



ARIZONA
GEARUP

NAU NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY

 **SUNNYSIDE**
Unified School District

education 
FORWARD
arizona



Introducing...

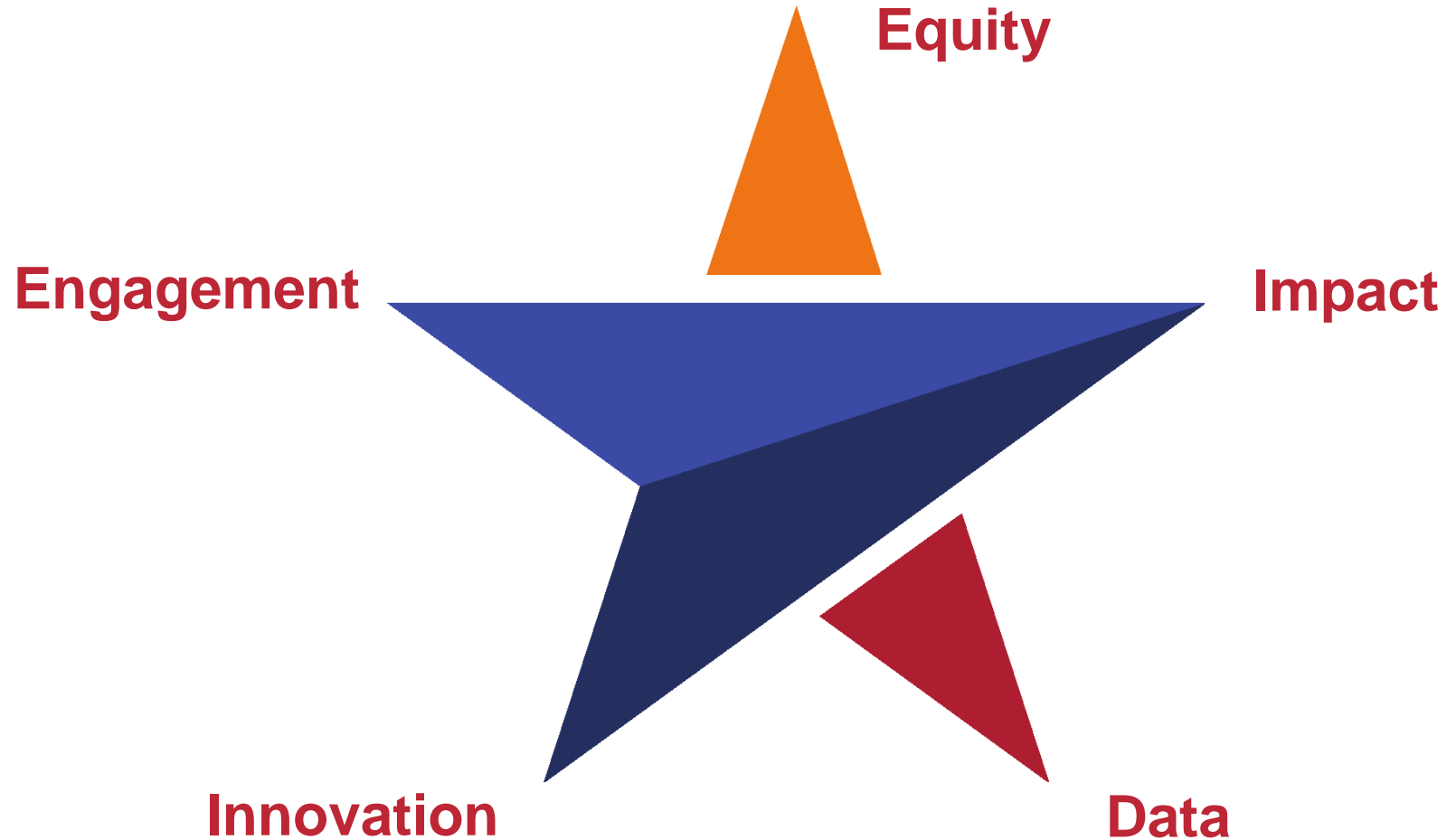
education 
FORWARD
arizona



Our Mission

To advocate for and act on education improvements that advance the quality of life for all Arizonans.

