

## MEETING MINUTES

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### Arizona State Board of Education Approved Online Instruction 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 Approved Online Instruction Accountability Technical Advisory Committee and to the general public that the Committee will hold a meeting, open to the public, on **Thursday, July 18, 2024, at 9:00 A.M. at 1535 W Jefferson St, Room 208, Phoenix, AZ 85007**

Members of the public will have physical access to the meeting location 10 minutes before the Committee meeting, at 8:50 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\\_ub0S-5snS16SFhKsuAq0ig](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ub0S-5snS16SFhKsuAq0ig). 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 Wednesday, July 17, 2024 at 9:00 AM.**

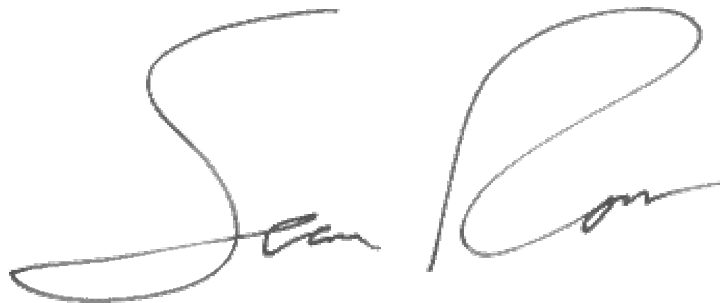
Written comments received after the deadline will not be posted and will not be provided to members.

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 **Wednesday, July 17, 2024 at 12:00 PM.**

DATED AND POSTED this 12th day of July, 2024.

Approved Online Instruction 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 9:02am.*

### Attendees

Kelly Pinkerton, Chair

Mary Gifford, Vice Chair

Dr. Yovhane Metcalfe, Committee Member

Jamie Lopez, Committee Member

John Kelly, Committee Member

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

Chair Pinkerton made welcome comments.

### **A. Comments for the record**

Jessica Mueller, Research and Data Analyst for the State Board of Education, provided an update that no public comments were received. Members of the public are virtually observing the committee meeting.

### **B. Discussion on survey of committee members for input on indicator scoring**

Jessica Mueller, Research and Data Analyst for the State Board of Education, presented to the Committee.

Committee Members and Jessica Mueller discussed a possible survey to gain input regarding indicator scoring from stakeholders with a special emphasis on hybrid schools. A survey will be distributed among the committee members to gain their insight

Jessica Mueller stated that the questions will be sent to the committee members and the topic will be added as a future agenda item for August. The size of the AOI models will have different considerations.

Sean Smith, Chief Accountability Officer for the Arizona Department of Education, made comments about how guidance is needed from the field regarding the types of information, preferred format, etc. Guidance would also be appreciated on how to best proceed to ensure a smooth transition. Important to note that the survey to field is not a decision making survey. The TACs will be crafting the final recommendation to the Board.

## 2. Technical

### **A. Presentation, discussion, and possible action on a recommendation for SY24-25 9-12 AOI FAY: Breaks in enrollment greater than 10 consecutive calendar days in the same school**

Jessica Mueller, Research and Data Analyst for the State Board of Education, presented to the Committee regarding the FAY definition. The desire to capture as many outcomes as possible as it related to instructional minutes and the ten (10) consecutive calendar day

definition. The Committee had ADE Finance present. Suggestions have been made to focus on students performance requirements rather than focusing on the ten (10) day requirement.

Committee Members and Jessica Mueller discussed clarification about the motion regarding the days and minutes requirements.

Motion was made to define FAY for grades 9-12 to include those students who have breaks in enrollment for more than ten (10) consecutive calendar days starting in SY2024-25.

Motion passed: 5-0.

Motion made by: John Kelly

Motion seconded by: Yovhane Metcalfe

Voting:

Kelly Pinkerton - Yes

Mary Gifford - Yes

Yovhane Metcalfe - Yes

John Kelly - Yes

Jaime Lopez - Yes

**B. Presentation and discussion on indicator scoring for the indicators outlined in A.R.S. 15-241(G): Outcomes in AOIs [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]**

Sean Smith, Chief Accountability Officer for the Arizona Department of Education, presented to the Committee. Per discussions with stakeholders, the most desired thing is consistency so indicator scoring can be utilized as a bridge to evaluate scores and a guide to making small changes.

Jessica Mueller, Research and Data Analyst for the State Board of Education, presented AOI Accountability data from SY2023-24 via screen sharing to the Committee. The sample size is small and there is a lot of fluctuation.

The Committee Members and Jessica Mueller discussed the data related to proficiency, growth indicators, EL, and acceleration readiness for grades K-8 and 9-12 in SY2022-23. The distributions for proficiency are quite high for both K-8 and 9-12. Growth indicators for K-8 has a wide spread and 9-12 is still being verified. Although it is anticipated to also have a wide spread. The growth model was not precise and resulted in quite a few appeals. The data being analyzed is the raw data, but has been transformed and altered. Context of the data being viewed is important to remember. Suggestion made to try applying the transformations to the raw indicator data. The distribution appears unusual. Clarification sought about whether this was expected.

