

Media Contacts: John and Patti Marks
The ABC School
623.000.000
John@gmail.com
Patti@gmail.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The ABC School Seeks Scholarships for Students
School Partners with Tax Credit Nonprofit to Offset Tuition Costs

Desert City, AZ – May 2010 – As parents prepare to enroll their kids in private schools this fall, Desert City’s first private K-8 school, The ABC School, and the Tuition Organization for Private Schools (TOPS), a tax credit nonprofit, will be working together to offset tuition costs.

“The (TOPS) organization comes to each school and helps form a specialized fundraising plan,” said John Marks, administrator and dean of students at The ABC School. “They will go to supporting churches, organizations, and community programs to promote the benefits of the tuition tax credit program.”

The benefits of the TOPS tuition tax credit program become apparent when analyzing a typical household. A family of four, for example, that makes a combined \$40,000 for the year, and has \$474 in taxes, could reduce their tax burden to zero by donating the entire tax amount. Still, there is a limit to the amount taxpayers can contribute.

“If you are married and filing jointly, you are allowed to contribute up to \$1,000 and, if you are a single head of household, your allowable contribution is \$500,” said Patti Marks, head of school at The ABC School.

While the financial incentives may be attractive for parents, it’s the students who ultimately stand to reap the rewards. That’s because, unlike public school scholarships, which are usually distributed at certain times during the year, TOPS’ scholarships for schools like The ABC School are offered on a monthly basis.

When asked what determines a student’s eligibility for scholarships, Patti said it depends on the student’s financial circumstances, the parent profile section of the TOPS application, and the availability of funds.

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About The ABC School

The ABC School is a private, nonprofit school serving the Desert City area, grades K-8, with grades 9-12 to be added subsequently each school year. Founded in 2008, the school is actively taking steps necessary for accreditation. The school's mission is to provide a positive and affirming learning environment, where each student is guided and inspired to develop and succeed as a total individual – academically, physically, socially and emotionally.

About The Founders

The Marks graduated from Villanova University in the early 1990s. Patti went on to receive her Masters in Education (M.Ed.) at Cabrini University; John graduated Suma Cum Laude from Ottawa University with a Master of Arts in Professional Counseling. Together, they have handpicked a staff of individuals who are both passionate and highly qualified.

To learn more about The ABC School, visit www.theABCschool.org.

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