



**NOTICE OF MEETING
REGIONAL COLLEGE ACCESS CENTER NETWORK
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE METROPOLITAN EDUCATION COMMISSION**

Meeting Minutes

Pursuant to A.R.S. 38.431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the Regional College Access Center Advisory Group Subcommittee of the Metropolitan Education Commission and to the general public that the Regional College Access Center Subcommittee of the Metropolitan Education Commission will hold a meeting open to the public on **Tuesday, September 6, 2022 from 8-9:30AM, Via Zoom Virtual Meeting Platform**. Agendas will be available to the public at the Metropolitan Education Commission, 1080 S. 10th Avenue, Tucson, Arizona, 85701.

Dated this September 6, 2022

Ricky Hernández, Executive Board Chair
Dr. Daisy Rodriguez Pitel, Interim Executive Director
Chelsea Forer, RCAC Program Coordinator
Kyle Hetherington, MEC Program Assistant
Hannah Lansa, College Intern
Metropolitan Education Commission

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82039162018?pwd=dDlPUXNoMTZjelpHN25ZWlZrK2lGUT09>

Meeting ID: 820 3916 2018

Passcode: 290879

1.0 Call to Order and Welcome Chelsea Forer
Meeting called to order 08:09 AM

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance and Land Acknowledgment Chelsea Forer

On behalf of the Metropolitan Education Commission, we honor the tribal nations who have served as caretakers of this land from time immemorial and respectfully acknowledge the ancestral homelands of the Tohono O'odham Nation and the multi-millennial presence of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe within Pima County. Consistent with Pima County's commitment to diversity and inclusion, we strive toward building equal-partner relationships with Arizona's tribal nations.

3.0 Roll Call (from [Google Form](#)) Chelsea Forer

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|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Chelsea Forer | 8. Chula Robertson |
| 2. Kyle Hetherington | 9. Aaryn Townsend |
| 3. Hannah Lansa | 10. Karina Domiguez |
| 4. Jennie Clausen | 11. Tara McCall |
| 5. Abby Tudor | 12. Joi Stirrup |
| 6. Haydee Kukowski | 13. José M. Álvarez |
| 7. Rudy McCormick | 14. Cindy Ballantyne |



- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 15. Juan Ibarra | 27. Cynthia Ruich |
| 16. Cathy Meyer | 28. NJ Utter |
| 17. Maria Hart-Salinas | 29. Susana Armenta |
| 18. John Farrell | 30. Kristen Dittiger |
| 19. Manny Carrillo | 31. Antonio Garcia |
| 20. Tanisha Tatum | 32. Rebecca Carrier |
| 21. Stacy Flores | 33. Martha Acosta |
| 22. Karla Cruze-Silva | 34. Belinda Joyce Stevens |
| 23. Dan Kellish | 35. Jacob Cypert |
| 24. Karla Gonzalez | 36. Rita Bracamonte-Rodriguez |
| 25. Kelsi Redding | 37. Kenneth Welch |
| 26. Jeffrey Proctor | 38. Edward Nossem |

4.0 Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes Chelsea Forer

April 27, 2022

Motion: John Farrell

Second: Juan Ibarra

5.0 Presentations (8:15-9:10AM)

- The 2023-2024 Flinn Scholarship Application
 - Haydee Kukowski, Program Manager for Scholarship and Education Initiatives at the Flinn Foundation, HKukowski@flinn.org
 - **Opens 9.12.22, Due 10.19.22**
 - **Information available Monday, September 12, 6 p.m. at the University of Arizona Student Union Memorial Center - Tri-University In-person event**
 - Application details
 - Covers housing, fees, and tuition at UArizona, ASU, or NAU
 - Eligibility - U.S. citizen, Arizona resident for 2 years, at least 3.5 GPA, top 5% of high school test, minimum SAT score, accepted to Arizona university
 - Gap year is not allowed; 4 semester of leave of absence allowed
 - What is assessed - scholastic performance, potential for university success, leadership and initiative, examples for peers
 - Application - background and academic interest, extracurricular activities and employment, honors and awards, three essays and two-short answer questions, counselor report (optional) and 2 high school teachers recommendations, transcripts
 - Application information: 602-744-6802, FlinnScholars@flinn.org
- JA Inspire
 - Cindy Ballantyne, JA Inspire Program Manager at Junior Achievement of Arizona, cindyb@jaaz.org and Dr. Jennie Clausen, jenniec@jaaz.org
 - **Live webinars**
 - **September 30, 2022, 10:00 AM**
 - **October 31, 2022, 1:00 PM**
 - **November 30, 10:00 AM**



