

DR. MATT HEINZ

Supervisor
District 2



33 N Stone Ave., 11th Floor
Tucson, AZ 85701
(520) 724-2702
district2@pima.gov

Pima County Board of Supervisors

For immediate release – May 4, 2021

Dr. Matt Heinz, Supervisor, Pima County District 2

Contact: Vanessa Barchfield

Communications & Policy Advisor

Cell: +1.520.367.8958

Vanessa.Barchfield@pima.gov

Supervisor Matt Heinz released the following statement on actions taken by the Pima County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday May 4:

Investing in People

Today, my colleagues on the Pima County Board of Supervisors joined together to pass two vital measures to invest in education for the residents of Pima County. We voted to dedicate \$1.75mn in the coming year to Job Path, a program that supports low-income adults through two-year-or-less degree and certificate programs that lead to high-wage, in-demand careers in healthcare, applied technology, and IT fields. Separately, we made a \$10mn multi-year commitment to expand access to affordable high-quality early childhood education across Pima County and adopted the blueprint to implement it.

These commitments to both young children and adults in our community are not only crucial anti-poverty measures that will level the playing field for all our residents, but they also provide significant returns on investment. Research shows that quality early childhood education is correlated with higher rates of college completion, higher earnings, stronger interpersonal relationships and less involvement with the criminal justice system. Hence every dollar invested yields 13 to 17 dollars in return for our community. Job Path has proven over many years that investing in young adults, who in many cases are the first in their families to complete college, yields at least a three to one return on investment for our community.

I commend my colleagues on the Board, even those that voted reluctantly, for leading the way to invest in people. These commitments are in line with the Biden-Harris administration's American Families Plan, and more broadly, our president's focus on investing in people to build back better. Today we showed though that we will not wait around for Congress – we can and will take action locally. I for one am eager to invest in the people of Pima County – it is what I was elected to do.