



Governing Board Agenda Item

Meeting Date: November 13, 2025

From: Dr. Daniel Streeter, Superintendent

Subject: Arizona School Boards Association Proposed Bylaw Changes

Priority: To support informed, engaged, and empowered stakeholders

Consent ☐ Action ☒ Discussion ☐

Background:

The Arizona School Boards Association (ASBA) Governance Committee, comprised of district governing board members from across the state of Arizona, conducted a comprehensive review of the association's bylaws.

While many of the proposed amendments are intended to improve clarity and consistency, several include substantive revisions. Highlights of the changes include:


- **Eligibility for Office** – Clarifies who is eligible to hold elected office within ASBA.
- **Meeting Protocols** – Defines who may address the assembly with the permission of the chair.
- **Representation** – Updates rules for county co-directors based on census data and clarifies the process for national appointments.
- **Executive Oversight** – Requires full board ratification of the Executive Director's contract within a designated timeframe.
- **Committees & Leadership** – Establishes standing committees, defines their duties and leadership, and outlines appointment authority.
- **Emergency & Vacancy Procedures** – Details procedures for responding to emergencies, as well as filling vacancies and removals.
- **Voting & Quorum** – Authorizes electronic voting, increases quorum requirements, and sets timeframes for board action.
- **Caucus Alignment** – Requires caucus bylaws to align with those of the ASBA.

The ASBA Governance Committee, on behalf of the ASBA Board of Directors, encourage member districts to vote YES.

Each ASBA member district is entitled to one vote and the vote must be cast using the official online form. The electronic voting will close at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 16, 2025. A two-thirds affirmative vote of ASBA member district boards is required for passage.

Recommended Motion:

I move that the Governing Board vote [*YES OR NO*] to approve the proposed Arizona School Boards Association's bylaw changes and direct [*GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER*] to vote in the manner the Governing Board has approved.

Approved for transmittal to the Governing Board: 
Dr. Daniel Streeter, Superintendent

Questions should be directed to: Dr. Daniel Streeter, Superintendent
Phone: (520) 682-4774



MEMORANDUM

To: ASBA District Member Governing Board Members, Superintendents and Superintendent/Governing Board Secretaries

From: Ellen White, Executive Director

Date: September 16, 2025

Re: Proposed Changes to ASBA Bylaw and Voting Instructions

With the unanimous endorsement of the ASBA Board of Directors, the following recommended amendment to the ASBA Bylaws is being put forth to the membership for a vote.

Article VIII Section 1(b) of the ASBA Bylaws states:

Amendments may be submitted by action of a member board, the Board of Directors of this Association, or any committee appointed by it, and shall be transmitted to the executive director not later than September 15. Such amendments shall be forwarded to the membership at least thirty (30) days prior to the opening of electronic voting as approved by the ASBA Board of Directors.

As Executive Director, I hereby certify that I have received the following proposed changes to the ASBA Bylaws. In accordance with ASBA Bylaws, official notice is given of these proposed amendments.

Last year, many of you and your boards expressed that the volume of bylaw changes presented at once felt overwhelming. We heard your concerns. In response, the Governance Committee, chaired by Chris King of the Vail Unified School District and Pima County Director, revisited the proposals, refined them, and is now presenting updated recommendations for member consideration and approval. To ensure broader representation, the ASBA Board of Directors also expanded the Governance Committee to include members from every county.

While many of the proposed amendments are intended to improve clarity and consistency, several include substantive revisions. Highlights of the changes include:

- **Eligibility for Office** – Clarifies who is eligible to hold elected office within ASBA.
- **Meeting Protocols** – Defines who may address the assembly with the permission of the chair.
- **Representation** – Updates rules for county co-directors based on census data and clarifies the process for national appointments.
- **Executive Oversight** – Requires full board ratification of the Executive Director's contract within a designated timeframe.
- **Committees & Leadership** – Establishes standing committees, defines their duties and leadership, and outlines appointment authority.

