

MEETING MINUTES

Arizona State Board of Education
Alternative Accountability Technical Advisory Committee

AMENDED NOTICE AND AGENDA

Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the Arizona State Board of Education, the Alternative Accountability Technical Advisory Committee and to the general public that the Committee will hold a meeting, open to the public, on **Monday, August 7, 2023, at 10:00 A.M at the Arizona Department of Education, Room 416, 1535 W Jefferson St, Phoenix, AZ 85007.**

A copy of the agenda for the meeting is attached. The Committee reserves the right to change the order of items on the agenda, with the exception of public hearings. One or more members of the Committee may participate telephonically.

Agenda materials can be reviewed online
at <http://azsbe.az.gov>(<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com//SU/4ZwqeeEQC9x6DOQvi8FGHQ==>)

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02 (H), the Committee may discuss and take action concerning any matter listed on the agenda.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(2), the Committee may vote to go into Executive Session on any matter on the Agenda, which will not be open to the public, for the purpose of discussing or considering records exempt by law from public inspection, including the receipt and discussion of information or testimony that is specifically required to be maintained as confidential by state or federal law.

Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation such as a sign language interpreter or narrator by contacting the State Board Office at (602) 542-5057. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

Please see below on how to access the meeting and provide public comment on agenda items.

Methods on Accessing the Alternative Accountability Technical Advisory Committee Meeting

The Committee meeting may be accessed at the address listed on this notice.

Procedure for Submitting Public Comment:

For individuals wishing to submit public comment

Written Comment:

Written comments for the meeting will be accepted by:

- email inbox@azsbe.az.gov(<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com//SU/YhrEghWngpFB0plus4VUf5yDQ==>)
- fax to (602) 542-3046
- USPS to 1700 W. Washington St., Executive Tower, Suite 300, Phoenix, Arizona 85007

The deadline to submit a written comment will be Thursday, August 3, 2023 at 5:00 PM.

Written comments received after the deadline will not be posted and will not be provided to members.

Written comments will not be read into the record, however, staff will post all written comments received by the deadline on the Committee's agenda by **Friday, August 4, 2023 at 5:00 PM.**

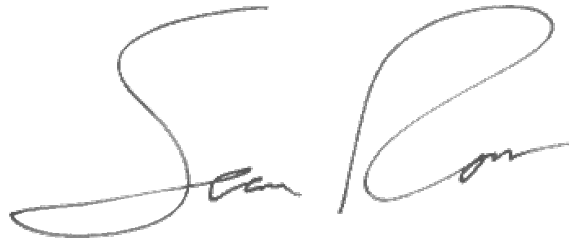
Verbal Comment:

Verbal comment will not be provided at this Committee meeting.

DATED AND POSTED this 3rd day of August, 2023

Alternative Accountability Technical Advisory Committee

by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean Ross". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sean" and last name "Ross" clearly distinguishable.

Sean Ross, Executive Director
State Board of Education
(602) 542-5057

1. Operational

Committee Meeting commenced at 10:16am.

Attendees

Binky Michelle Jones, Chair
Mary Berg, Vice Chair
Kelly Powell, Committee Member
Sue Durkin, Committee Member
Wayne Tucker, Committee Member
Harriet Caruso, Committee Member
Kellie Burns, Committee Member

Jessica Mueller, Research and Data Analyst for the State Board of Education, took attendance. The Committee has a quorum.

Jessica Mueller made comments regarding the minutes.

A. Comments for the record

Jessica Mueller, Research and Data Analyst for the State Board of Education, provided an update on the public comments received. No comments were received.

Sean Ross, Executive Director for the State Board of Education, made comments about the pulled agenda item 2C, no longer a consideration.

2. Technical

A. Study and discussion of AATAC member questions

i. Graduation Rate (Drop-outs)

Jessica Mueller, Research and Data Analyst for the State Board of Education, made comments about the graduation rates as it relates to letter grades and data corrections.

Members discussed the accuracy of data used to calculate graduation rates.
Members discussed data corrections that have come to fruition in the appeals process.

Finance staff with the Department of Education will attend the next AATAC Meeting to provide feedback on potential policies and procedures to ensure the data used to calculate graduation rates is the most accurate.

Sean Smith, Chief Accountability Officer for the Arizona Department of Education, stated that the Department needs a better understanding on what is being sought so that appropriate code may be written.

Members discussed the challenges regarding the data accurately recording the cohort and drop out rate when a student may return to school years later since data from previous years cannot be corrected.

Sean Ross, Executive Director for the State Board of Education, stated that the current model incentivizes inaccurate data.

Members discussed the possibility of a tracker that includes both data sets for graduation and dropping out. The Department will work to repair the syncing between the drop out tracker and graduation reports so that data corrections may not be needed for this reason in the future.

ii. Self-reported Data Check-in

Sean Smith, Chief Accountability Officer for the Arizona Department of Education, reported that self-reported data was provided by July 31st. The Department is creating training materials to send to every school district and LEA to encourage a proactive response next year.

