

District Governing Board Highlights

February 2026

Student Engagement and Leadership (SEL)



Roughrider Green and Gold

This past month, our Student Ambassadors have been the driving force behind the renewed energy of **Green -N- Gold Mondays**. Through a combination of creative campus installations and direct peer-to-peer engagement, the team has significantly amplified school spirit and visibility for this core tradition.

Key Promotional Activities

To ensure maximum engagement, the Ambassadors executed several high-impact projects:

Campus Aesthetics & Door Decorating: Ambassadors dedicated extensive effort to a competitive door-decorating contest. This initiative transformed high-traffic hallways into vibrant displays of school pride, serving as a constant visual reminder of the weekly tradition.

Visual Landmarks: They mastered the art of professional balloon arch construction to bring attention to the initiative. This installation functioned as focal points for social media opportunities and brought awareness to on campus students in the Eatery and Student Lounge in the Prescott Campus.



The "Swag Patrol" Incentive Program: To drive active participation, Ambassadors patrolled campus every Monday. Students caught wearing Green and Gold were rewarded on the spot with exclusive school pride swag. This "surprise and delight" tactic has proven highly effective in boosting the volume of students dressing out each week.



The Ambassadors' commitment has moved Green -N- Gold Mondays from a passive calendar event to a highly visible, interactive experience. Their willingness to put in the "behind-the-scenes" labor, from inflating hundreds of balloons to judging elaborate door decorations has directly contributed to a more unified and spirited campus culture.



**Fall 2026 Green -N- Gold Door
Decorating Contest Winner!**
Yavapai College School of Business
ALL IN

OER Week & Student Advocacy

During **Open Educational Resources (OER) Week**, our Student Ambassadors played a critical role in bridging the communication gap between the administration and the student body regarding course material costs. The focus of the week was transparency, specifically helping students navigate the complexities of why certain textbooks are provided at no cost while others are not and educating them on how to request why and how the students should talk to their professors about becoming an OER class.

Education & Advocacy Initiatives

The Ambassadors in conjunction with the OER team utilized interactive methods to gather data and disseminate information:

- **The "Student Voice Wall":** This served as a focal point for the week. Ambassadors encouraged students to share their personal experiences with textbook affordability on a curated physical display. This initiative provided us with qualitative data on how material costs impact student success and helped students feel heard by the institution.
- **Engagement & Gamification:** To draw a crowd, the team hosted a promotional table featuring informative games. To incentivize participation, students competed for the chance to win gift cards.
- **Visual Presence:** Maintaining the high standards set earlier in the month, the Ambassadors designed and constructed a custom balloon arch with OER balloons at the top of the arch spanning the doorway from the Eatery to the Student Lounge. This visual marker ensured high visibility and brought attention to the OER week initiative.



Students of Leadership (SOL)



This month, the Students of Leadership (SOL) cohort shifted their focus inward, engaging in a series of intensive development sessions designed to bridge personal psychology with professional excellence. The curriculum centered on three core pillars: self-awareness, the psychology of achievement, and the practical application of inclusive leadership.

Strategic Learning Pillars

The following modules were explored to provide a holistic approach to modern leadership:

- **The Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI):** Students utilized the MBTI framework to decode their unique personality preferences. By identifying their specific "types," participants gained a deeper understanding of their natural communication styles, decision-making processes, and potential blind spots. This session emphasized how diverse personality profiles can be leveraged to build more cohesive, high-functioning teams.
- **The Power of Believing in Success:** Inspired by the principles of a "growth mindset," this session challenged students to examine the cognitive barriers to achievement. Discussions focused on the belief that abilities are developed through dedication rather than fixed traits. Students practiced reframing setbacks as essential data points for future success.
- **Outward Inclusion:** Moving beyond surface-level diversity, this module focused on the "Outward Mindset." Students learned to shift their perspective from seeing others as obstacles or vehicles for their own goals to seeing them as people with unique needs and objectives. This framework provided actionable steps for fostering an environment where every team member feels seen, heard, and valued.

Leadership Growth Outcomes

By integrating these three distinct areas of study, the SOL members have developed a more sophisticated leadership toolkit. They are now better equipped too:

1. **Tailor Communication:** Adjusting their leadership styles to accommodate different personalities.
2. **Cultivate Resilience:** Maintaining a high-performance mindset during high-stress academic or professional periods.



3. Drive Equity: Implementing "Outward" practices to ensure inclusive participation in campus organizations.



Student Government Association (SGA)

Unheard 22

This month, a significant gathering of **students and faculty** took part in "**The Unheard 22**," a solemn and impactful awareness event held on Monday, March 23rd. This initiative brought critical attention to the mental health challenges facing our veteran community, specifically addressing the statistic that 22 veterans lose their lives to suicide every day.