Executive Director Ellen White

Treasurer Wendy Effing, Flowing Wells USD

President Tadeo De La Hoya, Gadsden ESD

Secretary Armando Montero, Tempe UHSD

President Elect Mitra Khazai, Madison ESD

Immediate Past President Desiree Fowler, Page USD



- **Emergency & Vacancy Procedures** – Details procedures for responding to emergencies, as well as filling vacancies and removals.
- **Voting & Quorum** – Authorizes electronic voting, increases quorum requirements, and sets timeframes for board action.
- **Caucus Alignment** – Requires caucus bylaws to align with those of the ASBA.

We appreciate your thoughtful review of these proposals and your continued commitment to strengthening ASBA governance.

The proposed change will be voted on by the membership as dictated in the ASBA Bylaws via the electronic voting process:

Section 1. *These Bylaws may be amended or repealed, or new ones adopted as follows:*

- a. *By a vote of two-thirds of the member boards using an electronic vote of the membership using a procedure adopted by the Board of Directors.*

The voting link is being sent to each member district board. **Electronic voting opens September 18, 2025, and will close at 5 p.m. on December 16, 2025.** Please review the enclosure detailing the procedure and timeline for electronic voting and put consideration of this change on your board's agenda at your regularly scheduled board meeting during this timeframe (now through Dec. 16, 2025). A model agenda item for this action is enclosed. This information, additional resources and the link for voting can be found on our website at: [2025 ASBA Bylaw Changes - Arizona School Boards Association](https://www.azsba.org/2025-ASBA-Bylaw-Changes-Arizona-School-Boards-Association)

All ASBA district member boards are strongly encouraged to exercise their ASBA membership rights and participate in voting. Your ASBA Board of Directors recommends a YES vote. A change to the bylaws requires an affirmative (YES) vote of two-thirds of all ASBA member district boards, making your board's participation incredibly important.

If you have any questions regarding the proposed changes or the electronic voting process, please contact me either by email (ewhite@azsba.org) or by phone at 602 254-1100 or 800 238-4701 (toll free).

Encls.

ELW/kks

📞 602.254.1100 | 📠 602.254.1177

2100 NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE, SUITE 200 | PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85004 | [azsba.org](https://www.azsba.org)

Executive Director Ellen White

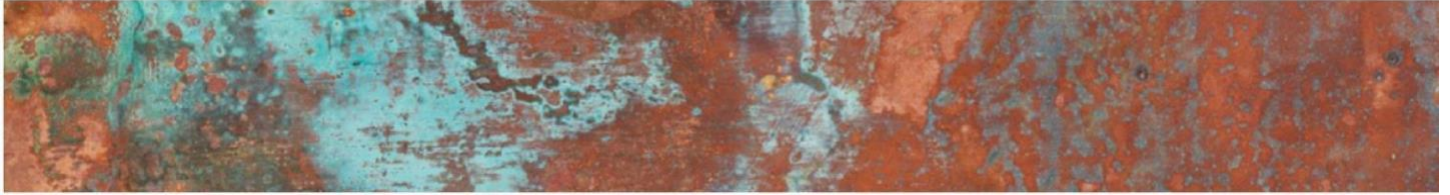
Treasurer Wendy Effing, Flowing Wells USD

President Tadeo De La Hoya, Gadsden ESD

Secretary Armando Montero, Tempe UHSD

President Elect Mitra Khazai, Madison ESD

Immediate Past President Desiree Fowler, Page USD



ASBA Bylaw Proposal submitted by the ASBA Governance Committee

ONE VOTE, multiple updates to strengthen governance.

**This is a single vote encompassing multiple updates.
All changes are shown in red for deletions and blue for new wording.**

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Introduction

ASBA is a membership driven organization as described in these Bylaws. As a Private Nonprofit, ASBA is committed to compliance with the Articles of Incorporation, these Bylaws, and the Internal Policy Manual, in all aspects of our work. A review and understanding of these Bylaws facilitate smooth interaction between and among members. Your membership and participation are appreciated.

BYLAWS ARIZONA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Article I - Name of the Association

The Association shall be called the ARIZONA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Article II - Purpose of the Association

The Purpose of the Association shall be:

Section 1. To promote the general advancement of public education in the State of Arizona and the United States of America and its Territories.

Section 2. To promote lay control of public education.

