For more information on the Community College Pathway program, contact a TOCC adviser at advising@tocc.edu or the Arizona Department of Education at <http://www.azed.gov/adultedservices/>.


The following courses can be taken at TOCC to earn high school equivalency through the Community College Pathway: WRT 101 Writing I; WRT 102 Writing II; MAT 142H College Mathematics; Any other mathematics course at the 100 level or higher; HIS 122 Tohono O’odham History I; Science: Any four-credit course designated with a BIO, ANR, SCI, PHY, or CHM prefix; STU 101 Becoming a Master Student; CIS 100 Introduction to Computers.



Desert Diamond Casinos Chief Operations Officer Libby Francisco, second from right, displays a check for \$180,000 that was split equally among three organizations that serve the Tohono O’odham Nation. The proceeds are from the casino’s annual Golf Classic. From left: Myles Gallagher, Director, Tohono O’odham Nation Cultural Center and Museum; James Merino, Director of Ha:san Educational Services; Sara Guzman, Archivist at the Himdag Ki; Cody Lee Juan, Program Manager of Tohono O’odham Nation Community Health Services. Photo courtesy of Desert Diamond Casinos.



Be Happy Be Healthy Be Vaccinated!



The COVID-19 Vaccine


All COVID-19 vaccines used in the United States were tested in clinical studies involving thousands of people, including American Indians and Alaska Natives. These studies were done to make sure the vaccines meet safety standards and protect people of different ages, races, and ethnicities. All authorized COVID-19 vaccines meet the same safety standards as other vaccines used in the United States.

COVID-19 vaccines are effective at protecting you from getting sick. Based on what is known, people who have been fully vaccinated can do things that they had stopped doing because of the pandemic.

- ◆ **The COVID-19 vaccine will not change your DNA.**
Different types of vaccines work in different ways to offer protection, but the COVID-19 vaccine—like any other vaccine—cannot affect your DNA in any way.
- ◆ **The COVID-19 vaccine will not give you COVID-19.**
The authorized COVID-19 vaccines cannot make you sick with COVID-19. They do not contain the virus that causes COVID-19. Getting vaccinated may protect others around you.
- ◆ **If you are pregnant now or plan to get pregnant in the future.**
You may receive the COVID-19 vaccine. There is no evidence suggesting that fertility problems are a side effect of any vaccine.

CDC has developed a new tool, v-safe (vsafe.cdc.gov), to help identify any safety issues with COVID-19 vaccines. Sign up to participate after you’re vaccinated at <https://www.cdc.gov/>.

The COVID-19 vaccination is an important tool to help stop the pandemic in our communities



TOHONO O’ODHAM NATION HEALTH CARE

