

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION – Residency Required

Authority: City Code, Chapter 20, Section 3-36 and 3-37

Members: 7

Duties: The commission is responsible for recommending planning and zoning policies governing land use in Peoria. It also reviews and recommends approval of zoning codes and annual revisions to the City’s Comprehensive Master Plan.

Liaison: Chris Jacques / Planning and Community Development

Vacant
Reappointment

CURRENT MEMBERS

Name	District	Special Criteria	Appointed	Reappt'd	Reappt'd	Reappt'd	Expiration
Cottrell, Nathan	Mesquite		3/5/2024				6/30/2026
Feiter, Anthony	Willow		08/13/2019	01/07/2020	11/15/2023		12/31/2025
VACANT (Was Konkowski)							
Gaynor, Emilio	Pine		2/11/2025				12/31/2026
Myers, Doug	Willow		11/14/2023				12/31/2025
Villasenor, Layla	Willow		02/08/2023	11/19/2024			6/30/2026
Waitman-Powell, Joysaphine	Pine		2/2/2021	02/08/2023	11/19/2024		6/30/2026

INTERVIEW FOR INITIAL APPOINTMENT:

- Egea, Julie

Name	District	Graduation Date & Qualification Summary
Egea, Julie	Willow	<p>Interests: I am interested in serving on this board as I have worked in public safety for the last 30 years and I have seen the importance of being involved at the city government level. Being an active community member of Peoria, living here for the last 12 years, the future growth of Peoria is important to me and that the city grows in a responsible manner. I feel each community member has a responsibility and should have a voice in their city, especially one such as Peoria which has so much potential for positive growth in its future.</p> <p>I hope to gain an understanding of the future growth of our City, and help move Peoria forward with new innovative ideas while learning more about the operations of the local government.</p> <p>Qualifications: I have worked in law enforcement for the last 30 years in the City of Phoenix. During that time I have seen the importance of becoming involved in governmental operations at the city level. During my time in law enforcement, I have seen how critical it is to ensure the positive growth of a city to include grocery stores, affordable housing, and also develop the areas in a way to improve a safe community.</p> <p>I have worked closely with our Neighborhood Service Division, assisting in overseeing zoning and zoning violations, as well as worked with them on identifying "food deserts" in the west valley and ways to best accommodate our community. I have also worked closely with business owners in improving apartment complex structures to ensure a safer environment for the community.</p> <p>For further please see the attached resume</p> <p>Characteristics: I believe the characteristics of a productive member of this board is someone who is engaged, willing to listen and learn, and someone who cares about the growth and future of The City of Peoria. I also, believe a good characteristic is someone who can open their mind to the different neighborhoods within the city and identify what needs each different community requires.</p> <p>Balancing needs and desire - but willing to make tough decisions</p> <p>I feel someone who can foster relationships and bring people together is important to bring resolutions to various items. Sitting on a board such as this one needs to be willing to make tough decisions, and be willing to look at what is needed in an area and balancing that with what is desired.</p> <p>Reconciliation: I have dealt with contentious issues and upset citizens my entire 30 years in law enforcement. Over the years, I have learned to give people a voice. Let them be heard. I have grown over the years to remain calm and patient and understand everyone has an opinion and wants their voice heard. Within the City Council in Phoenix, each member has a time limit to speak. I have seen people disrespect this rule, and the Mayor allowing it. This creates a perception of favoritism. I believe in holding the rules of the council, and giving each person their turn to speak, respecting their time and allowing others to speak as well according to the rules, and respond in a calm respectful manner.</p> <p>Planning opportunities: As a resident of Peoria for the last 12 years, some challenges I have observed is the lack of creativity in the use of our land, and the businesses we bring in lacking diversity. I travel a bit for my daughters soccer, and I see how creative other communities are and the diverse locally owned businesses other communities bring in. I live in Sonoran Mtn Ranch, and I am thankful for the development of 83rd and Happy Valley and the Lake Pleasant Parkway area, but I feel we can do better. Moving our city forward we need to create more higher paying employment, improve economic development and bring in high end retail to include high end apartments with a high end retail shops in order to promote Peoria.</p>

YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD – Residency Requirement

Authority: City Code, Chapter 3, Sections 3-46 and 3-47

Members: 19 and 2 Alternates

Duties: This Board advises the City, through the City Manager on the development of public recreational and youth activities and programs in the city, plans and implements a Student Government Day, and reviews ordinances or proposals pertaining to youth activities as directed by the City Council.