Section 3. To coordinate educational policies and procedures and promote uniform application of school laws of the state.

Section 4. To coordinate the activities and interest of school boards and accommodation schools within the State of Arizona.

Section 5. To present reports, recommendations and information concerning education to the Legislature, State Board of Education, and other governmental officials and agencies.

Section 6. To provide leadership to the local school boards.

- (a) By exchanging information and ideas pertaining to all aspects of education.
- (b) By encouraging effective communication with students, parents, community, school personnel, legislators and appropriate agencies.
- (c) By encouraging the most desirable and effective communication between school boards and school personnel, the legislature, and the general public.

Section 7. To cooperate with other organizations for the benefit of the children in the public schools of the state and nation.

Article III - Policies of the Association

The adoption of the beliefs of the Arizona School Boards Association, changes thereto, or additions thereto, shall require a majority vote in favor of such adoption by the delegates of member boards. Changes to bylaws and core beliefs may occur by an electronic vote of the membership using a procedure adopted by the Board of Directors.

Article IV - Membership

Section 1. Classes of Membership

(a) **Active Member -**

Any governing board of a school district of the State of Arizona is eligible to be an active member of the Association, and membership shall be classified under the name of the district thus represented **may hold elected offices within the organization.**

(b) **Honorary Member-**

Each past president of the Association, **subject to remaining in good standing,** shall automatically become ~~and remain~~ an honorary life member. The Board of Directors of the Association may elect **or remove** ~~additional~~ honorary life members.

(c) **Associate Member-**

Accommodation schools within the state of Arizona; the Arizona State School for the Deaf and the Blind; the State Juvenile Education System Board; agency school boards, or local school boards, as established by the Bureau of Indian Affairs of the United States Department of the Interior; tribal school boards, charter school governing bodies; and accredited community colleges shall be eligible for Associate Membership. Any former member of a public school governing board shall be eligible for Associate Membership upon written application to the executive director and upon the payment of dues as established by the Association. Membership privileges of the Associate Members shall be determined by the Board of Directors. **May not hold elected offices within the organization.**

(d) **Organization Affiliate -**

Any commercial or professional service firm that wishes to participate in the programs and activities of the Association shall be eligible for Organization Affiliate Membership upon written application to the executive director and approval by the Board of Directors. **May not hold elected offices within the organization.**

Section 2. Voting Powers of the Membership

(a) **Active Members -**

A governing board that is an active member of the Association shall be deemed present at a membership meeting if one or more members of such governing boards are in attendance. On each matter presented to the membership for vote, each governing board that is an active member shall be entitled to one vote, provided such governing board has paid dues as established and assessed in section 3(a) hereafter. The right to the floor for the purpose of discussion shall,

however, be open to any and all members of a governing board who is an active member.

- (b) **Honorary Members** -
Honorary members shall also have the right to the floor for **discussion purposes if permitted by the chair** ~~the purpose of discussion~~ but shall not be entitled to vote.
- (c) **Associate Members** -
Associate members shall have the right to the floor for discussion purposes **if permitted by the chair** but shall not be entitled to vote.
- (d) **Organization Affiliate** -
Organization affiliate members **shall not have the right to the floor for discussion purposes and** shall not be entitled to vote.

Section 3. Dues of the Membership

- (a) **Active Members** -
The dues of each active member shall be established by the Association at an annual membership meeting or as established by law.
- (b) **Honorary Members** -
Honorary members shall not pay any dues.
- (c) **Associate Members** -
The dues of associate members shall be as established by the ~~Association by an electronic vote of the membership using a procedure adopted by the~~ Board of Directors.
- (d) **Organization Affiliates Members** -
The dues of organization affiliate members shall be as established ~~by the Association by an electronic vote of the membership using a procedure adopted by~~ the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Resignation

Any member of any classification may submit a resignation in writing to the executive director and such resignation shall be effective ten (10) days after receipt.

Section 5. Suspension and Expulsion

Failure to pay dues shall be grounds for suspension or expulsion from the Association. The Board of Directors may also terminate the membership of a member for actions of the member contrary to ASBA's bylaws, under procedures adopted by the Board of Directors. Suspension or expulsion shall automatically constitute a termination (in case of suspension, however, only for the period of suspension) of all member's rights and privileges in the Association.

