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May 12, 2010

The Honorable Janice K. Brewer  
Governor of Arizona  
1700 West Washington  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Governor Brewer:

PRESIDENT

Judy Jolley Mohraz, Ph.D.

I write in support of Arizona's Race to the Top and applaud the education reforms proposed. The Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust has invested more than \$250 million in Maricopa County over the past ten years in fields such as education, children, health and older adults. It is clear that the success of so many of the grants we have made depends on an educated work force and a strong public education system.

While I recognize that Arizona is facing daunting challenges in education, I would also observe that Arizona in many ways is the laboratory for a 21<sup>st</sup> century nation. The diversity and mobility of our population as well as the financial blows the state has experienced are conditions that demand new educational approaches and innovative schools.

The development of this Race to the Top proposal has been a thoughtful effort involving all constituencies, gaining the support of the philanthropic community. As in the past, the Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust will look forward to public-private partnerships which will further advance the educational opportunities of Arizona's children, youth and students in postsecondary education.

Sincerely,



Judy Jolley Mohraz  
President and CEO