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Chairman and CEO



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Executive Director

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### August 20: Beat the Odds School Partners Orientation

Leadership seminar for new members  
of the Beat the Odds School Partners  
Program.

#### August 27: Beat the Odds School Partners Meeting

First work and training session of the  
2008-2009 academic year, focusing on  
peer networking and support.

■ **The number of Arizona K-12 schools implementing the Beat the Odds principles campus-wide will more than double in the upcoming school year compared to the previous year.** A minimum of 55 Maricopa County schools will partner with the Beat the Odds Institute to learn how to apply research findings that result in better than anticipated student academic achievement.

■ **Teachers must feel ownership of students' assessment scores if Arizona schools are to advance student achievement.** Beat the Odds Mentor Kathy Davis has learned how to create a school culture in which teachers and students are excited about setting, and achieving, academic goals. Read more at [www.beattheoddsinstitute.org](http://www.beattheoddsinstitute.org).



■ **Arizona small businesses named "a skilled workforce" as one of the two most critical issues they face, surpassed only by healthcare costs.** The results were reported in the second quarter 2008 "Silver State Bank/ASBA/O'Neil Associates Arizona Economic Indicators Monitor."

■ **While school enrollments across most of the nation are predicted to slow in growth or experience some shrinkage, Arizona is projected to have ongoing rapid growth in all groups, but especially among Hispanics.** A research report released by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) predicts the number of Hispanic students graduated from Arizona schools is expected to rise from fewer than 14,000 in 2003-2004 to more than 30,000 in 2012 and more than 47,000 by 2020. The report, "Knocking at the College Door," is available at [www.wiche.edu](http://www.wiche.edu).

■ **Recently released recommendations from the 92nd Arizona Town Hall include a fundamental redesign of both Arizona's preK-12 education system and its post-secondary system.** Participants identified nine items they believe must be addressed as part of this systemic change. More information: [www.aztownhall.org](http://www.aztownhall.org).