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GILA COUNTY, ARIZONA

May 20, 2010

The Honorable Jan Brewer
Governor of Arizona
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Governor Brewer:

It has been my honor to serve as a member of the P-20 Council's *Standards and Assessment Task Force* and be a part of the discussion about transforming Arizona's educational system. As a County School Superintendent and long-time educator, I know firsthand that it is long past time to reimagine and reinvent Arizona's educational systems, structures and operations to support our young people in succeeding in an ever-changing world.

In that regard, I write to offer my support for the education reform plan as outlined in Arizona's *Race To The Top* application. There is a need to Vision a transformed educational system in which all Arizona students have the knowledge and skills to succeed in college, careers and the workforce. The vision and attendant goals and strategies as described in the application provide a roadmap to meet increased expectations and performance targets for students, educators and schools.

I am very excited about potential opportunities for the Gila County Education Service Agency to become a state authorized regional provider of services and support for Arizona schools. We are very familiar with the challenges and issues facing our local schools, and look forward to partnering with the state to support efforts to improve instructional practices and increase student achievement. On a personal and professional level, I look forward to continued opportunities to assist in the implementation of Arizona's education reform plan.

Most Sincerely,

Linda L. O'Dell, Ed.D.
Gila County Superintendent of Schools