



EDUCATE. ADVOCATE. ELEVATE.

September 8, 2025

Dear ASBA Members,

Over the past year, ASBA's Governance Committee made up of governing board members from across Arizona has taken a comprehensive look at our association's bylaws. Their work has been guided by one goal: ***to ensure ASBA's governance remains strong, transparent, and aligned with the needs of our member districts.***

Last year, many of you and your boards shared feedback that the volume of proposed changes presented at once was overwhelming. We heard you. In response, the Governance Committee, chaired by Chris King of Vail Unified School District and Pima Co-County Director, returned to the work, refined the proposals, and is now bringing forward updated recommendations for member approval.

While many of the proposed changes improve clarity and consistency, several substantive revisions are on the ballot, including:

- **Eligibility for Office** – Clarifying who may hold elected office within ASBA.
- **Meeting Protocols** – Defining who may address the body with permission of the chair.
- **Representation** – Updating rules for county co-directors based on census data and clarifying national appointments.
- **Executive Oversight** – Requiring full board ratification of the Executive Director's contract within a set timeframe.
- **Committees & Leadership** – Defining standing committees, chairs, duties and appointment authority.
- **Emergency & Vacancy Procedures** – Outlining actions during emergencies and procedures for vacancies and removals.
- **Voting & Quorum** – Authorizing electronic voting, increasing quorum requirements, and establishing timeframes for board actions.
- **Caucus Alignment** – Requiring caucus bylaws to align with ASBA bylaws.

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2100 NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE, SUITE 200 | PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85004 | azsba.org

Executive Director Ellen White

President Tadeo De La Hoya, Gadsden ESD

President Elect Mitra Khazai, Madison ESD

Treasurer Wendy Effing, Flowing Wells USD

Secretary Armando Montero, Tempe UHSD

Immediate Past President Desiree Fowler, Page USD



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These proposed changes strengthen ASBA's governance, protect the interests of our members, and ensure that our processes reflect best practices. They will bring greater clarity to decision-making, consistency across committees and caucuses, and stronger accountability in executive and board actions.

Voting will run September 18 – December 16, 2025. When the information reaches your school board, we encourage you to review the proposed changes together and prepare to cast your vote.

On behalf of the ASBA Board of Directors, we urge every member district to participate in this important process, and we strongly encourage you to vote **YES**. Your support is critical to ensuring that ASBA remains a transparent, fair, and member-driven organization.

Thank you for your commitment to ASBA and to the students and families you serve. Together, let's continue to strengthen our association for the future.

Sincerely,

Your ASBA Board of Directors

Tadeo De La Hoya President (Gadsden ESD)

Mitra Khazai, President Elect (Madison ESD)

Wendy Effing, Treasurer (Flowing Wells USD)

Armando Montero, Secretary (Tempe UHSD)

Desiree Fowler, Immediate Past President (Page USD)

Daisy Slim, Apache County Director (Sanders USD)

Nelson Daley, Cochise County Director (St. David USD)

Jimelia Talasyousiea, Coconino County Director (Grand Canyon USD)

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Katy Taylor, Gila County Director (Payson USD)

Mike DeLaO, Graham County Director (Safford USD)

Kelly Baker, Greenlee County Director (Morenci USD)

Carolyn Freeman, La Paz County Director (Bicentennial UHSD)

Donna Lewis, Maricopa County Co-Director (Scottsdale USD)

Sarah Hall, Mohave County Director (WAVE JTED)

Jeremy Curtis, Navajo County Director, (N.A.T.I.V.E)

Chris King, Pima County Co-Director (Vail USD)

John Sparks, Pima County Co-Director (Sahuarita USD)

Roger Biede, Pinal County Director (Florence USD)

Robert Rojas, Santa Cruz County Director (Nogales USD)

Andy Fraher, Yavapai County (Prescott USD)

Juan Castillo, Yuma County Director (Somerton ESD)

Cesar Lopez, President, Hispanic-Native American Indian Caucus (Nogales USD)

Marcarlo Roanhorse, Vice-President, Hispanic-Native American Indian Caucus (Ganado USD)

Rachel Barnett, President, Black Alliance (Littleton ESD)

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