



AZALAS Honors Pendergast District Board Member and Administrator

Jose Arenas and Belinda Quezada chosen for commitment, service and leadership

September 28, 2018 – Phoenix, AZ – The Arizona Association of Latino Superintendents and Administrators ([AZALAS](#)) has chosen to honor Jose Arenas, governing board member of the [Pendergast School District](#) and Belinda Quezada, principal of Villa de Paz School at its upcoming annual conference on October 28, 2018 at the San Marcos Hotel in Chandler, Az.

Arenas was chosen for this honor as board member of the year, because he has spent decades as a leader devoting his career to bettering life for students and their families in the Hispanic community. Jose has served as a member of the Pendergast District Board, most currently as the past president, and chairperson of the Arenas Holiday Toy Drive. He believes education is the key to a bright future for all students but particularly has lent his support in the Pendergast Elementary and Tolleson Union High School Districts.

In serving as the principal of Villa de Paz School, Belinda has brought not only a wealth of knowledge but her strong values as a great school leader. She connects with her community and has even started a Ballet Folkloric dance troupe at the school, enabling students to connect with their heritage and roots. She has also developed a Computer Science Academy for students to thrive with 21st Century skills. In addition to being an outstanding principal, Belinda serves her community in many ways, with one example as a school board member in the Tolleson Elementary School District. She has been selected as Administrator of the Year by AZALAS.

Dr. Lily Matos DeBlieux, Pendergast Superintendent shares, “We are so proud of Jose and Belinda for their outstanding leadership, service to our community and commitment to the students, staff, and families they serve. They are very deserving of this honor and we are grateful for all they contribute.”