



**GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA ITEM
AMPHITHEATER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10**

DATE OF MEETING: April 10, 2012

TITLE: Resolution Recognizing the Special Contributions of Teachers and Other Professional Personnel

BACKGROUND: At the regular March Board meeting, the Board issued a resolution recognizing the valuable contributions made by Educational Support Personnel. In doing so, the Board noted that the contributions of teachers are also formally recognized once a year on a national basis. This year, National PTA Teacher Appreciation Week will be May 7-11, 2012, with National Teacher Day being observed on May 8, 2012.

National Teacher Appreciation Week has been so designated by the National PTA in cooperation with the NEA. Observance has been celebrated by schools across the country in one form or another, since 1944. The National Education Association has also declared that the Tuesday of Appreciation Week be observed as "National Teacher Day."

There is currently no federal celebration of teachers. Congress has only twice declared a National Teacher's Day – in 1953, at the behest of Eleanor Roosevelt and in 1980 after much lobbying by the NEA. Both Congressional declarations were for those years only. The contributions of teachers, of course, can be seen – and should be celebrated – day in, day out, year in, year out, regardless of Congress' action or inaction on the subject.

A resolution has been prepared to not only recognize the contributions of teachers generally, but also those of Amphitheater teachers specifically, and to call for a federal recognition. This form of resolution also recognizes the many professional employees who may not fit into the traditional notion of "teacher" but who are also deserving of recognition for the instructional and related services they provide to students as well.

RECOMMENDATION: The Administration recommends the Board's adoption and dissemination of the attached form of resolution.

INITIATED BY:

Todd A. Jaeger, Associate to the Superintendent

Date: April 4, 2012

Vicki Balentine, Ph.D., Superintendent

**A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF
AMPHITHEATER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10
OF PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA,
RECOGNIZING THE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS
OF TEACHERS AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL**

WHEREAS the Amphitheater Unified School District (“the District”) exists for the purpose of providing a free public education to children of our community;

WHEREAS the Governing Board is charged with the supervision and governance of the District, including the authority to employ persons necessary to carry out the purpose of the District;

WHEREAS, students of the District receive a high quality education consistently rated among the highest in the State of Arizona as evidenced by measurements such as college admissions, scholarship opportunities, academic and extracurricular achievements, standardized test scores, Arizona LEARNS designations, academic competitions and other measures;

WHEREAS the quality of education received by District students is the direct result of the dedication, effort and talents of the District’s teachers and other professional employees;

WHEREAS the district’s teachers and other professional staff teach, guide and nurture our community's children everyday;

WHEREAS the State of Arizona budget crisis has impacted schools across the state, leading to increases in class size, loss of programs and services to students, and loss of jobs or income for educators;

WHEREAS despite these adversities, teachers, especially those in Amphitheater, have persevered and maintained their focus on their students;

WHEREAS teachers and other school professionals ensure the promise of each child’s future in so many ways, with just some examples of the same being: the kindergarten teacher who sparks a lifelong love of reading; the physical education teacher who instills healthy habits benefiting a student throughout life; the school nurse who helps a child overcome a physical challenge to learning; and the school counselor whose support of a family helps a child to participate more effectively at school;

WHEREAS schools, parents and students across the country celebrate the contributions of teachers with Teacher Appreciation Week and National Teacher Day;

WHEREAS the Governing Board sincerely believes that the appreciation of all school district staff should be ongoing and not limited to one day or week per year, but still recognizes the value of annually focusing public attention on the efforts of educational personnel; and

WHEREAS the focus and attention of the public can be maximized by coordination of District recognition activities for teachers and other professional employees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Amphitheater Unified School District Governing Board that the District hereby recognizes the special contributions which teachers and other professional employees of the District make every day, and sets apart the week of May 7 – 11, 2012 as “Teacher Appreciation Week” and Tuesday, May 8, 2012 as “Teacher Day” in the District;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Governing Board that it urges Congress to establish a permanent day of recognition for teachers and other educational professionals for their continuous and ongoing efforts to build the future of our nation as they serve the needs of their students;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Governing Board that the Arizona Legislature demonstrate an appreciation for the public school teacher and the imperative, vital role the teacher and other professionals play in building the future of this state.

The Governing Board invites other school district governing boards to join them in this celebration of the special contributions of professional district employees.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Board this 10th day of April, 2012.

Governing Board Members:

Diana L. Boros
President

Susan Zibrat
Vice-President

Kent Paul Barrabee, Ph.D.

Jeff Grant

Linda Loomis, Ph.D.