

THE VICTORY VOICE

*WHERE EVERY STUDENT'S
SUCCESS IS HEARD*



Q1 EDITION



#ForTheKids

MISSION STATEMENT

Provide essential and equitable education opportunities to the underserved and vulnerable populations ensuring that ALL students have the opportunity to win and achieve future success.

OUR CORE VALUES

TEAM

WIN

WHATEVER IT TAKES

NO EXCUSES

100% EVERYDAY

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VICTORY HOOPTOWN: MORE THAN A GAME



HOOPS • HEART • COMMUNITY

When it comes to high school basketball, the playing field has rarely been level.

Across the country, club basketball teams dominate the landscape—offering exposure, competition, and elite training, but these opportunities often come with a heavy price tag. Families pay between \$3,000–\$7,000 a year in fees, and then cover their own travel expenses on top of that. Most club teams recruit from multiple schools, pulling together athletes from the biggest and most established programs. For many kids, that system locks them out before the game even begins.

Victory Schools saw this inequity and decided to change it. Enter **Victory Hooptown**—a bold new initiative that provides a year-round club team for student-athletes, built on access, opportunity, and excellence.



BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS

At Victory Hooptown, athletes pay nothing. Zero fees. Zero travel costs.

Instead, every player receives a Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) deal, something unheard of at the high school level, and there's one simple requirement: to play for Hooptown, athletes must attend Victory Futures Academy (VFA).

This model is designed to give Victory students the same opportunities as their peers at powerhouse programs, without financial barriers. It's a first-of-its-kind approach that combines the resources of a charter school system with the structure of elite-level basketball.

MORE THAN JUST A TEAM

Victory Hooptown is built like a college program. Each player's school day includes two dedicated class periods—6th and 7th—devoted to Hooptown. During that time, they study film, receive personalized training, practice, and even take classes in health and nutrition.

The program also provides:

- **Four sets of uniforms**
- **Team backpacks**
- **A full-time head coach, who also serves as a high school science teacher**
- **Daily practice sessions**
- **Year-round competition against elite club teams**
- **Shoe Budget**
- **Tickets to GCU Men's and Women's Basketball Games**

More than that, Hooptown is about keeping kids in school and off the streets. For many of these young men, basketball is more than a game—it's a lifeline. It gives them structure, purpose, and a safe environment to grow, on and off the court.



COMPETING AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL

What makes this initiative extraordinary is who's on the court. Many of these boys picked up basketball only a few years ago at Victory Futures High School feeder Private School, Victory Collegiate Academy, yet they now find themselves competing—and winning—against teams filled with athletes who've been playing since childhood.

The results are already showing. Victory Hooptown won its first tournament game recently, proving that with structure, discipline, and opportunity, talent can rise quickly, and beyond the wins and losses, the growth is evident every single day.



A SYMBOL OF WHO WE ARE

The Victory Hooptown mascot is the Pronghorn, the native antelope of Arizona. Known for its speed, strength, and resilience, the Pronghorn also carries a deeper meaning for us: it's horns naturally form the shape of a heart.

That heart reflects our tagline—"Hoops, Heart, and Community." It's more than a slogan. It's our mission: to use basketball as a vehicle for opportunity, to develop young men of character, and to bring our community together around something greater than the game itself.





A VISION FOR THE FUTURE



Victory HoopTown isn't just a basketball program. It's a movement to redefine what access to athletics looks like. It's a commitment to students who might otherwise be overlooked, ensuring they have the same shot—if not a better one—than kids from wealthier backgrounds or powerhouse schools.

“Our boys are getting better every single day,” said Coach K. “We want this to feel like a college program, because that’s the level of preparation and professionalism our players deserve.”

With NIL deals, professional-level support, and a system designed to put academics and athletics hand-in-hand, Victory HoopTown is leveling the playing field, keeping kids in school, and changing lives in the process.

Learn more at victoryhooptownacademy.com



A DIFFERENT KIND OF HERO: OFFICER BILL AT VICTORY COLLEGIATE ACADEMY



When Victory Collegiate Academy (VCA) applied for and received a school safety grant through the Arizona Department of Education, the hope was to bring on a full-time School Resource Officer (SRO)—someone who could provide security, mentorship, and consistency for students. Like many schools, VCA quickly learned there simply weren't enough officers to go around.

Instead, under the state's rotating model, officers could pick up shifts at schools on their days off. For VCA, this meant a revolving door of different officers—sometimes several in a week, sometimes none at all. But among that rotation, one officer stood out.

