



NEWS RELEASE

SCHOOL REGISTRATION NOW UNDERWAY FOR BEAT THE ODDS PROGRAM

PHOENIX (May 16, 2011) – Arizona K-12 schools interested in participating in the Beat the Odds program during the 2011-2012 academic year are encouraged to register before September.

The program, now entering its fifth year, is open to Arizona K-12 schools statewide that have low-income and/or high-minority student populations. The program goal is to increase student performance in reading and math so the students' achievement compares favorably with the achievement of higher socio-economic students. An evaluation by WestEd, a national research agency, found that scores in reading and math on state tests were higher in BTO schools compared to similar schools not in the program.

Beat the Odds provides principals with individual mentoring, training and support in applying research-based principles that have been found to provide better-than-expected academic performance. In addition, assistant principals of schools participating in the Beat the Odds program may attend the monthly group training and networking meetings with their principals and participate in break-out sessions of their peers.

Interested principals and superintendents should contact Beat the Odds Institute Director Marjorie Kaplan at (602) 496-1360 for more information or to register. Additional information also is available at www.BeatTheOddsInstitute.org.