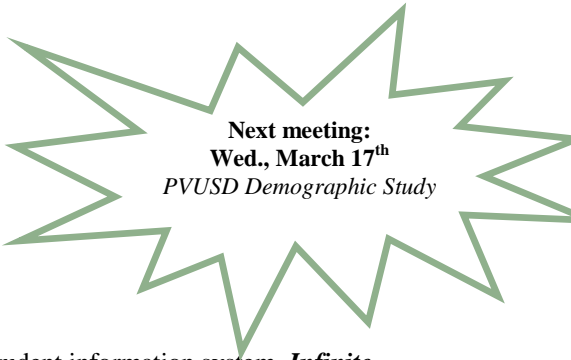


UPC Snapshot

United Parent Council Monthly Meeting, in review

February 2010



Next meeting:
Wed., March 17th
PVUSD Demographic Study

Superintendent Dr. Lee talked about the rationale behind the switch to the new student information system, *Infinite Campus*. A switch to a new system was necessary because the previous system provider was going out of business. *Infinite Campus* fits PVUSD's needs very well. The district decided to make the switch mid school year instead of during summer break so that it wouldn't be trying out the system for the first time at the beginning of a school year. Dr. Lee reported that the transition is going very well, and parents will be able to use it beginning 2/23/10. Feedback has been positive from the schools, although it will be extra work for elementary school teachers. Elementary grades have to be entered twice because of the standards based report cards and an inability at this point for *Infinite Campus* to accommodate standards based report cards.

UPC Business Meeting Highlights.....

- There will be an election on 5/18 on whether or not to allow a 1% sales tax which will generate \$898 million for Arizona in Fiscal Year 2011. If the measure is not passed, it will mean cuts estimated at 17-23% in each district. Updates and alerts about legislative issues affecting our district are available by signing up with the CLN (Community Legislative Network). To find out more about CLN and how to sign up, go to www.pvschools.net and click on "committees" at the top right side of the page. Scroll down to find *Community Legislative Network*.
- UPC has received nominations for 1st V.P., 2nd V.P. and Treasurer. *Nominations are still needed for Secretary and President*. Nominations for all positions are welcome. Please contact Mark Lane (mlane19@cox.net) with nominations or for more information.
- **Empty Bowls** will be held on 3/4 at 4:30 P.M. in the courtyard at the district offices. PVUSD art students and art teachers have created and donated one-of-a-kind bowls that can be purchased for a small donation. A meal of a hearty soup and bread will be served as well. Last year's Empty Bowl event raised several thousand dollars for the Paradise Valley Food Bank.
- There are various UPC committee chairperson positions open for next year. Please contact **Julie Bacon** (jwbacon@cox.net) if interested.
- Learn more about the budget process by observing a Governing Board work study session on the budget on 3/11/10 from 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. This meeting (held in the same room as the UPC meetings) is open to the public, but no questions or comments are permitted.

Program: 21st Century Learning – C.R.E.S.T. Specialty High School and The Digital Learning Center

1. Guest speakers were Cindy Davis, Principal of PVHS and Carol Lahlum, Team Leader of C.R.E.S.T., a small, specialty high school at PVHS to open Fall 2010. C.R.E.S.T. is an acronym for Center for Research in Engineering, Science, and Technology. **C.R.E.S.T. will have three programs of study: Engineering, Biotechnology – Research and Development, and Biotechnology – Sustainability.** Handouts of the classes included in the programs of study were available, as well as handouts on the framework for 21st century learning that C.R.E.S.T. is designed around. *Additional information including handouts can be found at <http://cmweb.pvschools.net/pvhscrestweb/>, and PVHS Principal Cindy Davis strongly encouraged any interested parents to give her a call and set up a visit to the site to learn more.*
2. Director of Gifted Education Dina Brulles and DLC Curriculum Designer Kimberly Elms explained the Digital Learning Center (DLC) at Sunrise Middle School. *A copy of the entire presentation is available at <http://gifted.pvschools.net>.*

For details on upcoming meetings, programs and all things UPC, go to www.pvupc.org