His name is **Officer Bill**.

More Than Just Security

Last year, Officer Bill was on campus just one or two days a week. Even with limited time, he connected instantly with the kids, the staff, and the mission of Victory Schools. The students didn't just see a uniform—they saw a mentor, a role model, and even a friend.

This year, everything changed. Somehow, someway, Officer Bill has been on campus every single day of the year. He is no longer a rotating officer—he's our officer. He has fully integrated himself into the life of the school, becoming a fixture of daily life at VCA.

At recess, he isn't standing on the sidelines—he's in the game, playing right alongside the kids. In the hallways, he's not just patrolling—he's checking in, listening, and encouraging. In classrooms, he supports behavior plans and social-emotional needs. Students have even selected him to be their mentor through formal and informal programs.

He does security walks, yes, but he also has guidance counselor conversations. When students make mistakes, he doesn't bring down a heavy hand; instead, he uses a gentle heart to coach them up and help them make better choices.

A True Part of the Community

Bill has become so much a part of the VCA community that he recently got an apartment in town—just so he could be closer and more available to the school. Normally, he lives in Prescott, but now he spends much of his week right here, integrated fully into daily school life.

His commitment doesn't stop when the last bell rings. Outside of school hours, often not even in uniform, Officer Bill attends the kids' sporting contests. The students absolutely light up when they see him at their games—proof that his influence stretches far beyond campus security.



Voices of Leadership

“Officer Bill represents everything Victory Schools is about,” said **CEO Nick Schuerman**. “He protects our kids, yes—but more importantly, he believes in them, invests in them, and gives them a vision of what’s possible when someone cares. He’s not just part of VCA; he’s part of the Victory family.”

Director of Schools Caitlin Sims added: “What makes Officer Bill so special is that he leads with his heart. Our students respect him because he respects them first. He’s proof that relationships change lives.”



More Than a Title

At Victory Collegiate Academy, Officer Bill isn't just "The Officer." He's a mentor. A coach. A counselor. A role model. A protector. And, in the words of our students and staff—a superhero.

The safety grant may have opened the door, but it's Officer Bill's heart, commitment, and belief in our kids that have made all the difference.

THE HEART OF IMPACT. THE POWER OF OPPORTUNITY



At Victory Schools, we believe every child deserves more than an education—they deserve a real chance. That’s the driving force behind the Victory Foundation, the official 501(c)(3) nonprofit arm of Victory Schools.

Created to generate philanthropic support for initiatives that extend beyond standard school operations, the Victory Foundation raises resources for high-impact efforts that change lives, build futures, and fulfill our mission: to provide essential and equitable educational opportunities to underserved and vulnerable students.

While our schools are fully funded for day-to-day operations, the Foundation exists to go further—fueling programs that remove barriers, create possibilities, and give every student not just access, but true opportunity.

OPPORTUNITY

Every child deserves a fair chance to succeed. We break down barriers so students can reach their potential.

IMPACT

Our programs directly shape students’ lives, providing resources that leave a lasting mark on their future.

COMMUNITY

By joining the Victory Foundation, you become part of something bigger—a community dedicated to creating real change.

THE 6-POINT IMPACT PLAN

Through its **6-Point Impact Plan**, the Victory Foundation invests in students, families, and communities in ways that go far beyond the classroom:



Escuela de Victoria, Victory’s special-needs school in Puerto Peñasco, Mexico, is the only tuition-free program of its kind in the region. Here, children once excluded from education are learning, growing, and thriving—while parents are regaining hope and even returning to school themselves.



Every student deserves someone in their corner. Angels contribute \$250 a year to provide essentials like school supplies, uniforms, and mental health support, while also building real relationships through updates and mentoring.



When Victory families face emergencies—whether housing insecurity, medical crises, or sudden loss—we respond immediately. This fund allows us to say, “We’ve got you” in moments of urgent need.



Sports change lives, but too often our students are priced out. This initiative covers fees, uniforms, equipment, travel, Special Olympics participation, and even nutrition support, ensuring that every student who wants to play—can.



Graduation is just the beginning. This fund provides scholarships and transition support—up to \$10,000 per student—for college, trade schools, or workforce readiness, helping students step confidently into their future.



Deaf and hard-of-hearing students deserve a language-rich, affirming education. This program invests in qualified Deaf educators, ASL/English curriculum, technology, cultural mentors, and transition support, ensuring students are empowered, not overlooked.

