Joint Resolution Expressing Concern and Disapproval Regarding the Recent Executive Director Appointment Process Conducted by the Executive Board of the Arizona School Boards Association

WHEREAS, the undersigned school district governing boards of Pima County, Arizona, strive to uphold the highest standards of integrity, credibility, and professionalism in their operations, decision-making, and leadership; and

WHEREAS, the Arizona School Boards Association (ASBA) is a vital organization dedicated to supporting and advocating for public education throughout our State, providing valuable resources, fostering collaboration, and promoting ethical conduct among its members; and

WHEREAS, ASBA's mission, as stated in its bylaws, is to enhance the ability of locally elected school boards to govern effectively in service to students and communities by providing leadership, assistance, and a unified voice on behalf of public education and students; and

WHEREAS, it was recently reported that the newly appointed Executive Director of ASBA engaged in the falsification of his educational credentials, which represents a serious breach of trust and violation of ethical standards inherent to his position; and

WHEREAS, such dishonesty brings into question the credibility and effectiveness of ASBA's leadership, as trust is a fundamental pillar upon which any organization's success and impact are built; and

WHEREAS, the appointment of an executive director who has falsified his educational credentials undermines the integrity of ASBA and compromises its ability to fulfill its mission and objectives; and

WHEREAS, the undersigned governing boards have a responsibility to foster an environment of transparency, accountability, and ethical behavior within the education community;

WHEREAS, the response of ASBA's executive board leadership to criticism from constituent members regarding the executive director appointment, thus far, has been to wholly stifle and dismiss the members' legitimate and understandable concerns – even going so far as to suggest that such members resign from their rightly held positions in the organization;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the undersigned governing boards jointly express their deep concern and disapproval regarding the appointment of an individual with falsified educational credentials as the Executive Director of ASBA; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the undersigned governing boards call upon the ASBA Board of Directors to fulfill their fiduciary obligations by conducting a thorough and independent investigation into the appointment process and to take immediate corrective actions to rectify the situation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the undersigned governing boards urge ASBA to reaffirm its commitment to ethical conduct, transparency, and accountability by implementing more rigorous background checks and verification procedures for all future executive appointments; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the undersigned governing boards express their support for the members of ASBA who have raised concerns and demand that their voices be heard and respected throughout the process of addressing this issue; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the undersigned governing boards stand in solidarity with other education stakeholders in demanding that ASBA promptly address this controversy, restore public trust, and ensure that its leadership upholds the highest standards of integrity, credibility, and professionalism in service to public education and students.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Amphitheater Governing Board this 3rd day of October 2023.

Governing Board Members:

Deanna M. Day, M.Ed. President

Scott K. Baker, Ph.D.

Matthew A. Kopec

Vicki Cox Golder

Vice President

Susan Zibrat

Todd A. Jaeger, J.D. Superintendent