- Career Readiness (connecting with local jobs, develop soft skills), Entrepreneurship (leadership skills, interacting with businesses, problem solving), and Financial Literacy
- Available for 5th - 12th grade students
- Over 100 AZ employers who are involved in program
- Curriculum options: all in one lesson, 7-lesson bundle, over 30 customizable lessons
- 2023-2024 FAFSA Updates
 - Julie Sainz, Assistant Director, FAFSA Programs, ABOR, Julie.Sainz@azregents.edu
 - **Arizona FAFSA Kick Off - Thursday, September 22, 9:30 am - 11:30 am**
 - 23-24 Application Details
 - FAFSA opens October 1
 - FSA ID (student and parent) can be created before 10/1
 - Parents w/o SS#: skip FSA ID, zeros in FAFSA for SS#, and print, sign, and mail completed application
 - 23-24 FAFSA requires 2021 tax information
 - No longer required for male students to register for Selective Service on application
 - 24-25 FAFSA Updates
 - Fewer questions
 - EFC changing to SAI
 - No question about selective service
 - **FAFSA Finish Line Data available in new format 10.10.22**
- Ask Benji
 - Graciela Nobles, Program Manager for Community Initiatives at Education Forward Arizona, gnobles@educationforwardarizona.org and Rita Bracamonte-Rodriguez, rbracamonterodriguez@educationforwardarizona.org
 - Chatbot that specifically answers questions about FAFSA and financial aid
 - Entire student population can be registered for automatic updates w/district partnership
 - Individuals can gain access to Benji w/text-in option

HED Institution Announcements

- UArizona
 - Contact Dan Kellish, Sr. Associate Director, dkellish@arizona.edu to request campus representative visits
 - Application is open for Fall 2023 until May 1, 2023
 - Honors application is also open
 - Priority deadline November 15th and Regular deadline February 15th
 - Admission to the UA is NOT required to apply
 - [Arizona Experience](#) - Saturday September 17th (experience campus, tours)
 - Tri-University events (4, 5, 6 pm events this week)
 - [Campus events](#) and visits
 - [First-year and transfer students scholarships](#)
 - [Information for first-year students](#)



- NAU
 - Honors College application is open, Priority deadline November 15
 - 3.0 GPA required
 - Admission to NAU is REQUIRED to apply
- PCC
 - Community engagement calendar available online
- CUofT
 - Largest incoming class this Fall (24 enrollees)
 - November 1st is the early deadline for guaranteed tuition coverage
 - Every admitted student is offered a \$3000 scholarship

6.0 MEC Updates

Chelsea Forer

- Welcome Kyle Hetherington as the MEC's new Program Assistant.
- Dr. Daisy Rodriguez Pitel will remain as the MEC's Interim Executive Director through the end of the 2022-2023 academic year.
- Youth Advisory Council (YAC) application is open for student applicants. Meetings are held virtually from 5-6:30PM on the first Wednesday of each month.
- MEC commitment to supporting youth mental health and wellbeing through partnerships with the City of Tucson, SAAHEC, Pima County Public Libraries, and the Pima County Behavioral Health Coalition

7.0 RCAC Updates

Chelsea Forer

- Starting 9/19, Chelsea will be working remotely from California and traveling to Tucson monthly.
- The RCAC Peer Coach Program is active in nine high schools across Tucson. Additional school partnerships are available for the 2023-2024 academic year.
- The RCAC is looking to present its services to all school districts across Tucson and Pima County. Communicate with Chelsea to schedule these presentations.
- Scholarships A-Z Educators Committee is looking for members. Contact Jose Perez at joseperez@scholarshipsaz.org for more information.

8.0 Roundtable

All

- Upcoming Events
 - Pima County One Stop Youth Employment Center [Fall Career Expo](#), Wednesday 10/26/2022 from 1-4PM, Kino Event Center; Registration required.
 - UArizona's Arizona Experience & Hispanic/Latinx Heritage Day, Saturday 9/17/2022 from 8:30-4PM

9.0 Adjournment

Chelsea Forer

Motion: John Farrel
Second: Joi Stirrup

Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting the MEC office at 520-670-0055. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange accommodation.