Article V - Officers and Board of Directors and Executive Committee

Section 1. Officers and Terms of Office

- 1.1** The officers of the Association shall be president, president-elect, treasurer, secretary, and immediate past president, each of whom shall serve a term of one (1) year or until the selection and/or qualification of his/her successor.
- 1.2** Upon election as the *president-elect*, he/she shall accede automatically to the presidency at such time as he/she is duly qualified. No two offices may be held by the same person.

Section 2. Board of Directors

2.1 The governing body of the Association shall be a Board of Directors consisting of the officers, one representative from each of the counties of the state, except ~~Maricopa and Pima counties which are allotted two (2) representatives.~~ **counties with population s over 500 thousand shall be entitled to one (1) additional representative on the Board of Directors.**

2.2 When a county crosses the population threshold granting an additional director position, at the county meeting, districts will select co-directors who will alternate terms of office to offset the current representation for the county.

2.3 County representatives shall serve for a period of two (2) years with no member serving more than three (3) consecutive two (2) year terms. ~~However, at the first meeting of the Board of Directors after the adoption of the bylaws, county representatives shall determine by lot the one-half of their number who will serve for one (1) year and the one-half who will serve for two (2) years.~~

2.4 Thereafter, members of the Board of Directors shall be elected by member boards of their counties at their annual County Workshop meetings.

2.5 Ex-officio members of the Arizona School Boards Association Board of Directors shall be:

- (a) Any ~~person~~ **active school board member** residing in Arizona who is either an officer or director of ~~the any~~ **national association** during his/her term of office in the national body, and
- (b) Any member of an ASBA active member Governing Board serving as President of the Hispanic ~~Caucus~~ Native American **Indian** Caucus and Black Caucus during his/her term of office in such caucus or any successor caucus by another name.

Section 3. Qualifications

Each officer and director, with the exception of the immediate past president, shall be a member of a governing board which is a member of the Association. No more than one (1) elected officer shall be elected from any ~~one~~ member board and no two (2) board of directors' positions may be held by the same person.

Section 4. Authority

The Board of Directors shall manage the affairs of the Association and shall have the power to adopt such rules as are consistent with the bylaws.

Section 5. Nominations and Elections

5.1 A nominating committee shall be constituted and selected as follows: the immediate past president of the Association shall serve as chairman of the committee and the remaining members shall be appointed by the president in consultation with the directors from those counties in which a county representative to the Board of Directors is elected for a two-year term.

5.2 No two (2) members of the nominating committee shall be from the same county, and no more than three (3) members, in addition to the past president, shall be members of the Board of Directors.

5.3 The committee shall submit a slate of **candidates** ~~officers~~ consisting of one or more nominees for each office to the general membership at an annual membership meeting. Additional nominations may be made from the floor provided the consent of the nominee has been obtained.

5.4 The election of officers of the Association shall take place at the annual membership meeting. ~~The election shall be by written ballot.~~ When there is more than one nominee for any office, **an election will be held**, and only designated delegates shall be allowed to vote.

5.5 The officers, county representatives, and ex-officio members of the Board of Directors shall take office at the close of the annual membership meeting.

5.6 County representatives to the Board of Directors shall be nominated and elected by the official delegates of the governing boards of school districts at the county workshop of each county.

Section 6. Selection of Executive Director

6.1 The Executive Director (**ED**) shall be appointed by the Board of Directors, with a contract not to exceed four (4) years.

6.2 He/she shall receive such salary and expenses as the Board of Directors shall determine or as may be consistent with the laws of the State of Arizona providing, therefore.

6.3 **The contract for the Executive Director shall be reviewed and ratified by the entire Board of Directors only after a thorough vetting process determined by the ASBA Board of Directors has been completed.**

Section 7. Duties of Officers, Board of Directors and Executive Committee

7.1 The president shall:

(a) Have such power and duties as are usually exercised by such an officer.

(b) ~~He/she~~ Preside over meetings of the Association, the Board of Directors and of the Executive Committee.

(c) Unless otherwise provided for herein, he/she shall appoint all standing and special committees.

