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**San Tan Learning
Center**

Press Release

Bee Buzz At Local Charter School

San Tan Learning Center Jumps Into Official Spelling Bee Competition

Gilbert, Arizona, Tuesday, November 24, 2009: It was with great fanfare and excitement that San Tan Learning Center, a local Pre-Kindergarten Montessori, and Kindergarten through 5th Grade Public Charter School held it's first-ever, Grade-Level Spelling Bee last week. Elementary students in grades 1 through 5 participated, officially entering the school into Spelling Bee completion.

But, this wasn't just any old bee. It was THE Spelling Bee. The big one that leads up to The SCRIPPS National Spelling Bee held on a national level in Washington DC each year. Participating schools such as San Tan Learning Center hold Grade-Level Spelling Bees during school hours. The winners of each Grade-Level Bee then progress to the School Bee where each Grade-Level Champion competes against each other. The winner of the School Spelling Bee then goes on to compete at a district level. However, since San Tan Learning Center is a Charter School, and therefore a district in its own right, the school skips this level of competition and goes straight to the regional level. The regional winner then goes on to compete at a state level; state winners at the national level in Washington DC.

Students at San Tan Learning Center took the Bee very seriously. Not only did they study extensively at home but also held mock spelling bees in-class. On the day of the event participants, teachers and coordinators wore "bee colors;" black and yellow. Parent Volunteer, Tom Joanes was the Class Spelling Bee Pronouncer. Principal Kris Sippel judged.

Though San Tan Learning Center is an AZ Learns Excelling School, teachers and administrators were proud to see 1st and 2nd grade students spell at the 3rd grade level and 3rd graders at the 5th grade level. Grade-Level winners and alternates (2nd place) were:

First Grade: Winner – Maahi Ameer, Alternate – Jamie Ellison

Second Grade: Winner – Amanda O'Hara, Alternate – Kiana Kai

For Immediate Release

Third Grade: Winner – Matt Joanes, Alternate – Alexi Vogel

Fourth Grade: Winner – Matthew Bujor, Alternate – Arianna Conover

Fifth Grade: Winner – Kimball Conover

Gradel-Level Champions will be competing against each other in the School Spelling Bee on Tuesday, December 15th, 2009. San Tan Learning Center will be sending the winner of the School Spelling Bee to the Regional Bee to be held next year.

For more information about San Tan Learning Center go to www.santanlearningcenter.com or call 480-471-5986.

