



MEMORANDUM

MEMO TO: GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS AND SUPERINTENDENTS
FROM: TORRI ANDERSON, Legislative Committee Chair
DATE: April 5, 2018
SUBJECT: SUBMISSION OF PROPOSED ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION FOR THE
2019 POLITICAL AGENDA

I look forward to serving as your Legislative Committee Chair as we prepare for the Delegate Assembly and work to create a Political Agenda for the upcoming legislative session. I'm honored to be a part of this important process and look forward to hearing your proposals.

As you know, your input to the Legislative Committee is critical. This year we ask that you take a moment to review the current [2018 Political Agenda](#) and reaffirm your top five priorities. Furthermore, you may submit two additional priorities you would like the Legislative Committee to consider. [Click here](#) to submit the form online or [here](#) to download the pdf version. Once submitted, these proposals will be compiled by staff and provided to the ASBA Legislative Committee for consideration. The Committee will then create a draft document that will be circulated to all governing boards and superintendents. This draft agenda will be the basis for discussion and final approval at the official Delegate Assembly on Saturday, September 8th. The timeline is as follows:

- Friday, May 11 – Proposed Items Due
- May 17 & 18 Internal strategy meeting
- Friday, June 1 – Legislative Committee meets
- Week of June 18 – Legislative Committee recommendations sent to all governing board members and superintendents
- Saturday, September 8 – Delegate Assembly (Saturday morning following the Law Conference)
- Friday, November 16 – ASBA/AASBO/ASA Legislative Workshop

As a reminder, you should schedule this item on an upcoming Board agenda for discussion. Please remember, only one submission per District and it must reflect the collective will of the Board. These proposals are due by the close of business on Friday, May 11, 2018.

Please plan to have your District Delegate register and attend the 2018 Delegate Assembly on September 8, 2018. This meeting will vote/approve our Arizona School Boards Association legislative agenda for the First Regular Session of the 54th Legislature (and any special meetings).

Arizona's students need your voice! Don't forget to register one of your board members to serve as the Delegate for voting on this 2019 Legislative Agenda Action process.

Thank you for your active participation in ASBA. If you have any questions, please call Chris Kotterman, Director of Governmental Relations at 602-254-1100 or 800-238-4701. You can also reach him by email at ckotterman@azsba.org; he is happy to help answer any questions you may have. **Once again, all proposals are due by May 11, 2018.**

ISSUES FOR LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION –
2019 POLITICAL AGENDA

The Governing Board of _____ School District presents the following issue(s) to the ASBA Legislative Committee as adopted by the Governing Board on _____

Top Five Priorities

Rationale

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Additional items for consideration

Rationale

1. _____
2. _____

Please include the rationale for each proposed item. This will help provide context during the Legislative Committee discussion.

PLEASE RETURN BY: MAY 11, 2018

ASBA FAX #: 602.254.1177 OR EMAIL: gross@azsba.org

Prefer to complete this form online? [Click here.](#)

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Quality leadership and advocacy for children in public schools

GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

2018 Political Agenda



Adequately and Equitably Fund Public Schools

- Provide additional state funding for nationally competitive salaries to attract, recruit and retain talented teachers.
- Revise the School Finance formula to:
 - Provide a stable revenue source less reliant on the general fund or annual legislative appropriation;
 - Fund the implementation and ongoing costs of AZ standards, assessments and technology;
 - Allow districts the option to operate individual schools for 200-day school years and increase accompanying funding to 8% from 5% to improve student achievement;
 - Establish statewide poverty weights within the school funding formula.
- Fully fund full-day kindergarten and include kindergarten students in the override calculations.
- Renew, expand and improve Prop 301.
- Sufficiently fund market competitive salaries for all non-teaching staff.
- Provide adequate ongoing resources to comply with at least minimum school facility standards to ensure school district equipment and facilities are adequately maintained.
- Restore district additional assistance (DAA) reductions.
- Enact policy that does not unduly discourage local investment in school facilities.
- Eliminate unfunded mandates and administrative burdens.
- Fully fund JTEDs.
- Protect desegregation funding from any cuts or modifications.
- Provide greater equity in funding and access for exceptional student services within the public-school system.
- Adequately fund the cost of student transportation.
- Provide funding for preschool programs.

Uphold, Preserve, and Strengthen Local Control

- Maximize local control and flexibility in managing funds and programs.
- Allow school districts greater flexibility in the divestiture of property to address population and course needs.
- Change “override/budget increase” language to better reflect what voters are being asked to support
- Oppose legislative intrusion on school site budgeting decisions.

Improving Student Outcomes

- Support policy that recognizes and respects teaching as a profession.
- Increase the compulsory attendance age from 16 to 18 years.
- Enact research-based reform of the English Language Learner model of instruction to improve student achievement that does not segregate English Language Learners from English speaking peers, integrates reading, writing and oral language instruction and incorporates multiple assessment measures to demonstrate English proficiency.
- Fully restore 9th grade CTE/JTED eligibility and funding to allow students to explore career fields and/or certification completion.
- Allow JTEDs to service students through the age of 21.

Accountability to Taxpayers

- Establish financial and academic transparency for all institutions that accept public funds.
- Repeal any program that gives public funds for private schools, ESAs & STOs or prevent any future expansion.
- Require comparative classroom spending audits for school districts and all other institutions that accept public funds, and define “classroom spending” as both instructional spending and student support spending.
- Reform current year funding to a system that provides districts with appropriate stable annual budgeting ability and technical reliability.

ASBA leadership and members of the association’s Governmental Relations and Legal Services staff guide the political agenda process.



DR. TIMOTHY L. OGLE
Executive Director



LINDA LYON
2018 President



CHRIS KOTTERMAN
Director of Governmental
Relations and Public Affairs



Leigh Jensen
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CHRIS THOMAS
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Executive Director of Legal
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OUR MISSION IS TO CULTIVATE EXCELLENCE IN LOCALLY-GOVERNED SCHOOL DISTRICTS.