(d) ~~The president shall~~ Be an ex-officio member of all committees, except the nominating committee, with voting power.

7.2 The president-elect shall:

(a) In the absence or disability of the president, shall have the authority and perform the duties of the president.

(b) **Serve as the Chair of the Legislative Committee.**

7.3 The treasurer ~~and secretary~~ shall:

(a) ~~Have~~ Have such powers and duties as are usually exercised by such officers.

~~The treasurer shall collect dues and receipt therefor; shall receive and cause to be deposited all monies belonging to the Association; shall disburse the funds of the Association in accordance with the dictates of the Board.—~~

(b) **Serve as the Chair of the Budget and Financial Oversight Committee.**

(c) ~~He/she shall~~ Report regularly to the board, **delegates, and membership** ~~prepare a budget report to be presented to delegates and membership and shall~~ perform such other duties as are delegated to him/her by the president or by the Board of Directors.

7.4 The secretary shall:

(a) **Record and submit** ~~keep~~ the minutes of all ~~meetings of the Association, the Board, and the Executive Committee; shall~~ **Executive Session meetings of the Board of Directors.**

(b) ~~keep a membership roster up to date at all times; shall preserve the records and the files of the Association; shall give all notices required.~~ **Ensure minutes from all other Board of Director meetings are properly recorded and filed.**

7.5. The immediate past-president shall:

(a) **Serve as the chair of the Nominating Committee.**

(b) **Serve in other capacities as determined by the Board of Directors.**

Section 8. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall be composed of the officers of the Association.

Duties:

(a) The Executive Committee shall have the authority of the Board of Directors to act on

- any emergency when the president deems it impracticable to call a meeting of the entire board.
- (b) It may review plans and programs to be presented to the Board of Directors at their regular meetings.
 - (c) It shall have authority to give direction or delegate that such direction be given on legislative action to come before the State Legislature on which there is no formal Association position.
 - (d) All actions of the Executive Committee shall be subject to ratification by the Board of Directors.
 - (e) **Any action taken upon declaration of emergency shall be ratified by the Board of Directors within ten (10) business days.**

Section 9. Vacancies and removal from office.

9.1. A vacancy in any **Executive Committee** office or on the Board of Directors occurring between annual membership meetings shall be filled by a vote of the Board of Directors **upon submission of a recommendation by the Executive Committee**. Such a person shall hold office until the next annual membership meeting of the Association.

9.2. Any officer or director who *misses more than one meeting out of any four (4) consecutive meetings, unless he/she is excused* by the Board of Directors for a valid reason, may have his/her office vacated by action of the board.

9.3. Any officer or director may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors in consultation with the county's school board members for actions deemed contrary to the code of conduct in the ASBA's bylaws or conduct deemed detrimental to the Association, after a hearing and due process.

Article VI - Meetings and Voting

Section 1. Membership Meetings

1.1 The Association shall hold an annual membership meeting and ~~in addition an annual Delegate Assembly. at a time and place designated by the preceding annual membership meeting, by a vote of the membership, or by subsequent determination by the Board of Directors.~~ Notice of the time and place shall be given by written notice to all members at least sixty (60) days but not more than ninety (90) days prior to the meeting.

1.2 Special meetings of the membership may be called at any time by the Board of Directors or by the president; ~~and—~~

- (a) the president shall call a special meeting **of the membership promptly within ten (10) business days** upon receipt by him/her of a petition ~~stating the purpose of the meeting~~ signed by no less than ~~ten (10)~~ **twenty (20)** active members **and stating the purpose of the meeting.**
- (b) Notice of the time and place of a special meeting shall be given to members at least ~~fifteen (15)~~ **ten (10) business** days prior to the meeting date, and such notice shall specify the business to be transacted.
- (c) The presence of representatives of no less than ~~twenty-five (25)~~ **fifty (50)** active members **in person or electronically** shall be necessary to constitute a quorum at any meeting of the membership.

Section 2. Meetings of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee

2.1 The Board of Directors shall meet at least once each quarter of each calendar year.

2.2 The president shall call a special meeting of the Board of Directors or Executive Committee upon receipt of a petition presented to ASBA staff stating the purpose of the meeting signed by no less than twenty (20) active member districts.

