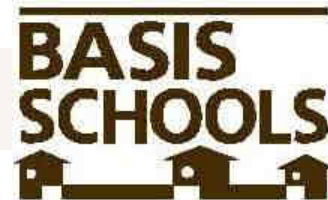


**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



**MAY 16, 2008**

## **Media Advisory – BASIS Schools to hold Press Conference**

Tucson – BASIS Schools will hold Press Conferences on Monday, May 19<sup>th</sup> in Phoenix and Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> in Tucson regarding the forthcoming *Newsweek* ranking, which names BASIS Tucson the #1 public high school in the US. BASIS Schools also operates a “world class” college prep school, BASIS Scottsdale, in the Phoenix Metro area.

The *Newsweek* report, which will be released online Saturday (and next week in the print edition), ranks schools according to the “Challenge Index” devised by Jay Mathews, educational writer for the *Washington Post*. The ranking assesses the rigor of a high school program by indexing the number of Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate or Cambridge tests taken at the school in relation to the number of graduating seniors.

Please join us for remarks from Olga and Michael Block, Co-founders of BASIS Tucson, and Tom Horne, Superintendent of Public Instruction. Among the topics speakers will address are the following:

What does the *Newsweek* ranking tell us?

How did BASIS Tucson make it to the number one spot?

What does having the highest ranking high school mean for Arizona?

What is the business community’s interest in having the #1 high school in AZ? What does having a charter school named as the best high school in the US mean for the charter movement in AZ?

What does having a charter school named as the best high school in the US mean for the charter movement in AZ?

What was it like being a student at #1?

What is next for BASIS Schools?

### **Phoenix Area Press Conference**

Date: Monday, May 19

Time: 2:30 PM

Location: Capitol Lawn

1700 W. Washington Street

### **Tucson Area Press Conference**

Date: Tuesday, May 20

Time: 10:30 AM

Location: BASIS Tucson Upper School

3434 E. Broadway, Tucson AZ 85716

#### **BASIS Schools**

11440 N. 136th Street

Scottsdale, AZ 85259

Phone: 480-289-2088

Fax: 480-289-2089

E-mail:

[amattix@basisschools.org](mailto:amattix@basisschools.org)