Liaison: Chris Hallett / Neighborhood and Human Services

Vacant
Graduating May 2025
Reappointment

CURRENT MEMBERS

Name	District	Alt?	School Attending	Graduation	Appointed	Reappt'd	Expiration
Adamsha, Sarah	Willow	No	BASIS Peoria	5/2027	4/25/2023		6/30/2025
Black, Allie	Willow	No	Liberty High School	5/2025	4/25/2023	7/1/2024	6/30/2026
DeStefano, Karin	Mesquite	No	Glendale Preparatory Academy	5/2025	4/25/2023		6/30/2025
Ortiz, Mariano	Palo Verde	No	Peoria Elementary	5/2028	7/1/2024		6/30/2026
Rush, Hayden	Ironwood	No	Glendale Preparatory Academy	5/2029	7/1/2024		6/30/2026
Harris, Kellen	Mesquite	No	West Wing Elementary	5/2028	11/15/2023		6/30/2026
Holly, Felicia	Pine	No	Peoria Elementary School	5/2027	4/25/2023		6/30/2025
Houg, Jacob	Ironwood	No	Sunrise Mountain High School	5/2026	4/25/2023		6/30/2025
Sekar, Aditi	Willow	No	BASIS Peoria	6/2026	7/1/2024		6/30/2026
Patel, Aneesa	Mesquite	No	Liberty High School	5/2025	4/25/2023		6/30/2025
Powell, Kimber	Willow	No	Zuni Hills Elementary	5/2025	5/4/2021	4/25/2023	6/30/2025
Ravindran, Riya	Willow	No	Mountain Ridge High School	5/2025	5/3/2022	4/25/2023	6/30/2025
Singamaneni, Dhriti Sreesai	Mesquite	No	Glendale Preparatory Academy	5/2027	7/1/2024		6/30/2026
Vacant (Blake, C)		Yes					
Shrivastava, Ana	Mesquite	No	BASIS Peoria	5/2026	5/4/2021	4/25/2023	6/30/2025
Solano, Olivia	Pine	No	Peoria Elementary School	5/2028	4/25/2023		6/30/2025
Stanca, Samuel	Ironwood	No	Glendale Preparatory Academy	5/2025	4/25/2023	7/1/2024	6/30/2026
Tewari, Manya	Ironwood	No	Great Heart Academies	5/2027	5/3/2022	7/1/2024	6/30/2026
Vanteri, Ronit	Willow	No	BASIS Peoria	5/2026	5/3/2022	7/1/2024	6/30/2026
Vemana, Akshathram	Willow	No	BASIS Peoria	5/2026	5/4/2021	4/25/2023	6/30/2025
Navghare, Anika	Willow	Yes	Mountain Ridge High School	5/2027	7/1/2024		6/30/2026

INTERVIEW FOR INITIAL APPOINTMENT:

- AlDuaimy, Lara
- Cardona-Tait, Lailah
- Jain, Arv
- Joshi, Ishanvi
- Kaheh, Emma
- Mohanty, Naitik
- Shrivastava, Zoe
- Singh, Naureen
- Stephen, Ved
- Wheeler, Bayli

