The following presentation outlines how a Professional Learning Hub will serve as a central access point for professional development resources, research, and design. This initiative aims to support the initial phase of the Payson Learning Landscape Project, with the goal of establishing outdoor education platforms in Rim Country that facilitate exploration, learning, and engagement, offering various benefits to the community.

Professional Learning Hub's Vision/Mission

- The **Vision** is to develop a widely recognized outdoor education platforms in the Rim Country that supports exploration, learning, and engagement.
- The **Mission** is to implement a flexible operational model that can be utilized across different Rim properties.

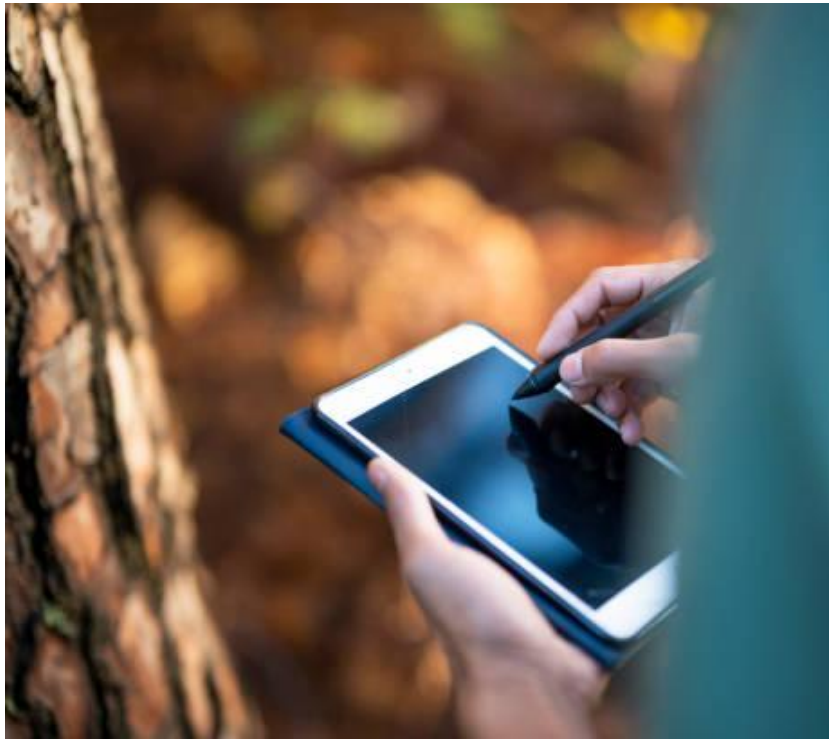
Professional Learning Hub Partners

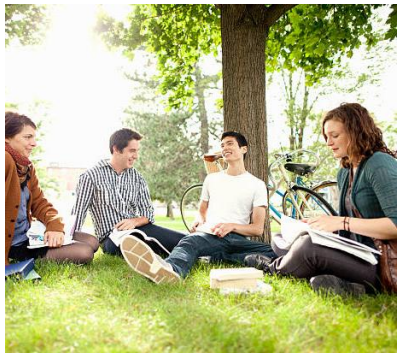
- ASU: Class development, participants and facilitators involvement
- GCC: Curriculum development at GCC, Hub Center facilities, and participant involvement
- Collaborative Partnerships: Participants involvement, facilitation, and overall coordination

Hub of 10 to15 Students (High School, College & Industry Participants) - Three groups)

Participant's Benefits:

- Credentialing
- Enhanced resume stacking
- Ongoing relationships
- Innovative projects at local and national levels
- Experiential learning opportunities
- Experiencing lasting outcomes and impacts
- College & job readiness





Group Functions

- Research across industry, national, and international levels
- Ideas and contributions from local and state stakeholders
- Functionality and expected results
- Operational processes and procedures
- Return on Investment (ROI) and Social Return on Investment (SROI)
- Sources of funding
- Design within and related to villages

