



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

DATE OF MEETING: **October 5, 2010**

TITLE: **Approval of Superintendent's Declaration of Curricular and Instructional Alignment to the Arizona Academic Standards**

BACKGROUND: In 1996, the Arizona State Board of Education began adoption of the Arizona Academic Standards (Standards) in the subject areas of reading, writing and mathematics. The Standards were mandated for all Arizona public schools to implement through curriculum and instruction. To confirm that all schools in Arizona are in compliance, all school districts and charter schools are required to complete a "Declaration of Curricular and Instructional Alignment to the Arizona Academic Standards" ("Declarations").

Compliance with this requirement establishes evidence that the Arizona Academic Standards have been incorporated into the curricular and instructional practices at the local level, in furtherance of the federal No Child Left Behind Act and Arizona Learns. The Superintendent's Declaration, a copy of which is attached, is essentially a form of affidavit or oath of compliance with the Standards.

The Declarations actually consist of three separate documents to be signed, respectively, by the Governing Board as a body, the Superintendent as an individual, and every school principal as an individual. The Governing Board and Superintendent's Declarations are due on October 15th. The school principals' declarations will be due in February, 2010. For a school and district to be in compliance, all three forms of Declaration must be signed and returned to the ADE.

The Administration has also informed Principals of the content of their individual Declarations which they will sign at the end of the year, so that they may take necessary actions during the course of the year to ensure they can truthfully make the Declaration.

RECOMMENDATION: Execution of and compliance is required by state law. Governing Board approval of the submission of the document to the Arizona Department of Education is recommended.

INITIATED BY:

Todd A. Jaeger, Associate to the Superintendent

Date: September 29, 2010

Vicki Balentine, Ph.D., Superintendent