



Arizona Department of Education
Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction Diane M. Douglas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Charles Tack
Charles.Tack@azed.gov
602-542-5072

Thirty Schools Recognized for Dedication to High Quality Civic Learning

(Phoenix, Ariz., Aug. 3, 2015) – Superintendent of Public Instruction Diane Douglas today announced that thirty Arizona public schools are being recognized as 2014-2015 Arizona Civic Engagement schools by the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) Excellence in Civic Engagement Program (ECEP). Currently in its third year, ECEP recognizes and supports the important role schools play in ensuring that students are informed and engaged citizens.

“The ECEP program highlights what I feel is a critical function of our public education system, which is to ensure that when students leave school to pursue further education or their chosen career they are able to contribute to our great nation as active citizens,” said Superintendent Douglas. “These honorees should be very proud of their accomplishments, and I hope that other schools across Arizona will look to them as models when emphasizing civic learning in their classrooms.”

ECEP identifies schools that demonstrate knowledge and effective implementation of the following six proven practices in civic learning: classroom instruction in civics and government, history, economics, geography, law and democracy; service learning linked to classroom learning; experiential learning; learning through participation in models and simulations of democratic processes and procedures; guided classroom discussion of current issues and events; and meaningful participation in school governance.

Public schools from around the state, both traditional and charter, applied for recognition as an Arizona Civic Engagement school with one of the following designations: School of Merit, School of Distinction or School of Excellence. Of those schools, 16 have been recognized as Schools of Merit, 10 have been honored as Schools of Distinction and four have received the most prestigious recognition as Schools of Excellence.

The schools will be formally recognized at an award ceremony on September 17, 2015—Constitution Day.

For more information about ADE’s Excellence in Civic Engagement Program, please visit [www.azed.gov/civicingement](http://www.azed.gov/civicingagement).

More

1-1-1 Civic Engagement

Arizona Civic Engagement Schools 2014-2015

Schools of Merit

SCHOOL

DISTRICT

Arizona Charter Academy

Charter

Benson High School

Benson Unified School District

Boulder Creek High School

Deer Valley Unified School District

Carson Junior High

Mesa Public Schools

Chandler High School

Chandler Unified School District

East Valley Academy

Mesa Public Schools

Franklin Junior High

Mesa Public Schools

Imagine Prep-Surprise

Charter

Kino Junior High

Mesa Public Schools

Mesa Academy for Advanced Studies

Mesa Public Schools

Mesa High School

Mesa Public Schools

Sandra Day O'Connor High School

Deer Valley Unified School District

Shadow Ridge High School

Dysart Unified School District

Stapley Junior High

Mesa Public Schools

Westar Elementary School

Liberty Elementary School District

Taylor Junior High

Mesa Public Schools

More

2-2-2 Civic Engagement

Schools of Distinction

SCHOOL

DISTRICT

Dobson High School	Mesa Public Schools
Hamilton High School	Chandler Unified School District
Mountain View High School	Mesa Public Schools
New School for the Arts and Academics	Charter
Red Mountain High School	Mesa Public Schools
Safford IB Magnet School	Tucson Unified School District
Shepherd Junior High	Mesa Public Schools
Smith Junior High	Mesa Public Schools
South Mountain High School	Phoenix Union High School District
Westwood High School	Mesa Public Schools

Schools of Excellence

SCHOOL

DISTRICT

Arizona School for the Arts	Charter
Rhodes Junior High	Mesa Public Schools
Skyline High School	Mesa Public Schools
Tanque Verde High School	Tanque Verde Unified School District

End