Sean Smith, Chief Accountability Officer for the Arizona Department of Education, provided clarification that the unusual distribution was expected since a significant amount of the indicators were designed to skew left. The underlying points tend to be normally distributed. The suggestion to consider the raw data is good. This approach would alter the whole

outcome of the letter grades.

Jessica Mueller continued to present to the Committee. A lot of schools are not eligible for the EL indicator. The K-8 grades have more data than grades 9-12.

The Committee Members, Jessica Mueller, and Yassin Fahmy, Senior Data Analyst for the Arizona Department of Education, discussed the acceleration readiness data. The Committee can put in more time to work on this element within the statute before releasing letter grades. It was developed under statute to be integrated in other measures of school quality. Clarification was made about the graphs being presented. When schools are not eligible to quality for all the indicators, partial points can be considered. Several appeals and public comments communicated how the acceleration readiness is not far since all schools cannot earn these points.

The Committee Members and Sean Smith discussed the funky distribution of data and what would constitute an alternative. Emphasis was made on whether the unusual distribution is expected and appropriate. However, acceleration readiness is the biggest problem because most schools are skewed to getting the most points. There are more points available than are necessary. Acceleration readiness is really measuring the number of opportunities a school has to earn points. When acceleration readiness is blended with other items and formulas, it is corrected. On its own, almost every school is getting ten (10) points. The average is 9.5. With no standard deviations above this average, no schools can earn an A. As such, the unusual distribution was expected to be unusual. The variability is also low. It is easy to drop off to get a C, D, etc. The proposed fixes are more problematic to the desired end goal due to the difficulty in separating each piece out. The alternative being considered is the third approach: 1/3, 1/3, and 1/3. The cut off scores can be applied to each of the indicator scores. The consensus has been to prompt conversations about the problems vs. expose the problems. It is challenging to justify why a school who earned all ten (10) points is awarded a B letter grade. Large changes are being avoided. The need for consistency is understood, but this doesn't make sense since the old system is still being used. Suggestions made for exception clauses.

The Committee Members, Jessica Mueller, and Sean Smith discussed how there will always be anomalies in data. Consistency is informative in assisting focus on the indicators within the letter grades. If a score generates a conversation, that is a conversation worth having. A suggestion was made regarding targets within the model with clauses to explain the situation and possible anomalies. Primary concern is how to move forward from Committee discussions to field discussions and field action. Some stakeholders have communicated a preference for growing pains that result in an improved model vs. maintaining a system known to be flawed. Other stakeholders would rather stick with the current system rather than have the hard conversations. All changes would be evaluated, especially since every change can inherently cause unintended consequences. Complexities would be evaluated too. Some schools may express support for certain complexities since it personally benefits their school. Offer was made to list out all the complexities to generate discussion.

The Committee Members, Jessica Mueller, and Sean Smith discussed the graduation data. The two issues with this data is the skew to the left and how graduation improvement is approached. There is a long tail in the data as well. This makes the situation all or nothing. On

Track to graduation is not part of accountability for an AOI. Graduation has historically been an issue for AOIs since students tend to go back to their schools. A suggestion was made to evaluate the types of AOIs and their associated graduation rates due to the possibility of bias in the data. It is not desired for schools to classify themselves as "alternative" to avoid being calculated differently.

Jessica Mueller continued to present letter grade indicators for SY2022-23 and grades K-8. There is some alignment with summative and indicator letter grades. Sean Smith stated that the challenge is how to navigate the changes while also maintaining consistency to correct the system.

Committee Member, Jessica Mueller, and Sean Smith discussed objectives for a future agenda item and/or clarification.

A Committee Member mentioned evaluating the previously identified targets from years past to determine if they are still applicable.

Sean Smith shared that ambitious targets can be set, as long as, schools can rely on preservation via safety nets. This way, schools do not need to fear ambitious goals being too ambitious.

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

A Committee Member requested a high level summary of Accountability Appeal data. This information may provide guidance regarding ambiguous areas for school.

Jessica Mueller, Research and Data Analyst for the State Board of Education, shared that the SBE will be updated to receive public comments. This will allow the SBE and TACs to receive feedback about the A-F model. A future agenda item will be dedicated to reviewing the received comments.

Yassin Fahmy, Senior Data Analyst for the Arizona Department of Education, stated that the ADE is working on the second version of the static file with Growth and MSA results. Any corrections made so far should be included in the new version. Schools should communicate any discrepancies. By early next week, the new static file will be up and running.

Jessica Mueller made comments about the next TAC Meeting. The application for a new committee member will be considered at the next meeting and the Committee will vote.

*The Committee Meeting adjourned at 10:46am.*