

## **DATE OF MEETING:** June 12, 2018

## TITLE: **Recognition of 2018 Odyssey of the Mind World Teams**

## **BACKGROUND:**

Amphitheater Public Schools continues to be the top district in participation and achievement in the Arizona Odyssey of the Mind program. Odyssey of the Mind is an international competition that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students from kindergarten through college. Team members apply their creativity to solve one (or more) of five long-term problems involving building mechanical devices, building balsa wood structures designed to hold hundreds of pounds, building vehicles that are used to complete tasks, presenting a theatrical performance solving a dilemma, or presenting their own interpretation of literary classics. In addition, teams are scored on "style," or, the creative way in which they present their solutions. Finally, each team must participate in a spontaneous problem at the competition that is "top secret" until after the end of the day. This portion of the competition prepares students for what we all face in real life, unexpected problems that require teamwork, given limited resources.

This year, teams from Copper Creek Elementary, Donaldson Elementary, Mesa Verde Elementary, Rio Vista Elementary, Innovation Academy K-5 STEM School, Cross Middle School, Coronado K-8 School, and Canyon Del Oro High School competed. A record-breaking 11 teams earned the right to compete during World Finals May 23-26, 2018 at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa. Additionally, Ashton Thomas, of the Canyon del Oro High School Division 3 Classics Team, was awarded an outstanding OMER.

The students and their coaches are to be commended for their dedication and high level of accomplishment in this academic competition. A full list of winners is enclosed.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

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

**INITIATED BY:** 

Amy Karpe Amy Sharpe, Director of Community Relations

Date: April 25, 2018

Todd A. Jaeger, J.D., Superintendent