



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 1, 2010

CONTACT: Rebecca Fritzel
480-874-2326
rfritzel@isaz.org

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF ARIZONA EXPANDS SPANISH IMMERSION PROGRAM BY ADDING 1ST GRADE CLASS

Scottsdale, AZ – June 1, 2010 – The International School of Arizona, a non-profit, independent private school, will expand its Spanish Immersion Elementary Track to offer a 1st Grade Class, opening this August 2010.

"We are very pleased with this growth," said Anne-Cécile Scherer, Executive Academic Director. "This is just the first step in our commitment to expand the Spanish program to 5th grade and beyond."

ISA opened its Spanish Immersion Track in 2005 and has since added a grade level each year. Scherer traveled to Spain this spring to hire the 1st Grade Teacher, who is certified by the Spanish Ministry of Education to teach at the Elementary level. "Our program follows the Spanish Education System and all of our teachers are native Spanish speakers," said Scherer. "Our mission is to introduce and integrate children into a school environment using an immersion format that provides a bilingual and multicultural education, meeting and exceeding the academic standards of the United States and Spain."

Unlike other language immersion schools in the Phoenix Metropolitan area, ISA students spend more than 70% of their week in full Spanish immersion and learn Spanish language arts in order to gain a strong foundation in the language. ISA's programs prepare students to achieve mastery of subjects measured by standardized testing, such as Stanford 10 and AIMS. Students also follow traditional subjects such as: language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, art, physical education and music. Class sizes range from 10-20 students allowing the teacher to give each student lots of one-on-one attention.

Children with little or no experience with the Spanish language may seek enrollment in ISA's Spanish 1st Grade due to the success of its accelerated program, currently offered for French track students. ISA designed this hybrid program in 2008 to allow valley students in first and second grades to enter a foreign language immersion environment while following curriculum from Arizona and Europe. Students in this program study the language at an accelerated pace and later integrate fully with their fluent peers. Scholarships are available for children in K-5th grades.

ISA is now accepting enrollment in its Spanish and French Tracks (Pre-School and Elementary). To learn more about the International School of Arizona or to set up a school tour, call: 480.874.2326 or email: isa@isaz.org.

About International School of Arizona

The International School of Arizona is a private, non-profit 501(c)(3) Elementary and Pre-School offering French-American and Spanish-American immersion tracks. ISA was founded in 1997 to fill an unmet need in the Phoenix Metropolitan Area for children to obtain early foreign language learning in a multicultural setting

ISA's educational programs offer students the opportunity to learn another language and culture in a full immersion environment. Students gain a global perspective and obtain skills that enable them to communicate with a wide range of people, appreciate other cultures, become flexible thinkers and enrich their lives. Each year new language class options and cultural activities are added to the school's offerings for both ISA students and the general public. ISA continues to evolve into a valley-wide resource and community asset.

For more information, please visit <http://www.isaz.org>