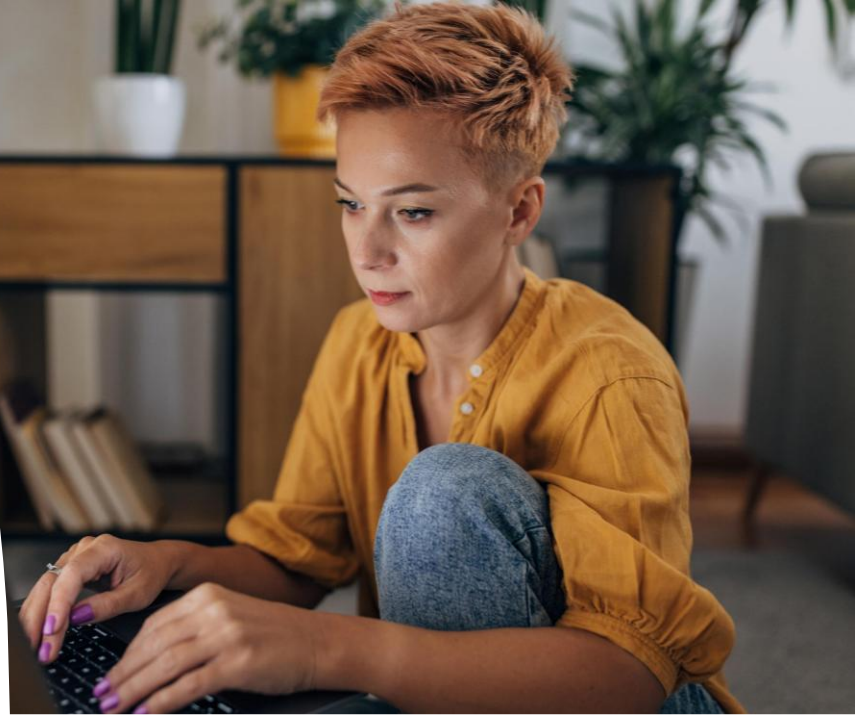
Disciplines & Areas of Interest in the Hub (High School & College Students & Venue Content Professions)

Possible Participant's Areas & Interest:

- Education
- Natural Resources
- Science
- Business-Marketing-Finance
- Indigenous Population
- Biomimicry
- Astronomy
- Agriculture
- Sustainability
- Recreation
- Mindfulness
- STEM/STEAM
- Environmental Education

