Name: Rajiv Panikkar, Irene Topor, DeEtte Snyder, Pam Kelk, Susan Greer, Megan Mogan, Tracy Mosberger
Agency/Affiliation: Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and Blind and the University of Arizona in Tucson
Position/Title: Certified low vision therapists, certified teachers of children with visual impairments, speech language therapist, early childhood administrator.

Whereas…
The population of children who have visual impairment in Arizona is defined as those whose medical eye condition, e.g., children who have low vision, adversely affects the ability to learn in an educational environment;

Whereas…
Children who are identified with specific learning disabilities and/or processing difficulties but not low vision are often referred to certified teachers of children with visual impairments for clinically based vision training

Whereas
Teachers are certified to teach children with visual impairments (who have low vision) in an educational/home/community setting

Whereas
Professionals with specialized training in vision therapy, e.g., certified optometric vision therapists, are clinically trained to provide vision therapy services to individuals who may have learning difficulties in school.

Be it resolved… that the Arizona AER task force position statement on vision therapy be adopted to clarify the role of the teacher of children with visual impairments in Arizona and also provide a strategy for referring a child who is struggling academically to other professionals who can provide services.

Other Notes/Comments/Consideration…