Name	District	Graduation Date & Qualification Summary
AlDuaimy, Lara	Acacia	<p>Graduation: 2028/AAEC Paradise Valley/ Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interest: I'm interested in the Youth Advisory Board because it's a great opportunity to help my community and gain helpful skills. This opportunity would help me improve my leadership skills, decision-making, and teamwork. It also would help me find friends with similar interests as me and we can all work together to create a positive impact in our community. It shows that even the youth can make impactful decisions and advocate for causes that matter to our community. Overall, I hope to make an impact in our community while gaining skills that will benefit me in the future.</p> <p>Extracurricular: I have a passion project that me and my sister created at our local masjid called the Al-Basheer Sisterhood Program (you can find us on Instagram @albasheersisterhood). We get help from our youth leaders to create enjoyable events and advocate for our youth Shi'a community. I also volunteer at my school's food bank.</p> <p>Qualities: Some qualities I would bring as a Youth Advisory Board member is great communication skills. I'm comfortable with respectfully agreeing or denying ideas and projects while also listening to others. I try to see both sides and compromise which helps with decision making. I'm also open to constructive criticism. I like to improve and see what areas I need to work on to better myself and our community. I also have a lot of passion for helping others. I want to see myself and my future board members make a positive impact on our community.</p> <p>Civic Engagement: Civic engagement to me is actively being part of the community and trying to address issues and fix them. It means to advocate and voice our community's opinions while taking action that benefits others. It's to form a connection with our people so they can deem us as trustworthy and know they're safe in our hands. To me, it's all about using your opportunity and skills to make a difference and shape our community for the better.</p>
Cardona-Tait, Lailah	Mesquite	<p>Graduation Date: 2029 / Westwing Elementary School / Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interest: I am interested in this because I want to serve the city of peoria and I hope to gain experience on how to do things and I want to put my hard work into show and use all my dedication to help the city of peoria. I would take helping and protecting the city of peoria very seriously. I want to bring my ideas and experiences to the table and to the city of peoria and I hope the ideas I bring will come to life and still help out the city of peoria.</p> <p>Extracurricular/Civic Activities: I will be running for student council this coming year at my school at west wing. I am always out in my community conversing with neighbors and friends.</p> <p>Qualities: Change and Impact - Im passionate about specific causes and policies; Fresh Perspective - I bring a fresh perspective to city council discussions. My unique experiences, concerns, and ideas can challenge thinking, inject new energy into decision-making processes; I am passionate about making a difference, representing my generation, and shaping the future of my community, it can be a rewarding and impactful journey.</p> <p>Civic Engagement Meaning: Civic engagement empowers me to be able to raise my voice and advocate for causes I believe in. It can involve attending rallies, organizing protests, or starting campaigns to promote positive change and address social, environmental, or political issues that are important to me and my generation.</p>
Jain, Arv	Ironwood	<p>Graduation: 2026/ BASIS Peoria/ Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interests: I wish to be a part of the youth advisory board to gain insight into the inner workings of our local government and how to make effective policies. I have always been interested in the national government and how it helps the country, and so I would like to be part of my local government in any way I can to help my community</p> <p>Extracurriculars: Part of the NJHS during 8th Grade; Participated in Model UN and attended 3 conferences throughout 9th grade, winning Honorable Mention best Delegate at NovaMUN; Part of the Red Cross club as of September 2024; Work for the BASIS Bugle as of September 2024 Active community service towards Jain Center of Greater Phoenix</p> <p>Qualities: Having lived in several areas across the country, such as Texas and Virginia, I blend my multitude of experiences into one person and know what could work well for the community and what doesn't work for the community. My membership in the National Junior Honor Society also allowed me to have first-hand engagement with the community and helped me build a positive attitude towards volunteering and community service.</p> <p>Civic Engagement: Civic engagement to me means listening to the needs of your community and acting on those needs in whatever way possible. Instead of burdening a few people with holding up the community, everyone takes a little responsibility in making their community better. Civic engagement means interacting with your community to find their needs, and not to focus on only one part of your community but give attention to everyone in it.</p>

