



**PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Breaking Educational Ground in South Phoenix**

PHOENIX, AZ - February 10, 2011 – The South Mountain Village was filled with anticipation for South Pointe High School as dedicated supporters were onsite Thursday, February 10, 2011, for what has been a long awaited moment in its educational history. South Pointe High School, a charter school managed by The Leona Group, broke ground on its high school classroom addition which will provide additional classroom spaces, a media lab, performing and fine arts spaces, a science lab and a weight room. The new additions will open for the 2011-2012 school year.



The Leona Group breaks ground in South Phoenix, again. (L to R) Eric Leibsohn, Eric Leibsohn & Associates, Ltd., Adam Schnelker, The Leona Group, Michael Wareing, Decca Commercial Builders, Inc., Michele Kaye, The Leona Group, Dr. William Coats, The Leona Group, Larry McGill, III, South Pointe High School.

Regional Vice President, Larry McGill, III, opened the ceremony with his vision for the new site and its purpose. “I am truly excited to be bringing a state-of-the-art learning facility to South Phoenix,” states McGill. McGill’s success in moving the site forward comes from his passion for education, the arts and athletics. McGill also envisions a state-of-the-art athletic facility to be incorporated into the learning campus thus rounding out his and The Leona Group’s vision for student success.

The Leona Group is a nationwide educational leader and is partnered with American Charter Schools Foundation. The Leona Group founder, Dr. William Coats was on hand to commemorate the occasion with special words about those who have provided ongoing commitment. Key staff members and stakeholders were onsite for The Leona Group. In addition, several board members from American Charter Schools Foundation were in attendance at the groundbreaking. Three of the seven active board members included Mr. Theodore C. Frederick, who resides in Arizona, Ms. Linda Comer of Charlotte, North Carolina and Mr. John Matthews of Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Eric Leibsohn & Associates, Ltd is the architect for the new charter school addition. Eric Leibsohn of Eric Leibsohn & Associates, Ltd. collaborated with Decca Commercial Builders, Inc. for the design/build. “The new improvements will add 16,899 sf under roof and will be constructed of complimentary materials to the existing structure that we designed and built in

2002. The design is duplicatable and dependable which helps when forecasting maintenance and operating costs,” says Leibsohn. “It is a win-win design/build.”

Decca Commercial Builders, Inc. is the general contractor. Decca Commercial Builders, Inc. and The Leona Group have worked together for more than 10 years. Decca and The Leona Group have built a long-lasting relationship founded on sound philosophies which are embraced by both—integrity, quality, and value. “We are honored to be a part of their growth today and in the future,” says Decca’s President, Michael Wareing.

South Pointe is actively enrolling at all three campuses in the south/central Phoenix region. South Pointe provides a seamless K-12 educational opportunity within the South Mountain Village. South Pointe campus locations include: South Pointe Elementary School located at 2033 E. Southern Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85042, South Pointe Junior High School located at 217 E. Olympic Drive, Phoenix, AZ 85042 and South Pointe High School located at 8325 S. Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85042. See [www.leonagroup.com](http://www.leonagroup.com) to learn more.

### **About South Pointe High School**

South Pointe High School is a public charter school located in south/central Phoenix. Like traditional public schools, the doors are open to ALL students free-of-charge. South Pointe High School is North Central Association (NCA) accredited and adheres to the same high academic standards set for all public schools by the Arizona State Department of Education. South Pointe High School students graduate with diplomas that lead them into college careers, exciting job opportunities, and military service. See [www.theleonagroup.com/SouthPointeHS/](http://www.theleonagroup.com/SouthPointeHS/)

### **About The Leona Group**

In 1997, The Leona Group opened its first charter high schools in Arizona. In 2000, The Leona Group formed its Arizona division and officially opened its Phoenix corporate headquarters. Arizona is host to 22 of the group’s schools. The Leona Group also has schools in Michigan, Ohio, Florida, and Indiana. To date, The Leona Group provides a quality educational choice to over 20,000 students in nearly 70 schools across five states. See [www.theleonagroup](http://www.theleonagroup)

### **About Eric Leibsohn & Associates, Ltd.**

Established in 1985, Eric Leibsohn & Associates, Ltd. provides quality professional architectural services for a wide variety of building types. Primary areas of specialization focus on commercial, office, retail, schools, industrial and manufacturing facilities, and tenant improvements. The principle architect of the firm, Eric Leibsohn, AIA, holds a Masters of Architecture degree from Tulane University. Mr. Leibsohn is a Registered Architect in Arizona and nationally certified by NCARB. For more information, call (602) 230-9922.

### **About Decca Commercial Builders, Inc.**

Decca Commercial Builders, Inc. is part of the Decca family of independently operated, family owned, general contracting corporations and is the contracting corporation that specializes in commercial construction. Commercial specialties include retail, office, industrial, manufacturing, educational, governmental, hospitality, renovations, and tenant improvements. Decca’s experience, reputation and integrity span nearly three decades of building across the southwestern United States. Decca offers a full array of services ranging from design/build and

conceptual cost estimating to onsite construction management and dedicated customer service.  
For more information, call (480) 609-3066 or visit [www.deccabuilders.com](http://www.deccabuilders.com)

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