Guiding Principles





Background:

With a commitment to working inclusively, collaboratively and effectively with all stakeholders to improve education in Arizona, our organizational goals are to:

- Develop support for improved outcomes on Education Progress Meter indicators
- Reach the state's 60% attainment goal by 2030, working through the P-20 continuum
- Close achievement gaps at all levels
- Advocate for state-level funding allocated to those most in need



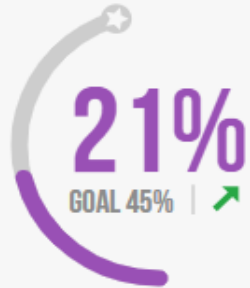


Key Strategies

- Building public and political will for significant education improvement (**Voice**)
- Championing and supporting efforts that advance the Arizona Education Progress Meter goals and prioritize closing achievement gaps (**Policy**)
- Developing and scaling innovative programs that support low-income and students of color (**Programs**)



Arizona Education Progress Meter



QUALITY EARLY LEARNING

Percent of Arizona 3- and 4-year old children that are in quality early learning settings.



THIRD GRADE READING

Percent of Arizona 3rd grade students who scored Proficient or Highly Proficient on the AzM2 3rd grade English language arts assessment.



EIGHTH GRADE MATH

Percent of Arizona 8th grade students who are prepared to be successful in high school math.



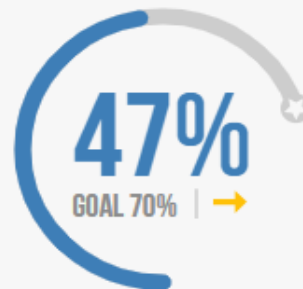
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

Percent of Arizona high school students graduating in 4 years.



OPPORTUNITY YOUTH

Percent of 16-24 year olds in Arizona that are NOT going to school or working.



POST-HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

Percent of high school graduates enrolled in postsecondary education the year after graduating high school.



ATTAINMENT

Percent of Arizona residents 25-64 years of age who have completed a 2- or 4-year degree or who have an active professional certificate or license.



Achieve60AZ Goal Drives our Work



ATTAINMENT

Percent of Arizona residents 25-64 years of age who have completed a 2- or 4-year degree or who have an active professional certificate or license.

- 60% of Adults (25-64) will hold a credential or degree by 2030. We need 500K more certificates & degrees
- Our role:
 - Driving policy and funding
 - Collecting/sharing data
 - Achieve60AZ Alliance
 - Providing scholarships and mentoring to students
 - Supporting local action teams





Overview:

Education Forward Arizona plays a critical role in the Achieve60 – AZ GEAR UP Plan by providing services in the following three areas:

- **Postsecondary Enrollment:** provide services that help high school students enroll into college
- **First Year Postsecondary Support:** provide mentoring to ensure persistence
- **Community Engagement & Collaborations:** professional development and college readiness



Programs Supporting Students

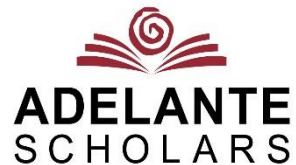


Supporting students through the college planning process.



College Scholarships & Mentoring

An AI powered chatbot helping Arizona students complete their FAFSA; doubling over next two years to reach all Arizona high school seniors



Providing \$16M in scholarships to 580 students



Programs Supporting Counselors and School Staff



A community of college access professionals statewide

An online training platform for counselors, teachers, college access professionals, and administrators



Launching 30 College Readiness Teams to build college going cultures at high schools across the state this year



Community Engagement:

- The Community Impact Team (CI) is based regionally around the state and connects with local communities to share the importance of education, deliver presentations, convene meetings and network with partners