Name	District	Graduation Date & Qualification Summary
Joshi, Ishanvi	Palo Verde	<p>Graduation: 2026 / BASIS Peoria / Affiliation: I don't know any employees working at the City of Peoria, but I do know a member of YAB, her name is Ana Shrivastava.</p> <p>Interest: I am interested in this program because I want to know how the Peoria Council works. I hope to gain experience how the Peoria Council works and get to know some of the council members. E</p> <p>Extracurricular: SVO-Student volunteer organization where we volunteer at different such as desert tables to farms, or St. Mary donations food drive, we also decorated lunch bags with motivation quotes for the needy, FHLA-Future leaders of America, TA-teacher's assistance for Spanish teacher at my school, applying for west mec veterinary science program, part of animal equality nonprofit organization helping animals live a better and cruel free live, passed my civics exam, I have taken the AP Government and Politics exam, I love dogs, I love to be creative, I have auditioned for the speech and debate team at my school, I am part of the peer mentoring program at my school, role: mentor, I am part of NSHSS-National Society of High School Scholars, I also got an invitation to attend the NSLC-National Studnet Leadership Conference this coming summer.</p> <p>Qualities: Qualities I would bring to the Youth Advisory Board: I have passed my civics exam giving me more credibility to join this great program, I have taken AP Government and Politics exam providing with the all the knowledge I would need to understand how the US government and politics work, I am passionate about the things that I love to do, specifically animals, equality. I try to volunteer as much as I can and give back to my community. Moreover, my artistic abilities allow me to be creative, enabling me to come with way to unique ideas and solutions to different problems in our community, as well as come up ways to improve my community. Meaning of civic engagement: In my eyes, to be civically engaged is to be actively involved in the betterment of the community. In my mission of providing everyone with an equal and fair environment, I try to be civically engaged by participating in extracurriculars that better my community, engaging in the issues such as the extreme animal abuse happening all around us. I have been actively working to improve this issue by trying to spread awareness of how animal abuse happens when no veterinary care is provided to severely injured or dying animals, or about the unethical practices used when slaughtering animals. In order to able to be civically engaged, one must be aware of the problems and state of their community. With my creativity and artistic way of finding unique solutions to many problems, not only can I be civically engaged, but I can also enable my community to be engaged with the issues that are happening around us, allowing for everybody as a community to better society.</p>
Kaheh, Emma Continued Next Page	Willow	<p>Graduation: 2029/ Frontier Elementary/ Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interests: I'm mainly interested in how to serve people, learn more about the government, my community more specifically, and how to get more involved in everyday civic activities. I personally think it would be substantial for me to get more connected into my community, to learn about it, and to serve its residents for the better, and that's what I believe Youth Advisory Board could permit me to do. That and also the verity of that the Youth Advisory Board could allow me to learn more about the government and also the Peoria community overall. These all perfectly fit what I want to learn and be apart of. Extracurriculars: I have and currently do volunteer at Foster Alliance, which is essentially a nonprofit organization that provides support and needed items to foster homes. Such items include bed frames, mattresses, and boxes for individual kids in sizable homes. A hobby of mine is to keep up on current events happening nationally, always trying to be informed and seeing what things I could do to help. Qualities: As a Youth Advisory Board member, some attributes I would bring to the Board would definitely have to include perseverance, integrity, conscientious, the ability to sympathize and empathize with others and finally, diligence. On a deeper, core level though, these just scratch the surface. To illustrate, a personal experience I've gone through in my life has been trying to get into this one ahead class, get my high school math credits earlier. Yet, unfortunately I did not meet the necessary requirements to be able to get into that math class. I was torn, and had a series of depressive episodes. Mercifully though, my journey did not end there. With as persistent as I was, I never steered away from my target, to get into that class. Eventually, I did get into the class, and have been passing it with a high grade of an A. On a further note, many people may be able to sympathize with others, but a common thing others lack, is emotional experience and the ability to empathize. The quantity of depressed youths has risen over the past decade, and I constitute of part of that statistic. The past emotional exposure over the years to me has been far more than the average human being, especially at such a young age. My emotional growth and maturity has been far more than anyone could imagine, which places me at a better position to understand what young people are going through, to empathize with them, and recommend them the help they need to overcome their current struggles and situation. It's also important to point out that even though many could see this as a set back, like Mayor Beck, I see this as my "superpower". I've risen above these tremendous</p>