The campus community joined together to honor those lost and show collective support for our active-duty and veteran members:

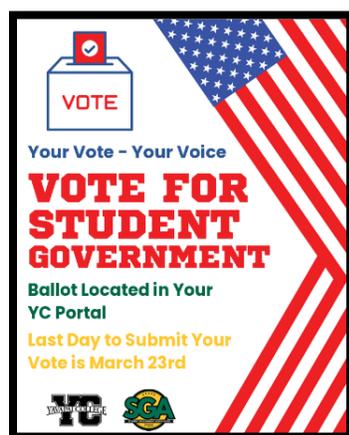
- **Unified Memorial Participation:** At 9:00 AM, students and faculty from both the Prescott and Verde campuses gathered at their respective flagpoles. The synchronized ceremonies served as a powerful moment of silence and reflection, representing the institution's commitment to veteran wellness and recognition.
- **Understanding the Message:** The event utilized the "empty boots" motif, a poignant visual representation of the void left by veterans lost to suicide. By attending, the campus community gained a deeper perspective on the invisible struggles and the unique sacrifices made by those who have served.
- **Fostering a Supportive Culture:** The strong presence of both students and faculty at the flagpole ceremonies reinforced a campus-wide culture of empathy. This turnout signaled to our student veterans that they are part of a community that values their well-being and actively supports their mental health journey.

Community Impact

Participation in "The Unheard 22" across both campuses served as a vital reminder of the importance of advocacy and visibility. This collective moment of unity not only honored the fallen but also helped normalize conversations around mental health resources, ensuring that those who have served feel seen and supported by the entire Yavapai College community.

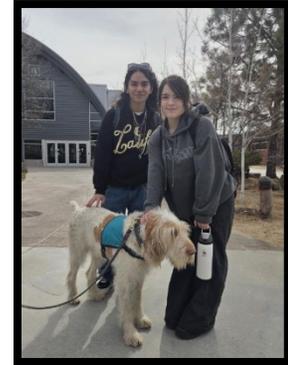
Election for SGA 2026-27 Leadership Team

The YCSGA Executive elections have been an exciting journey for our student candidates. Each candidate is campaigning for the student vote using flyers and social media platforms like Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. The elections concluded on March 23rd. SGA will be announcing the SGA Executive Leadership Team the beginning of April.



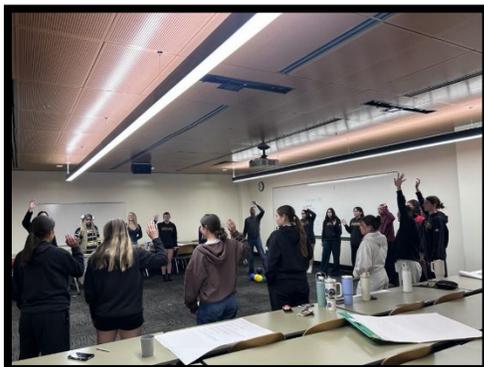
Drug and Alcohol Prevention Programs

February proved to be a high-impact month for the Drug and Alcohol Prevention Team. Eric's Therapy Dog and Friendship Bracelet event successfully engaged 98 students and staff members, blending meaningful prevention education with community-building. Attendees received AOD information, Valentine's-themed consent education, campus resources, and swag — all while connecting with peers and therapy dogs in a welcoming environment.



Later in the month, Eric and Kellie expanded prevention outreach by facilitating *The Buzz* training with the Women's Soccer and Volleyball teams. The Buzz is an interactive, evidence-informed prevention program that uses game-based learning to demonstrate varying levels of intoxication and increase students' understanding of alcohol's effects.

By creating an engaging and judgment-free space, the training encouraged student-athletes to openly discuss their experiences with alcohol, reflect on decision-making, and explore strategies for reducing risk. Through this targeted outreach, the AOD Prevention Team strengthened protective factors within athletic communities while reinforcing a culture of accountability and informed choices.



YC Food Pantry

In February, the YC Food Pantry received a check for **\$4,250 from the Empty Bowls Project**. The organization's board votes each year on which local food bank will receive the funds, and this year our pantry was selected.

A representative from the Empty Bowls organization contacted the pantry in December to learn more about our program and then shared that information with the board. After reviewing our work and impact, the board voted to award the funds to the YC Food Pantry.

In December, representatives **Moira and Katherine, the Board Chair**, visited the pantry to present the check. This generous community gift will go a long way toward helping us keep our shelves fully stocked for students in need.

We were also grateful to receive an additional \$500 donation from the Prescott Methodist Church Women and **1,000 lbs.** of food from the congregation.



Spring Mobile Food Distribution

The YC Food Pantry will be hosting its community food distribution for the semester. The event will be drive-through only and will take place in Parking Lot N.



**COMMUNITY
MOBILE FOOD
DISTRIBUTION**

3/27/2026

**10:00 AM - 1:00 PM OR
UNTIL ALL FOOD IS
DISTRIBUTED**

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