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San Tan Charter School Names New Principal at Power Campus

Brandon Tauscher Looks to Build on the School's Strengths, While Setting a New Standard in East Valley Education

GILBERT, Arizona—Brandon Tauscher has just been named as the new principal at San Tan Charter School in Gilbert.

As Kristofer Sippel, CEO and Superintendent of Schools noted, Tauscher has an impressive ability to take school programs to a higher level of achievement.

Starting in education as a teacher in the Teach for America program, Tauscher's first challenge was to bridge the achievement gap that exists for high school students living on the Navajo Reservation. During his first job teaching, Sippel said, all of Tauscher's students passed the New Mexico high stakes writing test.

After completing the two-year program, Tauscher was named a Fellow with the American Society of Newspaper Editors for high school journalism and studied at the University of California at Berkeley before moving home and starting the first online high school newspaper in Washington State. In his new school students earned national recognition for newspaper writing and he wrote grants for the school for sustainability education.

Tauscher applied for and was accepted into a graduate program for sustainability education in Arizona and founded a non-profit organization. With his graduate school cohort, Tauscher founded the professional research Journal for Sustainability Education (JSE) and during this time was able to help secure his family's legacy in sustainable tree farming in Washington State with his non-profit organization before returning back to the Southwest to work in schools.

In his return to teaching, Tauscher earned a Teacher of the Year award in Apache County for his work in community engagement. He did this while serving as the school's varsity



head football coach, where his team tied for its best record in the school's history and pursuing a master's degree in Educational Leadership at Arizona State University.

Before being hired as Assistant Principal at San Tan Charter School in 2019, Tauscher started a career in Education Administration as the Athletic Director at Salt River High School, where his teams won 21 individual and State Championships and three Coach of the Year awards. The school won a Phoenix Suns Charities Court Renovation Grant in 2018 and his football team had an NFL Network Thursday Night Football game appearance in 2017. Tauscher oversaw 24 athletics programs as the Salt River Schools District Athletic Director.

In 2020-21, Tauscher will take the lead as Principal of the San Tan Charter School Power Campus, a successful 7-12 school in Gilbert.

“Everything at the school shows their high standards and the employees go above and beyond in creating a family environment,” said Tauscher.

“What stands out most about the school is its individualized approach. It is clear that students and staff have enduring relationships. Students are not just a number. If you are here, you are special. Whether it is athletics, college prep education, career and technical education, the arts, you name it—there is something for everyone. It is a private school experience that is free to the public.”

Tauscher's approach to leading San Tan Charter School will be to focus on the current strengths of the school while staying true to the school's individual approach to education. He also hopes to increase community involvement and will have a “ground-up” approach to education.

“It starts with the students and them having a voice in their own education,” Tauscher said.

“Students want to connect and are eager to have the trust of the adults in their lives. Our staff understands that. and they also know how to communicate respectfully to students.”

Tauscher is the husband of Lauren Tauscher, a Phoenix Union High School Exceptional Student Services (ESS) District Administrator, and they have four sons: Peter (21), Lewis (16), Andy (12) and Henry (11).

*****ADDITIONAL PHOTOS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST*****For more information about San Tan Charter School hiring Brandon Tauscher as the new principal, please contact Kris Sippel at 480-222-0811.

About San Tan Charter School:

San Tan Charter School is a Kinder-12th grade public non-profit tuition free charter school with two campuses in the East Valley within minutes of each other. The Power campus is a Junior High/High school serving students in grades 7-12 and the Recker campus is an elementary

school with a private preschool serving students PreK-6. The school uses a Love and Logic® approach to classroom management that is focused on building relationships and communicating with respect. The school focuses on “Education with a Purpose,” which means the teachers encourage their students’ love of learning, which enables them to face challenges and develop critical thinking skills. San Tan Charter School also offers individualized learning plans, and as a college and career ready school, they are focused on maximizing each student’s intellectual development through Honors/AP classes, Concurrent/Dual Enrollment classes and robust elective choices. For more information, please visit <https://santancharterschool.com/>