Name	District	Graduation Date & Qualification Summary
Kaheh, Emma	Willow	<p>setbacks, and use that to my advantage.</p> <p>Civic Engagement: Civic engagement to me means actively partaking in voting on local elections, issues, running on a jury when called to, participating in events in your community, volunteering to aid others in need, possibly creating and setting up local fundraisers and events, supporting fellow residents and many more aspects. A deeper level of civic engagement can also include running for certain governmental positions, speaking out or against a specific thing in your community, and overall strengthening what America stands for, democracy and freedom of speech.</p>
Mohanty, Naitik	Mesquite	<p>Graduation: 2026 / Sandra Day O'Connor / Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interest: I am deeply interested in serving on the Youth Advisory Board to contribute my perspectives and ideas towards initiatives that positively impact young individuals. Through this experience, I hope to gain valuable insights into community engagement, leadership development, and the creation of meaningful opportunities for youth. I'm excited to collaborate with like-minded peers, learn from their diverse experiences, and collectively work towards driving positive change for our generation.</p> <p>Extracurricular: I am the founder of multiple non profits: "The HydroClean Foundation" and "Arizona Science Association ". I am also the treasurer of a non profit: "ENPO (Environmental Non-profit Organization)". In school I have founded a National Technical Honor Society chapter and I am currently serving as president as well as founding the Red Cross Club (we organize volunteering opportunities in the name of the Red Cross) ; I am currently also serving as president for this club. I also have a huge interest in policy making (I was in the Model UN club at school; previously winning multiple awards). I am generally up to date with current day events and societal flows.</p> <p>Qualities: As a potential Youth Advisory Board member, I would bring a combination of passion, creativity, and dedication to the table. My ability to think critically and offer innovative solutions would enable me to contribute fresh perspectives to the board's discussions. With strong communication skills, I would facilitate effective collaboration and ensure that diverse voices are heard and valued. Additionally, my enthusiasm for community engagement and commitment to making a difference would motivate me to actively participate in projects and initiatives aimed at empowering and supporting young individuals.</p> <p>Meaning of Civic Engagement: Civic engagement, to me, means the active participation of individuals in shaping the social, political, and cultural landscape of their community as a whole. It goes beyond simply being a member of a community; it involves taking responsibility for the collective well-being, growth, and progress of that community. Civic engagement encompasses activities such as voting in elections, advocating for social issues, volunteering for local initiatives, attending public meetings, and collaborating with fellow community members to effect positive change. It reflects a sense of duty, a desire to contribute, and a belief in the power of collective action to create a more just, inclusive, and vibrant society for everyone.</p>
Shrivastava, Zoe Continued Next Page	Mesquite	<p>Graduation: 2030/BASIS Peoria/ Affiliation: No, I am not an employee of the City of Peoria, but my sister is currently an acting member of the Peoria Youth Advisory Board. My current involvement with the city has mainly been through community programs, especially initiatives like the Teen Leadership Academy. In this role, I have actively participated in several service projects and events to enhance and improve the community.</p> <p>Interests: I am eager to join the youth Adviaory board because it offers a unique opportunity to serve the community while making a meaningful impact on Peoria's youth. I am passionate about developing initiatives that advocate for youth involvement, empowering young people to have a voice and play an active role in shaping our city. This position will allow me to collaborate with others, unite around common goals, and drive positive change. I am excited to develop key skills such as leadership, communication, and teamwork—essential for personal growth and future opportunities. Through my involvement, I hope to contribute to the city's progress while inspiring and supporting my peers and everyone who comes after us.</p> <p>Extracurriculars: I have consistently taken the initiative to engage in various extracurricular activities, which have allowed me to develop and strengthen my leadership, teamwork, and mentoring skills. These experiences have allowed me to grow personally and make a meaningful impact on my peers and the broader community.</p> <p>As the Treasurer for Jr. Tri-M, I am vital in managing and organizing fundraising efforts to support various school programs. My responsibilities include coordinating events, tracking funds, and ensuring resources are available for initiatives such as the Science Fair. This position taught me the importance of organization, financial responsibility, and collaboration. My involvement extends beyond administrative duties, as I actively support the Science Fair—as a two-time state winner. Using my experience, I mentor students in the Science Fair Club, guiding project development, research</p>

