
COALITION CORNER

Monthly Newsletter of the Arizona Coalition of School Board Members

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National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

This month, the National Assessment of Educational Progress, or NAEP, was released for the first time since 2019. Across the nation, reading and math scores plummeted as a result of online learning. Arizona students were middle of the pack in a nationwide decline. The state's scoring revealed severe learning losses in math but only nominal losses in reading.

Click [here](#) to see the Arizona Report Card.

The NAEP showed historically low levels in Mathematics in particular. In eighth grade math, scores fell by 8 points, bringing student performance to a level not seen since 2000. The share of students deemed proficient dropped from 34% to 26%. Fourth grade math scores, meanwhile, fell by 5 points, similar to 2003 levels.

In reading, scores fell by 3 points in both fourth and eighth grade. Proficiency dipped from 35% to 33% in grade four and 34% to 31% in grade eight. Overall, reading scores were at the same level as in 1992, the first year of the exams.

The declines don't mean that students failed to learn anything or forgot things they already knew between 2019 and 2022. Rather, students did learn over that period, but progressed at slower rates than their peers had in prior years.

To read more about the NAEP release, click [here](#).

Join us for our upcoming events!



19th: New School Board Member Orientation (10 AM - 2 PM)

Save the Date: New School Board Member Orientation

Join Pam Kirby for New School Board Member Orientation! Topics include setting an agenda, board policy creation and discussion, budgeting, and more. While this training is directed at our newly elected school board members, all are welcome to attend. This training will occur on Zoom. There will be two more orientation sessions (in person) in February!

Sign up to attend on the member event page or click [here](#)!

New Law Spotlight

HB 2086

DHS; SCHOOL IMMUNIZATIONS; EXCLUSIONS

An immunization against COVID-19 or any variant of COVID-19 is not required for school attendance. An immunization must be prescribed by a rule adopted by the Department of Health Services before the immunization may be required for in-person school attendance.

Highlights:

- There has been a lot of conversation surrounding the COVID-19 vaccine because of the CDC decision to add it to the list of vaccines suggested for school attendance. This law, chaptered in A.R.S. 36-672, prevents Arizona schools from requiring the COVID-19 vaccine or any of its variants from being required for in-person instruction.

Click [here](#) to read the full text of the bill. Thank you to Representative Osborne for running this bill!



Discussion: Title IX

Training, Tricks, and Tools

Did you miss our discussion on Title IX? The recorded video is now available on the Resources section in the Member's Portal.

You can find the video and PowerPoint by clicking [here](#).



Policy Book

Updated Policies

Our policies have been updated to reflect the laws passed in the 2022 Legislative Session. Additionally, there are a few new policies in their entirety.

In the updated document, you will find a short description of which bills caused the change and a red-lined update of the policy. The full document of our policy book is being updated with the new changes. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Katie by clicking [here](#).

Click [here](#) to view our updated Policies



How to Get Involved

Next Steps

Now that you are a member, you may be wondering what the next steps are to help us put students first. We want to help make that easy for you!



Attend a Training

We have a variety of trainings coming up over the next few months. Sign up to attend on the member event page or click [here](#)! Remember, our training events are for our members. If you have friends who are interested in a training, please have them contact Katie at Katie@azcoalition.org!



Review Our Model Policies

If you are looking for policies to present at/to your school board on important issues like Parental Rights and Curriculum Transparency, search no further! Our policies are compliant with statute. We will be providing an updated version shortly, as the session has finally ended! Click [here](#) to view.



Sign Up for an Account on RTS

Request To Speak (RTS) is a system utilized by the Arizona Legislature to support or oppose bills as they go through the legislative process. RTS is an online, thumbs up, thumbs down system where you can express your support or opposition to a bill. please sign up by clicking [here](#)!