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Office of the Associate to the Superintendent

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### **Amphi Teachers Recognized as “Cream of the Crop”**

**Tucson, AZ** CDO High School Librarian, Beth Malapanes, has been recognized as one of the top 10 semi-finalists and La Cima Middle School Reading and technology Teacher, Cynthia Rolewski has been named one of the top-five finalists for the Arizona Teacher of the Year Award. To celebrate these achievements, Blue Bell Ice Cream will be hosting parties at each school over the next two weeks, the first of which is scheduled for Monday, October 19 at CDO High School. All students and staff at the schools are invited to the parties to honor their accomplished teachers and co-workers.

“This is a wonderful treat for our students and staff. I’m honored to have been nominated and I would like to thank Blue Bell for supporting the Arizona Education Foundation’s Teacher of the Year program”, said Semifinalist and CDO Librarian Beth Malapanes.

“At Blue Bell, we believe there is no finer work you can do in this world than be a teacher,” says Joe Granson, Blue Bell Sales Manager for Tucson. “The finalists for Arizona’s Teacher of the Year are among the most outstanding members of their profession. We are very pleased to have the opportunity to honor Arizona’s teachers for their wonderful work.”

The Arizona Teacher of the Year Award is presented by the Arizona Educational Foundation and is the only statewide program that spotlights the contributions of Arizona’s teachers. The program annually recognizes exceptionally skilled and dedicated pre-kindergarten through 12th Grade public school teachers in Arizona. During the final round of judging, the 10 semi-finalists are asked to prepare a 15-minute videotape of their teaching, complete interview and present an impromptu speech.

On November 5, the 2010 Teacher of the Year will be announced from the pool of five finalists, the four others will be selected and recognized as “2010 Ambassadors for Excellence”. The teacher selected as the 2010 Arizona Teacher of the Year will then represent the state of Arizona in the National Teacher of the Year competition.

Last year, La Cima teacher Becca Hughes was recognized as one of the top five semi-finalists and was subsequently named an Ambassador of Excellence by the foundation. CDO High and La Cima Middle are two of the 22 schools and special programs that make up the Amphitheater School District. The Amphi District provides a high-quality education to over 15,000 students in Northwest Tucson and Oro Valley.

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