Name	District	Graduation Date & Qualification Summary
Shrivastava, Zoe	Mesquite	<p>methods, and presentation skills. I take the initiative to support their growth by offering feedback, encouraging creative thinking, and helping them navigate challenges throughout the process.</p> <p>My passion for research and discovery is also reflected in my involvement with National History Day (NHD), where I am a two-time state winner. I am deeply motivated by the historical significance of the topics I explore, as each project allows me to dive into critical moments that have shaped our world. Beyond my own work, I actively mentor and support other students participating in NHD. I help them refine their research, develop compelling arguments, and confidently present their findings. By sharing my experiences and insights, I aim to inspire my peers to engage with history meaningfully and succeed in their academic pursuits. For the past five months, I have been an active member of the Teen Leadership Academy (TLA), where I participate in community service projects and work alongside city officials to support events organized by the City of Peoria. This experience has given me a deeper understanding of how local government operates and how youth can significantly shape the community. I take the initiative by contributing ideas, volunteering for projects, and collaborating with other young leaders to address community needs. Through TLA, I have strengthened my communication skills and developed a greater sense of civic responsibility.</p> <p>At BASIS Peoria, I was a dedicated member of the Dean’s Team. I worked closely with school administration to improve the learning environment and address student concerns. My role involved offering feedback on school policies, organizing student-led initiatives, and collaborating with peers to enhance the academic experience. This position allowed me to advocate for my fellow students while developing problem-solving skills and the ability to work effectively as part of a team.</p> <p>In addition to these leadership roles, I take the initiative to support my peers through math tutoring. I provide one-on-one assistance to classmates, helping them improve their understanding of complex concepts and build confidence in their abilities. This experience has strengthened my ability to communicate, exercise patience, and adapt my teaching methods to meet individual learning needs. I am passionate about empowering others to succeed and fostering a collaborative learning environment.</p> <p>Through these diverse experiences, I have developed a proactive mindset and a strong commitment to positively impacting others. Each opportunity has allowed me to grow as a leader, work effectively with others, and contribute to improving my school and the community. I am eager to continue using these skills to drive meaningful change and inspire those around me.</p> <p>Qualities: As a member of the Youth Advisory Board, I would bring strong leadership skills, a collaborative spirit, and a commitment to making Peoria a more inclusive and supportive community for all youth. My experience leading teams and organizing events has taught me how to motivate others, communicate effectively, and work toward shared goals. I am dedicated to fostering an environment where members feel valued and empowered to contribute ideas.</p> <p>One of my key priorities is to advocate for initiatives that promote inclusivity and ensure that all young people, regardless of their background, have access to opportunities and feel a sense of belonging. I believe that every voice matters, and I am committed to listening to the diverse perspectives of Peoria’s youth and representing their interests on the board. By collaborating with fellow board members, city officials, and community organizations, I aim to implement programs that address the unique needs of our city’s youth while encouraging greater community involvement.</p> <p>Through my leadership and advocacy, I will work to make Peoria a place where all young people feel heard, supported, and inspired to shape the city's future. I am eager to use my skills to drive positive change, foster inclusivity, and contribute to our youth programs' continued growth and success.</p> <p>Civic Engagement: To me, civic engagement means actively participating in the community to address issues, improve society, and make a lasting, positive impact. It involves working together to create meaningful change through volunteering, raising awareness, or contributing to important decisions. Civic engagement is about taking responsibility for the community's well-being and using our voices to shape a better future.</p> <p>An essential part of civic engagement is ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to participate, regardless of their background or experiences. By fostering inclusivity, we can bring diverse perspectives to the table, leading to more thoughtful and practical solutions. Youth play a critical role in civic engagement by identifying local challenges, proposing innovative ideas, and advocating for meaningful change. Whether organizing community service projects, supporting those in need, or standing up for important causes, young people can shape the future and strengthen and connect their communities.</p> <p>Civic engagement is not just about addressing problems—it’s about working together to create a society where everyone feels heard, valued, and empowered to make a difference.</p>

Name	District	Graduation Date & Qualification Summary
Singh, Naureen	Mesquite	<p>Graduation: 2027 / Mountain Ridge High School / Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interest: I am interested in serving on the Youth Advisory Board as I feel that it is important for the youth to contribute equally in community building, finding solutions to the common community problems and positively influencing the lives of others. I hope by being part of the Youth Advisory Board, I will gain valuable experience in the policy making process and enhance my skills in collaboration, leadership, decision-making and communication.</p> <p>Extracurricular: During the past few years, I have contributed to the below community services: 1. Member of school's Dean team: During 8th grade, I served as a member on the Dean's team, that consisted of 15 members. The objective of this team was to discuss and try to find potential solutions to the problems faced by the students, like setting up a school library. We organized events like the middle school dance and a tea party with snacks to raise funds for our school. Due to the work done by Dean's team and its impact on the school, it was eventually converted into a Youth Council. 2. Peer Tutoring: During 7th grade, I peer-tutored for both Math and English subjects at my school, once a week through out the year. As part of this, I helped my peers to understand certain subject topics and prepare for their upcoming tests by creating some practice tests for them. 3. Teaching Assistant: During 8th grade, I also assisted the 7th grade Math teacher for 6 months in helping her students during office hours (student support). This included reviewing the study guide with them, helping them prepare for tests, and testing them on specific subject topics they were struggling with. 4. Summer School: During 2023 summer break, I spent 66 hours helping younger students at my school complete their summer packets along with preparing practice tests and answer keys for them to review, so that they are well prepared to retake their tests. I helped them in multiple subjects including Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Math and English.</p> <p>Qualities: The three major qualities I would bring as Youth Advisory Board member are: 1. Flexibility: I feel comfortable and can work very well in both a team setting, as well as in individual capacity. This helps me change according to the required circumstances. 2. Empathy: I strongly believe that being empathetic is a very important trait for being in public service. Since everyone has a different story and past, it is not fair to judge anyone based on that. Being empathetic helps solve conflicts and makes one considerate towards others. 3. Dedication: Once I makeup my mind towards anything I am completely dedicate to it. For instance, I have been playing flute as a part of my school band since 5th grade and I have plans to continue it throughout my high school.</p> <p>Meaning of Civic Engagement: Civic engagement means getting involved with public relations to help build a stronger and progressive community. It involves many things, such as collaborating to find solutions to common problems, regularly communicating to keep the community members informed about public affairs, and providing common services.</p>
Stephen, Ved Continued Next Page	Mesquite	<p>Graduation: 2030/ BASIS Peoria/ Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interests: Youth Advisory Board allows us to participate in meaningful activities that creates a positive impact in our community. I was able to meet other members during Teen Debate Night and see first-hand, some of the things YAB members can do. They inspired me by the things they did and revealed that even though I am young, I can make an impact on society. I want to become a person who can speak, inspire, influence and make a real change in the world. I see YAB as a platform and a voice for the greater good of young people in the community. It will help me meet and work with others who share my passion of helping others in need. It would be amazing to be a part of this organization that will move our community into a better future.</p> <p>Extracurriculars: I am a part of Peoria TLA (Teen Leadership Academy), an organization that prepares me for the world and teaches me vital leadership skills. I have volunteered in JSVO for the last 2 years, a club at Basis Peoria which allows young students like me to volunteer in various ways. I have participated in community, school and park cleanups. I have volunteered hours at Feed My Starving Children, AZ. During the summer of 2024, I enrolled in Project Smile, an online organization that allows its participants to spread a smile across faces all over the country. As part of that, last summer I was able to make 150 cards to spark joy in sick children admitted in hospitals. I also am a Teacher's Assistant to my biology teacher where I grade papers and work with students facing difficulties. Additionally, I tutor students in Math and English at Basis Peoria. I love reading and creative writing. I am proficient in using Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel and also with HTML coding so I am able to make websites. I participate in many extracurriculars: tennis, pickleball, badminton, table tennis, swimming, karate and robotics. I can also play the piano and am just picking up violin. I love to volunteer and help others and I would be happy to provide my skills to</p>