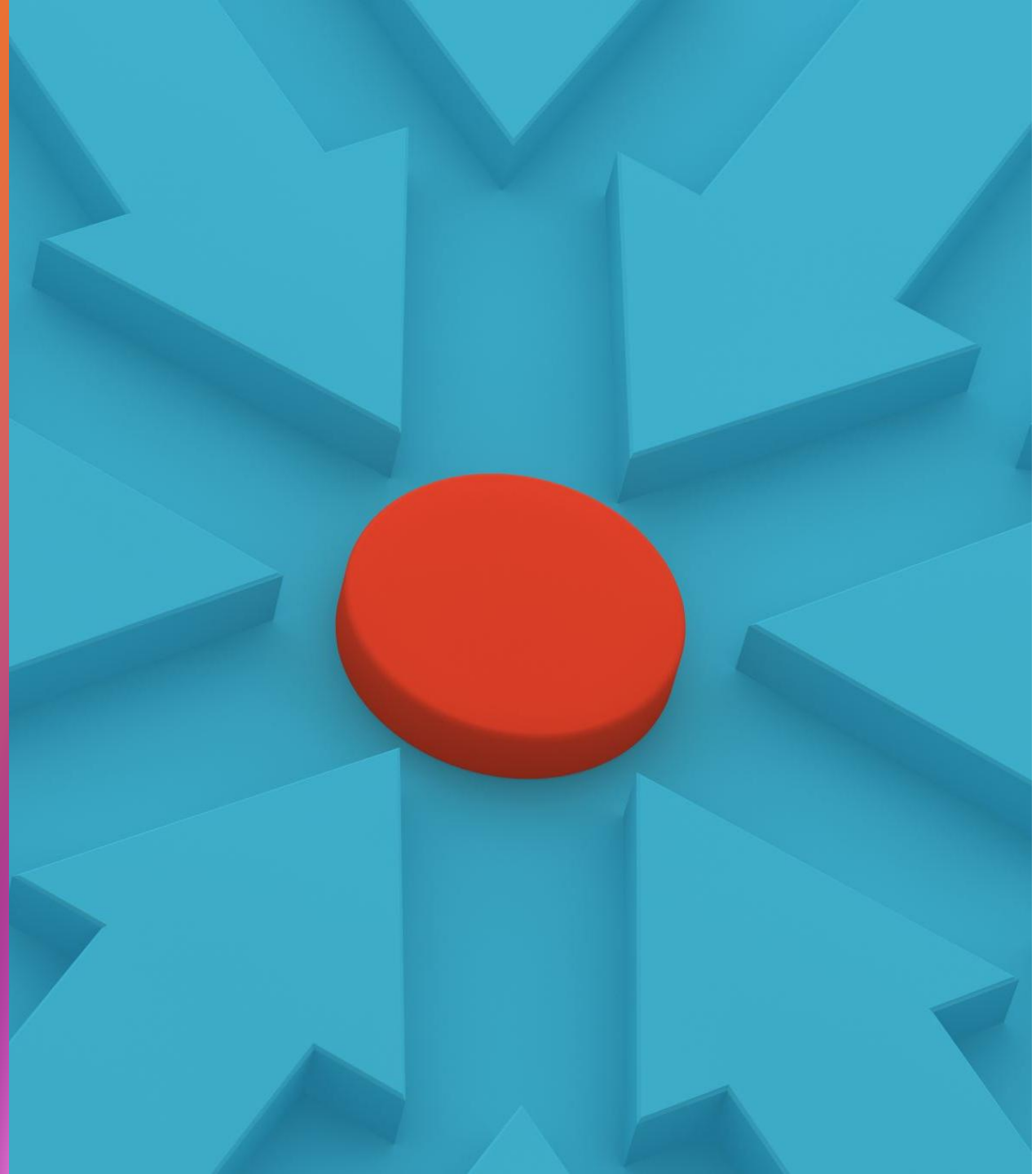
Professional Learning Hub Format

- Online sessions
- Informal speaker sessions
- Exploring sites & communities
- Solutions presentation



Short Term Outcomes (six-nine months)

- Ideas contributed by future users
- Comprehensive project analysis from multiple perspectives
- Proposed design and implementation strategy
- Strategy developed with input and feedback from all stakeholders
- Plan encompassing all essential elements—finance, marketing, operations, and more



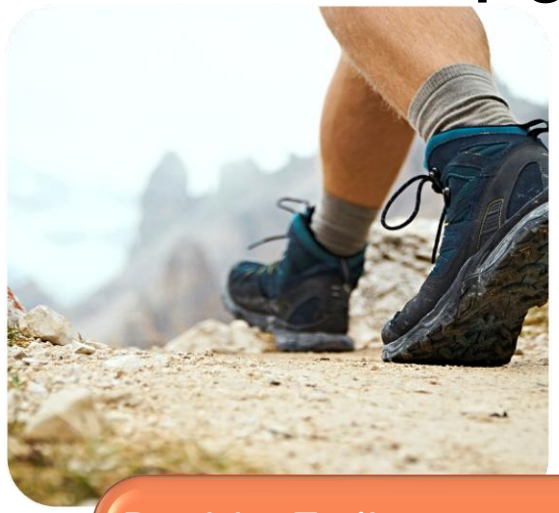
Long Term Outcomes

- Increase tourist sale receipts
- Rim Families livability enhancement
- Expanded trail usage resulting in increase revenue
- Forest, firewise & environmental education
- Improve well being through RX forest
- Enhance Payson’s property assets
- State & National Recognition

