

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, August 5, 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 Friday, August 2, 2024 at 5:00 PM.

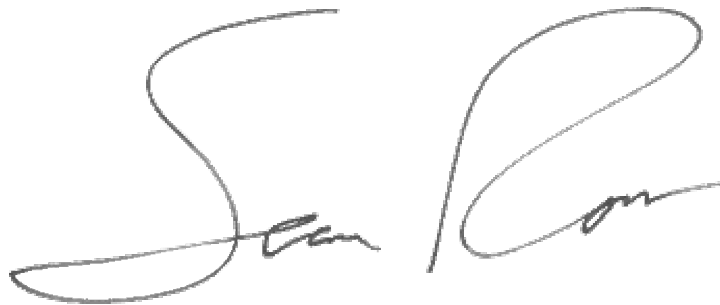
Written comments received after the deadline will not be posted and will not be provided to members.

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 **Monday, August 5, 2024 at 7:00 AM.**

DATED AND POSTED this 30th day of July, 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 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 9:36am.

Attendees

Binky Michelle Jones, Chair
Mary Berg, Vice Chair
Kelly Powell, Committee Member
Sue Durkin, Committee Member
Wayne Tucker, Committee Member (*arrived at 9:53am*)
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.

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 and there are members of the public observing the committee meeting virtually.

2. Technical

A. Study and discussion of AATAC member questions

i. Discussion on Persistence Rate Report

Sean Smith, Chief Accountability Officer for the Arizona Department of Education, sought clarification about the issues being observed regarding the persistence rate report.

The Committee Members and Sean Smith discussed an issue involving the SC code being verified to be included in the persistence report. This issue appears to be corrected on ADE's side, but must be researched to confirm/deny if the issue is global vs. local. A second issue involves the funding for these students since they are coded as graduates, but have not.

Yassin Fahmy, Director of Accountability for the Arizona Department of Education, stated that the student should be removed from the drop out rate of the first school since the student returned.

The Committee Members and Sean Smith discussed how the legislature has not passed legislation to correct the funding issues. The primary issues are correcting the graduation code and determining if the student shows up in the persistence and graduation rates, or any rates, for the new school. Schools, especially smaller schools, may need to appeal if a universal fix is not possible. OnTrac to graduate is not affected since this data is self-reported.

The Committee Members, Sean Smith, and Yassin Fahmy discussed clarifying how often the persistence report is run.

The Committee Members and Sean Smith discussed how the persistence rate report

changed for completed school years changed. It was speculated that the 915s caused the data to change. There is no other reason for the data to have changed.

Sean Smith requested the Committee Members experiencing these issues to send an email detailing the issues.

Committee Member Wayne Tucker arrived at 9:53am.

Jessica Mueller, Research and Data Analyst for the State Board of Education, requested that any possible solution be shared with the group.

A Committee Member stated that the brick and mortar schools are fine. A majority of the issues seem to be with online schools.

ii. UPDATED - Update on status of self-reported data submissions: (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) - UPDATED

Yassin Fahmy, Director of Accountability for the Arizona Department of Education, presented to the Committee about the schools that have not submitted their CCRI data. Emails have been submitted to the schools and the portal is being kept open for late submissions.

The Committee Members, Sean Smith, Yassin Fahy, and Jessica Mueller, Research and Data Analyst for the State Board of Education, discussed how there are fifty (50) missing schools, which is about 41%. The report can be repopulated again in one to two weeks. The ADE is reaching out to the District Accountability Coordinators for these schools, but may need assistance from the AATAC at some point.

Ashley Berg, Executive Director for the Charter Board, stated that the Charter Board can send reminders to schools after the AATAC submits a reminder once the true cut off gets closer.

Sean Smith and Jessica Mueller discussed assisting schools to ensure they don't have to go through the appeals process. There are eighteen (18) schools missing CCRI data. Another twenty-three schools need to check the box to communicate that they are not eligible so that they are not awarded a zero.

The Committee Members, Jessica Mueller, and Sean Smith discussed how the data is already overdue, but that the final due date is August 31st. Afterwards, the ADE cannot guarantee that there is enough time for this data to populate.