Name	District	Graduation Date & Qualification Summary
Stephen, Ved	Mesquite	<p>anything that YAB needs them for and to help set up anything that can use these activities that I have experience in.</p> <p>Qualities: Without determination, collaboration, teamwork and working hard, we cannot make a positive impact in our community. Schoolwork combined with extracurricular activities has taught me planning skills and the discipline to stick to a plan until the end. I think it is important to have fun while working hard as well and I believe in making friends while achieving something good. I want to make a difference and I wish to help. I am an active learner. I want to learn not only about my community and its needs, but also what I am able to contribute.</p> <p>Civic Engagement: One line is repeated throughout history, exclaimed by Patrick Henry, Aesop and even Abraham Lincoln: "United we stand and divided we fall"! One ant can't hold up the burden of a colony just like one person cannot uplift our society. To me civic engagement means working together to make meaningful changes and to advocate for positive impact. It means to connect with the local government, educate myself about policy, identify needs, and gaps, to ensure we are not leaving the less fortunate ones behind. Civic engagement is a passion. A passion to work with others to do good and make a better world. To fix the cracks in our community, we must unite!</p>
Wheeler, Bayli	Ironwood	<p>Graduation: 2029/Frontier Elementary/ Affiliation: No</p> <p>Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interests: I was interested in joining the board when I first learned about it at school. It wasn't until I got to go to Youth Government Day that I was definite about wanting to try and apply for the board. I really want to help make a difference here in Peoria, whether it be through community service projects or assisting to an idea during a City Council meeting and think this is one of the best ways that I'd be able to do it. I'm hoping to gain some new skills like time management and communication and maybe even make new friends.</p> <p>Extracurriculars: I am the president of my school's Student Council and an officer for our National Junior Honor Society. I also help with concession stands for my club team when we host tournaments and am hoping to start Junior Guarding at the Peoria Public Pool this summer.</p> <p>Qualities: As a Youth Advisory Board member, I believe I'd bring qualities like creativity and integrity, and I'd be an extremely hard-working member, putting the time and effort in being the best person I can be on the board. I believe I'd bring good ideas to the table and I would always make sure that I am on top of community service, schoolwork, and other things.</p> <p>Civic Engagement: To me, civic engagement isn't just participating in community sponsored events, it helps your community in any way you can through things like volunteer work or hands-on projects around the city. Civic engagement is also engaging with your fellow community members and making your voice heard.</p>