

2016 Impact Report



Expect More Arizona[®]
THE MOVEMENT FOR
WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION



A Message from our President & CEO

Gratitude and Awe. These sentiments describe how our team feels as we reflect back on 2016. We accomplished a lot together! Highlights include the launch of a shared vision for education in our state; helping to propel a ballot proposition to victory that funneled much-needed dollars to our public schools; the creation of our first regional advisory council in Yuma; the kickoff of statewide advocacy trainings; and more. We mobilized thousands of Arizonans and hundreds of organizations across the state to accomplish critical victories for our students, classrooms and communities.

It is humbling to work alongside policymakers, elected officials and community leaders who impact education from the very top, while also working in the trenches with tireless, passionate educators and advocates who support students on a daily basis. This provides us a unique vantage point, and makes it both our privilege and responsibility to build trust and foster collaboration among a diverse group of partners.

We would like to dedicate Expect More Arizona's first impact report to the individuals statewide who have taken the time to raise their voice, share their story, contact their elected leaders, show up at events, and more. These education advocates are the heart and soul of our work.

We also feel deep gratitude to YOU, our community partners, champions, and funders who have made our work possible. We couldn't have done it without you. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you for being along on this journey with us to make education a top priority for Arizonans and ensure that all students, regardless of their background, income, or zip code attain an excellent education, every step or the way.

We hope you enjoy this quick look back at what we did together in 2016.

With all our appreciation,

Pearl Chang Esau

Pearl Chang Esau & the Expect More Arizona Team





“Expect More Arizona has done an exemplary job of facilitating conversation and helping to build a coalition of community advocates for education in Yuma County. The organization is respected as a leader in education among parent groups, educators, businesses and elected leaders. Their staff is outstanding and has really contributed to our efforts to build our community coalition.”

– Tom Tyree, Yuma County Superintendent



“Expect More Arizona has helped raise awareness, facilitate meaningful communication, and initiate action steps in support of community engagement about important education issues.”

**– Dr. Manuel Valenzuela, Superintendent,
Sahuarita Unified School District**

2016 Summary of Impact

Education is the #1 priority.

Expect More Arizona's efforts to create an education-first culture in Arizona have been successful. Poll results show education is the number one issue among voters for the second year in a row. In collaboration with our partners we have worked to raise awareness of important education issues. We generated more than **300** media placements, delivered more than **150,000** resources to parents across the state and hosted over **100** presentations.

The movement continues to grow.

With more than **230** partner organizations and over **80,000** individuals, our network represents one of the largest movements in Arizona in support of an excellent education for every child, every step of the way. Through this network, we are able to reach hundreds of thousands of individuals across the state.

2016 Summary of Impact

Advocating for students and educators.

Through grassroots outreach, mobilization of our vast network of partners, and an array of communication channels, we accomplished many of our advocacy goals during the 2016 legislative session.

Teacher Pay & Classroom Funding

Helped to pass Proposition 123, which provided much-needed funding for Arizona's classrooms.

Early Literacy

Supported efforts to secure \$40 million for K-3 literacy support for struggling students.

Raising Expectations for K-12 Students

Championed the ongoing effort to ensure that Arizona's K-12 academic standards will better prepare students for the future and improved accountability in the statewide assessment and A-F letter grade system.

Career Readiness

Fought for restoration of \$29 million in Career and Technical Education funding.

Postsecondary Attainment

Supported the university resident funding model, including \$13 million ongoing and \$19 million one-time funding. Successfully supported community colleges in their efforts to be given flexibility to leverage grants and other funding sources.



“Expect More Arizona is an organization that does just what they say - Expect More for our Arizona communities! Our community has a new expectation: that a lifetime of quality learning is available and attainable, from cradle to career. Through visionary leadership, the team at Expect More Arizona is assisting our community to become passionate in changing our educational culture and intentional in fulfilling this mission.”

