



## Arizona State Board of Education

1700 W. Washington Street  
Executive Tower, Suite 300  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007  
(602) 542-5057  
FAX (602) 542-3046  
[azsbe.az.gov](http://azsbe.az.gov)  
[inbox@azsbe.az.gov](mailto:inbox@azsbe.az.gov)

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### **State Board of Education's Executive Director Announces Transition**

Dr. Karol Schmidt, the Executive Director for the State Board of Education, has announced that after two years of service, she has made the decision to transition out of her role as Executive Director this fall.

During her tenure, the Board enacted a new A-F school accountability system recognized by the Fordham Institute as one of the best in the nation, adopted revised and enhanced academic standards aimed at increasing the proficiency of Arizona students, initiated reforms on K-3 reading policies that maximize the early literacy outcomes of students, and implemented important changes to educator protocols that keep classrooms safe.

She noted that it has been a privilege and an honor to have been selected to serve as the Executive Director of the State Board of Education and to assist its work on behalf of the students, teachers, administrators, parents and communities of Arizona.

"During the past two years, the Board has returned as a driving catalyst in developing K-12 educational policy. The timing is appropriate for me to make a transition to accept new challenges and opportunities that promote the educational and economic prosperity of Arizona. I strongly encourage individuals passionate about the success of our K-12 education system to apply," Dr. Schmidt stated.

The State Board of Education is created by the Arizona Constitution and charged with the responsibility of regulating the conduct of the K-12 public school system. In addition to its general regulatory responsibilities, Arizona law charges the Board with numerous other duties. The primary powers and duties of the Board are articulated in A.R.S. § 15-203. It is composed of eleven members and is served by a six member staff with a budget of approximately \$1.1 million.

The Board has initiated the process of recruiting applicants, and anticipates interviewing candidates in September. Interested individuals may submit applications through the State of Arizona's jobsite at <http://www.hr.az.gov/AZStateJobs/>

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*Board Members:* **President: Tim Carter**    **Vice President: Luke Narducci**  
**Superintendent of Public Instruction: Diane Douglas**  
**Calvin Baker**    **Dr. Rita H. Cheng**    **Janice Mak**  
**Jared Taylor**    **Dr. Daniel Corr**    **Michele Kaye**    **Patricia Welborn**  
*Executive Director:* **Dr. Karol Schmidt**