



Dr. Lattie F. Coor
Chairman and CEO



Dr. Sybil Francis
Executive Director

UPCOMING EVENTS

**February 3 (Phoenix) and 17 (Tucson):
Beat the Odds School Partners Meeting**
Training and work session focusing on high
stakes testing.

**February 23: Beat the Odds Training
(Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian
Community)**
Topics include high stakes testing and
quality first instruction.

■ Under the leadership of Pat Graham, state director, The Nature Conservancy is assuming a lead role for goal five of *The Arizona We Want*, which deals with protecting Arizona's natural environment, water supplies and open spaces.

One of the first efforts is to help the Center for the Future of Arizona build a scorecard for the goal that helps

leaders and citizens alike measure the state's progress over time on a critical set of indicators. The Nature Conservancy is in the process of organizing a broad coalition of experts in all sectors to make recommendations about the scorecard and to develop action plans to achieve this critical goal.



Sedona Red Rocks During Sunset

■ Center Executive Director Sybil Francis was invited to testify before the Arizona House and Senate Education Committees in support of a move-on-when-ready approach in which students advance at their own pace through high school and into community college without remediation when they have demonstrated mastery of academic material through their performance on board exams. Not simply another test but representing complete instructional systems, board exams are a powerful approach to helping Arizona students perform to national and international standards and are gaining recognition in Arizona. Program providers include Pearson/Edexcel, Cambridge International Examinations and ACT QualityCore. School districts interested in piloting a board examination system can contact Dr. Francis at Sybil.Francis@asu.edu.

■ Metro Tech High School (Phoenix Unified High School District) has established an ambitious and admirable clear bottom line: Prepare every student for college. The school, a Beat the Odds School Partner, currently meets or exceeds the state average on AIMS, despite a student population that is more than 90% minority and low-income. Learn how Metro Tech is achieving its success at www.BeatTheOddsInstitute.org.