

## 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, June 3, 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 a link is not available at this time. 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](mailto: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, May 31, 2024 at 8:00 AM.**

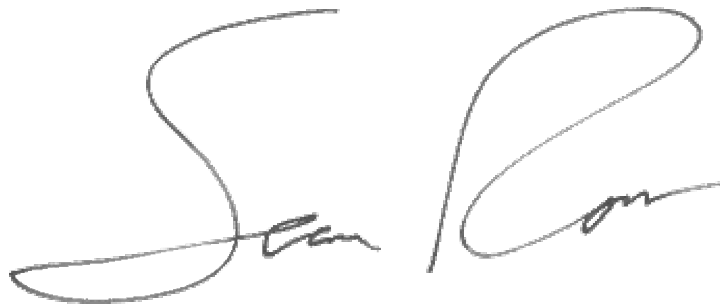
Written comments received after the deadline will not be posted and will not be provided to members.

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 **Friday, May 31, 2024 at 12:00 PM.**

DATED AND POSTED this 23rd day of May, 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 the last name "Ross" clearly distinguishable.

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

**1. Operational**

*Committee Meeting commenced at 9:30am.*

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

Attendees

Mary Berg, Vice Chair  
Kelly Powell, Committee Member  
Sue Durkin, Committee Member  
Wayne Tucker, Committee Member (*arrived at 9:38am*)  
Harriet Caruso, Committee Member  
Kellie Burns, Committee Member

**A. UPDATED - Comments for the record - UPDATED**

Jessica Mueller, Research and Data Analyst for the State Board of Education, provided an update on the public comments received. Written comments were received and there are no members of the public observing the committee meeting.

**B. Discussion and possible action on remote accessibility to meetings for members of the public**

Jessica Mueller, Research and Data Analyst for the State Board of Education, stated that some public comments were received regarding remote access to the AATAC Meetings.

Committee Members and Jessica Mueller discussed the various options for members of the public to access the AATAC Meetings with an emphasis on transparency and public meeting law.

*Committee Member Wayne Tucker arrived at 9:38am.*

Committee Members and Jessica Mueller discussed possible processes.

A Committee Member requested that the committee members consider the possibility that AATAC and ATAC operate with different rules regarding members of the public.

A motion was made to introduce remote accessibility to our meetings for members of the public.

Motion passed: 6-0.

Motion made by: Kellie Burns

Motion Seconded by: Sue Durkin

Voting:

Mary Berg - YES

Kelly Powell - YES

Sue Durkin - YES

Wayne Tucker - YES

Harriet Caruso - YES

Kellie Burns - YES

## 2. Technical

### A. Presentation, discussion, and possible action on a recommendation to the Board on the timeline of indicator scoring

Jessica Mueller, Research and Data Analyst for the State Board of Education, stated that the AATAC must define the methodology prior to a timeline being set.

Sean Smith, Chief Accountability Officer for the Arizona Department of Education, presented to the Committee. The primary desires are to improve communication, make the process clear and transparent, making data transparent to schools can see where they need to improve, and individualized cut scores for each indicator. Statutory requirements have been the law since the beginning. The two bills in the House have helped encourage people to get involved.

The Committee Members and Sean Smith discussed indicator scoring as it relates to proficiency, appeals, letter grades, and the N count.

Yassin Fahmy, Director of Accountability for the Arizona Department of Education, made comments about relating how much 1% represents in students and communicating this to the community to better understand the data.

Sean Smith made comments about the indicator scoring exposing problems at each school, but this will also provide the opportunity to correct those problems. Change is not normally accepted until an issue or problem is identified. An extreme example would be TSA and additional airport screening. The public never would have accepted these changes prior to 9/11. With any change, pushback is expected by a few schools.

Committee Members and Sean Smith discussed the data. Concerns were voiced regarding the data not accounting for the volatility of the student population. CCRI and Proficiency could benefit from some TLC. It would help for schools to see where they are, especially A schools with less than ideal graduation rates.

Jessica Mueller suggested schools come to ADE to get walked through the issues.

A Committee Member voiced positivity for the comparison with other schools. If all schools are Ds, it is a nonissue.

The Committee Members, Sean Smith, and Jessica Mueller discussed opening up dialogues with schools to assist in understanding the data and gaining input from the field. This is not a "gotcha" moment vs. a new framework where all schools can achieve, see their progress, and be provided the right feedback. It will expose problems that do exist. Some schools may not be aware, but this allows them to get involved in the process. With collaboration, schools and ADE can learn from each other. Emphasis was made on collaboration and responding to school's fear about punitive measures.

Yassin Fahmy made comments about getting all CCRI data to increase the likelihood that they get the points deserved.

