



Tom Horne Reports to Educators

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A Message from the Superintendent

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SUPPORTING OUR TEACHERS ON MATTERS OF DISCIPLINE

I received a letter from 16 Democratic state legislators raising concerns about allegations of racial discrimination in some cases of discipline of students. The legislators requested a task force to explore creating a method for appeals from discipline decisions made by school districts.

I responded that we would investigate any allegations of racial discrimination in individual discipline cases. However, I am opposed to creating further layers of appeal. One of the initiatives of my administration has been to encourage school boards to support teachers in the application of strict discipline. I believe that we will not achieve high academic goals, unless we have an atmosphere of discipline where learning can take place.

[Click here for the letter](#) from the legislators, and [click here for my response](#).

Sincerely,

Tom Horne
Superintendent of Public Instruction

Celebrating Education



2007 Spotlight on Success Awards



The third annual Spotlight on Success awards dinner was held on May 16th at The Carefree Resort. Twenty district and charter schools were recognized for outstanding accomplishments under the following categories: A+ School Recognitions; Best Practices Benchmark Schools; Career & Technical Education Partnerships; English Acquisition Achievement; High School Renewal; Reading First; School Improvement (ASSIST Team); Arts Education (which was the Superintendent's Special Recognition category); and Title I Distinguished Schools.

And the winners are...

Category	Organization
A + Schools	Chandler High School
A + Schools	Rincon High School
A + Schools	Edu-Prize
Benchmark Schools	Sunnyslope High School
Benchmark Schools	Larkspur Elementary
Career Technical Education	East Valley Institute of Technology (EVIT) (Automotive Technologies)
Career Technical Education	Peoria Unified School District (Education Professions)
English Language Learners	Challenger Elementary
English Language Learners	Desert Shadows Middle School
High School Renewal	Agua Fria Union High School District (Breaking Ranks II)
High School Renewal (AZHSRI)	Casa Grande High School (Breaking Ranks II Implementation Model)
High School Renewal (AZHSRI)	StarShine Academy (Breaking Ranks II Implementation Model)
Reading First	Curry Elementary School
Reading First	Gary Knox Elementary School
School Improvement (ASSIST Team)	Miller Elementary
School Improvement (ASSIST Team)	Indian Wells Elementary
Special Student Recognition	Wakefield Middle School (Innovative & Exemplary Program)
Superintendent's Special Recognition	Ocotillo School (Arts Education)
Superintendent's Special Recognition	STAR Charter School (Arts Education)
Superintendent's Special Recognition	Tucson Unified School District (Arts Education - OMA)
Title I Distinguished Schools	1st Avenue Elementary
Title I Distinguished Schools	Greenway Primary

STATE SCHOOLS CHIEF TOM HORNE LOOKING FOR
STUDENT NOMINEES FOR
2007 PAT TILLMAN LEADERSHIP AWARD

State schools Superintendent Tom Horne is searching for outstanding students who can be nominated for the 2007 Pat Tillman Leadership Award.

The award is given to an honoree who is 12 years old or older and: puts service above self; has demonstrated the courage of his or her convictions; serves as an excellent role model for youth, and is committed to equal opportunity for all regardless of race, creed, color, religion, national origin, gender or sexual orientation.

"I am honored to be associated with this event, which recognizes the achievements of outstanding students who demonstrate a commitment to service to others, are resolute in their personal convictions, and are great role models for their peers," Horne said. "It is my hope that parents, educators and friends will consider nominating worthy students for this honor."

[CLICK HERE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION](#)

The Arizona Super Bowl Host Committee invites Arizona's super teachers to a special pep rally.

On Saturday, June 9 at the University of Phoenix Stadium in Glendale, the Host Committee will unveil its "Super Learning in a Super State" program.

Sponsored by Freeport McMoRan, the voluntary program incorporates Super Bowl XLII into Arizona history, geography and much more.

This will be the 9th year for the Super Learning program. Originally created by Program Director Kathleen Oropallo for Super Bowl XXXV in Tampa, Super Learning continues to be the largest youth outreach program in the history of the Super Bowl.

The Arizona Super Bowl Host Committee wants all Arizona teachers and students to get in on the excitement. The June 9 teachers' event will feature information about the Super Learning program, photos and fun with our team captain Spike the Super Ball and tours of the University of Phoenix Stadium.

