



May 20, 2010

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

Dear Governor Brewer:

As a member of the Arizona Business & Education Coalition (ABEC), the Marana Chamber of Commerce supports the Arizona Plan, submitted for "Race to the Top" funding. Arizona's Race to the Top application addresses education reforms in four key areas: standards and assessments, data systems to support instruction, great teachers and leaders, and reform for the lowest-achieving schools in our state. With Race to the Top support for the strategies the state has developed, Arizona will reach goals within these key areas and meet its targets for student performance by 2020.

Now is the time for these reforms. When Arizona ensures that its students are leaving public schools with a high school diploma and skills for careers or postsecondary education, we are ensuring that these young people will be contributing members of society, thereby benefitting all members of every community. Arizona's future depends on its education system to produce a competent and competitive workforce in a 21st century global economy.

The Marana Chamber's support for the Arizona Plan demonstrates our belief that partnerships between educational leaders, communities, businesses, parents, and students will form the framework to ensure that these strategies are successful in making true progress in our state's education system. We look forward to being a part of this process and watching the progress that is made when this plan is implemented.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Stolmaker".

Ed Stolmaker
President/CEO
Marana Chamber of Commerce