



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

DATE OF MEETING: September 6, 2011

TITLE: Recognition of Betsy Wilkening – Siemens Award Recipient

BACKGROUND:

The Siemens STEM Institute is a weeklong professional development experience sponsored by Siemens and hosted by Discovery Education held in Washington, DC. Fifty teachers from across the nation were chosen from an applicant pool of 4,000+. Betsy Wilkening was chosen as one of two teachers from the state of Arizona. She said, "After attending this class, I came home with lots of new tools, ideas and connections to other classrooms to share with my students. I'm excited to have my students start collaborating on an eco-caching project that I am developing with teachers in North Dakota, Minnesota, North Carolina and Louisiana. Our students will be collecting data, images and soundscapes (digital audio files) from their ecosystems and sharing them through wikis, Google docs, and Google Earth. They will be learning and teaching their "colleagues" around the country about their unique biomes."

RECOMMENDATION: This item is presented for the Governing Board's information and recognition.

INITIATED BY:

Patrick Nelson

Patrick Nelson, Associate Superintendent

Date: August 29, 2011

Vicki Balentine

Vicki Balentine, Ph.D., Superintendent