2.3 Special meetings shall be ~~upon the call of the president, be and such meetings shall~~ called upon written request of five (5) members of the Board of Directors.

2.4. Special meetings may be called by the president of the Association provided a ten (10) business day notice is given.

2.5 All members should be given notice of time and place of special meetings at least ~~five (5)~~ **ten (10)** days prior to the meeting date.

2.6 The Executive Committee shall meet from time to time as it deems necessary or upon call of the president.

2.7 Emergency meetings may be called to handle issues with no less than 48 hours notice.

(a) All actions approved in an emergency meeting must be ratified by the entire Board of Directors within ten (10) business days.

(b) Emergency meetings may be called by the president or no less than five (5) members of the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Annual Delegate Assembly

3.1 The annual Delegate Assembly shall be held to establish the political agenda items which support the beliefs of the association in the legislative process and in the priorities of the Association. Action agenda items may be submitted to the annual Delegate Assembly of the Association by the action of member boards, the Board of Directors of this Association, or any committee appointed by it, and shall be transmitted to the executive director not later than sixty (60) days before the opening date of the annual Delegate Assembly. All action items so submitted shall be forwarded immediately to the legislative committee for consideration.

3.2 The legislative committee is charged with creating a draft political agenda and shall consider the district action agenda items submitted. The draft legislative agenda shall be sent to members at least twenty (20) days prior to the annual Delegate Assembly by the legislative committee.

3.3 Other action agenda items submitted to the chairman of the legislative committee during the annual Delegate Assembly and prior to the last business session shall be considered by the membership at said meeting, provided that such action agenda items are in proper written form and signed by registered delegates from at least ten (10) active members.

3.4 The ~~reporting member~~ **Chair or designee** of the legislative committee shall be authorized, on behalf of the committee, to move for floor action on action agenda items and beliefs.

3.5 All action agenda items reported out of the legislative committee shall be ~~distributed~~ **distributed** as soon as possible and made available to the delegates.

3.6 Action agenda items passed at the annual Delegate Assembly will constitute the Political Agenda and shall be considered the position of the Association until the next Delegate Assembly. The presence of representatives of no less than **20% of member districts or ~~twenty-five (25)~~ fifty (50)** active members shall be necessary to constitute a quorum at the Delegate Assembly, **whichever is fewer.**

Article VII - Committees & Caucuses

Section 1. Standing Committees

Standing Committees of the Association shall be ~~a~~ Nominating Committee and a Legislative Committee.

1.1. Nominating Committee

(a) The nominating committee shall be so constituted and have such powers as previously provided herein.

(b) **The immediate past-president or designee shall serve as the chair of the committee.**

1.2. Legislative Committee

(a) The legislative committee, consisting of as many members as deemed advisable by the president and the Board of Directors, shall meet upon the call of the president to consider legislative matters, and the effect thereof on governing boards.

(b) **The president-elect or designee shall serve as the chair of the committee.**

1.3. Budget and Financial Oversight Committee

(a) **The Budget and Financial Oversight Committee shall be established as a standing committee and shall have such powers as deemed necessary to ensure the financial health of the Association.**

(b) **The treasurer or designee shall serve as the Chair of the committee.**

1.4. Governance Committee

(a) **The Governance Committee shall be established as a standing committee and have responsibilities commensurate with the purpose of the committee.**

(b) **The Chair of the Governance Committee shall be appointed by the president.**

Section 2. Caucuses

Caucuses shall exist to enhance the work of the association by addressing the unique needs of member districts. Caucuses of ASBA are considered to be affiliated with ASBA as a program provider with responsibility for the caucuses. Each caucus ~~shall is-expected-to~~ adopt its own bylaws for operating, programming, and governing within the context of the relationship with ASBA described herein. **All caucus bylaws shall conform to applicable statutes, ASBA Bylaws, and ASBA Internal Policies.**

With the adoption of this section, the Black Caucus of ASBA and the Hispanic/~~Native~~ American Indian Caucus of ASBA are hereby established.

Caucuses shall be added or eliminated to this provision through the amendment process described in article VIII of this document.

