



DYSART UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Office of Community Relations

15802 North Parkview Place □ Surprise, Arizona 85379
phone: 623.876.7000 □ web: www.dysart.org

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Dysart doubles the number of excelling and highly performing schools

DYSART SCHOOLS — Dysart schools continue to be recognized for increases in academic achievement. In the 2008-2009 school year, the number of Arizona Excelling and Highly Performing schools doubled in the Dysart School District. Additionally, all Dysart schools have received an Arizona profile of Performing or higher. Canyon Ridge and Sonoran Heights Elementary Schools once again earned the Excelling profile through the AZ Learns School Accountability Program. Joining these two schools by earning the Excelling profile were Mountain View and Rancho Gabriela Elementary Schools. Dysart School Superintendent, Dr. Gail Pletnick said, “We are extremely excited that Canyon Ridge, Mountain View, Rancho Gabriela and Sonoran Heights have earned the excelling profile. The commitment to utilizing engaging instructional strategies, data informed decisions and the hard work of the teachers and students is certainly reflected in this accomplishment.”

Additionally, six Dysart schools have earned the Highly Performing state profile, including two high schools. Ashton Ranch, Cimarron Springs, Marley Park and Sunset Hills Elementary Schools all earned the Highly Performing profile. Valley Vista and Willow Canyon High Schools were also recognized as Highly Performing by the Department of Education. Cimarron Springs, Sunset Hills and Willow Canyon earned the Highly Performing label last year as well.

The Arizona Department of Education assigns school profiles each year to schools based upon a combination of AIMS results and the Measure of Academic Achievement (MAP) from the state of Arizona. High Schools have an additional indicator of dropout and graduation rates. The labels range from: Excelling, highly performing, performing plus, performing, underperforming and failing. Additionally, schools are evaluated on students meeting Annual Measurable Objectives through the No Child Left Behind measure of Annual Yearly Progress (AYP). This year, 20 of Dysart’s 23 schools made AYP, up from just four schools making AYP in 2006. In order to make AYP, elementary schools must meet more than 200 indicators of success. If a school misses one indicator, they will not make AYP.

Dysart Unified District schools continue to demonstrate a sustained and focused increase in academic achievement as evidenced through the AIMS results released this summer and through the AZ Learns Profiles. In addition to the four excelling and six highly performing schools, Dysart saw 11 schools achieve the performing plus label and two schools earn the performing label. One of Dysart’s Strategic Plan objectives is for all schools to earn an excelling profile by 2013. According to Dr. Pletnick, “All Dysart schools continue to work diligently to raise academic achievement through increasing the capacity of quality instruction. Our students, staff and teachers deserve accolades for their

success. We look forward to all of our schools continuing down the path to earning the Excelling profile.”

Dysart schools are making great strides academically as evidenced by last year’s AIMS results and the AZ Learns profiles. The focus by teachers, staff and administration is on raising academic standards and providing support for students and their quest for academic success.

The Dysart Unified School District profiles for each of its schools are:

K-8 Schools

Ashton Ranch	Highly Performing
Canyon Ridge	Excelling
Cimarron Springs	Highly Performing
Countryside	Performing Plus
Desert Moon	Performing Plus
Dysart	Performing Plus
El Mirage	Performing Plus
Kingswood	Performing Plus
Luke	Performing Plus
Marley Park	Highly Performing
Mountain View	Excelling
Parkview	Performing Plus
Rancho Gabriela	Excelling
Riverview	Performing
Sonoran Heights	Excelling
Sunset Hills	Highly Performing
Surprise	Performing Plus
Thompson Ranch	Performing Plus
West Point	Performing Plus
Western Peaks	Performing Plus

High Schools

Dysart	Performing
Shadow Ridge	New School for 2009-2010
Valley Vista	Highly Performing
Willow Canyon	Highly Performing