

WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO COMMUNITY COLLEGE CAREER AND TECHNICAL TRAINING IN SEDONA/ VERDE VALLEY?



“Trained, Certified, Hired”

A HISTORY OF PRESCOTT DOMINATION

In 1966-67 there was a fierce contest between the citizens in the Verde Valley and those in Prescott over where the first Community College would be located. The Gulf States and Industries Corporation offered \$1.5 million dollars in financing for student dormitories and a student center, an outright gift of \$100,000 for building purposes, and 165 acres of what was described as “prime land in the Clarkdale area.” A site review by Northern Arizona University recommended Clarkdale as the most desirable location for the first Yavapai Community College.

Community College Governing Board member Charles Mabery argued that the Verde Valley campus should be designed to serve northern Arizona, rather than just Yavapai County. He urged that the College be set up to follow a vocational, technical program that would meet the increasing demands in the area. **Despite these arguments, Prescott was selected as the site for the Community College.**

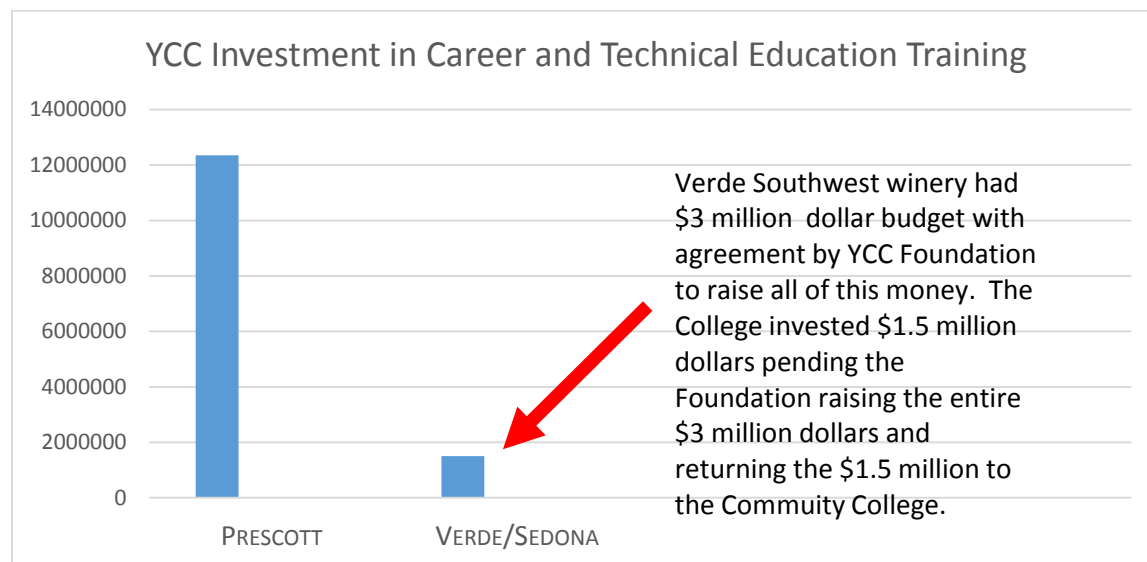
In 2000 voters approved a \$69.5 million bond issue for the Community College. Among the many projects anticipated by the voters was construction of a Northern Arizona Regional Skills Center on the Verde Campus. The Center, dedicated in 2004, was to serve the workforce training needs of residents living in Apache, Coconino, Navajo and Yavapai counties. It was a project viewed so favorably that partial funding for the Center was provided by the U.S. Department of Commerce – Economic Development Administration. The Center was dedicated in February 2004.

It took about four years for the Northern Arizona Regional Skills Center to mostly vanish from the Verde Valley. In 2006, Yavapai Community College in Prescott and Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold, a Phoenix-based global mining company, partnered to create a two-year apprenticeship program in diesel, industrial and electrical mechanics. Freeport-McMoRan built classrooms and paid faculty salaries for the first three years of the program. By 2008 Community College training associated with skills such as welding, pipe fitting, engineering, robotics, diesel repair, electrical training and dozens of other courses had moved from the Verde Valley or had been established on the Prescott side of Yavapai County.

