



Arizona State Board of Education
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October 26, 2021

Below are highlights from the State Board of Education's [October 25th meeting](#). You can watch the entire meeting on [YouTube](#).

Accountability and Academic Impact Updates

As the result of [HB 2402](#) and Executive Order 2021-03, the Board:

- Directed the release of an academic impact report and plan to support student success in light of learning disruption. The report will be issued by November 1st. Initial takeaways show the academic impacts were unprecedented and far reaching and will likely require supports beyond just a normal return to school (5A);
- Directed the release of 2020-2021 school year accountability data. This data will be released by the Arizona Department of Education by November 1st (5A5);
- Considered identification of below average schools from the 2020-2021 school year in lieu of A-F letter grades. The Board is required to identify below average schools due to HB 2402, which paused A-F letter grades. *The Board will hold a special meeting on October 27th at 1:30 to adopt the identification criteria* (5B);
- Considered changes to the 2021-2022 A-F Accountability System as the state prepares to administer new assessments in English language arts, mathematics and science (5C);
- Adopted a Career and Technical Education District Achievement Profile in lieu of A-F letter grades (5D); and
- Considered a 5-Year Accountability Plan designed to provide transparency, predictability and consistency to the states A-F Accountability System (5E).

Review of Move on When Reading and Early Literacy

[SB 1572 \(Laws 2021, Chapter 434\)](#) requires the Board to review the Move on When Reading Program and to "consider any changes to statute, policy or administration to improve the reading proficiency of students." The Board is required to review four specific areas and issue a report, with recommendations, by December 15, 2021.

At the August 27, 2021 meeting, the Board considered a proposed implementation plan to fulfill the requirements for a review of the Move on When Reading Program and early literacy. In alignment with the plan, a small group of stakeholders developed a draft review using previous work of the Board and the state as a foundation. The draft review can be found [here](#) under

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agenda item 5F. The draft review recommends continued investments in early literacy and new statutory funding schemes to accelerate early literacy outcomes.

The Board is seeking feedback on the draft review before the December 13th meeting when the Board plans to adopt the review for Board approval. Comments can be submitted to inbox@azsbe.az.gov.

Rulemaking Update

Several rulemaking packages are in the works at the Board. The rules may be reviewed [here](#). Public comments are accepted at inbox@azsbe.az.gov or may be provided at a public hearing or Board meeting. Below is a summary of the action the Board took on rules at the October 25th Meeting.

The following rules were adopted by the Board:

- *R7-2-302 Minimum Course of Study*: [SB 1376](#) requires all health education instruction to include mental health instruction. The mental health instruction must meet specific requirements and may be included in a health course or other existing course. The rules incorporate the mental health instruction requirement into the minimum course of study. More work will begin to ensure appropriate implementation.
- *R7-2-619 relating to Certification Renewal*: The Board's Certification Advisory Committee recommended rules to allow a Nationally Certified School Psychologist Credential to qualify as a pathway for school psychologists to renew their certificate without additional requirements. The credential requires more hours than the standard 15 annual clock hours of continuing education required to renew a certificate.

The Board also received an update on rulemaking efforts regarding the Empowerment Scholarship Account (ESA) Program. The rules conform to legislative changes and establish an appeals process within the agency. The Board may adopt the rules as soon as the December 13, 2021 Meeting.

Indian Education Policy Statement

The Board renewed its policy statement on Indian Education to promote maximum Indian participation and to ensure collaboration in achieving quality education for American Indian people. The entire policy statement can be viewed [here](#).

Meeting Schedule

As mentioned above, a special meeting will be held on October 27th at 1:30. The agenda and materials can be found [here](#). The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for December 13, 2021. The Board adopted the [meeting schedule for 2022](#).

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