

MEETING MINUTES

Arizona State Board of Education Alternative 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 Alternative Accountability Technical Advisory Committee and to the general public that the Committee will hold a meeting, open to the public, on **Monday, November 18, 2024, at 09:30 A.M at 1535 W Jefferson St Room 417, Phoenix, AZ 85007.**

Members of the public will have physical access to the meeting location 10 minutes before the Committee meeting, at 9:20 A.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 video conferencing is available by registering here:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_nwzf0ZOYQTS8wdtWvcYuWw#/registration. 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 Monday, November 18, 2024 at 8:00 AM.

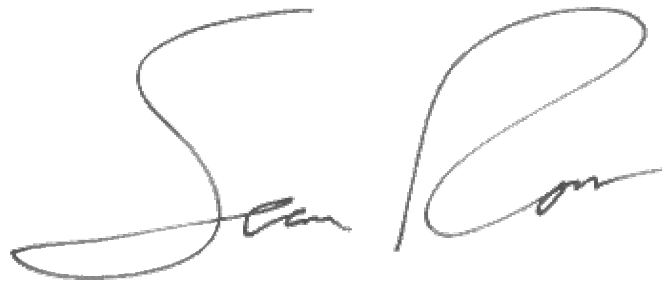
Written comments received after the deadline will not be posted and will not be provided to members.

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 **Monday, November 18, 2024 at 9:00 AM.**

DATED AND POSTED this 14th day of November, 2024.

Alternative Accountability Technical Advisory Committee

by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean Ross". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop for the letter 'S' and a smaller loop for the 'R'.

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

1. Operational

Meeting commenced at 9:38 AM.

Attendance

Binky Michelle Jones (Chair) - present
Mary Berg (Vice Chair) - present (*Joined at 9:45 AM*)
Kellie Burns - present
Kelly Powell - present (*Left at 11:07 AM*)
Sue Durkin - present
Harriet Caruso - present
Wayne Tucker - absent

A. Comments for the record

No written comments were received before the deadline.

2. Technical

A. Study and discussion of AATAC member questions

i. Discussion on Persistence Rate Report

This item was introduced as a standing agenda item.

No issues reported at this time by the Committee members or Arizona Department of Education.

Key feedback from the field: Schools desire communication when changes to reports occur, recommended sending a notice.

The Arizona Department of Education reported that The Grader will be released again in December.

ii. Discussion on Graduation Rate

The Committee was asked by the Department of Education to provide feedback on the use of the "CC" for concurrent enrollment code, and how it affects alternative schools. The issue was reported to primarily affect online schools, alternative or traditional. As a reminder, when an online school has been approved for the alternative school designation for that school year, they are graded on the alternative A-F model. Issue for Online Schools: Online schools receive credit for a student's graduation if they were the last to submit an exit code, regardless of where the last class was taken.

Committee members suggested preparing materials for the committee to review this as a potential business rule: Add the consideration of FTE status with the exit code and the date of the exit code.

Committee members discussed the A.R.S. 15-915 prior year data corrections process.

Graduates may not be updated through this process, impacting alternative schools.

High-stakes issue due to CSI-Low Grad (Comprehensive Support and Improvement for low graduation rates). Fear and anxiety around letters from ADE regarding CSI-G identification.

Discussion on potential stakeholder meeting with ADE School Improved Associate Superintendent Michelle Udall and ADE School Improvement Deputy Associate Superintendent Adam Schwartz.

Historically, the "N" count was not applied but is now enforced based on cohort data for federal improvement and reporting. Focus is shifting to understanding the mission of alternative schools and using differential requirements for various identification types.

Funding Considerations:

- March: CSI-G funding opens; services from specialists begin immediately.

- Discussion on whether this is a three-year grant cycle.

- Goal: Move the identification timeline up to September 1 (previously November 15) to allow for earlier intervention.

- State statute and Ed-Fi standards were cited as challenges in this process.

Committee members also addressed a potential backlog in 15-915 processing. Personnel changes have slowed down processing over the past year and a half. Discussion on previous re-runs of multiple years of data that led to schools owing money back. Can the ADE re-establish data workgroup meetings for better collaboration? Should School Finance be invited to these meetings? Can there be a stakeholder process for transparency before integrity rule changes are applied?

Additionally, discussion on how GED testing impacts the 5-year graduation rate was held. An interest in using GED tests to allow students to test out of certain high school credits was addressed as impacting graduation rates. Can schools do this? Will it be recognized by ADE? Committee Member Sue Durkin will follow up with a GED representative she met at NAEA (National Alternative Education Association). Arizona does not currently reimburse high schools for GED testing which could create disparities among schools.

iii. Presentation and discussion on minimum points eligibility for a letter grade

The Committee reviewed analysis regarding 38 alternative schools that did not receive a letter grade in SY23-24 due to falling below the 60-point threshold. The threshold will not be re-examined at this time.

B. Presentation and discussion on indicator methods plan and timeline. 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

The Committee discussed the timeline for implementing indicator scores/changes. Considerations for a high-level communication plan regarding concerns. Discussion on whether to submit a separate letter from AATAC or sign onto the ATAC letter regarding indicator scoring concerns. The Committee agreed to discuss this issue further in the December AATAC meeting.

3. Future Meeting Dates and Items for Future Agendas

Next Meeting will be held December 17, 2024, 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM, Room B2 (Basement), 1535 W Jefferson St. Phoenix, AZ 85007

The topics for the next meeting may include:

- Grades 6-8 accountability
- Discussion on increasing the “N” count threshold for indicators
- Enrollment patterns in alternative schools
- Mobility and stability measures for alternative schools
- School report cards and CSI-G reporting

Meeting adjourned at 11:09 AM.