

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION &
STATE BOARD FOR VOCATIONAL AND
TECHNOLOGICAL EDUCATION

Vince Yanez, Executive Director
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RECEIVED

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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT



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December 14, 2007

President:
Dr. Karen Nicodemus

Vice President:
Dr. Vicki Balentine

**Superintendent of
Public Instruction:**
Tom Horne

The Honorable Timothy Bee
President of the Senate
Arizona State Senate
1700 West Washington
Room 204
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Senator Bee:

A.R.S. § 15-720.01 creates the Mathematics or Science Achievement Grant Program which shall be administered by the State Board of Education (the "Board"). The purpose of the program is to promote improved pupil achievement in math or science by providing supplemental funding for innovative programs.

With the Board recently increasing graduation requirements in math and science, these grants will help ensure that students and teachers have additional support and access to resources in order to meet the new requirements.

The statute requires that an annual report which details each grant recipient's program and its overall effectiveness be submitted to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Joint Legislative Budget Committee. Because this is the program's inaugural year and grants have not yet been awarded, this information cannot be provided at this time.

Presently, the Board is working to coordinate the distribution of these grants with similar program initiatives in the Governor's Office and other community organizations. The aim of this coordination is to ensure that ongoing efforts to improve student achievement in math and science work together.

Members:

Jesse Ary

Dr. John Haeger

Martha Harmon

Joanne Kramer

Lawrence Lucero

Anita Mendoza

Jacob Moore

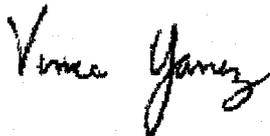
Cecilia Owen

This will provide a comprehensive and cost effective approach to implementation.

As these grants are distributed, the program requirements shall include evaluation methods that will allow the Board to report on the effectiveness of each program and permit comparisons between students that participate in the various programs with others that do not.

Please contact the Board office directly at (602)542-5057 if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vince Yanez". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Vince Yanez, Executive Director
State Board of Education