Jessica Mueller agreed and added that some schools may not know can earn points in some of those columns.

The Committee Members, Sean Ross, Executive Director for the State Board of Education, Sean Smith, and Jessica Mueller discussed the legal requirements in statute about indicator scoring and possible point scale. Emphasis about the legal requirements were made regarding proficiency, growth, and EL.

A motion was made to recommend the State Board release indicator scoring, as defined by applying a letter grade to the Board adopted indicators, pursuant to A.R.S. 15-241(G), for school year 2024-2025.

Motion passed: 6-0.

Motion made by: Wayne Tucker

Motion seconded by: Kellie Burns

Voting:

Mary Berg - YES

Kelly Powell - YES

Sue Durkin - YES

Wayne Tucker - YES

Harriet Caruso - YES

Kellie Burns - YES

Committee Member Mary Berg explained her vote.

## **B. Study and discussion of AATAC member questions**

### **i. Grades 6-8 students in alternative schools: Transitional readiness (“Go”)**

Jessica Mueller, Research and Data Analyst for the State Board of Education, presented to the Committee. The work continues to incorporate grades 6-8 preparation for high school. The "Go" tells us how prepared the student is for high school.

Committee Members studied the *HSRI for Middle School* handouts. The Committee Members reviewed the "Go" indicators in order.

The Committee Members discussed the IEP Goals with an emphasis on the student's number of IEP Goals, lack of data to verify this information, the goal percentage, and how to prove this to auditors without violating FERPA.

A Committee Member suggested someone from ADE Special Education come to the AATAC.

IEP Goals is tabled to a future committee meeting.

The Committee Members discussed the Mathematics component of the *HSRI for Middle School* handouts as it related to 8th graders taking Algebra 1. Emphasis was made on

students who scored higher in 7th grade vs. 8th grade, making this section achievable for all schools, moving sections around so prompts are standard and comparable, how this data is collected, and whether this data should be normed.

The Committee Members discussed Community Service with an emphasis on non-court ordered community service and different types of community service performed by students. Suggestions were made to survey schools to gain information regarding what types of community service is being performed, changing the language, and how to define "community service" to separate it from clubs and extracurricular activities.

The Committee Members discussed No Suspension Days (ISS or OSS) with an emphasis on whether this will disincentivize schools from utilizing ISS or OSS, schools that use ISS and OSS and tardy students, and schools that rely too heavily on suspension. Concerns were voiced about this topic being punitive. Suggestions were made to remove and wordsmith.

The Committee Members discussed various ways to edit this topic to reduce its punitivity. Suggestions were made to change it to a bonus point, and changing the responsible party from the student to the school. Committee Members debated about whether suspensions was a signal of a school needing more de-escalation techniques or a student needing to learn and grow.

Jessica Mueller stated that this agenda item will be placed on a future agenda since the discussions have been so robust.

Committee Members discussed 8th grade competition points or capstone for ECAP and suggested having the ECAP people come present to the AATAC. Jessica Mueller voiced hesitancy about schools having a capstone, but will invite the ECAP representatives to present.

### **C. UPDATED - Presentation and discussion on indicator scoring: Draft timeline for implementation - UPDATED**

Jessica Mueller, Research and Data Analyst for the State Board of Education, made comments about the proposed timeline that was dependent upon the AATAC's actions at this meeting. Please email with questions, clarifications, and/or concerns.

Sean Smith, Chief Accountability Officer for the Arizona Department of Education, estimated that draft will be ready in August or September to make announcements in the field.

A Committee Member shared positivity about the school's trend data being available in ADE Connect.

Jessica Mueller stated that a survey will be sent to the entire field to get feedback. The most recent survey was to gain the schools' understanding of whether they are aware of the requirement for indicator scoring.

Sean Ross, Executive Director for the State Board of Education, made comments about how

the proposed draft is open to change. The current timelines were crafted to accommodate time for legislative changes while also being considerate of school's needs. The timeline addresses the broad strokes vs. the finer details. Starting in August, Jessica Mueller, Sean Smith, and Sean Ross will undertake a road show to present indicator scoring to schools across the state. In December, the Board will vote for the plan that the AATAC crafts. Following the vote, Sean Smith and his team will open ADE Connect for schools to view their last three years of trend data. This information is private and will not be made available to the general public. This allows schools time to adjust. Between January and October 2025, the ADE and SBE will be available to provide guidance, gain feedback, and respond to concerns. This way, when the indicator scores and letter grades are published, everyone is prepared.

**D. UPDATED - 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 - UPDATED**

Moved to a future agenda.

### **3. Future Meeting Dates and Items for Future Agendas**

*The Committee Meeting adjourned at 12:12pm.*