ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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HORNE RELEASES 2009 AIMS SCORES: AIMS SCORES GAIN ACROSS EVERY SUBJECT AND EVERY GRADE LEVEL

PHOENIX (Wednesday, July 15, 2009) -- Arizona Schools Chief Tom Horne today released 2009 AIMS scores and states that AIMS test scores are up for all subjects and when broken down by grades, scores are up or steady for all subjects. The difficulty of the test has not changed since 2005.

"Students and teachers have been working very hard to improve test scores in reading, writing, math and science. We are showing steady increases in our overall academic performances statewide." Horne stated.

Statewide scores in reading and writing showed the most improvement this year, with writing increasing from 65% to 75% of students proficient and reading increased from 68% to 71%.

Horne added: "The AIMS test is not only an important measure of how we are doing at teaching our academic standards, but also an important motivator because students must pass AIMS to graduate. On the national *TerraNova* test, Arizona students are performing above the national average."

Go to <u>www.ade.az.gov</u> for a complete list of AIMS test results by grade, school, district, charter and county.

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