

District Governing Board

February 2025

Student Engagement and Leadership (SEL)

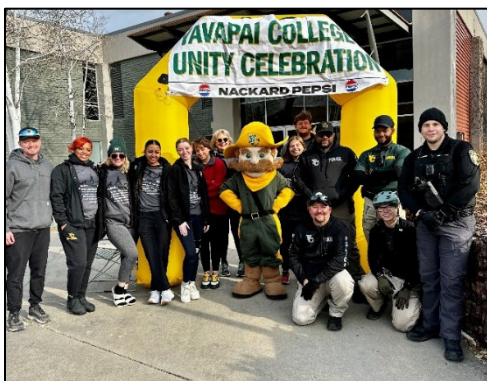
Pizza and Ping Pong with the Provost

Students had a fantastic time at Pizza and Ping Pong with the Provost, Dr. Doug Berry, on both the Prescott and Verde Valley campuses. This lively event gave students a chance to engage with Dr. Berry in a fun and informal setting, enjoying friendly ping pong matches and great conversations over pizza. It was a wonderful opportunity for students to share their experiences, ask questions, and build connections within the YC community.



WELCOME BACK ROUGHRIDERS

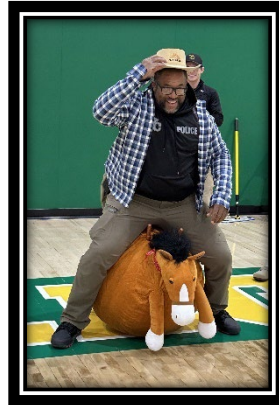
Students received a warm welcome back at the Roughrider Welcome Center on all Yavapai College campuses and centers, where they stopped by for helpful information, free SWAG, and snacks to kick off the semester. On the Prescott Campus, we partnered with Spotlight Café, which offers free hot coffee and cocoa. This event helped students connect, find resources, and start the semester on a positive note.



Unity Walk

SEL supported the Yavapai College Unity Walk 2025, a day-long celebration of community, respect, and empowerment on January 25th. Participants walked the scenic YC Walking Trails in honor of Black History Month, the funds raised were in support of YC Women Athlete Scholarships. The event continued with a tailgate party, featuring a live DJ, fun games, and a food truck, creating an exciting pre-game

atmosphere. Between the YC Women's and Men's Basketball games, the YC Jazz Band delivered a fantastic performance, adding to the energy of the day.



SAVE THE DATE – APRIL 11, 2025!

SEL is Inviting all to the Yavapalooza party!

On January 24th, The Curbside Podcast set up outside of Founding Fathers and kicked off the marketing campaign for Yavapalooza.



Yavapai College Student Government Association



SGA has a new communication tool! The oversized postcard is designed for students to express their concerns or ask questions directly to their student representatives. **SGA wants to hear from YOU!** The QR code will direct all comments to SGA, and it is completely anonymous.



Ruff's Closet sponsored a Coat Drive before and after winter break with seventy-two coats distributed through the end of January.



Certified Peer Educator (CPE) Training Program



The NASPA Certified Peer Educator Training Program equipped forty-two students with essential leadership and peer support skills to positively impact their campus communities. This nationally recognized program enhances students' abilities in communication, teamwork, problem-solving, and advocacy, empowering them to support their peers in areas such as mental health, wellness, and student engagement.

By completing the CPE training, participants gain valuable experience that strengthens their leadership potential and prepares them for future success in both academic and professional settings.



SOL Letters to Isolated Seniors

The Letters to Isolated Seniors initiative involved SOL members writing over 500 heartfelt holiday notes over the past 6 years to seniors residing at the local Good Samaritan in Prescott, AZ. This effort aimed to combat loneliness and bring joy to those who may feel disconnected from the community, offering them words of encouragement, kindness, and personal connection. The initiative not only brightened their days but also



demonstrated the power of compassion and community, as the letters served as a reminder that they are valued and remembered. During this time participants also enjoyed decorating holiday sugar cookies and sipping on hot cocoa.

Lego's and Outward Mindset



SOL had an Outward Mindset Workshop included a hands-on Lego exercise that focused on enhancing communication skills, encouraging participants to collaborate and think critically. This workshop, helped individuals shift from an inward mindset to an outward mindset in their approach to both work and relationships within an organization. By fostering a more empathetic, solutions-oriented perspective,



participants learned how to engage with others more effectively, building stronger connections and improving overall teamwork and communication.