Want to learn more?
Email us at
superlearning@azsuperbowl.com

Smithsonian Center for Education and Museum Studies

The Smithsonian's gateway to more than 1,200 free educational resources, www.smithsonianeducation.org, now includes a feature that aligns those resources to standards of learning in every state. We have revised the Smithsonian's central education website on the basis of recommendations from the state chiefs and the Teachers of the Year. Simply by entering the name of the state into the search engine, teachers can find lesson plans, virtual exhibitions, photographs and artworks, and databases of research information that apply to their curriculum. The state standards are correlated to all subjects - from language arts and social studies to mathematics and technology. The Smithsonian will regularly update both the resource bank and the state-standards correlations on the website, which was recently honored with a 2007 Webby Award in the category of Cultural Institution Websites.



www.smithsonianeducation.org/

Project Toe Tag

Did you know ...

- As many as 50% or more of the drivers of cars in your immediate vicinity are completely or partially distracted?
- Distracted driving is the #1 cause of the over 6,000,000 vehicle crashes each year.

In conjunction with the Department of Public Safety, and the Governor's Office of Highway Safety, Project Toe Tag has developed materials to help educate young drivers about the risk of distracted driving. This brochure and video are being provided free of charge to high schools who would like to incorporate Project Toe Tag into their driver's education classes, or any other class, in an effort to help bring awareness to this growing danger.

For more information on Project Toe Tag, please visit their website at: www.toetaginfo.net.

If you would like to order a free copy for your school, please email safeper@hotmail.com and indicate if you prefer VHS or DVD, or call 480-990-1344.

The Maricopa County Educational Services Agency, a division of the County Superintendent of Schools Office, is pleased to announce a special opportunity for Science teachers of grades 6, 7, and 8.

Through our partnership with the Community College System, we have seats available in two Summer Session I (May 29-July 19) courses: Physical Geography (9-12:45, M-Th) and Meteorology (1-4:45, M-Th). Both classes are taught at the GateWay Community College campus at 40th St. and Van Buren. The cost of these classes is limited to only \$15 for enrollment; tuition and books will be paid for through a combination of grant and scholarship funds. Three lecture credits and one lab credit are earned for each. You may opt to take either one or both. Seats will be filled on a first-come basis, and teachers who do NOT have enough college-level Science coursework to meet HQ requirements will be given preference.

To request registration for these courses, please log on to ASSET, search for MCESA GPH or MCESA MET, and then request registration. You will then receive further instructions.

It is our privilege to serve the education community of Maricopa County, and we look forward to working with you. Please register today!

Educator Appreciation Discount

Want to include your family or friends on your next trip to Arizona Science Center? As an educator, you are eligible to receive a \$20 discount on the purchase of any level membership. Or, save \$20 when you upgrade your current Educator Membership.

To see a list of benefits, or to sign up today, go to:

<http://azscience.org/becomeamember.php>

Enter promotional code eduaz.



\$10,000 Freida J. Riley Teacher Award

The Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation is now accepting nominations for the 2007 Freida J. Riley Teacher Award. Now in its 8th year, the award honors an American teacher who works with a physical disability, teaches in an especially challenging educational environment or has performed a heroic act by making an exceptional, personal or physical sacrifice on behalf of students. Nomination forms and official rules and guidelines are available online at: www.columbusfdn.org.

Nominations must be received in the Foundation office no later than **Monday, June 4, 2007**.

For more information, please visit:
www.columbusfdn.org/freidajriley/default.asp

National High School Journalism Teacher Awards Program

The Dow Jones Newspaper Fund will select one National High School Journalism Teacher of the Year, four Distinguished Advisers and several Special Recognition Advisers based on their fine work during 2006-2007 in this annual competition.

The winning teacher delivers keynote addresses to scholastic and collegiate journalism educators and professional journalists. The teacher may attend a seminar at the Poynter Institute for Media Studies in St. Petersburg.

The Teacher of the Year wins:

- expense-paid travel
- a newsroom laptop computer
- The Wall Street Journal Classroom Edition
- a column in Adviser Update
- a substitute teacher per diem for the school district
- In addition, a graduating senior will receive a \$1,000 scholarship through a writing contest at the school.

Applications and supporting materials must be postmarked by **Monday July 2, 2007**, to:

Dow Jones Newspaper Fund, Inc.
P.O. Box 300
Princeton, NJ 08543-0300
Telephone: 609-452-2820
newsfund@wsj.dowjones.com
www.NewspaperFund.org



[CLICK HERE](#) to download the application.

Got a story idea, picture, or celebration?
We'd love to hear from you! Email us at: ADENews@ade.az.gov