

SUNSCENTRAL

Tutoring Program



2012/2013 (YEAR 1) TO 2020/2021 (YEAR 9)

GET KIDS TO GRADUATE, GET KIDS TO COLLEGE

During these nine years, Central High School and Phoenix Suns Charities have partnered on the development and implementation of the SunsCentral Tutoring Program. SunsCentral supports improved achievement with low and high performing students through the creation of a strategic tutoring program occurring both during and after school. Additionally, the implementation of the Kaplan Test Prep courses has significantly increased ACT scores making Central students eligible for scholarships and college placement.

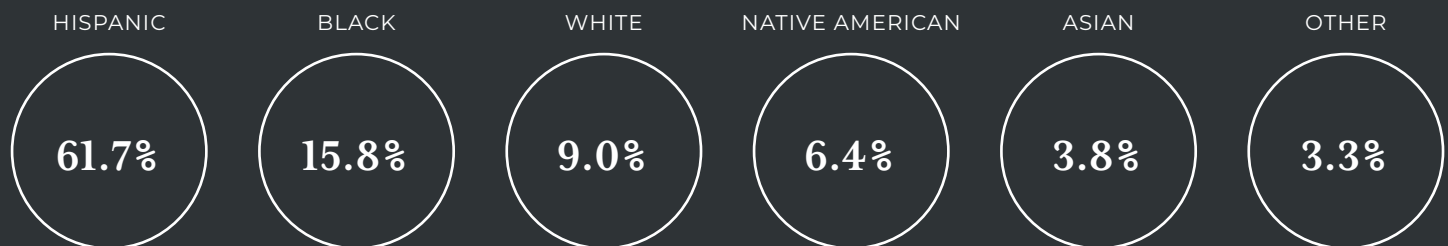
“SunsCentral is opening doors for Central High School Students while preparing them for College, Career, and Life.”

- Principal Leticia Avalos, Central High School

Diversity and equality are also important focuses of this program and for the Phoenix Suns. SunsCentral provides an environment where students from all backgrounds (regardless of race, nationality, or gender) have the same access to the support and encouragement needed to learn and achieve.

There are 39 different native languages spoken at Central High School.

Demographics



Social Justice | Diversity | Inclusion

Students involved in the SunsCentral Tutoring Program learn to appreciate the many diverse backgrounds at Central High School by taking classes that follow foundational aspects of social justice, diversity and inclusion. Classes that focus on connecting and building community, creating positive personal relationships and peer relationships in the classroom/workplace, and on developing equitable responsibilities on teams and in communities.

Graduation Rate

8-year Graduation Rate:

2013: 78.6% 2020: 87.4%

Students Served

6,000+

Total Investment

Phoenix Suns Charities has invested more than \$1.3 million over nine years with the intent of improving academic performance, graduation rates and brightening the futures of Central High School students. The foundation built through the SunsCentral program helps students obtain a first job, secure employment following high school or college and advance in their careers once employed.

Tutoring Hours

118,000+ tutoring hours completed
90% of the student population takes advantage of the tutoring offered.

Incentive Days

25 Incentive Days

Students are awarded SUNS incentive items based off of the total amount of tutoring hours completed each quarter, improvement and attendance.

Incentive Items

45+ van trips full of Suns' memorabilia
Basketballs, draw string bags, folders, pencils, hats, shirts & more!

Tickets Donated

10,000+ Suns, Mercury & Rattlers game tickets/vouchers donated over 9 years

Financial Literacy Topics

Credit v Debit
Affordable housing/Vehicles
Identity theft
Banking
Income/Employment
Higher Education Costs
Insurance

EL Learning

300 students in Central's English Language Program

Variety of levels to support
Classes for pre-emergent students
Courses are taught by highly qualified teachers

Kaplan

Central students also have the opportunity to attend Kaplan ACT College Prep courses underwritten by Phoenix Suns Charities. Through this program, the median ACT score of the students in the Kaplan ACT test prep program has risen **10% higher than the campus averages.**

This has led to more students reaching the required ACT score to become eligible for scholarships at our in-state universities.

Students at Central High School have received more than \$34 million in scholarships from 2013 to 2020.

Suns Experiences

Adding to the academic support, Suns broadcaster, Tom Leander, has led many efforts to involve the students in enrichment experiences including a "Visit with the Suns" introducing Central Sports Medicine students to Suns Athletic Trainer, Aaron Nelson and Central's Sports Statistical class to the Suns Basketball Communications world.

“ The SunsCentral Tutoring Program set me up for success by preparing me for college. I'm grateful to have had the opportunity to be a part of this program. I'm ready to embark on a new journey and start my career life after I graduate in 2021 from Northern Arizona University! ”

– Esmeralda,
Former SunsCentral Participant



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