

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.



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