



# PROGRESS REPORT

## A Message from State Superintendent John Huppenthal

### Summer Learning—for Teachers and Students

As the school year comes to a close, I encourage you to take advantage of the many professional development opportunities offered to educational professionals this summer. The calendar included in this newsletter provides information about a variety of upcoming seminars, workshops and conferences. Also, be sure to check our web page devoted to professional development for educators: [www.azed.gov/pdcapacitybuilding/](http://www.azed.gov/pdcapacitybuilding/).

In this issue, there is information about a conference on Arizona's Common Core Standards implementation designed for school-based instructional leadership teams and the school and LEA administrators who lead and support their work.

A discussion of summer conferences would be incomplete without mentioning Leading Change, our annual summer conference, which takes place June 25 – 27, 2013 in Tucson. Our theme for this year's conference is *Partnership, Celebration and Reflection*. With this in mind, we have designed this year's conference around the initiatives that will be affecting educators and students in the coming school year and beyond. We have multiple tracks that address ACCS implementation, STEM in the classroom, PARCC updates, English language acquisition, Move On When Reading and so much more. Be sure to check the Leading Change web page, [www.azed.gov/leadingchange](http://www.azed.gov/leadingchange), to learn more about this year's offerings.

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But summer is also a time when our students need to continue their education. As we move to implement Move On When Reading, we must encourage parents and students to read during the summer. Recently, Secretary of State Ken Bennett and I helped kick off the summer reading program to help combat summer learning loss. The summer reading program is a first-ever statewide collaboration; this partnership includes Arizona Department of Education, Arizona State Library, First Things First, Governor’s Office of Education Innovation and Read On Arizona. This collaboration builds upon the Arizona State Library’s successful annual summer reading

program offered by public libraries across the state. The goal is to have 100,000 readers participate in the summer reading program. To meet the needs of this unique collaboration, [ReadOnArizona.org](http://ReadOnArizona.org) will provide a “find a book” tool, a “find a library” directory, reading tips for parents, suggested book lists, and a book log for tracking minutes read over the summer.

Let’s make this summer fun and productive!



John Huppenthal  
Superintendent of  
Public Instruction



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**PROGRESS REPORT**

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# Growing Collaborative School Teams to Implement Arizona's Common Core Standards

Join Us June 10-12, 2013 for this Exciting Conference

**Dates:** June 10 – 12, 2013

**Location:** Phoenix-Scottsdale Embassy Suites, 4415 East Paradise Village Pkwy South, Phoenix, AZ 85032

**Keynote Speaker:** Stephanie Hirsh, Executive Director, Learning Forward

## Conference Details:

ADE's Effective Teachers and Leaders unit and Professional Development: Leadership Academy (PDLA) Project, with the support of K-12 Academic Standards and AZ LEADS, are sponsoring a conference to help educators implement the new Common Core Standards. School-based instructional leadership teams and school and LEA administrators are encouraged to attend.

The conference will help educators do the following:

- Expand their repertoire of tools protocols and strategies to strengthen collaboration
- Deepen their knowledge of Arizona's Common Core Standards (ACCS)
- Add detail and vitality to their team's professional

learning plan for their school by interacting with other teams about their 'journeys of change'

- Learn about free resources that can benefit their school colleagues
- Understand the integration of ACCS and school-based professional learning
- Hear about other school teams' learning journeys as they've strengthened educator collaboration to improve student learning

Breakout sessions include: student learning, teacher practice, professional learning and leadership for a learning culture.

For more information, please visit the [Collaborative Conference event page](#).

## Keynote Speaker

Stephanie Hirsh



## ADE's 2013 Assessment Summit: Together We Shine

Choose from Two Dates in Two Locations

**Dates:** Friday, June 7 in Prescott & Friday, June 14 in Tucson

**Locations:** Prescott Mile High Middle School (June 7) & Andrada Polytechnic High School (June 14)

## Keynote Speakers



### Prescott

Lindsey Connor  
7th Grade Pre-Algebra  
teacher at San Tan  
Elementary

### Tucson

Becky Cavalos  
2013 AEF Arizona Teacher  
of the Year Ambassador for  
Excellence



## Conference Details:

Open to **all** Arizona educators and educator leaders, this summit will give attendees the opportunity to:

- Earn 6.0 professional development hours
- Receive assessment updates (including PARCC & NCSC)
- Become familiar with new assessment initiatives
- Learn classroom assessment strategies from fellow Arizona teachers
- Network with other Arizona educators, educator leaders, and ADE staff

## Proposed Topics for Summit Sessions:

- AIMS A to NCSC transition
- AIMS to PARCC transition
- AZELLA
- NAEP
- PARCC design and updates

## Additional Information:

[Assessment Summit Event Page](#)

If you have any questions or need assistance registering, please contact Patricia Reynolds at 602.364.1296.