– Erin Mayberry, Executive Director, Buena Vista Children’s Services, Cottonwood



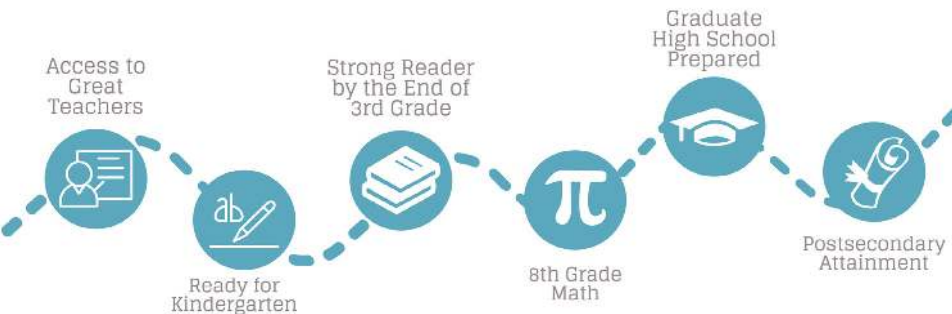
“As a parent, I understand how critical a quality education is to a child’s future quality of life. And all children deserve the opportunity to succeed. Expect More Arizona’s encouragement to be an advocate led me to become more involved in education. Today, I am able to continue my advocacy for the students, teachers and families of Osborn School District as a member of their governing board.”

– Ylenia Aguilar, Parent of two school-aged kids, Phoenix

2016 Summary of Impact

A shared vision for the future.

In partnership with the Center for the Future of Arizona, and with the support of more than [40 leading business and education organizations](#), we launched the [Arizona Education Progress Meter](#) in 2016. The Progress Meter elevates eight key milestones on the path to improving educational opportunities and outcomes for all Arizonans. These widely accepted indicators are a tool by which we can measure our state's progress, celebrate successes and take action together. Progress made in each area will ultimately create a more prosperous economy, ensure students have the knowledge and credentials necessary for good jobs and improve the civic health of communities.



2017 Advocacy Priorities

With an understanding of where we stand today and where we need to go, Expect More Arizona will continue to call on its growing network of individuals and organizations to work together to move the following priorities forward:

- A long-term solution to increase education funding from the early years through college and career, with a focus on equity and excellence in results; including the update and renewal of Prop 301.
- Improving teacher recruitment and retention, including supporting new funding for teacher pay.
- Supporting early literacy and third-grade reading proficiency for all students.
- Ensuring high expectations that support excellence for all, including the revision of the A-F accountability system.
- Building greater awareness of the connection between postsecondary attainment (training or education beyond a high school diploma) and a strong economy and community.
- Supporting investments in Arizona's community colleges and state universities.

[Read our full 2017 Advocacy Agenda](#)



“Expect More Arizona makes it easy for busy educators to be involved and take action in current issues facing Arizona. They have given educators hope for the future of education in Arizona.”

– Artesia Ulrich-Runge, Teacher at Vesey Elementary School, Tucson Unified School District

Donor List

Founder's Circle

Special thanks to the following organizations for providing the leadership and financial resources that set the foundation for our work.

Apollo Education Group
Arizona Community Foundation
Arizona School Boards Association
Arizona State University Foundation
First Things First

Helios Education Foundation
Northern Arizona University Foundation
Rodel Foundation of Arizona
The University of Arizona Foundation
Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust

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Stand for Children Arizona
Sundt Construction
Thunderbirds Charities
University of Phoenix
Valley of the Sun United Way
Wells Fargo

“Expect More Arizona has consistently offered support to our parents and community by attending school board meetings and advocating for public education. They are a valuable resource to assist with our state and local education initiatives.”

– Dr. Amy Fuller, Former Superintendent, Florence Unified School District

Donor List

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“Expect More Arizona continues to be a valued partner of Pima Community College by providing important advocacy for community colleges and education in Arizona. Their organization is an exemplary model for how to engage all individuals to work together and find solutions to improve education for all.”

– Lee D. Lambert, Chancellor, Pima Community College

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“Expect More Arizona’s efforts to promote initiatives expanding access to education are paramount in the state’s future development. It is inspirational to see how the organization harnesses the power of individuals to educate and empower voters to move education policy forward in Arizona.”
– Anirudh Koka, Arizona State University student



“I am very proud to be a part of and supporter of Expect More Arizona. I believe this organization has and continues to turn the tide of opinion on the need for improving our educational system here in Arizona. We are beginning to see the progress of organizations like Expect More Arizona in the awareness of our state government and some recent commitments they are making regarding the improvement of our education system. It’s a start and we have a long way to go.”
– Tim Kinney, Kinney Construction Services, Flagstaff



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