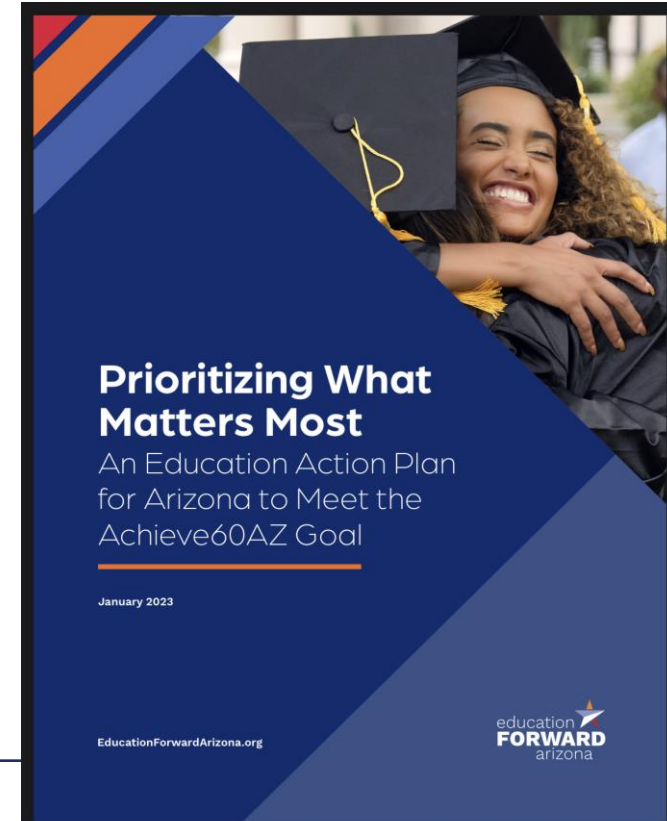
Goals:

- Raise awareness of the importance of quality education and build public will for significant education improvements
- Develop and share effective messaging for the importance of P-20 education statewide
- Craft a shared agenda to reach the Arizona Education Progress Meter Goals
- Ensure timely and accurate data are available in the Education Progress Meter



Examples of actions taken:

- Launch of the Achieve60 Action Plan in spring 2023 to identify steps communities can take to advance the Education Progress Meter goals in their local community
- Sharing of information around “Everything to Gain” economic impact of the value of education through presentations and networking statewide
- Convening local attainment groups around the state: Mohave, La Paz, West Valley, Page, Douglas, Yuma
- Updating the Education Progress Meter annually and making accurate data available on the website
- Reinvigorating AZCAN and launching additional CAP courses





***Sunnyside Unified School
District Partnership***

-Nj Utter



Established in 1921
Surrounded by two First Nations
2,000 employees
21 schools
Serving 14,192 students
84% Hispanic
80% qualify for free or reduced lunch



OUR VISION

Every child... College, Career and Community Ready.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to develop students with a strong sense of identity, purpose and agency, so that they leave our system as effective learners who **act with purpose to achieve the conditions they desire in their own and others' lives.**



College Readiness Teams/GEAR UP:



1. Knowing the data
2. Defining the goals
3. Committing to action steps
4. Funding the projects
5. Expanding the team
 - a. CKG Ambassadors (HS)
 - b. Advise Az (college)
 - c. Ask Benji
 - d. Faculty support



College Readiness Teams:



CRT Course



COLLEGE

KNOWING & GOING

A Helios Education Foundation Initiative

Southern Arizona Regional Collaborative



GEAR UP FAFSA: It takes more than an announcement



GEAR UP FAFSA: It takes more than an announcement



NCAN College and Career Readiness Fellow

Parent College Text Series/EAO College Corner

- Grades 4th-11th district wide
 - 2 texts per week, at the end of each topic there is a short quiz to gauge engagement and reward participation.
 - [Parent College Text Series](#)
 - 5 topics, with short bits of info
 - Collaboration with UA Early Academic Outreach to expand material on a College Corner

