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# **CRISIS IN PUBLIC EDUCATION: Teachers & Funding**

*What are the facts?  
How does it affect me?  
What can I do?*

## **West Valley Education Forum**

**Thursday, Jan. 25th, 2018**

**Dysart Education Center  
15802 N Parkview Place, Surprise**

**LWV** *The League of Women Voters  
of NW Maricopa County*

Live-stream forum video available on FaceBook at LWVArizona.

# West Valley Education Forum: "Crisis in Public Education"

## Program Agenda

- 6:00 pm** Displays by cosponsors
- 6:30 pm** Welcome, Introductions, Procedures  
-Drs. John & Joye Kohl  
LWV-NWMC Education Co-Chairs

### Presentations:

**"Finding and Keeping Teachers"**  
-Dr. Dan Hunting, Senior Policy Analyst,  
Morrison Institute, Ariz. State Univ.

**"The Funding Crisis"**  
-Dana Wolfe Naimark, President & CEO  
Children's Action Alliance

**"Why Should I Care?"**  
-Dr. Jennifer Johnson, Dir. of Academic  
Alliances, Grand Canyon Univ.

### Questions & Answers:

### Wrap Up and Call to Action

*The "crisis in Arizona K-12 education" is a non-partisan issue. We must come together to resolve Arizona's pressing K-12 education problems. In your comments during this forum, please refrain from reference to political parties or individuals by name. Thank you for seeking factual information, joining in the conversation and seeking solutions for our youth and the future of our state."*

## About the Presenters

**Dr. Dan Hunting** is Senior Policy Analyst with the ASU Morrison Institute (MI) where his research interests include education, sustainable economic development, demographics, urban growth, and the role of arts and culture in economic prosperity.

After a career as a photojournalist, Hunting pursued his interest in public policy at ASU, where he helped develop core concepts of the Sun Corridor geography as a

### The Presenters continued ...

Research Assist. at MI while working on a Master's in Public Admin. Upon graduation, he took a job with the AZ Legislature, working as a fiscal analyst for the Joint Legislative Budget Committee. Duties included budget development and program analysis for nine state agencies, including the AZ Dept. of Environmental Quality and the Dept. of Administration.

As an Economic and Policy Analyst at Sonoran Institute, Hunting authored Tucson's New Prosperity: Capitalizing on the Sun Corridor. He also wrote a series of papers on state trust land issues, including The Quarrel Between Past and Present: The Economics of Reforming Arizona's Century Old State Trust Land Rules. He did an extensive study of the connection between conserved public land and Arizona's ability to attract and retain a skilled workforce.

**Dana Wolfe Naimark** is President and CEO of Children's Action Alliance (CAA), a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to promoting the well-being of all of Arizona's children and their families through research, policy development, media campaigns and advocacy. The fiscal project at CAA conducts research and community education on the connection between public finance decisions and the quality of life for children and families.

Dana has worked for the past thirty years on state and local fiscal issues in AZ, serving as a budget analyst for the state legislature and project manager for a special legislative committee studying the state's taxes and spending. CAA has been a leader in supporting responsible tax and budget decisions to promote children's health, education, and security. She has a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Michigan and a master of public policy degree from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard.

**Dr. Jennifer Johnson**, a native Arizonan, has over 35 years of experience in a broad array of education from teacher, high school principal and superintendent in Glendale to Deputy Superintendent for Policy and Programs at the AZ Dept. of Education (ADE), non-profit educational advocacy, college teaching and leadership. In her role at GCU, she works with Superintendents Collaborative Network, a mentoring program for first year superintendents, as well as the Participants in Leading, Learning and Serving (PLLS) consortium providing broad-based services and support for AZ public school districts. Jennifer serves on a many local school district business and community advisory boards, including Speak Out Arizona, an advocacy effort sponsored by the Center for the Future of Arizona..

While with the ADE, Dr. Johnson was responsible for leading the divisions of High Academic Standards, Highly Effective Teachers and Leaders, Highly Effective Schools, Quality Assessment, Accountability and Adult Education, Research and Evaluation, Health & Nutrition, and Grants Management. During her tenure at ADE, Dr. Johnson created the Teacher Retention and Recruitment Taskforce and was responsible for the publication of their first white paper.

Jennifer has also served her community on a variety of boards.