



For Immediate Release
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**TARBUT V'TORAH LOWER SCHOOL TEACHER SANDY BRUSS
HONORED AS TEACHER-OF-THE-YEAR FINALIST**

Irvine, CA --- Tarbut V'Torah Kindergarten teacher Sandy Bruss was named an Orange County 2008 Teacher-of-the-Year finalist during a recent ceremony at the lower school campus.

Bruss, who has been a faculty member at the community Jewish Day School for the past 11 years, was presented the certificate by Mr. Bill Habermehl, Orange County Superintendent of Schools.

"Sandy embodies excellence in education and is representative of what a Tarbut experience is all about," said Jean Oleson, principal for TVT's Lower School. "We all share much *nachas* in Sandy's extraordinary achievement!"

Eighteen private schools submitted nominations from which one teacher, Sandy Bruss, was selected as the private school nominee. Nominees must be credentialed by the California Commission of Teacher Credentialing in the subject they are teaching and assigned to the classroom as full-time. Eligible private schools must have a minimum enrollment of 250 students and be accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

There are more than 1,000 Orange County teachers leading K-12th grade classrooms in Orange County and Bruss was named one of the top 60 educators in the county. This is the first Teacher of the Year award for the school and adds to a distinguished list of honors for the Community Jewish Day School that has more than 600 students enrolled.

Bruss is a native of South Africa and has been living in the United States for the last 21 years. A resident of Irvine since 1992, She also has twin sons enrolled at TVT.

About Tarbut V'Torah

Irvine based Tarbut V'Torah, which opened its doors in 1991, has more than 600 students from 39 cities in Orange and Los Angeles County. TVT is one of the largest community Jewish Day Schools in the county. For more information on the school, please visit www.tarbut.com

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