



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

DATE OF MEETING: April 10, 2018

TITLE: Recognition of Academic Decathlon State Champions

BACKGROUND:

The Canyon del Oro High School (CDO) Academic Decathlon Team earned the top score at the Arizona Academic Decathlon in March 2018. This is the fifth consecutive state championship for the CDO Academic Decathlon team, and their eighth state title. The team will represent Arizona at the United States Academic Decathlon Finals in Frisco, Texas on April 19-21. The CDO team scored 47,304 points out of a possible 60,000 points, and earned 27 medals, beating the second place team (Chandler Hamilton High School) by more than 2,000 points.

In the Academic Decathlon, students match their intellects with students from other schools. They compete in ten categories, including written tests in Art, Economics, Literature, Math, Music, Science, and Social Science. They also write an essay on a curriculum-related topic, deliver both a prepared and impromptu speech, and are interviewed by a panel of judges. The 2017-18 curricular theme is "Africa," meaning the students studied African history and economic development, the biology of infectious diseases, and also the artistic, literary, and musical influences of the region. During the course of a competition, students will answer more than 350 questions on these topics.

Each team has nine students: 3 "A" or Honor students, 3 "B" or Scholastic students, and 3 "C" or Varsity students. The following students will be recognized as members of the Canyon del Oro High School Academic Decathlon state championship team:

Michael Cox	Javier Lopez
Isabell Gray	Allienna Nezelek
Piper Gray	Chloe Penna
Zach Hobby	Kailee Savage
Carter Hollings	

Piper Gray set the all-time Arizona record as the highest scoring student, earning 9,536.9 points and 10 medals. Gray's score also earned her a place in the top ten scores in the 50-year history of the United States Academic Decathlon.

Coach:
Chris Yetman

RECOMMENDATION:

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

INITIATED BY:

Amy Sharpe, Director of Community Relations

Date: April 3, 2018

Todd A. Jaeger, J.D., Superintendent