Members discussed schools that have not reported their data and attempt to appeal their letter grade due to turnover.

Jessica Mueller, Research and Data Analyst for the State Board of Education, stated that a list of the nonsubmitting schools will be presented to the AATAC Meeting next month.

Sean Smith, Chief Accountability Officer for the Arizona Department of Education, stated that the Department should still attempt to capture the tardy data from these schools. The Department will determine how, if possible, to incorporate this tardy data.

iii. Discussion on Application and Notification of Alternative School Status

Sean Smith, Chief Accountability Officer for the Arizona Department of Education, stated that the Application and Notification to Alternative Schools was communicated late.

Sean Smith, Chief Accountability Officer for the Arizona Department of Education, stated that initial approvals have been communicated to the applicable parties. By August 18th, the schools that are on follow-up review will be updated on their status.

iv. Discussion on Academic Persistence indicator – students in correction status

Sean Smith, Chief Accountability Officer for the Arizona Department of Education, stated that data errors continue to crop up due to Accountability not being calculated in 2020-21. The data and error codes are being examined to determine which filters are helpful to mitigate the current challenges.

Chair Binky Michelle Jones will meet with Sean Smith to review and troubleshoot specific examples of data errors.

v. Discussion on FAY (AZELLA)

Vice Chair Mary Berg, is in agreement to remove the item from the agenda.

Members discussed the AZELLA testing windows.

Sean Smith, Chief Accountability Officer for the Arizona Department of Education, stated that the FAY denominator customarily utilized to calculate (students tested with AZELLA) can have a negative impact if a student does not complete testing, graduates, or changes schools. The proposed change to the denominator for AZELLA would be AZELLA FAY students.

Members discussed the advantages and disadvantages of providing schools with an extension to complete testing.

Jessica Mueller, Research and Data Analyst for the State Board of Education, stated that AATAC must clarify on when such changes may begin to take place.

Sean Smith, Chief Accountability Officer for the Arizona Department of Education, stated that such changes can be revisited later for the 2023-24 school year.

B. UPDATED - Discussion on SY2022-2023 cut scores - UPDATED

Sean Ross, Executive Director for the State Board of Education, stated that the AATAC Committee must decide on how to calculate the cut scores at the September meeting so that they may be presented to the Board of Education at the September Meeting and allow the Board of vote at their October meeting.

Sean Ross, Executive Director for the State Board of Education, stated that in the future, the AATAC does plan to approve business rules and set cut scores earlier in the year to provide schools with more lead time.

Sean Smith, Chief Accountability Officer for the Arizona Department of Education, presented the potential cut score options to the AATAC Committee.

Members discussed the distribution of schools, school categorizations, prior year's cut scores as related to eligibility categories, and letter grades in relation to choices in standard deviation. The Department will provide more information about eligibility at the September AATAC meeting.

Sean Ross, Executive Director for the State Board of Education, stated that members should research the choices and have reasons to justify their choice, compile their thoughts about recommendations, decide on which model is appropriate, and include reasons as to why for the September AATAC meeting.

Jessica Mueller, Research and Data Analyst for the State Board of Education, stated that members may also write their own proposal that may be presented to the Board.

C. ITEM REMOVED - Study and discussion of Board member questions - ITEM REMOVED

D. Discussion on SY2023-2024 business rules

Sean Ross, Executive Director for the State Board of Education, stated that the growth is being considered by the ATAC and inquired if the AATAC is interested in analyzing this topic.

Members discussed proficiency and the growth of alternative schools. Regarding growth, students are often missing 2 points of measurement on test scores due to their circumstances. Regarding proficiency, due to student age and testing requirements, students are less represented in this component.

Members discussed the graduation rates as they relate to N counts.

Sean Smith, Chief Accountability Officer for the Arizona Department of Education, clarified that the Department intended to apply N count to the cohort in order to qualify for that cohort. This issues does not apply to alternative schools since they are best of the 4 years (4, 5, 6, and 7 year graduation rate)

Members discussed RAELS and CCRI data.

Sean Smith, Chief Accountability Officer for the Arizona Department of Education, stated that English Language Learners are excluded from ELA, but not Math. Sean Smith sought guidance about whether this inclusion was previously discussed and intentional.

Members requested analysis on English Language Learners and Math. Input from Department of Education's Office of English Language Acquisition Services (OELAS) and Assessment areas will be provided at a future meeting.

Sean Smith, Chief Accountability Officer for the Arizona Department of Education, sought clarification if a one week extension of CCRI due to AP testing results would be possible.

Jessica Mueller, Research and Data Analyst for the State Board of Education, stated that any extensions should be consistent across the A-F accountability system.

3. Future Meeting Dates and Items for Future Agendas

Members agreed to continue the graduation rate with school improvement discussion at a future meeting.

Committee Meeting adjourned at 11:59am.