

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, May 5, 2025, at 09:30 A.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 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, May 2, 2025 at 12:00 PM.

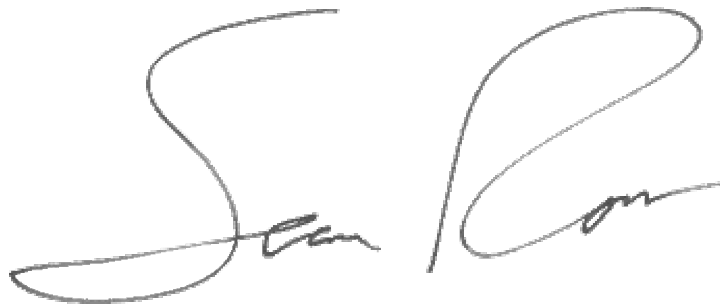
Written comments received after the deadline will not be posted and will not be provided to members.

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.

Alternative Accountability Technical Advisory Committee

by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean Ross", with a large, stylized "S" and "R".

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

1. Operational

Meeting commenced at: 9:35 AM

Binky Michelle Jones, Chair
Mary Berg, Vice Chair – left at 11:22 am
Kellie Burns, Committee Member (virtual)
Kelly Powell, Committee Member (virtual)
Sue Durkin, Committee Member (absent)
Wayne Tucker, Committee Member – late arrived at 9:36 am
Harriet Caruso, Committee Member (virtual)
Kristi Glassmeyer, Committee Member (absent)

A. UPDATED - Comments for the record

Chair Jones introduced this agenda item. One comment was received by the deadline and was shared with Committee Members.

B. Update on applications for alternative school designation 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

Chair Jones introduced this agenda item. Sean Smith, Chief Accountability Officer for the Arizona Department of Education, presented on this agenda item. The Accountability unit is conducting follow-ups for schools that were previously identified as Alternative schools but did not apply this year. Currently, there are only two schools that meet that criteria that they have not been able to contact.

Committee Members asked why the schools that missed the submission did so. Sean noted that he can follow-up on this question with more information.

2. Technical/Policy

A. Review of schools newly designated in FY25 as alternative status: 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

Chair Jones introduced this agenda item. Jessica Mueller, Policy and Research Administrator for the Arizona State Board of Education, presented on this agenda item. Jessica shared an overview of the characteristics of the schools that are new to alternative school status. Sean noted that there was a school site memo that went out in February 2024 that could have impacted some of the schools that are new to alternative school status.

Committee Members requested that the Committee go into Executive Session.

A motion was made to go into Executive Session.

Motion made by: Mary Berg

Motion seconded by: Harriet Caruso

Binky Michelle Jones - Yes

Mary Berg - Yes
Kellie Burns - Yes
Kelly Powell - Yes
Wayne Tucker - Yes
Harriet Caruso - Yes

Committee Members discussed this item in executive session.

The Committee returned from Executive Session.

Jessica summarized the conversation from the Executive Session. There is one school that will be followed up with and that there is a need to explain an alternative program at a school versus a whole school being identified as alternative.

Committee Members asked what are the next steps to address alternative schools that extend to grades lower than 9. Jessica noted that there are outstanding items to address related to self-reported data for alternative schools that serve grades K-8. This item will return to a future agenda.

B. Review of mission statements that have been rejected by ADE during alternative school designation application review: 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

Chair Jones introduced this agenda item. Sean presented on the rubric and example mission statements that have been created by the Accountability unit. Sean explained the analysis that was conducted by Tobias Butler, Director of Accountability for the Arizona Department of Education, on mission statements to create the rubric and examples presented to the Committee.

Committee Members expressed that they like the ability for ADE to use the rubric and that it provides clarity to prospective and current alternative schools.

Shannon Etz, Project Director of Constituent Services for the Arizona State Board of Education, noted that some alternative schools have previously expressed hesitation to be ultra-specific about their student population because they do not want to have a negative connotation applied to their students.

Committee Members asked the timeline to provide this information to the public. Sean noted that the Accountability unit wanted feedback from this Committee and then wanted to utilize it to follow-up with schools that applied for FY26.

Jessica asked if describing students as “vulnerable” as opposed to “at-risk” or other more specific terms might be better.

Committee Members asked for the rubric to note “at-risk, underserved, or vulnerable” and to add bullet points saying students may be overage or under-credited.

Sean summarized feedback the Accountability unit will incorporate into the rubric.

Committee Members asked if having four rubric categories makes it more complicated than it needs to be.

Shannon asked if the contents of the rubric could be maintained but the separation of categories 3 and 4 be removed and keep both examples. Committee Members felt that having the differentiation between categories 1 and 2 would be helpful.

Committee Members asked for next steps. Sean explained that for FY26, all mission statements will be reviewed with the goal being that in FY27, schools that do not have changes can be more automated and schools that may be serving alternative schools but might not know about alternative school status can be contacted.

Committee Members suggested adding bullet points that may apply to 6-8 students as well.

Committee Members noted that “under-served” may not be particularly descriptive and may be misunderstood.

Sean asked if in the interim before the next meeting if mission statements can be sent to Committee Members to see their scoring. Committee Members confirmed they can do that.

C. Update on modeling for identifying schools that meet alternative schools criteria

Chair Jones introduced this agenda item. Tobias presented on this agenda item.

Tobias asked what fiscal year data should be utilized. Committee Members noted that pulling more recent data should not create any issues for a true alternative school. The characteristics that identify a student as alternative show up regardless of when the data snapshot is taken.

Jessica suggested using prior years’ alternative status to conduct a test on the outcome when data is pulled at different points in time.

Committee Members suggest Tobias pull the data as of May 1 and see what the data looks like.

Tobias asked the Committee’s thoughts on looking at students enrolled in the current year and looking at their prior year history versus looking at students enrolled in the prior year. Committee Members suggested comparing the two data sets. Committee Members expressed that student characteristic data should be used prior to academic data. Tobias will return with more specific examples in the next meeting.

Tobias and Committee Members discussed student mobility based on different enrollments a student has. Committee Members asked that FAY status be identified in that analysis.

Sean asked that if potential data points come to mind for Committee Members that it be shared with the Accountability unit.

D. Presentation and discussion on growth indicator

Chair Jones introduced this agenda item. Jessica presented on this agenda item. Sean presented on this agenda item.

Committee Members asked about conditional scoring. Jessica and Sean responded that it would be specific to alternative schools.

Shannon and Committee Members discussed how the public could engage in the indicator scores if they are split out. Committee Members discussed that splitting out the indicators for Growth to Graduation for indicator scoring would be more transparent to the public.

Sean explained that next steps are to create a model for 24-25 for internal use to understand how indicator scoring would look for schools.

Committee Members noted that indicators that are shared across models (EL, CCRI, etc.) could create confusion for the public if they are scored just against schools within their own model. Sean and Committee Members noted that this would need to be a future discussion with all Technical Advisory Committee meetings.

3. Future Meeting Dates and Items for Future Agendas

Jessica noted that the AATAC asked for more guidance from the State Board on scoring for proficiency and growth. Jessica noted that that will be forth-coming potentially as a study session.

The next meeting will take place on June 2nd at the Arizona Department of Education North Building.

Meeting adjourned at 11:37 am.