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Kyrene de la Mariposa named 2009 A+ Schools of Excellence

AMONG JUST SEVENTEEN SCHOOLS STATE-WIDE RECOGNIZED BY AEF FOR SUCCESS IN PUBLIC EDUCATION

PHOENIX, Ariz. - The Arizona Educational Foundation (AEF) has named 17 schools as A+ Schools of Excellence. Since 1983, AEF has honored exemplary PreK-12 public schools in Arizona through the A+ Schools Award. A+ Schools are evaluated in the following areas: student focus and support; active teaching and learning; curriculum; leadership; community and parent involvement; and assessment data. Arizona's 2009-2010 **A+ Schools of Excellence** includes:

Kyrene de la Mariposa Elementary School, Tempe, Principal: Dr. Marianne Lescher;

Kyrene de la Mariposa previously was awarded A+ status in 2004. A second naming is very rare. A celebration and presentation All School Assembly will be held on Monday, May 11 at 9:00 a.m. in the multi-purpose room at Kyrene de la Mariposa. Bobbie O'Boyle, Executive Director of the Arizona Educational Foundation will present the award and banner to the school and U.S. Representative Harry Mitchell will be on hand to add his congratulations.

AEF's A+ Schools of Excellence Program endeavors to improve education in public schools by identifying and recognizing outstanding Arizona schools. The A+ Program strives to create a comprehensive framework of successful programs for other schools throughout the state and nation to follow.

Each A+ School is evaluated based on a lengthy application process and rigorous site visit by the A+ review panel. In the application process, each school provides: demographic information, documentation of parent and community involvement, a profile of the school and principal including his/her vision for their commitment to excellence, equity, and service, as well as sustained high achievement or significant improvements in the school's assessment data. Preparation of each school's application involves the commitment of its students, faculty, administration and surrounding community. For more information on AEF's A+ Schools of Excellence Program, please visit www.azedfoundation.org.