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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
SANDERS ELEMENTARY ACHIEVES MODEL SCHOOL STATUS

Shreveport, LA (October, 12, 2012) Ascend Education is pleased to announce that Sanders Elementary School in Sanders, Arizona has been awarded Model School status.

The Ascend Math Model School Program was created to honor schools that implement Ascend Math with fidelity and integrity and hold them up as leaders in Ascend Math and models for others. The program seeks to celebrate students' and school's success while providing opportunity to share best practices with others. The Model School program encourages educators to build a network of knowledge, sharing with other educators challenges they face and strategies they use to overcome these challenges with help of Ascend Math®.

One year ago, Sanders Elementary, Sanders, AZ was not making AYP (adequate yearly progress). Being labeled a failing school only encouraged educators at Sanders to do whatever was needed to help their students. Sanders Elementary serves a 98% Native American student population. They implemented major intervention strategies including the use of Ascend Math to help students overcome their math skill gaps and get back on grade level. The results were incredible. In just one short year Sanders Elementary increased their state math scores from the previous year from a 27 percent to 40 percent passing rate, according to the Arizona Department of Education website. With more students able to receive intervention, it is anticipated that by the end of this school year Sanders will have more students successfully reading and completing math. With continued increases, Sanders Elementary is projected to be a "B" rated school at the end of 2012 – 2013 school year. That's an amazing change in just two years.

"Ascend Math was a big help in encouraging students to feel they can do it. The 'can do it' is a major hump at most schools," said Jim Girard, Math Interventionist for Sanders Elementary. "We are confident that with continued hard work, we will step to the next level. Our students are ready to do as 'Hawks' do and soar to the sky."

The educators at Sanders Elementary School are master implementers of Ascend Math. They regularly set ambitious goals and use data to monitor student progress and improve upon their success.

As a model school, Sanders Elementary will have the opportunity to share best practices with other educators and districts who will likely benefit from their knowledge and experience.

About Ascend Math®

Ascend Math® is a research based instructional resource in which students have proven to achieve two or more grade level gains in a six month period. This web- delivered individualized intervention resource identifies skill gaps, prescribes targeted instruction, and motivates students to achieve their maximum performance and potential.

Study plans align by grade level to National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) standards, Core Curriculum and state standards. Instruction is delivered in a logical math sequence and students can progress at their own pace and track their own progress and success. Ascend Math® is currently used by hundreds of schools and districts serving tens of thousands of students throughout the U.S. and Canada. Visit www.ascendmath.com

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