Family Engagement Month Proclamation

WHEREAS: The Department of Education's mission is to serve Arizona's education community, ensuring every student has access to an excellent education;

WHEREAS: Our vision is that families, schools and communities are engaged in every child's education to enhance student achievement;

WHEREAS: Arizona's 1.1 million students and their families dream of graduation and the opportunities that follow;

WHEREAS: The Department of Education partners with families and schools to improve college and career readiness skills;

WHEREAS: Arizona's education leaders collaborate with families to form a strong educational framework for all children from preschool through high school;

WHEREAS: Research indicates that

- Families who are welcome in a safe and healthy learning environment that respects cultural, socioeconomic, and linguistic differences build positive relationships with school staff;
- Schools that establish and maintain effective two-way communication with families increase participation in the learning process;
- Families who engage their children in at-home learning activities and monitor homework help students achieve academic expectations;
- Schools that include families in the decision-making process develop shared goals and actions to improve schools and students' education;
- Families who understand developmental milestones and academic expectations are confident and guide their children toward scholastic and social success; and,
- Communities that collaborate to strengthen family engagement initiatives impact positive student outcomes.

NOW, THEREFORE: I, Diane Douglas, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, do hereby proclaim November 2015 as *Family Engagement Month*. I commend families, school staff, and community members who encourage student achievement and form meaningful partnerships on behalf of our children's future.

Arizona
Department of Education