



MEMORANDUM

MEMO TO: GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS AND SUPERINTENDENTS

FROM: TORRI ANDERSON, Legislative Committee Chair

DATE: April 3, 2017

SUBJECT: SUBMISSION OF PROPOSED ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION FOR THE 2018 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 [2017 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 9th. The timeline is as follows:

- Friday, May 12th – Proposed Items Due
- Friday June 2nd – Legislative Committee meets
- Week of June 19th – Legislative Committee recommendations sent to all governing board members and superintendents
- Saturday, September 9th – Delegate Assembly (Saturday morning following the Law Conference)
- Friday, November 17th – 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 12, 2017.

As you are aware, the 2017 Delegate Assembly will determine the positions of the Arizona School Boards Association for any future Special Sessions of the current legislature and for the Second Regular Session of the Fifty-Third Legislature. In addition to submitting proposals, your board has the opportunity to help craft ASBA's advocacy stances by registering your district's delegate. Your delegate will represent your district at the Delegate Assembly, a critical meeting where the views of your district can be represented and discussed. The Delegate Assembly will be held on Saturday, September 9th at the JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort and Spa.

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 12, 2017.**

ISSUES FOR LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION –
2018 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 12, 2017

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

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

www.azsba.org

Quality leadership and advocacy for children in public schools

RESOURCES FOR SCHOOLS

1. Strengthen the School Finance formula to equitably and adequately fund public schools:
 - a. Fund the implementation and ongoing costs of AZ standards, assessments and technology;
 - b. Protect desegregation funding from any cuts or modifications;
 - c. 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;
 - d. Provide greater equity in funding and access for exceptional student services within the public school system;
 - e. Provide adequate funding to cover the cost of student transportation;
 - f. Establish statewide poverty weights within the school funding formula.
2. Advocate to eliminate unfunded mandates and administrative burdens.
3. Assure a more stable and reliable revenue structure to support education.
4. Advocate to renew, expand and improve Prop 301.
5. Ensure 100% funding for all JTEDs.
6. Fully fund full-day kindergarten and include kindergarten students in the override calculations.
7. Provide funding for preschool programs.
8. Reinstate and fund formulas to comply with at least state school building minimum standards and restore building renewal funding to ensure school district facilities are adequately maintained.
9. Provide additional state funding for nationally competitive salaries to attract, recruit and retain talented teachers.

LOCAL CONTROL & GOVERNANCE

1. Uphold, preserve, and strengthen local control to reinforce the connection between the community and its elected governing board members.
2. Allow school districts greater flexibility in the divestiture of property to address population and course needs.
3. Maximize local control and flexibility in managing funds and programs.
4. Change "override/budget increase" language to "locally controlled funding" to better reflect what voters are being asked to support.

STATE EDUCATION POLICY

1. Fully restore 9th grade CTE/JTED eligibility and funding so students have the opportunity to explore career fields and or/certification completion.
2. Allow all JTEDs to service students through the age of 21.
3. Eliminate the change to current year funding and advocate to hold declining districts harmless for loss of funding and ensure funding accuracy and transparency in ADM calculations.
4. Establish financial and academic transparency for all institutions that accept public funds.
5. Repeal any program that gives public funds for private schools, ESAs & STOs or prevent any future expansion.
6. Require comparative auditor general reports for district and charter schools.
7. Require charter holders and applicants to use their local entity's most recent demographic study and enrollment demand data to justify the need for a new school.
8. Increase the compulsory attendance age from 16 to 18 years.
9. Advocate for research-based reform of the English Language Learner model of instruction to improve student achievement.

ASBA leadership and members of the association's Governmental Relations and Legal Services staff guide the political agenda process in concert with the ASBA Legislative Committee.



DR. TIMOTHY L. OGLE
Executive Director



JULIE BACON
2017 President



CHRIS KOTTERMAN
Director of Governmental Relations
and Public Affairs



DARBI JENKINS
Governmental Relations Analyst



CHRIS THOMAS
General Counsel / Director of Legal
and Policy Services



2100 N. Central Avenue, Ste. 200 | Phoenix, AZ 85004 | 602.254.1100 | 800.238.4701 | www.azsba.org

Our mission is to cultivate excellence in
locally-governed school districts.

www.azsba.org

Quality leadership and advocacy for children in public schools