Professional Learning Hubs-Initial Assumptions

- Focus on several key Rim Properties
- Optimize input from stakeholders
- Develop property “villages” that include education, activities, and adventures
- Approach ideas with creativity and think beyond conventional limits
- Start with curiosity and wonder, culminating in growth and expansion & amplification
- Envision the initial entry into the village and the subsequent steps
- Plan from the first shovel to the grand opening and future stages
- Ensure designs ready plans
- Begin with the proposed venue and make necessary additions or adjustments based on discovery

Professional Learning Hub
Possible Payson Participating Sites



Boulder Trails

- City Location- accessibility
- Project on the “books”
- Trails substantial draw to Payson ($8 billion in AZ)

Payson Event Center

- Development of 136 contiguous acres
- Great traffic
- Flat & Minimum Cost for infrastructure

MHA

- Mission of owner to support learning and health
- Integration with park
- Research Lab

Potential extra locations: Shoofly Ruins, Goat Camp Trail/Ruins
Pine/Strawberry Locations &
Camp Tontozona

Payson Learning Landscape
Possible Village Interpretive Venues

STEM Education

"STEM is Everywhere in Nature"

Biomimicry

"Nature at its Best"

Pond & Ecology

"When will it be all gone?"

Sustainability

"What must be sustained & save"

Forest Conservation

"Are we to late?"

Native American Land

"From the Moon to the Earth to Soil & Water

Payson Learning Landscape
Possible Village Interpretive Venues

STEM Photography

"Picture is worth a thousand words."

Eco-System

"To save it we need to embrace it."

Firewise

"How can we protect what we have?"

Solar –Day Time

"Wish upon a Star"

Mindfulness

"Creating the Nature Fix."

Permaculture

"How could we live right here?"

Examples “Village” Interpretative Signs at the possible Payson Sites

Examples “Village” Activity Area Elements at the possible Payson Sites

Research shows Outdoor Learning…

- Supports overall child development.
- Fosters a sense of place and civic responsibility.
- Enhance students' physical, mental, and social health.
- Deepens understanding of natural and human communities.
- Build a foundation for active, community-minded citizens.
- Encourages family and community involvement.
- Enhances learning, improves concentration and stimulates curiosity.

Nature Therapy Research

- **Reduced Stress and Anxiety:** Outdoor spaces are associated with lower levels of stress-related hormones.
- **Improved Mood:** Exposure to the outdoors may be linked to increased serotonin and dopamine, which contribute to emotional stability.
- **Enhanced Cognitive Function:** Time in green environments has been shown to support focus, attention, and cognitive performance.
- **Increased Self-Awareness and Emotional Regulation:** Interaction with nature can support emotional regulation and resilience.
- **Stronger Sense of Connection:** Green spaces may help foster feelings of belonging and interconnectedness.

Educational Benefits of Trails:

- **Environmental Literacy:** allows students to observe firsthand the interaction between people and nature, fostering a deeper understanding of ecosystems and environmental issues.
- **Skill Develop:** can help students develop essential life skills such as resilience, leadership, and environmental stewardship.
- **Hands-on Learning:** provides a space for inquiry-based learning, allowing students to explore, ask questions, and make connections to what they are learning in the classroom.
- **Improved Academic Performance:** can positively impact academic achievement.
- **Enhanced Critical Thinking:** significantly improves students' critical thinking skills.
- **Connection with Nature:** can foster a sense of wonder and kinship with nature, encouraging students to become more aware of their surroundings and develop a sense of responsibility towards the environment.
- **Mental and Physical Well-being:** effective way to build community, establish good habits, and promote both mental and physical well-being.

Professional Learning Hub Partners Contact Inform.

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