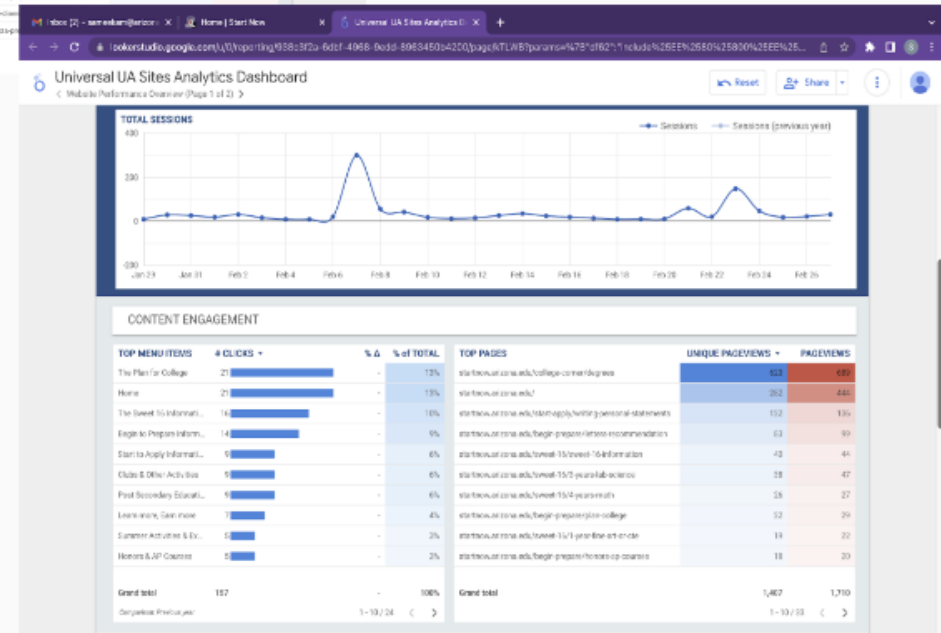
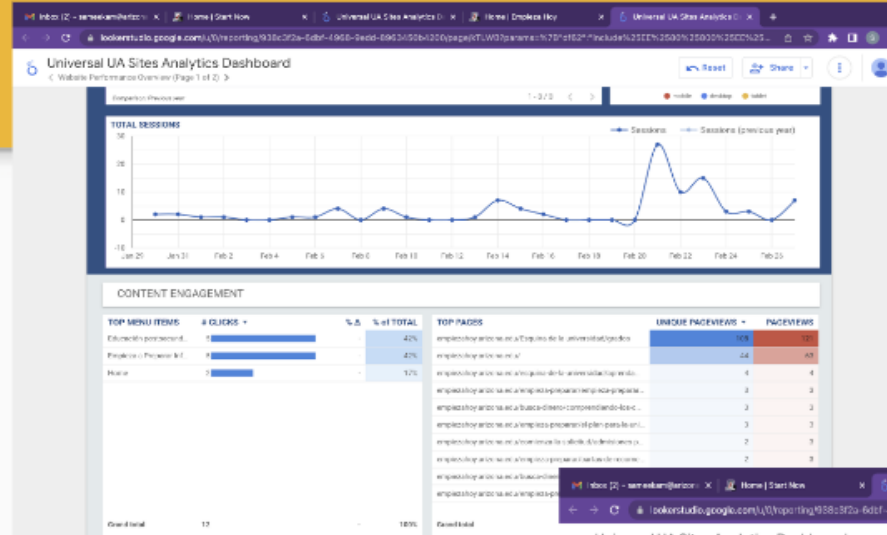


EAO- College Corner

Analytics

First topic

- Degrees got 620 unique page views
- Grados 108 unique views
- Start Now page got 781 new users in first topic



Celebrating our Parents





Partnership alignment

- Decision Center Data
- School Action Plan
- Senior Launch Guide
- FAFSA Nights
- College & Career Readiness





Implementation Highlights:

Services utilized:

- College Knowing & Going (CKG)
- CCRT Teams
- Ambassadors
- Regional Convenings
- Professional Development
- School Stipends





Gear Up Benefits:

Achieving Goals:

- Working directly with Gear Up staff
- Partnerships with PCC & UofA
- Access to school data
- Collaboration with other resources





Thank you!



Thank You!



