

This Free E-Book is brought to you by Natural-Aging.com.

100% Effective Natural Hormone Treatment
Menopause, Andropause And Other Hormone Imbalances
Impair Healthy Healing In People Over The Age Of 30!

New Pilot Program To Nab Sex Offenders Being Tested In Phoenix Schools

By Patricia Hawke

We are a nation focused on eradicating sex offenders from the lives of our children. They are in and near our schools, at the local parks, living next door, and even in some of our churches.

The Phoenix schools, as well as their teachers, administrators and parents, want to protect their children from sexual attacks and abductions. Together with the Maricopa County Sheriff's office, the Phoenix schools have devised a pilot project to apprehend sex offenders and alleged abductors before they can do harm.

The plan of the Phoenix schools is simple. Two cameras are now located outside the school office of the Royal Palm Middle School, scanning the faces of people who enter. Each camera uses face-scanning technology, designed to compare the scanned faces with the state and national databases of registered sex offenders, missing children, and alleged abductors. If a match is found, a police officer is dispatched to the Phoenix school.

Law enforcement and the Phoenix schools are hopeful that the project succeeds, knowing that anything that protects the children is worth any cost and inconvenience.

Civil libertarians, however, are concerned with privacy more than protecting the children from attack or abduction. They are vocally opposing the Phoenix schools project, citing the potential issues of privacy violations.

Others say the technology is unproven and not reliable. According to Chengjun Liu, professor and researcher of facial recognition technology at New Jersey Institute of Technology, the technology is very promising but currently is not foolproof. Many variables, such as lighting, shadows and facial expression, can affect its accuracy.

Ken Kaplan, engineering director at Hummingbird's Phoenix location and who provided the equipment and software for the Phoenix schools pilot, disagrees. He is confident that facial scanning technology can be used to accurately compare scanned faces with mug shots and snapshots stored in the databases. He believes that false positives are rare situations.

New Pilot Program To Nab Sex Offenders Being Tested In Phoenix Schools

Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio, known for instituting chain gangs and issuing pink underwear to county inmates, believes that if it only catches one sex offender at the Phoenix school, then it is worth it. Protecting children from attack and abduction - or worse - takes priority.

If the pilot project is successful, both law enforcement and Phoenix schools educators hope to expand it. The Phoenix schools want the technology in all of their schools. According to Arizona Schools Superintendent Tom Horne, the Phoenix schools may very well get their wish. If the project succeeds, he plans to seek funding for cameras for all schools within the state.

Patricia Hawke is a staff writer for Schools K–12, providing free, in–depth reports on all U.S. public and private K–12 schools. Patricia has a nose for research and writes stimulating news and views on school issues. For more on Phoenix schools visit

<http://www.schoolsk-12.com/Arizona/Phoenix/index.html>

Phoenix Schools Providing Healthier Food Choices For 2006–2007 School Year

By Patricia Hawke

Much attention has been paid over the last few years to the weight (or maybe I should say overweight) condition of Americans. There have and continue to be many articles in the media, television shows devoted to the subject, and now even a reality show. The attention has not just been on adult Americans. Much attention is being paid to our overweight children and the health risks posed for them by the time they are adults.

The federal government already had set limits on the amount of fat and calories that schools could offer to children on their main menus. Many community groups have lobbied their schools to rid the facilities of soda and snack machines — and won!

Soda contains large amounts of high fructose. Just one soda daily can add several pounds each year to anyone's weight, regardless of age. Fat, of course, adds high amounts of bad cholesterol, which eventually clogs arteries to the heart and causes strokes.

Because of the federal limits and community opinion, many Phoenix schools already had taken fried foods off their menus and soda out of their schools. Some Phoenix schools, however, continued to offer French fries as a side item, in order to get around the federal restrictions. They believed that asking Phoenix schools' students to give up the staple they loved was asking too much.

Now, all Phoenix schools are required to eliminate certain foods from all of their menus. A new state law that is stricter than the federal limits now bans all junk foods, soft drinks, and fried foods from kindergarten through eighth–grade schools during the school day. All food sold on school premises during the school day must meet certain nutrition standards, making French fries completely off limits. There is no way to get around the restrictions this time.

Nutritionists in some of the Phoenix schools have gotten very creative in finding and providing

New Pilot Program To Nab Sex Offenders Being Tested In Phoenix Schools

substitutes. These Phoenix schools' nutritionists have sampled many different varieties of substitutes for French fries over the summer months. They even have enlisted Phoenix schools employees as taste testers. Their decisive factors for the new substitute fries were: (1) they must bake quickly, (2) they do not become soggy under the warming lights, and most important, (3) they must taste good.

The new fries offered at many of the Phoenix schools this school year have many different names. Some are oven wedges, oven fries, and potato sticks. Whatever the Phoenix schools call them, they meet the criteria of the nutritionists and the new state law.

The Phoenix schools' substitute fries are baked (not deep fried), have fewer calories (some are 25 percent less than fried), and half the fat. They are lighter in color than the original French fries, and lack the old familiar crunch and oily taste.

Most Phoenix schools' students say they like the new fries — a little mushier than the old ones, but not bad. Others can deal with the new fries but prefer the originals.

As long as the Phoenix schools' students eat them, as well as the other foods mandated by state law, parents at least know their children are getting one healthy meal each school day.

Patricia Hawke is a staff writer for Schools K–12, providing free, in–depth reports on all U.S. public and private K–12 schools. Patricia has a nose for research and writes stimulating news and views on school issues. For more information on Phoenix schools visit

<http://www.schoolsk-12.com/Arizona/phoenix/index.html>



This Free E-Book has been brought to you by Natural-Aging.com.

[100% Effective Natural Hormone Treatment](#)
Menopause, Andropause And Other Hormone Imbalances
Impair Healthy Healing In People Over The Age Of 30!