For The Kids

The Foundation carries the same rallying cry that drives all of Victory Schools' work: For the Kids. Every initiative, every program, every dollar raised is about ensuring that students—especially those who are underserved and vulnerable—have the tools, resources, and support they need to thrive. From helping families in their darkest hour, to building life-skills labs, to keeping kids in school and off the streets through sports, the Victory Foundation is proof that when we invest in opportunity, we invest in impact.



How You Can Join the Impact

The Victory Foundation exists to break down barriers, open doors, and create opportunities for underserved and vulnerable students, but we can't do it alone.

By joining us, you become part of a community dedicated to changing lives—today and for generations to come.

Ways to Support:

- **Become an Angel Sponsor for a Victory student**
- **Give to the Above and Beyond Fund for families in crisis**
- **Invest in scholarships, sports equity, and life-skills programs**
- **Partner with us as a business or community donor**

Every dollar raised goes directly to programs that are For the Kids.

Learn more and make your impact today at victoryfoundationforthekids.com



VICTORY EXPANDS: THREE NEW AUTISM SCHOOLS OPEN



Victory Schools is proud to announce the opening of three brand-new campuses dedicated to serving students with autism—expanding our reach into **Anthem, Scottsdale, and Sun City**.

With these additions, Victory Autism Academy is now able to provide more families with the specialized education, therapies, and support services their children need to thrive. Each campus is built on our core commitment: to meet students where they are, honor their individuality, and help them grow academically, socially, and personally.

The expansion reflects our belief that families shouldn't have to travel long distances or settle for limited options when it comes to autism education. By opening schools across the Valley, we are making high-quality, specialized programs more accessible than ever.

At Victory, our mission remains clear: every child deserves opportunity, every family deserves support, and every community deserves hope. These new campuses are one more step toward fulfilling that mission.

For the Kids—now in Anthem, Scottsdale, and Sun City.



VICTORY DEAF ACADEMY: A NEW BEGINNING

Victory Schools is proud to announce the soft launch of the **Victory Deaf Academy**, now housed within **Victory Autism Academy Queen Creek** as a school-within-a-school model.

Serving an inaugural group of **10 Deaf and hard-of-hearing students**, this program is already proving to be something truly extraordinary. Students are thriving in a language-rich, supportive environment designed to meet their unique educational and social needs.

Looking ahead, we are planning a **hard launch next year with 30–40 students** and are actively seeking a permanent building to house the Academy. This expansion reflects our long-term commitment to creating a world-class program for Deaf and hard-of-hearing students in Arizona.

By creating space where students are not only accommodated but celebrated, Victory is living out its mission to provide equitable opportunities for every child.

We are just getting started—and the future is bright.

Learn more at victorydeafacademy.com





INTO THE WILD: VICTORY STUDENTS

DISCOVER LIFE BEYOND THE CLASSROOM



For most middle and high schoolers, roasting marshmallows over a fire or casting a fishing line into a lake are simple, everyday activities, but for many Victory students, these moments are once-in-a-lifetime firsts.

Each year, **Victory Collegiate Academy 8th graders** and **Victory Future Academy 9th graders** pack their bags for a special rite of passage: the annual camping trip to **Lynx Lake in the Prescott National Forest**. What makes this trip remarkable is not just the breathtaking mountain views or crisp pine air—it's the unforgettable growth, learning, and laughter that happen along the way.

For many students, this is their **first time ever in the mountains**. Their first time seeing a lake up close. Their first time hiking on real trails. Around the campfire, some even taste their first s'more—a small, sweet symbol of childhood that many of them never had until this trip.

This experience goes far beyond the fun. It's about **life skills, character building, and social-emotional learning** woven into every activity. Students learn:

- **Survival skills:** how to set up camp, build a fire safely, and work as a team.
- **Cooking skills:** preparing meals outdoors and cleaning up together.
- **Outdoor skills:** fishing, archery, hiking, even gold mining.
- **Character skills:** responsibility, resilience, and respect for nature and each other.



INTO THE WILD: VICTORY STUDENTS DISCOVER LIFE BEYOND THE CLASSROOM



Teachers and staff say that the transformation is tangible. Students return not only with new skills but also with stronger friendships, a sense of independence, and a confidence that carries into the classroom.

For Victory Schools, this trip is about more than camping—it's about opening doors. Doors to new experiences, new perspectives, and new possibilities. As one staff member put it: *“When our students step into the forest, they step into growth they didn't know was possible.”*



At Lynx Lake, students don't just learn how to fish or hike—they learn how to lead, how to connect, and how to believe in themselves.