# Morrison Institute Releases Report Affirming Role of Career and Technical Education as Key to Arizona's Future

In late April, ASU's Morrison Institute released for public policy *On The Rise: The Role of Career and Technical Education in Arizona's Future* in a public forum attended by education and business leaders from around Arizona. Several of these leaders served as speakers and panelists, including Superintendent Huppenthal. Sapna Gupta, senior policy analyst at the Morrison Institute, presented CTE as an integral part of the future of Arizona education. The report noted that as Arizona emerges from the Great Recession, its future success requires an education system that provides future workers with the skills and credentials to meet the rising challenge of global competition.

Initial study results presented at the conference indicate not only that CTE programs can help better prepare students for jobs in technical and vocational fields as an alternative to college, but also help reduce dropout rates for those students enrolled in CTE classes. Many students find CTE's hands-on approach and practical focus to be more engaging than traditional classroom courses. Higher engagement makes CTE students more likely to complete high school, which constitutes yet another benefit of CTE programs.

The report made recommendations for expanding CTE programs in Arizona:

- Strong support of CTE in the form of funding and public endorsement by state officials and the state legislature
- Close collaboration between postsecondary institutions, employers, non-profit institutions and school districts
- A focus on quality, as measured by graduation rates and the number of industry-recognized and endorsed portable credentials
- A focus on relevance, with programs leading to industry-endorsed and recognized credentials in sectors in demand
- Work-based learning opportunities integrated within CTE programs through partnerships with employers
- Incentives for increasing the number of students who earn industry-recognized and endorsed credentials

As the workforce continues to evolve, it is important to offer educational opportunities to prepare students for the workplace. A rigorous CTE program that offers professional certification and licensure can help meet the need and bridge the gap relative to post-secondary opportunities.



## 2013 Poetry Out Loud Winners Announced

This year, more than 13,000 students competed in the Arizona Poetry Out Loud program. Participating students compete at the classroom and school level. In March, 56 school-level finalists participated in one of three regional competitions (northern, central or southern) to advance to the state level, where nine students recited poems of their choosing.

Sunnyside High School senior Cassandra Valadez of Tucson is this year's Arizona Poetry Out Loud state champion. She went on to represent Arizona at the national level in late April at Nationals. Sophomore Nathan Poston, from Glendale Preparatory Academy, was recognized as the First Place Runner Up in the state competition.

The 2013 State Finals were held on March 20, on Arizona PBS. Poetry Out Loud is a program of the Arizona Commission on the Arts, facilitated in partnership with the Young Writers Program at Arizona State University and The Poetry Center at the University of Arizona. The program celebrates the dynamic aspects of poetry in the English classroom. Through Poetry Out Loud, students can master public speaking skills, build self-confidence and learn about their literary heritage.

For more information about Poetry Out Loud in Arizona, visit [www.azarts.gov/arts-learning/poetry-out-loud/](http://www.azarts.gov/arts-learning/poetry-out-loud/).

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## Teen Addiction Anonymous: Addressing Addictive Behavior in a 12-step Program

Recent studies suggest Arizona must do more to address teen substance abuse. According to a 2011 report by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Arizona teens binge drink and were offered, sold or given an illegal drug by someone on school property more often than any other state. Additionally, Arizona ranked second worst for drinking, drinking on school property, cocaine use, and marijuana usage before the age of 13. Because of the severity of these issues, Teen Addiction Anonymous (Teen AA) has increased its presence, helping Phoenix area teens with substance abuse problems and other addictive behavior.

Teen AA educates and empowers teens to overcome addictive behavior through the unconditional support of the proven Teen AA 12 step program. The program is strictly voluntary and there is no cost to participants.