Article VIII - Amendment of Bylaws ~~and Core Beliefs~~

Section 1. These Bylaws ~~or the Core Beliefs~~ may be amended or repealed, or new ones adopted as follows:

- (a) By a vote of two-thirds of the member boards using an electronic vote of the membership using a procedure adopted by the Board of Directors.
- (b) Amendments may be submitted by action of a member board, the Board of Directors of this Association, or any committee appointed by it, and shall be transmitted to the executive director not later than September 15. Such amendments shall be forwarded to the membership at least thirty (30) days prior to the opening of electronic voting as approved by the ASBA Board of Directors.

Article IX - Parliamentary Authority

Section 1. The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order newly revised shall govern the proceedings of the ASBA in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order that ASBA may adopt.

Adopted by the ASBA Delegate Assembly, April 6, 1974.

Amended:

September 12, 1975
June 12, 1976
December 8, 1976
November 30, 1977
November 29, 1978
December 12, 1979
December 2, 1981
June 25, 1983
December 5, 1985
December 12, 1986
December 13, 1990
December 12, 1991
December 15, 1994
December 14, 1995
December 12, 1996
December 11, 1997
December 10, 1998
December 13, 2001
December 16, 2004
December 14, 2006
December 11, 2008
December 16, 2010
December 15, 2011
December 13, 2012
December 11, 2014
December 16, 2021



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.

📞 602.254.1100 | 📠 602.254.1177

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



EDUCATE. ADVOCATE. ELEVATE.

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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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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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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Model Agenda Item: Consideration of ASBA Bylaw Change Proposal

To support school boards in placing the Arizona School Boards Association (ASBA) bylaw change proposal on an upcoming board meeting agenda, the following sample language is provided:

Discussion/Action Item

Subject: Consideration and Direction on ASBA Bylaw Change Proposal

Description:

The Governing Board will review and discuss a proposed bylaw amendment submitted by the Arizona School Boards Association (ASBA) Governance Committee. This is a SINGLE VOTE encompassing multiple updates. All changes are shown in red for deletions and blue for new wording. The proposal requires approval by two-thirds of ASBA member boards in order to take effect.

Following discussion, the Board will vote to give direction to its designated voting representative, XXXXXX, to vote in the manner the board has approved.

Proposal Summary:

The ASBA Governance Committee, with unanimous support from the ASBA Board of Directors, has put forward a series of bylaw amendments aimed at enhancing clarity, ensuring consistency, and incorporating some substantive changes.

Background:

Last year, feedback from member boards indicated that the volume and complexity of proposed bylaw changes presented simultaneously was difficult to process effectively. In response, the Governance Committee, chaired by Chris King of the Vail Unified School District and Pima County Director, undertook a thorough review and refinement of the proposals. The revised bylaw amendments are now being presented for member board consideration.

Supporting Materials:

- Proposed ASBA Bylaw Changes (Attached)



Rules and Procedures for Voting on the Bylaw Amendment Proposal

The following rules are set forth in the ASBA bylaws:

- Each ASBA member district board is entitled to one vote on the proposed amendment.
- The vote must be submitted using the official online form.
- The decision/vote must be an official governing board action.
- An affirmative (YES) vote of two-thirds of ASBA member district boards is necessary for a bylaw amendment to pass.

The board's electronic vote must be received no later than 5 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2025.

Results will be announced on Thursday, Dec. 18, 2025, at the ASBA Annual Membership Meeting.

ASBA Bylaw Changes



Bylaw changes are on the table –

but what do they *really* mean for you

and your district **if they pass**? And what happens **if they don't**?

If they pass

Eligibility standards are consistent and fair

Meeting and voting procedures are updated

Executive Director oversight is strengthened

Representation reflects current census data

Clear rules guide emergencies and vacancies

Electronic voting is authorized

If they don't pass

Confusion remains around who can serve

Outdated procedures persist

Oversight of the Executive Director is limited

Growing counties remain underrepresented

Continuity gaps remain in emergencies

Voting remains manual-only

Don't wait – add this to your next board agenda and make your voice count toward fairer standards and stronger representation.

www.azsba.org/2025-asba-bylaw-changes/