BEYOND BORDERS: A BRIGHT START TO YEAR TWO FOR ESCUELA DE VICTORIA IN PUERTO PENASCO, MEXICO



At Escuela de Victoria in Puerto Peñasco, Mexico, the second year of school is off to a wonderful start. With nearly **40 students enrolled**, the school is already buzzing with energy and growth. Escuela de Victoria is unlike any other school in the region—it is **tuition-free and dedicated entirely to students with special needs**. This year, students are learning in three different classrooms:

- **K–2 class** for our youngest learners,
- **3–5 class** for upper elementary students, and
- **Life Skills class** for students ages 6–21, focused on independence and real-world experiences.

Celebrating Culture and Community

One of the highlights of the fall semester was the “Kermés”, a traditional outdoor festival often organized for charity or cultural celebrations. Escuela de Victoria’s “kermés” took place on September 16th, Mexican Independence Day. Each classroom set up its own booth, with students and parents running games, food stands, and activities. Families prepared the food together, making it a true community event. The laughter, music, and delicious aromas filled the air, creating a celebration that brought families, students, and staff even closer together.



Building Skills at the Bazaar

Another highlight has been watching the Life Skills students take ownership of the school’s Bazaar—a thrift store on campus that raises funds for the school through community donations. Students have been learning hands-on vocational skills:

- Sorting and organizing clothing donations.
- Greeting customers warmly as they arrive.
- Assisting at the cash register and bagging purchases.

These experiences are invaluable. They not only build social and workplace skills but also empower students to contribute meaningfully to their school community.

A Mission in Motion

Escuela de Victoria is still young, but already making a profound impact. For families who once had no access to special education services in this part of Mexico, the school is a beacon of hope. By combining academics, life skills, and cultural traditions, Escuela de Victoria is showing what’s possible when a community comes together around children who deserve every opportunity to thrive.

MEETING THE C-SUITE TEAM

LEADERSHIP AT EVERY LEVEL

At Victory Schools, leadership is not about titles — it's about people coming together to serve kids. From our principals and directors to our support staff and teachers, the impact happens because of the collective efforts of many. At the same time, our C-Suite team helps set the vision, align resources, and ensure that every decision keeps students — especially those who need it the most — at the center.

Here's a quick introduction to the team guiding Victory's growth:



NICK SCHUERMAN

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO)

Founder of Victory Schools, Nick has built the network around a mission of serving vulnerable and underserved student populations. His vision has driven Victory's expansion into specialized autism and deaf academies, multiple general education campuses, special needs school in Mexico and new initiatives that create opportunities where they've never existed before.

"Every decision we make has to come back to the same question: Is it good for kids?"



KRYSTAL LOWE

PROVOST & CHIEF ACADEMIC AND SCHOOLS OFFICER

One of Victory's first hires and co-founder of the Autism Academies, Krystal oversees all Exceptional Student Services (ESS) schools. With deep expertise in special education, she ensures our students with unique needs receive the highest level of academic, life skills, and social-emotional support.

CATILIN SIMS

CHIEF ACADEMIC AND SCHOOLS OFFICER (GENERAL EDUCATION)

Caitlin guides Victory's general education campuses, working closely with principals and teachers to ensure strong academics, consistent culture, and preparation for long-term student success. Her leadership ensures every campus is a place where students know they are believed in and supported.





TIM BOYKIN

CHIEF BUSINESS OFFICER (CBO)

Tim manages Victory’s financial health and human resources, making sure our schools have the stability and strength to keep growing. His work keeps the backbone of Victory strong, allowing our educators to focus fully on students.

RAYMOND BLOSSOM

CHIEF OFFICER OF WHOLE CHILD EDUCATION

Also among Victory’s earliest hires, Raymond leads our Whole Child vision — ensuring that students are supported in mind, body, and spirit. From wellness and athletics to social-emotional learning, his work makes sure Victory students grow as people, not just learners.





MARK MUNTZ

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER (COO)

Mark oversees key areas such as transportation, facilities, and technology. His leadership ensures our campuses are safe, functional, and well-equipped — providing the foundation for learning and growth every day. He is also the problem-solver who keeps day-to-day systems running smoothly, making sure students and staff can focus on what matters most.

LEADERSHIP BEYOND THE C-SUITE

While the C-Suite provides vision and direction, the real strength of Victory lies in the broader team — principals, directors, teachers, and staff — who live the mission every day. Their dedication is what makes our schools thrive.

Together, this collective leadership team is proof that when many hands and hearts align around a shared mission, the possibilities for kids are endless.



THE VICTORY VOICE



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