“Teen Addiction Anonymous is the most profound and replicable program for teen intervention and prevention today,” says CEO of Teen AA, Susan Rothery. “Its value is a reflection of the fact that Teen AA was created by teens who were looking for a ‘better way,’ an opportunity for hope.”

Several schools have Teen AA programs for their students. Suzan Patalano, a clinical social worker at Camelback High School, works as a facilitator for program. She is one of more than 300 facilitators trained by Teen AA. “The beauty of this group is people have to want to be in it, and it’s not a punishment,” said Patalano. “It’s a support.”

With teen-created systems, school staff support and voluntary attendance, Teen AA has created an invaluable resource to the teens of Arizona. The program is not limited to substance abuse and covers other addictive behavior as well. Participants do not discuss the individual incidents but instead focus on the behaviors that cause the addictions. Initial data from Teen AA suggests GPA and attendance increases for students in the program along with the decrease of incident referrals.

For more information about Teen AA, please visit [www.teenaddictionanonymous.org](http://www.teenaddictionanonymous.org).





## Congratulations and Announcements

### Superintendent Huppenthal and Senator Jack Jackson, Jr. Unite to Honor Navajo Students' Accomplishments, Recognize Excellence in CTE Program

In late April, six Navajo students and additional staff members from Ganado and Monument Valley high schools were recognized for their accomplishments in career and technical education. Superintendent Huppenthal and State Senator Jack Jackson, Jr. came together to celebrate the achievements of these young Navajo students, bringing them before the Senate and holding a reception in their honor. Superintendent Huppenthal praised the students for their leadership in the classroom.

“I had the opportunity to visit these schools and see these students engaged in hands-on learning,” said Superintendent Huppenthal. “These are talented young students with bright futures ahead of them.”

Sen. Jack Jackson Jr., a Navajo native himself, recognized that these students were not the only ones who excelled.

“We are aware that these six students represent thousands of others - on and off the reservation - who have worked hard, taken advantage of their opportunities and leveraged them into promising careers,” said Sen. Jackson.

In 2012 *Time* magazine published an article centered around the career and technical achievements of Monument Valley High School and the East Valley Institute of Technology. Four of the students honored at the event were from Monument Valley High and were featured in the *Time* article.

In addition to the Senate appearance the students and faculty were treated as guests of the Phoenix Zoo.

The students recognized were:

**Sherill Thomas**, a senior from Ganado High School who will be attending Northern Arizona University; she will study civil engineering.

**Karl Bedoni**, a senior from Monument Valley High School who will be attending University of Arizona; he will study veterinarian sciences. Karl has been named a Gates Millennium Scholar.

**Jasmine Blackwater**, a senior from Monument Valley High School who will be attending Stanford University; she will study tribal environmental law. Jasmine has been named a Gates Millennium Scholar.

**Racheal Holiday**, a senior from Monument Valley High School who will be attending Utah State University; she will study to be a Registered Nurse. Racheal has been named a Gates Millennium Scholar.

**Dawnae James**, a senior from Monument Valley High School who will be attending Northern Arizona University; she will study physical therapy or nursing.

**Amber Toledo**, a senior from Monument Valley High School who will be attending Oklahoma Panhandle State University; she will study veterinarian science.



# Paragon Science Academy Wins Science Olympiad Middle School State Championship

Students from Chandler's Paragon Science Academy (PSA) won the state Science Olympiad this spring; this was the first charter school to win in Arizona Olympiad history. Private schools had been crowned the Arizona champs 10 of the last 13 years until the hard-working students from PSA broke through this year.

The Science Olympiad is a national competition featuring teams of students from different schools facing off in several dozen different events that include rigorous science, math, and engineering obstacles. Paragon's students competed in Arizona's Division B Olympiad, which spans grades 6-9. Fifteen PSA students competed in 23 different events from several different categories including: life, personal and social science; earth and space science; physical science and chemistry; technology and engineering; and inquiry and nature of science. Examples of some events include helicopter building, rotor egg drop, and mouse trap vehicles.

Paragon's students worked during their lunch breaks and after school hours to prepare for the competition, even spending some time on their spring break and weekends to get ready. The hard work paid off as PSA students headed to Dayton, Ohio in late

May to compete in the National Science Olympiad at Wright State University.

