

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, May 5, 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, May 2, 2025 at 12:00 PM.

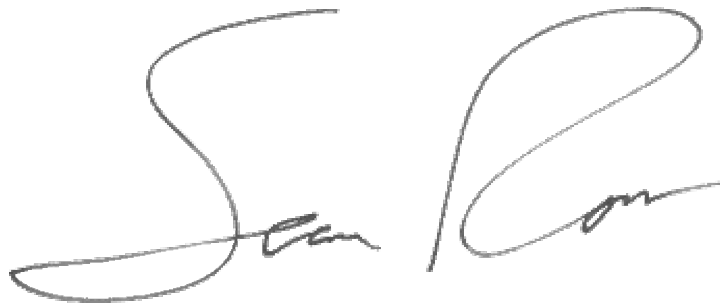
Written comments received after the deadline will not be posted and will not be provided to members.

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, May 2, 2025 at 5:00 PM.**

DATED AND POSTED this 29th day of April, 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

Sean Rickert, Chair
Jason Piontkowski, Vice Chair
David Jordan (virtual)
Debbie Penn (virtual)
Jonathan Rohloff (virtual)
Kelly Powell (virtual) – joined late at 1:45 pm
Mary Berg (absent)
Jennifer Fletcher (virtual)
Rick Guyer (virtual)
Tyson Myers
Maja Aleksic (virtual)
Janice Palmer (absent)
Christy Hovanetz (virtual)

A. Comments for the record

No written comments were received by the deadline.

Jessica Mueller, Policy and Research Administrator for the Arizona State Board of Education, presented on the request from the field to allow for virtual attendance at Committee Meetings.

Committee Members noted that the content within Committee meetings are not necessarily linear and some of the brainstorming that occurs in meetings does not necessarily come to fruition. A statement may need to be made at the beginning of meetings to clarify that just because something is discussed in Committee meetings, does not necessarily mean that it will become a recommendation to the State Board.

Sean Ross, Executive Director for the Arizona State Board of Education, agreed that having a clear explanation at the beginning of meetings would help with this concern.

Committee Members noted that overexposure may limit the generation of ideas.

Sean Ross noted that other Committees have moved to allowing virtual attendance for guests which makes it a bit difficult for this meeting alone to not allow virtual guest attendance.

Jessica noted that a letter would be provided to stakeholders regarding this change that the ideas discussed in Committee meetings are for discussion/brainstorming possibilities.

Jessica provided an update on the review of the A-F Principles of Agreement with the Board Members and an update will be provided at the June meeting. Additionally, Board Staff are working on getting guidance for Proficiency and Growth from the Board to the Committee and updates are forthcoming.

Jessica reminded Committee Members about the summer meeting calendar and asked Members to communicate their schedules to her so that quorum can be met.

2. Technical/Policy

A. UPDATED - Discussion on essential standards

Chair Rickert introduced this agenda item. Linda Burrows, Deputy Associate Superintendent of Academic Standards for the Arizona Department of Education, presented on this agenda item.

Committee Members asked where the reporting will go. Bethany Spangenberg, Deputy Associate Superintendent of Assessment at the Arizona Department of Education, responded that the reporting will be at the school and district level. There will be some cluster reporting available on this year's test but not to the same extent described because the test for this year was not developed that way.

Linda continued presenting.

Committee Members asked how the process of determining valid and reliable results was determined. Bethany responded that it is a psychometric process but it follows psychometric standards for summative assessments.

Committee Members asked about results being reported and a "level of mastery" is there a threshold for determining mastery of a standard? Linda responded that mastery is identified within the standards. Bethany noted that the cluster report will have percentages by cluster. There will not be reporting that a student has mastered a given standard. Linda noted that the Academic Standards team has gone through the standards and identified how essential standards have been identified and how the other standards support the essential standards.

Committee Members asked how the cluster report will be provided. Bethany responded that it will not be part of the Student export file, it will be an additional report.

Committee Members asked if all standards will be tested. Linda responded that all standards will be tested but essential standards will have additional questions to allow for the cluster reporting. Linda also provided clarification that the test will not increase in length.

Sean Ross explained that the test blueprint allows for a percentage range for standards and this change is shifting that percentage as high as allowable within the existing blueprint.

Committee Members expressed concern about teaching to the test with some standards having a bigger emphasis than others.

Linda noted that all standards will have questions.

Committee Members brought up a concern that calling them essential standards may be confusing because they are more so reported standards.

Bethany noted that Depth of Knowledge levels are staying the same.

Committee Members asked if the cut points for performance levels will stay the same.

Bethany responded that the other requirements for a valid and reliable assessment will stay the same.

B. UPDATED - Discussion on summative assessments

Chair Rickert introduced this agenda item. Bethany presented on this agenda item.

Committee Members asked if there is any potential to change the grade levels to be assessed. Bethany responded that would be up to conversation with the State Board in the RFP process.

Committee Members asked about the nationally recognized assessment for high school. Bethany and Sean Ross responded that that is reflected in Arizona statute for high school.

Committee Members noted that there was some conversation about a high school graduation requirement. Sean Ross responded that there has been a bill in the last three years to have the high school exam serve as a graduation requirement but that bill has not progressed. Committee Members noted that part of that not moving forward was due to the contract with the assessment provider.

Committee Members asked about Science for high school. Bethany responded that would be part of the RFP process.

Committee Members asked about the MSAA process. Bethany responded that MSAA is a bit different because it is a consortium with other states. Jessica asked if the conversation from the consortium is headed in a similar conversation as AASA. Bethany responded that MSAA partners would like the contract to look very similar to how it currently does. Bethany noted that currently we have Aspire for grade 9 but we don't currently have something similar for MSAA and that may need to be considered in the future.

Committee members noted that Aspire is not required but was added by the State Board.

C. UPDATED - Presentation and discussion on growth indicator

Chair Rickert introduced this agenda item. Sean Smith, Chief Accountability Officer for the Arizona Department of Education, presented on this agenda item.

Sean Smith explained the goal to model business rules for 24-25 with indicator scoring so that there is something to evaluate against as a way to move forward.

Sean Smith and Committee Members discussed philosophical and data issues with weighting growth by prior year proficiency performance levels.

Sean Smith shared research coming out of Wyoming related to growth and closing achievement gaps.

Committee Members discussed a growth measure where there is overall growth calculations and there could be part that is focused on lower performing students and they are combined

to create a summative growth measure.

Sean Ross noted that further conversation could be had on this topic and brought to the Board on how to ensure growth is fair to all schools but still preserves the intention to continue to focus on low-performing students.

Committee Members asked why ACT Aspire assessment is so low.

Committee Members noted the lack of buy-in for older students for assessments like Aspire.

Sean Ross summarized that the next steps to present to the Board in a study session for them to consider related to growth.

Sean Smith noted that there is also a question about if the Board is still focused on consistency or if there is some interest in making changes if there is something that shows promise outside of what is strictly consistent with the prior system.

Committee Members asked if Aspire results could be presented or reported.

Sean Smith shared that this agenda item will return in June with data analysis.

Sean Ross noted that the study session with the Board will adjust accordingly based on the Committee's schedule/needs.

3. Future Meeting Dates and Items for Future Agendas

Sean Smith reminded that the CCRI reporting portal is open.

Next Meeting is June 2nd at the Arizona Department of Education North Building.

Adjourned at 2:48pm