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## PRESS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **West-MEC received WESTMARC's West Valley Regional Advancement Award**

**(Oct. 27, 2020)** -- Western Maricopa Education Center (West-MEC) - a public career technical education district - received WESTMARC's West Valley Regional Advancement Award at WESTMARC's 30th anniversary Best of the West award ceremony.

The West Valley Regional Advancement Award is presented annually to a group, person or organization that WESTMARC believes has strengthened and transformed the West Valley's position for economic growth.

Phoenix Vice Mayor Betty Guardado nominated West-MEC for the award. When asked by WESTMARC executives to pick a candidate, she said it was an easy choice given West-MEC's success at graduating college and career-ready students.

"On the west side of Phoenix we struggle with our graduation rates and kids dropping at an early age because they don't have a vision for their future. When I toured a West-MEC campus I was blown away by the programming and support they offered students. West-MEC provides a pipeline to good jobs and a future for our young people," Guardado said.

West-MEC Superintendent Greg Donovan happily accepted the award, as it highlighted the efforts of West-MEC staff and more than 39,000 students taking CTE courses as part of sponsored programs.

"All these things will help project young people into a bright, economically viable future right here in our West Valley," Donovan said.

## **About West-MEC:**

**West-MEC is a career technical education public school district that focuses solely on innovative career and technical education (CTE) programs that prepare students to enter the workforce and pursue continuing education. West-MEC CTE programs provide students opportunities to earn college credit and industry credentials. West-MEC serves more than 37,000 students from 48 high schools, across 3,800 square miles in the northern and western cities of the Phoenix Metropolitan area. West-MEC now also offers adult education programs. Visit [www.west-mec.edu](http://www.west-mec.edu) for more information about West-MEC's career-driven education opportunities or follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.**

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