

MEETING MINUTES

Arizona State Board of Education Accountability Technical Advisory Committee

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 Accountability Technical Advisory Committee and to the general public that the Committee will hold a meeting, open to the public, on **Monday, March 3, 2025, at 1:00 P.M. at 100 N 15th Ave Room 101, Phoenix, AZ 85007.**

Members of the public will have physical access to the meeting location 10 minutes before the Committee meeting, at 12:50 P.M.

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>

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 convene in executive session, which will not be open to the public, for discussion or consideration of records exempt by law from public inspection.

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 Committee Meeting

This meeting is accessible to the public through in-person attendance at the address listed on this notice. This meeting is not live-streamed to any platform, or recorded. Accessing the meeting virtually through a link is not available. Please refer to materials published on this agenda, procedure for submitting public comment, and minutes published online: <https://azsbe.az.gov/public-meetings/committee-meetings>.

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
- 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 Friday, February 28, 2025 at 12:00 PM.

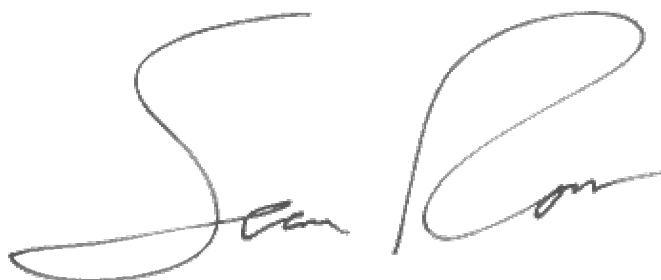
Written comments received after the deadline will not be posted and will not be provided to members.

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, February 28, 2025 at 5:00 PM.**

DATED AND POSTED this 24th day of February, 2025.

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

Meeting commenced at 1:01pm.

Attendance

Sean Rickert, Chair
Jason Piontkowski, Vice Chair
David Jordan (virtual)
Debbie Penn (virtual) – arrived at 1:09pm
Jonathan Rohloff
Kelly Powell (virtual)
Mary Berg (virtual)
Jennifer Fletcher (virtual)
Rick Guyer (virtual)

Tyson Myers
Maja Aleksic (virtual)
Janice Palmer (virtual)
Christy Hovanetz (virtual) – arrived at 1:02pm

A. Comments for the record

No written comments were received by the deadline.

2. Technical

A. Presentation and discussion on Department's recommendations for A-F indicators

Chair Rickert introduced this agenda item.

Sean Smith, Chief Accountability Office for the Arizona Department of Education, presented this agenda item and suggested starting with Proficiency and Growth. The main issue impacting Proficiency is balance.

From a summative perspective, the biggest issue with Proficiency is balancing. Within the Proficiency indicator, the biggest issue is sampling.

Members asked if each indicator is balanced, does that make it easier for the summative system to be balanced, Sean Smith confirmed that it does.

Members asked if the balance was related to differentiating between schools or balancing across the whole system.

Members noted confusion regarding the sampling issue for Proficiency because it sounds like the solution would be to lower expectations for historically lower performing schools which is not in alignment with the focus of A-F letter grades.

Members confirmed that schools only receive additional support under the A-F system if they receive an “F” letter grade.

Sean Smith responded that the A-F system is supposed to look at school quality not student need.

Members noted that a Proficiency measure should be sure to differentiate between students.

Sean noted that schools serve different populations and needs. Members noted that the expectations should be the same for all schools.

Jessica Mueller, Research and Policy Director for the Arizona State Board of Education, asked Sean to clarify this issue.

Members shared that they believe the Proficiency indicator should be simple and should just reflect the percent of students that are proficient.

Members explained that historically, Proficiency was just proficient and not-proficient and then the Committee wanted to reflect partially proficient but that they don't recall the discussion/modeling around the specific points awarded. Members asked for modeling that shows the differences between several categories on the assessment.

Sean clarified that the recommendations including in the handout are just recommendations, not solutions.

Members noted that growth and the other indicators look at more holistic measures but Proficiency is not necessarily designed to be holistic.

Members noted that passing is supposed to be the bare minimum and proficiency is pretty good at something.

Members shared that they didn't feel like there is a clear purpose related to A-F letter grades.

Members asked if the state assessment gives information on if students are at grade level. Passing is an arbitrary concept, proficiency is that a student is prepared to go to college after high school. To be on grade-level would be ready to go on to the next grade.

Members noted that the current system gives an index, it doesn't actually tell you about the performance of your students.

Sean proposed taking the passing rate and percentile ranking for that and assign percentiles to particular letter grades.

Jessica asked how we make the percentile system a continuous range. Sean responded that a set percentile would earn an A, B, C, etc.

Members asked if the proposed changes pose enough potential value to make this work worthwhile.

Members expressed a need for continued time to process this information and discussion.

Sean proposed removing weights for growth and then calculating points using percentiles similar to what was described for Proficiency.

Members asked if Sean could create a graphic of how his proposed system would work.

Members expressed interest in shifting Proficiency to be straight proficiency rather than weighted because it would be more transparent. Other members expressed that percent passing wouldn't be the best metric.

Members expressed that A-F should be about the school's input to the student.

Members noted that the difficulty with proficiency is the correlation to socioeconomic status of students. Members asked if stability proficiency would still be considered.

Sean responded that stability proficiency could still be modeled and considered.

Members asked to see a scatter plot of potential proficiency models with growth.

Members asked if the scaling of the model breakdown is potentially be considered. Chair Rickert responded that it would depend on the work with the individual indicators.

3. Future Meeting Dates and Items for Future Agendas

Jessica noted that an announcement is forthcoming regarding the ongoing collection of CCRI data beyond what is strictly need to maximize points.

Next Meeting is April 7th at the Arizona Department of Education North Building.

Adjourned at 2:56pm.