



Press Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, Jan. 28, 2021

Contact: Andy Heinemann, Chief Executive Officer, 520-327-7619

**TUCSON VALUES TEACHERS PRESENTED THE JANUARY TEACHER
EXCELLENCE AWARD TO BENJAMIN COLLINSWORTH**

TUCSON, Ariz. — Tucson Values Teachers (TVT) presented the January Teacher Excellence Award on Wednesday to Benjamin Collinsworth, a first grade teacher at the Flowing Wells Digital Campus. Collinsworth—known as “Mister Ben”—has previously taught PreK at Emily Meschter Early Learning Center in Flowing Wells Unified School District and was named a 2020 Ambassador for Excellence by the Arizona Educational Foundation.

In the Teacher Excellence Award nominating statement, Collinsworth’s wife, Amy Collinsworth, highlighted the additional demand of learning and mastering new technology for the 2020-2021 school year.

“Ben has risen to meet the challenge, adjusting his teaching style and approach to connecting with his students. He has found a way to present the same story times, interactive music, opportunities to meet new people and learn about their lives, and more through videos, Zoom and Google Classroom,” she said. “I am impressed by the flexibility and hard work put forth by all teachers during this pandemic, especially Mister Ben.”

Tucson Values Teachers spotlights quality Southern Arizona teachers every month. Teachers are nominated through Tucson Values Teachers’ website by colleagues, students, friends, and other community members. Winners of the Teacher Excellence Award receive \$250 cash courtesy of Helios Education Foundation, a \$100 gift card for classroom materials, and flowers.

More information about the Teacher Excellence Award, including the nomination form, can be found at www.tucsonvaluesteachers.org.

###

Tucson Values Teachers (TVT) is a business and education partnership focused on helping schools and districts attract, retain and support the very best teachers for every PreK-12 classroom in Southern Arizona. The organization recognizes the critical role teachers play in student achievement and the vital influence they have on Tucson’s future. It does this work by raising public awareness of the value of the teaching profession while providing programs that benefit teachers economically and professionally. For more information and to support TVT, visit tucsonvaluesteachers.org or call (520) 327-7619.