



Dr. Lattie F. Coor
Chairman and CEO



Dr. Sybil Francis
Executive Director

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 29: West Valley Think Tank

Dr. Sybil Francis will speak to leadership from West Valley school districts, community colleges and ASU West.

May 7: Beat the Odds School Partners Meeting

Recap and celebration of the schools' 2007-2008 accomplishments.

■ **Schools must employ a multipronged strategy if they are to be successful in high stakes testing** according to principals participating in the Beat the Odds School Partners Program. Tips and insights into preparing for Arizona's Instrument to Measure Standards (AIMS) and other high-stakes tests are available online at www.beattheoddsinstitute.org.



■ **The addition of a teacher identification tracking function to the state education data system will enhance education policy decision-making and ultimately improve student outcomes.** That was the message delivered recently by Center for the Future of Arizona Executive Director Dr. Sybil Francis in testimony before the House Education (K-12) Committee. H.B. 2787 passed the committee March 5th. Dr. Francis' statement to the committee is available online at www.arizonafuture.org.

■ **A recent *Arizona Capitol Times* article profiles Dr. Francis and her role in advancing the state's education public policy.** The article is available online at www.arizonafuture.org.

■ **Arizona State University has established the Leaders for Learning Project with a planning grant from the Helios Foundation to advance educational leadership in K-12 schools.** Representatives from several organizations including the Center for the Future of Arizona recently met to assess current Arizona programs that develop leadership at the level of the school principal.

■ **The high school dropout process can begin as early as kindergarten** according to a new research report by Arizona State University West's Rodel Community Scholars. Dropouts demonstrate deficits in academic ability beginning in kindergarten and miss significantly more days of seat time and instructional guidance — an average of 124 days by eighth grade. An executive summary of "The Differential Developmental Trajectories of Rural High School Dropouts and Graduates" is available at www.west.asu.edu/rodel.