



Gadsden Elementary School District No. 32

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ed Pastor Elementary School Is A Semi-Finalist For the National ESEA Distinguished Schools Program and Has Been Chosen For An Onsite Visit With Arizona Department of Education Distinguished School Committee

SAN LUIS, AZ— Gadsden ESD #32 is proud to announce that one of our schools, Ed Pastor Elementary, has been selected as a semi-finalist for the prestigious National ESEA Distinguished Schools Program. Since 1996, the National Association of ESEA State Program Administrators (NASPA) has showcased hundreds of schools that have demonstrated effective use of Elementary and Secondary Education Acts (ESEA) funds, promoting positive educational advances and outstanding academic achievement for students.

The Arizona Department of Education will be visiting 10 schools around the state and will select 2 finalists to be recognized in the ESEA National Distinguished School and be granted \$10,000.00 as well as represent Arizona at the National Conference in February in Austin, TX.

The ESEA Distinguished Schools Program honors schools that have demonstrated outstanding academic performance and improvement, particularly in serving disadvantaged student populations. As a semi-finalist, Ed Pastor Elementary School is being recognized for its innovative teaching practices, strong community involvement, and the impressive progress of its students.

“We will continue to strive for excellence, ensuring that each student is empowered to reach their full potential,” said Maritza Mares, Ed Pastor Elementary Principal. “This achievement reflects the power of collaboration, perseverance, and our belief in the success of every child.”

This achievement is a testament to the hard work of our dedicated teachers, supportive families, and, most importantly, our amazing students. The Gadsden ESD #32 believes that every child deserves the opportunity to succeed, and this recognition reinforces our mission to provide an exceptional education for all.

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