Early College

Choose Chino Night

On January 21st, Chino Valley High School hosted a Choose Chino Night event for local 8th graders to attend. These rambunctious teens spent the evening touring Chino Valley High School and learning all about YC Early College opportunities, such as earning high school and college credit through dual enrollment, concurrent enrollment, and MICTED. Students also learned about the YC Promise Program as an option after high school graduation.



Early College Academy

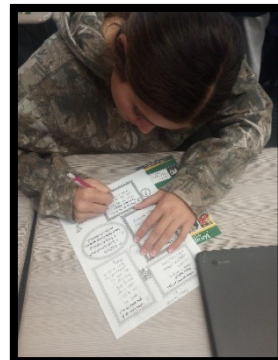


Prior to winter break, the Bradshaw Mountain High School Early College Academy students gathered for a Friendsgiving feast where they shared in a potluck, decorated Christmas ornaments, and took memorable photos.

After the ornaments were complete, students decorated their very own BMHS Academy Christmas tree.

Approximately 120-Mile-High middle schoolers received a taste of the Early College opportunities that await them at Prescott High School. PHS Academy students joined in the event to share their personal experiences with the Early College Academy program.

The middle schoolers had fun playing a Kahoots game that introduced them to the wonderful world of Early College. Winners were awarded YC swag, and students completed reflection activities that centered around their college and career plans.



SSS/TRIO

Note from a student to the SSS/TRIO staff

I would like to take a moment to express my appreciation for the invaluable support that the SSS TRIO program has provided me during my academic journey. The resources, guidance, and mentorship offered have made a significant impact on my ability to navigate both my education and personal responsibilities as a father of three. I feel the program is doing an excellent job in fostering a supportive and encouraging environment for students like me who face unique challenges.

Anthony, Student - SSS TRIO

Financial Aid

Every year the Financial Aid Office goes through an Annual Audit. The results from the Audit are required to be turned into the Department of ED, by March 31st for the previous academic year. Hundreds of files are reviewed each year by the auditors. This academic year we provided over 1000 screenshots with regulatory justification.

The Financial Aid Office once again has had **no** audit findings for the 9th year in a row! This is quite an accomplishment, and we are **proud of the FA team**, especially navigating the Financial Aid and Department of ED turmoil caused by FAFSA Complications.

Basic Needs

YC Food Pantry

The YC Food Pantry is in full swing with 36 visits booked in January! This is an uptick from 27 visits in January of 2024.

The next **Community Mobile Food Distribution** will be held on March 28th, from 10:00 – 1:00. All community members are welcome to drive through and pick up meat, dairy, bread, drinks and snacks.



On February 3rd, Deborah Chambers, Food Pantry Coordinator and Theresa Scott, Basic Needs Manager, attended a lunch and learn at the State Capitol for Anti-Hunger Advocacy Day. Over 100 people attended from across the state.

Speakers included:

- Elyse Guidas from Activate Food Arizona
- Sarah Martinelli from ASU's College of Health Solutions
- Ken Jacoby from St. Mary's Food Bank Community Kitchen
- Minority Leader Nancy Gutierrez



Sarah Martinelli

After the gathering the group walked over to the Capitol and was recognized on the House and Senate floor.

The Basic Needs Office Gets a Therapist

After several months of negotiations, a therapist from Spectrum Healthcare is now on the Prescott campus one day per week, to provide in-person therapy to our students who are on AHCCCS. This is a very important service for our students who prefer in-person therapy and can't find the time to get to an appointment off campus.

Helping Students get to Class

The Basic Needs Office has been working hard to enhance public transportation options for YC students, including expanding routes that connect our CTEC, Prescott Valley, Chino Valley, and Prescott campuses. Set to launch on July 1, 2025, the Yavapai Regional Transit System (YAV Connect) will introduce expanded microtransit services across the tri-city area. This service will offer direct rides, allowing students to travel from their homes to any destination within the tri-city area for a low fee of \$1.00 to \$2.00 per trip. This is an exciting development for our students who rely on public transportation!