

GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA ITEM AMPHITHEATER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10

DATE OF MEETING: March 25, 2025

TITLE: Adoption of New Policy System:

Chapter 5 – Students, Curriculum and Instruction

BACKGROUND:

Amphitheater Public Schools, like most school districts across the state, has subscribed to a policy system for the development, maintenance and recording of Governing Board policies and administrative regulations. For the past three decades, the District subscribed to the service provided by the Arizona School Boards Association (ASBA) and the National School Boards Association.

In the spring of 2024, the Governing Board directed that the District move to a new policy system provided by the Arizona School Risk Retention Trust (the Trust), provides the District (and all Districts across Arizona) with liability and other insurance coverages. The new policy system is developed by attorneys with expertise in Arizona school law and offers many significant benefits, including a much lower cost to the District and a more timely receipt of newly required policies and procedures than the District's experience with ASBA.

For the last few months, the administration has been pursuing the conversion process, whereby existing policies organized and coded under the ASBA were correlated with those available under the new Trust system. Because many of the ASBA coded policies are copyrighted, the conversion process could not simply involve a "cut and paste" of all content from one system into the other. Instead, the transfer process has been painstaking, given the sheer number of policies and regulations involved.

The Governing Board has already adopted Chapters 1 through 4 of the Trust designed policy system, to include a great many policies which were original to Amphitheater but were put into proper form and codification within the Trust system. Several days ago, the Governing Board was provided with the final chapter for the conversion process: Chapter 5, which deals with matters involving students, curriculum and instruction (most closely corresponding to former sections "I and J" under the NSBA/ASBA systems).

The proposed Chapter 5 policy documents are attached and are presented for the final step of the initial policy conversion process. Following the Governing Board's adoption of Chapter 5, the District Administration will continue the ongoing and traditional process of policy review and revision. In fact, under separate cover on this same Board Agenda, a revision to an already adopted policy in Chapter 1 of the Trust system is presented for approval.

Due to the nature of the conversion process and the need to replace copyrighted policies as quickly as possible, the Administration is proposing adoption of the Trust system documents after just one review. This will allow the District to expedite the publication of its new policy system documents on the internet for easy access to the public.

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The Superintendent recommends adoption of Chapter 5 of the Trust's policy system, as modified and refined by the Administration for Amphitheater purposes.

INITIATED BY:

Date: March 17, 2025

Todd A. Jaeger, J.D., Superintenden