WHERE DOES THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE INVEST IN CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION TRAINING?

In April 2007 the District purchased a 108,000 sq. ft. building to locate its Career and Technical Education Center at the Prescott airport. The building was obtained via a lease purchase financing agreement for \$5,000,000.00 with an additional \$750,000.00 to be used for future renovations.

In phases I and II of the 2014-2024 capital development program, the Community College Governing Board approved \$6,597,000.00 to upgrade the Career and Technical Education Center campus.

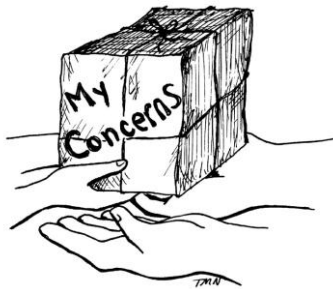


FUNDS VIA GRANTS NOT INCLUDED IN ABOVE GRAPH: Yavapai College was awarded a \$1.87 million federal grant in 2012. It is being used to support a new electrical line worker program with Arizona Public Service (APS), to expand the college's mining program and to strengthen its existing electrical instrumentation program—all programs offered only on the Prescott CTEC campus. In 2015 a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) grant of \$802,900 was received. It will be used for "capital expansion and development of" CTEC and the Southwest Wine Center.

SEDONA/VERDE VALLEY CITIZEN CONCERNS

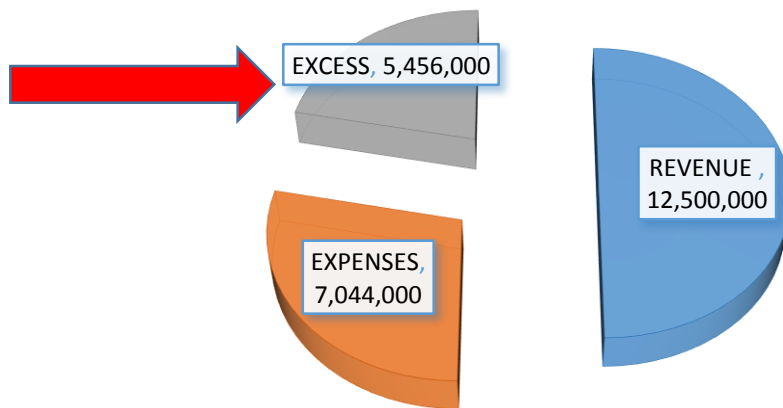
1. There is no written plan for developing Community College Career Technical Education training opportunities in Sedona/Verde Valley.
2. It is an unreasonable driving distance from Sedona/Verde Valley to the CTECH campus for adults seeking vocational training.
3. On occasion, the shortest route for some from Sedona/Verde Valley to CTEC, which is over Mingus Mountain on 89A, finds the winding, two-lane dangerous road ice covered, snow packed, or fog shrouded.
4. CTEC is too distant from the high schools in Sedona/Verde Valley to provide reasonable access. In some cases, a round trip may take two, three or four hours just to reach the CTEC facility and return home.
5. Over 200 high school students in the Prescott area are estimated to enroll in fall, 2014 in classes at the Prescott CTEC campus. Some of them will seek an electric line worker certificate and almost immediately after completing the two-year course, they will be hired at a lucrative beginning salary. Not a single Verde Valley high school student will be enrolled this fall because of distance.
6. Part-time workers, single mothers and fathers find CTEC too remote because they cannot arrange sufficient time away from their work and/or childcare to attend CTEC classes. Local assess is necessary.
7. Most CTEC classes are “hands-on,” therefore, residents in Sedona/Verde Valley cannot obtain most of the training because it is not offered online.
8. The absence of reasonable access to job training opportunities has an obvious adverse impact on the lives of hundreds of residents on the Sedona/Verde Valley side of the County who are seeking to improve their lives, support their families, and avoid government support.
9. There is a long-standing bitterness by many toward the Prescott side of the County because of the economic disparity in campus development between the Prescott area and the Sedona/Verde Valley area.
10. There is no public transportation from Sedona/Verde Valley side of the County to CTEC.
11. There is no Community College transportation from the Sedona/Verde Valley side of the County to CTEC.

