



Conservative Reform Agenda

“High Expectations: Len Munsil’s First Five Steps To Improve Education In Arizona”

1. Excellent pay for excellent teachers. Currently, Arizona utilizes the Measure of Academic Progress. This standard measures the progress of every child in Arizona’s public education system. There are approximately 50,000 teachers in Arizona. Len Munsil believes excellent teachers should be rewarded with merit pay. Based on objective measurement of yearly progress within their individual classrooms, teachers will receive incentive pay. Len Munsil will ask the legislature for \$50 million per year to reward excellent teachers, and that will help retain and attract the best and the brightest in the teaching profession.

2. Provide scholarships to low-income families for children who are trapped in schools that are labeled as failing under AZ Learns or have failed to make Adequate Yearly Progress for the past three years. These scholarships would allow children to attend any private school of their parents’ choosing. It costs approximately \$8,500 to educate a child in Arizona. The scholarship would be for \$4,000. Therefore, every child who utilizes this scholarship would save taxpayers \$4,500 annually.

3. Promote the Early College Initiative. Too many high school seniors and juniors are bored with school. This program allows them to take college-credit courses at community colleges. When fully implemented, this will bring a significant savings to our University and College system because students will be graduating sooner.

4. Increase the scholarships available to Arizona students to attend college. Currently, \$5 million is available for Arizona students to attend private Arizona colleges and \$5 million is available to attend public Arizona colleges or universities. Munsil will propose tripling both amounts to \$15 million. This will encourage students to stay in-state to attend college.

5. Len Munsil will propose a two-year freeze on in-state tuition rates for colleges and universities. Under Janet Napolitano’s watch, tuition has skyrocketed by 75 percent, and has not only not opposed these increases, she did not even show up to vote on them as a member of the Board of Regents. Yet Arizona’s Constitution requires a public university education to be “as nearly free as possible.” These massive tuition increases need to be stopped.