Ruben Saenz

Sr. Director of Statewide College
Access Programs

rsaenz@educationforwardarizona.org

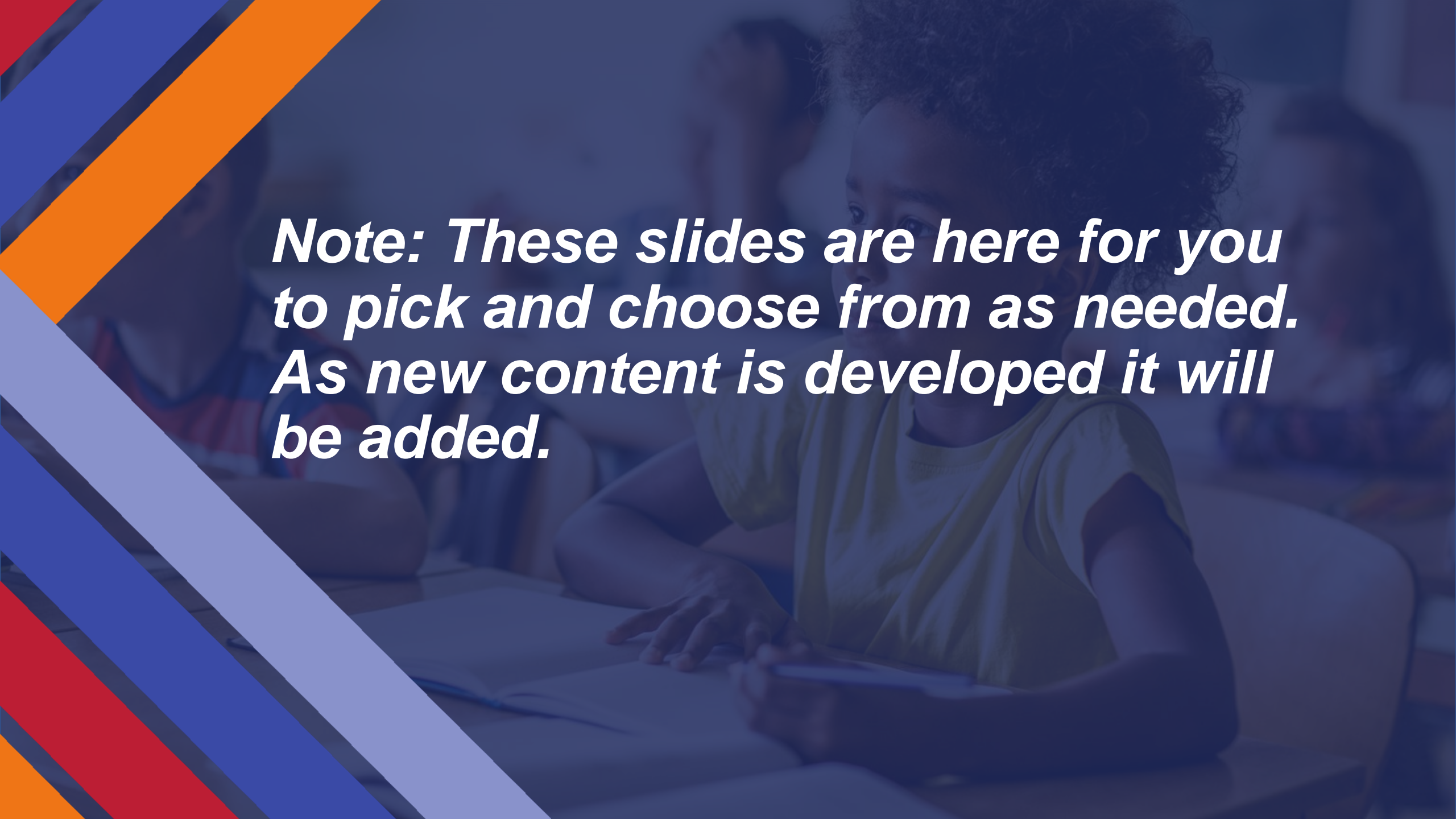
NJ Utter

Director of Career & Technical
Education

Sunnyside High School District

nju@susd12.org





Note: These slides are here for you to pick and choose from as needed. As new content is developed it will be added.