12. It is now generally accepted that trade certifications average annual wages have surpassed Baccalaureate average annual wages in the United States: \$55,000 compared to \$51,000. Students and residents in Sedona/Verde Valley without reasonable access to trade certifications offered at CTEC are being economically disadvantaged.
13. In its May, 2014 report CTEC said that there was 100% job placement in electrical graduates for the spring 2014 and 100% placement of diesel graduates in spring 2014. Residents and students on the Sedona/Verde Valley side of the County cannot compete for these jobs because access to training at CTEC is not reasonably available to most of them.
14. Although the Gunsmithing program at CTEC has an extremely long waiting list, YCC refuses to open a second program in Sedona/Verde Valley.
15. About 50 aviation courses are offered at CTEC; none (not even ground school) is offered at Sedona/Verde Valley facilities.
16. Less college debt is accumulated by students who are enrolled in Technical Trade Certifications, which arguably creates wealth sooner.
17. Millwrights, machinists, pipefitters anticipate a 24% turnover by 2020. This represents more than 230,000 jobs that will be available. Technical training for these jobs is offered at CTEC but not by the Community College in Sedona/Verde Valley.
18. There will be a need for 1,000 air traffic controllers per year for the next 10 years (\$112,000 average salary). CTEC has just added a new lab to train them; there is no training in Sedona/Verde Valley.
19. The Community College works with public and charter schools on the Prescott side of Mingus Mountain at CTEC; it does so only minimally in Sedona/Verde Valley.



A FAIR RETURN FOR PROPERTY TAXES PAID BY SEDONA/VERDE VALLEY RESIDENTS

SEDONA/VERDE VALLEY ANNUAL EXCESS PROPERTY TAX REVENUE PAID (USING COLLEGE DATA)



According to figures obtained from Yavapai Community College, citizens in Sedona/Verde Valley pay an annual primary tax of about \$12.5 million dollars. The citizens also pay an additional secondary tax of an estimated \$1.5 to \$2 million dollars for outstanding Community College bond obligations.

The Community College claims in documents it produced that operating expenses in 2012 for the Verde campus and Sedona Center were about \$7 million dollars. If correct, this leaves a surplus of tax revenue going to the Community College of about \$5.5 million dollars after Sedona/Verde Valley operating expenses are paid. In addition, all property tax revenue from the other districts in the County, plus student tuition and state revenue is received by Prescott for Prescott operations.

EXAMPLES OF ONLY A FEW OF THE MANY CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION COURSES OFFERED ONLY AT CTEC IN PRESCOTT



- 1. Gunsmithing (10 courses)**
- 2. 50 Aviation Courses (private pilot to commercial pilot; helicopter training)**
- 3. Air traffic controller**
- 4. Drone controller/operator (being developed)**
- 5. Electrical Worker program (2 year certificate)**
- 6. Machine operator**
- 7. Canine Care and Handling (5 courses)**
- 8. Automotive Technician Certificate (many courses)**
- 9. Mining programs with Freeport-McMoRan and ARSARCO**
- 10. Computer Numerical Controlled (CNC) Machining Certificate**

YCC HAS CLOSED THE LAST MAJOR CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM IN SEDONA AND MOVED IT TO PRESCOTT. IS NURSING ON ITS WAY OUT?



By the summer, 2014 the Community College had stripped the Sedona Center for Arts and Technology of all of its skills programs. The Prescott based administrators' sunsetted the last survivor, the Digital Film School, and moved what was left to Prescott. The administrators have also promised to move a portion of the remaining five nursing courses on the Verde campus to Prescott Valley as soon as a new campus could be built there.