The Committee Members agreed that Committee Member Wayne Tucker will be the point of contact for the schools missing data.

iii. Presentation and discussion on grades 6-8 students in alternative schools: 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

Jessica Mueller, Research and Data Analyst for the State Board of Education, presented to the Committee. Referring to the provided handouts, there are thirty-one schools serving students in grades 6-8 that are approved for this status.

Yassin Fahmy, Director of Accountability for the Arizona Department of Education, shared that the ADE is reviewing the quantitative metric counts for grades 6-12.

Jessica Mueller stated that growth is not in the grades 9-12 model. In proficiency, there are 1,900 students that would be included in proficiency. A lot are in performance level 1. EL Proficiency and growth is a tougher metric. Alternative schools are smaller and have a less concentrated population. Acceleration readiness is where the data becomes muddier. About half of schools would earn special education inclusion points and the other half would not.

The Committee Members, Jessica Mueller, and Sean Smith discussed which issue to address first for grades 6-8 with an emphasis on the growth points and proficiency. Suggestions were made to create new indicators by uncoupling the established indicators. Suggestions were made to issue letter grades to alternative schools that have a large population that would qualify for a letter grade. This would ensure as many students as possible are included. Although the follow-up data would look weird.

Ashley Berg, Executive Director for the Charter Board, stated that the charter board always wants to make sure to hold charters to a level playing field and make sure the standards are reasonable and fair and equitable across the board. If you can provide standards that are fair, reasonable, fair and equitable, that is fine. Must weigh the desire for a valid letter grade against the worry about a D or F letter grade that is not based on reliable data.

The Committee Members and Ashley Berg discussed how the charter board would approach hypothetical letter grade situations for specific grade levels.

The Committee Members, Jessica Mueller, Sean Smith, and Yassin Famy continued to discuss the possibility of issuing letter grades for alternative schools with large applicable populations with an emphasis on N size causing large fluctuations in letter grade for each year. The N size for other states were discussed. Some of Arizona's indicators would improve with a larger N count. A request was made for more data.

Sean Smith stated that ADE Legislature representatives will be engaged.

Jessica Mueller stated that the SBE Policy Director will be engaged to communicate that these students are not represented anywhere.

The Committee Members, Jessica Mueller, and Sean Smith discussed how this will become a standing agenda item going forward.

*The Committee Meeting took a break at 11:07am.
The Committee Meeting returned to session at 11:15am.*

B. Presentation and discussion on indicator scoring: Exploration of possible methodologies for establishing expected standards of performance for the indicators outlined in A.R.S. 15-241(G): 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

Jessica Mueller, Research and Data Analyst for the State Board of Education, stated that the the mean and standard deviation have historically been utilized in calculating the cut scores. However, these metrics are not appropriate with the indicator scoring due to bias and weight issues. The AATAC will need to discuss what other models can be utilized.

The Committee Members, Sean Smith, Jessica Mueller, and Yassin Fahmy discussed disconnecting the component scoring from the overall letter grade. The issues regarding proficiency, growth, and acceleration readiness were cited. Suggestion to tackle one piece at a time in an effort to observe how the changes affect other metrics. Suggestion made to define letter grades by percentage cut-offs. Communities need to understand what drives each component and score. This will guide stakeholders to prevent a misinterpretation of a school's scores. The community is accustomed to the 1/3, 1/3, 1/3 approach where the bottom 5% are Ds and the bottom 1% are Fs. Suggestion for report card range framework for each indicator. There are many ways to satisfy this situation. Need schools to realize what they are missing and correct it.

The Committee Members, Sean Smith, and Jessica Mueller discussed that the AATAC will make this topic into a standing agenda item to work on one indicator at a time. The

All Committee Members agreed to separating the indicators.

3. Future Meeting Dates and Items for Future Agendas

The Committee Members discussed having Michelle Udall at school improvement come present.

Sean Smith, Chief Accountability Officer for the Arizona Department of Education, stated that the request will be made.

Jessica Mueller, Research and Data Analyst for the State Board of Education, made comments about the next board meeting on August 26th. An update on the indicator will be presented to the Board. The Committee Members are encouraged to speak in person or submit a written comment. The presentation will be shared on August 16th.

The Committee Meeting adjourned at 12:01pm.