

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Hughes Federal Credit Union Invites Community to Vote on Next Vail School District Foundation Debit Card Design**

Community event on Sept. 26 will celebrate student creativity and support local education

Sept. 14, 2026 (TUCSON, Ariz.) – Hughes Federal Credit Union and the Vail School District Foundation invite the community to help select the next Vail School District Foundation debit card design during a special community voting event on Saturday, September 26, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at the Hughes Vail Branch, located at 9036 S. Houghton Road.

The event will feature artwork from five finalists selected from 25 submissions by Vail-area high school students. The finalist designs will be displayed at the Hughes Vail Branch during the event, where community members can vote for the design they would like to see featured on a future Vail School District Foundation debit card.

To recognize the students' creativity and achievement, cash prizes will be awarded to the top three designs:

- First Place: \$500
- Second Place: \$250
- Third Place: \$100

The winning debit card design will be announced during the event and will become available to Hughes members beginning Nov. 1.

In addition to casting their votes, attendees can enter to win a \$100 Galaxy Theatres gift card or a \$100 Street Taco gift card and enjoy complimentary food and beverages.

The Vail School District Foundation debit card program provides ongoing support for local education. For every Vail School District Foundation debit card issued by Hughes Federal Credit Union, Hughes donates \$5 to the Foundation, helping fund educational programs and opportunities that benefit Vail students.

"At Hughes, we believe strong communities start with investing in students, teachers and families," said Valerie Fanelli, Vice President of Marketing at Hughes Federal Credit Union. "This event celebrates student creativity while creating ongoing support for educational opportunities throughout the Vail community."

"We're excited to showcase the talent of Vail students and invite the community to help select the winning design," said Irlanda Cuevas, Community Engagement Manager at Hughes Federal Credit Union. "It's a fun way for residents to support local students and schools."

"The Vail School District Foundation is grateful for Hughes Federal Credit Union's continued support of our students and schools," said Stacy Winstryg, President of the Vail School District Foundation. "This partnership creates meaningful funding opportunities that support educational programs throughout the district while giving students a unique opportunity to share their work with the community."

Hughes partners with Vail-area schools and organizations on initiatives that promote financial literacy, student achievement and community engagement. Programs like the Vail School District Foundation debit card help provide ongoing support for educational opportunities that benefit local students and schools.

About Hughes Federal Credit Union

Hughes Federal Credit Union is a member-owned financial institution serving more than 190,000 members with over \$2.6 billion in assets. Since 1952, Hughes has remained deeply committed to improving its members' financial well-being while maintaining strong local roots in Southern Arizona. Built on a foundation of trust, service, and community impact, Hughes offers a full range of financial products and services designed to meet the evolving needs of its diverse membership. Hughes has earned recognition for its commitment to member value and service, including being named among the best credit unions in the state by Forbes. Driven by a people-first philosophy, Hughes continues to invest in innovative solutions, financial education, and community partnerships, helping members and communities go further.

About the Vail School District Foundation

The Vail School District Foundation supports educational initiatives that enrich learning opportunities for students and strengthen schools throughout the Vail community through grants, programs and community partnerships.

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