*For more information on the Science Olympiad, please visit [www.azsciolydivb.org/](http://www.azsciolydivb.org/).*



## Phoenix Students Win \$5,000 in National Engineering Competition

A talented group of three children from Veritas Home Schoolers of Phoenix placed second out of 37 teams in this year's National Future City Competition, winning \$5,000 in the process. After winning the regional Arizona Future City Competition, 8<sup>th</sup> graders Rachel Fisher, Jesse Friedman and Timothy Graunke were invited to present their futuristically engineered city of Bahal, India, based in the year 2163, to the national panel of judges in Washington, D.C. this spring.

The Future City Competition is a national program sponsored by the engineering community to promote technological literacy and engineering to middle school students. The program fosters an interest in math, science, and engineering through hands-on, real world applications.

This year's winning team was from New Jersey, but the Phoenix team and their city of Bahal made a strong impression with their municipality's signature feature: the Storm-water Control System (SCS), which prevents storm water runoff pollution through onsite rainwater harvesting, cleaning, percolating and redirecting technologies. After the Arizona competition the team had three weeks to prepare for the national competition, including building a scale model of part of the city that needed to be shipped to D.C. and a finalizing a computer presentation that provided the visual accompaniment to the children's speeches on the city.

As part of the second place prize, the Arizona team received \$5,000 from the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) Educational Foundation. The first place team received an all-expenses paid trip to U.S. Space Camp in Huntsville, AL for each team member, and third place received \$2,000 from the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). For more information on the Future City Competition, please visit [www.futurecityarizona.org/](http://www.futurecityarizona.org/).





## Outstanding Gila River Indian Reservation School Garners Another Award

The International Reading Association has selected Gila River Indian Reservation's Blackwater Community School (Pre-K - 5) as the Arizona Exemplary School of the Year. This follows the school's charter component, Akimel O'Otham Pee Posh, being named a National Distinguished Title I School in 2011. In addition, the school's principal, Jacquelyn Power, was named the Distinguished Elementary Principal of the Year for 2012 after representing Arizona for the National Association of Elementary School Principals.

This outstanding run of awards for the Blackwater Community School is notable—their 2011 Distinguished School of Arizona award was the first award given to a Native American school in Arizona. Blackwater Community School's slogan, "Quality Education Begins Here," is something all the teachers pride themselves on, especially when it comes to the exemplary reading program. The school gets a jumpstart on reading development by implementing early childhood programs that prepare students to be well ahead of peers at comparable ages. The programs, Family and Child Education (FACE) and First Things First Preschool, enable students to excel from a young age at the most critical phase in a child's reading development.

After kindergarten the school utilizes national Reading First Initiative tenets and a 120-minute English Language Arts (ELA) block that has been designed with Arizona's Common Core Standards to fortify reading and language development.

With strong leadership and strong programs in place, the Blackwater Community School is at the forefront of leading Arizona students to a brighter future.

# ADE Employee Recognized for Contributions to Dance Education

The Arizona Department of Education's Director of Art Education, Lynn Tuttle, has been selected to receive the National Dance Education Organization's Outstanding Leadership Award for 2013. NDEO recognized

Lynn for her ongoing commitment to advancing the field of dance education as well as numerous contributions to dance throughout Arizona.

Her award will be presented to her in September at NDEO's national conference in Miami, FL. Congratulations to Lynn on this outstanding achievement!



## State Board Update

### New Director of K-3 Reading at the State Board of Education

The State Board of Education is proud to announce that Cindy Daniels has joined our team as Director of K-3 Reading, with primary responsibility for overseeing the Move On When Reading Program.

Named a 2010 Rodel Exemplary Principal, Cindy was the principal at Echo Mountain Primary—a Title I school in the Paradise Valley Unified School District—for six years. As principal, she helped lead her school from “Underperforming” to an “A” rated school. In 2010 with the help of her strong literacy team, Cindy’s school was the first in PVUSD to become a fully accredited Response to Intervention (RTI) School by ADE. She taught in the classroom for 23 years, mainly in grades K-3. Cindy has mentored teachers at all grade levels and has been a reading specialist and mentor in the area of early literacy for 15 years.

