



GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA ITEM
AMPHITHEATER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10

DATE OF MEETING: May 5, 2015

TITLE: Determination of Governing Board Position on ASBA Legislative Action Agenda Items

BACKGROUND:

The Arizona School Boards Association, of which the District is a member, is holding its annual ASBA Delegate Assembly on September 12, 2015. The Delegate Assembly determines ASBA's positions for any future Special Sessions of the current Legislature and for the Second Regular Session of the Fifty-first Legislature.

In advance of the September Delegate Assembly, ASBA is requesting that individual governing boards submit Proposed Action Agenda Items to help craft ASBA's advocacy stances. The deadline for submission of proposed items is May 29, 2015. These items will then be submitted to ASBA's Legislative Committee on June 5, 2015. Following that meeting the Committee will then create a draft document that will be circulated to all governing boards and superintendents. That document will be the basis for discussion at the official Delegate Assembly on September 12th.

At this time, the Board may consider proposed Action Agenda Items. The Item for appointment of a Delegate and Alternate to the ASBA Delegate Assembly will be submitted to the Board in August.

ASBA asks that issue submissions be confined into three (3) categories: long-term, short-term, and 2016 Session-specific legislation. Once submitted, these proposals will be compiled by staff and provided to the ASBA Legislative Committee for consideration.

The Board is not limited in the number of proposal submissions; proposals may also be in any or all of the categories.

Drawing from the Board's submission last year and the extensive discussion and direction at that time, a draft of Legislative Priorities for this year is attached.

RECOMMENDATION:

This Item is presented for the Board's consideration and discussion of proposed Action Agenda Items for submission to the ASBA Legislation Committee.

INITIATED BY:

Todd A. Jaeger, Associate to the Superintendent

Date: April 24, 2015

Patrick Nelson, Superintendent

Long-Term Issues are core beliefs and/or issues that need to be addressed over 5-10 years. Presented for the Board's consideration are:

1. Increase Funding for K-12 Education, including the Provision of Adequate Support for Special Education and Maintenance of Desegregation Efforts.
2. Properly Fund Building Maintenance.
3. Protect and Support Education Due Process Rights.

Short-Term Issues are issues that can be accomplished over 3-5 years. Presented for the Board's consideration are:

1. Oppose Unfunded and Burdensome Legislative Mandates.
2. Reenact and Fund Voluntary Full-Day Kindergarten.
3. Encourage, Assist and Provide Adequate Financial Support of the Curriculum and Instructional Needs of Arizona's Public Schools to Ensure College and Career Readiness of All students, Including Specific Funding for Technology Required to Accomplish the Goal.

2015 Session-Specific Issues are specific items for bill introduction in 2015. Presented for the Board's consideration are:

1. Oppose Any Measure that Uses State Monies to Fund Private Schools, Including Vouchers and Empowerment Scholarship Accounts.
2. Ensure All Schools Receiving Public Funds Are Equally Accountable to the Public, to Include Transparent Funding Systems for Charter Schools with Requirements for Reversion of Assets to the State Upon Cessation of Operations.
3. Change Statutory References of "Budget Override" to "Local Support".
4. Bring to the Legislators' attention that their oath of office requires that they honor the mandate of the Arizona Constitution to "ensure the proper maintenance," and "to be met by taxation" for the "development and improvement" of public education.