

**Contact Information:**

Angie Keil (530) 541-2850 X 225

E-mail: [akeil@ltusd.org](mailto:akeil@ltusd.org)

Website: [www.ltusd.org](http://www.ltusd.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: *January 6, 2010*

**THE LAKE TAHOE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE MAGNET SCHOOL IN  
THE LAKE TAHOE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT RECOGNIZED BY  
CALIFORNIA BUSINESS COMMUNITY FOR HIGH STUDENT ACADEMIC  
ACHIEVEMENT AND CLOSING ACHIEVEMENT GAPS**

***Schools Selected by California Business for Education Excellence for Prestigious Honor Roll***

January 6, 2010 (South Lake Tahoe) – The Lake Tahoe Unified School District announced today that the Lake Tahoe Environmental Science Magnet School has been selected by California Business for Education Excellence (CBEE) as one of 1,304 public schools in California to receive the title of 2009 Honor Roll school.

Schools receiving this distinction from California’s business community have demonstrated consistent high student academic achievement and have made significant progress toward closing achievement gaps among all their students. The CBEE Honor Roll is made up of two different awards, the Star Schools Award (395 schools) and Scholar Schools Award (909 schools).

“We are thrilled we’ve been selected as an Honor Roll school and recognized by California’s business community,” said Dr. James Tarwater, school district superintendent. “Our teachers are committed and have worked tirelessly to ensure the focus is on student academic achievement and *being the best you can be*. We hold all our students to the same high performance standards.”

No other school recognition program in California uses hard data, individual school and student sub-group performance data based on the California Standards Tests, to evaluate school academic performance. It is only by looking at this hard data, student test scores, and evaluating students and schools based on grade-level proficiency of the California standards, that educators, parents and the public can thoroughly understand what is happening in our schools and ensure that schools are on track to get all kids to grade level proficiency.

Over the past four years, the Honor Roll list has grown from 304 schools in 2006 to the current 1,304 for 2009. See [www.cbee.org](http://www.cbee.org) for a full list of the Honor Roll schools, sorted alphabetically by District. Our school is under the heading 2009 Scholar Schools at the lower half.

“We know from the success of these schools that it’s possible for all schools and all students in California to reach high levels of academic achievement and to close achievement gaps,” said Kirk Clark, executive director of CBEE. “By highlighting Honor Roll schools, recognizing their achievement and giving them a voice we hope other schools can learn from these schools’ proven ‘best practices’ and achieve the same results.”

“Schools on the Honor Roll dispel the myth that certain students can’t reach grade-level proficiency and that schools with a challenging student population won’t be able to succeed,” said Greg Jones, CBEE Chair. “These schools are overcoming challenges every day. What has impressed the business community the most this year is the large increase in the nearly 400 high-poverty schools that are exceeding expectations.”

CBEE Star Schools are those with significant populations of socio-economically disadvantaged students that have shown a significant increase in grade-level proficiency over four years for all subgroups.

CBEE Scholar Schools are schools that are showing significant levels of academic achievement, but do not have a significant socio-economically disadvantaged student population.

####



**LAKE TAHOE  
UNIFIED SCHOOL  
DISTRICT**

*Creating Learning  
Opportunities for  
Every Child to  
Achieve Success*

Dr. James R. Tarwater  
Superintendent

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Wendy David, President  
Dr. Michael Doyle, Clerk  
Dr. Larry Green  
Sue Novasel  
Judy Cefalu

1021 Al Tahoe Boulevard  
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

Phone: 530.541.2850  
Fax: 530.541.5930  
E-mail: [info@ltusd.org](mailto:info@ltusd.org)  
[www.ltusd.org](http://www.ltusd.org)