IT'S ALL ABOUT JOBS

The growing strength of the Community College Career and Technical Education training program at CTEC is illustrated by the May 2014 report, a portion of which appears below:



- ✓ Programs at CTEC have doubled and tripled in size over the last five years.
- ✓ Enrollment at CTEC on May of 2010 was 1,200 (using student credit hours); Enrollment on May 2014 was 5,896 (using student credit hours).
- ✓ The huge jump in enrollment at CTEC is due to relevant courses, jobs, faculty, staff, and facilities.
- ✓ It is now generally accepted that trade certifications average annual wages have surpassed Baccalaureate average annual wages in the United States: \$55,000 compared to \$51,000.
- ✓ It is important to note that less college debt is accumulated by students in Technical Trade Certifications, which arguably creates wealth sooner.
- ✓ About 25% students at CTEC are female. This is up from 13% two years ago.
- ✓ Female students are performing exceptionally well in male dominated areas and are winning top honors at CTEC.
- ✓ There was 100% job placement in electrical graduates for the spring 2014.
- ✓ There was 100% placement of diesel graduates in spring 2014.

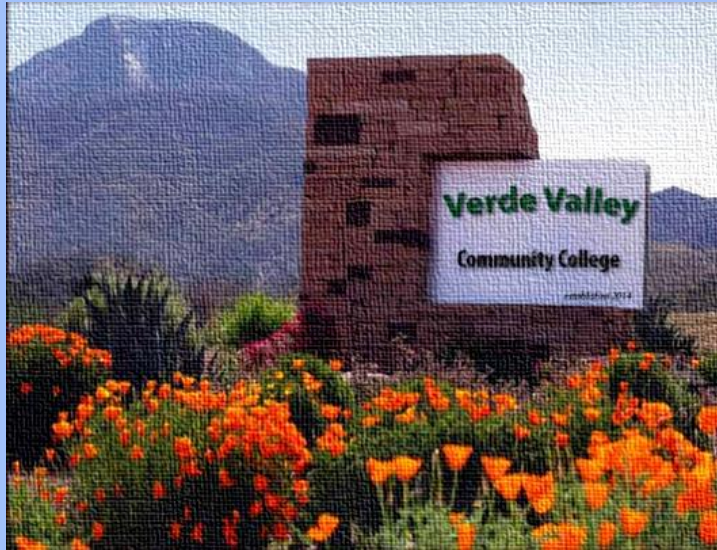
THE SOLUTION: AN INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATIVE COLLEGE FOR SEDONA/THE VERDE VALLEY

1. It is allowed by Arizona law.
2. Modeled after Maricopa community colleges but tailored to the unique educational needs of Sedona/Verde Valley.
3. It is an effective way to address the imbalance of Community College attention to Career and Technology offerings in Sedona/Verde Valley.
4. It is an effective way to provide close cooperation, communication and development between the Community College and the Valley Academy for Career & Technology (VACTE).
5. It will provide excellent daily management of the Sedona Center for Arts and Technology and provide excellent long-term development of the Verde Campus.
6. It will return a Community College “presence” to Camp Verde, which has been taken away.
7. It will allow growth of Verde Valley traditions and permit the Verde Valley to develop its own identity. Overall, it will help generate Community College pride in the 70,000 citizens of the Verde Valley.

8. It will allow the Verde Valley to fairly and forcefully compete with Prescott for County and State funding for all programs including those directly involved with Career and Technology development.
9. It will shield the Verde Valley president from being fired by the Prescott based YCC president; reduce the political influence of Prescott citizenry who mostly operate the Community College Foundation on decisions affecting the Verde Valley.
10. It will reduce the time administrators now spend going back and forth to meetings in Prescott.
11. It will ease long time bitter feelings between east and west sections of the county.
12. It will provide a constant focus on issues affecting Sedona/Verde Valley and its citizens.



**Education
is a gift that none
can take away.**



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ADDITIONAL NEWS AND INFORMATION: eyeonyavapaicollege.com/