



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
 Stefan Swiat

Contact:

Stefan.Swiat@azed.gov
 602-542-5072

Department Recognizes 35 Schools for Dedication to High Quality Civic Engagement

(Phoenix, Ariz., Feb. 20, 2018) – Superintendent of Public Instruction Diane Douglas today announced that 35 Arizona public schools are being recognized as 2016-17 Arizona Civic Engagement schools by the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) Excellence in Civic Engagement Program (ECEP). Now in its fifth year, ECEP recognizes and supports the important role schools play in ensuring that students are informed and engaged citizens.

"The most important work we conduct in education is preparing our students to become successful citizens and help perpetuate a prosperous republic," Superintendent Douglas said. "There are few things I see as more important than helping them understand their civic rights, roles and responsibilities as American citizens. The schools being honored as part of the ECEP program are shining examples of the work being done in Arizona to prepare our students to actively participate in their communities and government when they leave the school system."

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, 19 have been recognized as Schools of Merit, eight have been honored as Schools of Distinction and eight have received the most prestigious recognition as Schools of Excellence.

The schools will be formally recognized at an award ceremony at the 5th Annual Civic Learning Conference on March 2, 2018.

For more information about ADE's Excellence in Civic Engagement Program, please visit www.azed.gov/civicingagement.

Excellence in Civic Engagement Program Award Recipients 2016-17

SCHOOLS OF MERIT

SCHOOL

Arizona College Preparatory, Oakland Campus
 Benson High School
 Fremont Junior High School
 Imagine Prep- Surprise
 Kino Junior High School
 Kyrene de los Lagos Dual Language Academy
 Kyrene Traditional Academy - Sureno Campus
 Mendoza Elementary
 Mesa High School
 Mountain View High School
 Poston Junior High School
 Sandra Day O'Connor High School
 Sirrine Elementary School
 Smith Junior High School
 Summit Academy
 Superstition High School
 Taylor Junior High School
 Tres Rios Service Academy
 West Wing School

DISTRICT

Chandler Unified School District
 Benson Unified School District
 Mesa Public Schools
 Charter
 Mesa Public Schools
 Kyrene School District
 Kyrene School District
 Mesa Public Schools
 Mesa Public Schools
 Mesa Public Schools
 Mesa Public Schools
 Deer Valley Unified School District
 Mesa Public Schools
 Mesa Public Schools
 Mesa Public Schools
 Mesa Public Schools
 Mesa Public Schools
 Mesa Public Schools
 Littleton School District
 Deer Valley Unified School District

Mesa Public Schools

Franklin Junior High School
 New School for the Arts and Academics
 Charter
 Skyline High School

Charter
 Mesa Public Schools

SCHOOLS OF EXCELLENCE

SCHOOL

Arizona School for the Arts
 Basha High School
 Hamilton High School
 Red Mountain High School
 Rhodes Junior High School
 Safford K-8 Magnet School
 Shepherd Junior High School
 Westwood High School

DISTRICT

Charter
 Chandler Unified School District
 Chandler Unified School District
 Mesa Public Schools
 Mesa Public Schools
 Tucson Unified School District
 Mesa Public Schools
 Mesa Public Schools

End

SCHOOLS OF DISTINCTION

SCHOOL

Carson Junior High
 Chandler High School
 Cocopah Middle School
 Dobson High School
 East Valley Academy

DISTRICT

Mesa Public Schools
 Chandler Unified School District
 Scottsdale Unified School District
 Mesa Public Schools
 Mesa Public Schools