Working with our partners in the Arizona Department of Education, Cindy will provide technical support and outreach to the field as schools and local education agencies (LEAs) submit literacy plans and implement reading programs, assessment strategies and professional development. *Cindy can be reached by e-mail at [Cynthia.Daniels@azed.gov](mailto:Cynthia.Daniels@azed.gov) or by phone at 602.364.2475.*

### Literacy Plans Reviewed and K-3 Reading Support Funding Released

We are pleased to announce the completion of the legally required reviews for 177 LEA literacy plans, with only two submitted plans still requiring further review. To date, funding

has been released to 398 LEAs that either completed the legally required review process or received an A or B letter grade and had fewer than 10 percent of third graders reading far below grade level.

ARS §15-211 requires the State Board to approve reading plans for any district or charter school that is “assigned a letter grade of C, D or F...or that has more than ten per cent of its pupils in grade three reading far below the third grade level” prior to release of K-3 base reading support funds. We encourage any LEA that has not yet submitted a literacy plan to do so as soon as possible by sending it to [moveonwhenreading@azed.gov](mailto:moveonwhenreading@azed.gov).

### 2013-2014 Plan Submission Process

State law requires literacy plan submission annually on or before October 1. Appreciating the technical difficulties experienced during last year’s initial submission process, we are in the process of developing a new submission tool that will be accessed via the Common Logon. While the content areas required within the plan submission will remain constant, we intend the new interface to be friendlier.

We anticipate that the new plan reporting interface will be ready for use July 1, and we will keep the field updated as the project progresses. We are hopeful that the new tool will encourage earlier submission of plans, faster review of required plans, and a more timely release of K-3 Reading Support Funding to LEAs.

*For more information, please contact the State Board by e-mail at [StateBoardInbox@azed.gov](mailto:StateBoardInbox@azed.gov) or by phone at 602.542.5057.*

# June 2013 Calendar

Day	Event
3	<a href="#">Educators Evaluating Quality Instructional Products (EQuIP Rubric) - English Language Arts</a>
4	<a href="#">Close Reading In the Classroom - Arizona's Common Core Standards English Language Arts Phase II</a>
	<a href="#">Educators Evaluating Quality Instructional Products (EQuIP Rubric) - Mathematics</a>
	<a href="#">Writing from Sources in the Secondary Classroom Webinar</a>
4-5	<a href="#">Phase I AZ Mathematics Common Core Standards   2-Day Teacher Training</a>
5	<a href="#">Breakfast Meal Pattern Updates for School Year 2013-14 (Phoenix)</a>
	<a href="#">Disciplinary Literacy: Teaching Reading within Content Courses</a>
6	<a href="#">Close Reading Routine Webinar</a>
7	<b><a href="#">2013 Assessment Summit (Prescott)</a></b>
10-12	<b><a href="#">Individual Registration: Growing Collaborative School Teams to Implement Arizona's Common Core Standards</a></b>
	<b><a href="#">Team Registration: Growing Collaborative School Teams to Implement Arizona's Common Core Standards</a></b>
10-13	<a href="#">3rd Annual Early Childhood Education Summer Boot Camp</a>
	<a href="#">Early Childhood Education Summer Boot Camp - Leadership Strand</a>
11	<a href="#">Close Reading in the K-2 SEI Classroom, Phase II</a>
13	<a href="#">Breakfast Meal Pattern Updates for School Year 2013-14 (Tucson)</a>
	<a href="#">Close Reading in the 3-12 SEI Classroom, Phase II</a>
	<a href="#">EQuIP: PART 3 - Math Guided Practice Webinar</a>
	<a href="#">New Emergency Response Plan Guidance and Tabletop Exercise</a>
14	<b><a href="#">2013 Assessment Summit (Tucson)</a></b>
17	<a href="#">Close Reading In the Classroom - Arizona's Common Core Standards English Language Arts Phase II</a>
17-20	<a href="#">Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI) for K-2 Teachers</a>
20	<a href="#">Argument Literacy</a>
	<a href="#">Argument Literacy Webinar</a>
	<a href="#">Multisensory Grammar</a>
	<a href="#">Webinar: Speaking and Listening</a>
24	<a href="#">3rd Annual AZ CSP Summit</a>
	<a href="#">Leading Change Data Preconference</a>
24-27	<a href="#">Intel Math Program</a>
25-27	<b><a href="#">Leading Change Conference – Partnership, Celebration, and Reflection (Tucson)</a></b>