

COALITION CORNER

Monthly Newsletter of the Arizona Coalition of School Board Members

NEWS & FEATURES

December Training Wrap Up

PAGE 1

Upcoming Events

PAGE 2

Active Member Profile:
Bryan Parks

PAGE 3

Associate Member
Profile: Geraldine Kleber

PAGE 4

Policy Spotlight

PAGE 5

Tools, Tips, and Tricks

PAGE 6

Quarantine Opinion

PAGE 7

How to Get Involved

PAGE 8



December Training

BY KATIE WARD

Our inaugural training event this month was incredible! The work that all of you do speaks to the passion for this organization's mission - putting students first. I enjoyed meeting all of you and discussing how we can work to make Arizona education stronger! You can find pictures from the event [here](#). PowerPoints and information from our speakers are located in the member portal in the Resources section!

I look forward to announcing our Spring training soon. We hope to see you there!

Join us for our upcoming events!

JANUARY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

6th: Training: Accessing your District's Academic Data (7 PM)

12th: The Coalition Call with Laura Zorc (7 PM)

20th: Training: Accessing your District's Academic Data (7 PM)

FEBRUARY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

10th: Training: Using Audit Reports (7 PM)

24th: Training: Using Audit Reports (7 PM)

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



Active Member Profile: Bryan Parks

"I will be using the vast resources the Coalition provides to build the toolset I will need to completely remove the social indoctrination that has made it into our schools."

Bryan Parks

**ON WHAT HE IS LOOKING
FORWARD TO MOST BY
JOINING THE COALITION**

Q: How long have you been a school board member?

A: I was appointed a vacant seat on the Liberty 25 Board by Maricopa County Superintendent Steve Watson 3 months ago till the end of 2022. I am currently running to maintain the seat.

Q: What is your top priority as a Board Member?

A: My top priorities are Transparency and Parental Rights.

Q: How do you work to put Students First in your capacity as a board member?

A: The students are the only reason I am on the Board! For every agenda item that comes across my desk, I ask the question, "how will this affect the student"? For example, I have put procedures with the Superintendent that allow only "extenuating circumstances" for a teacher's resignation during the school year.

Q: What is something you would like our members to know about you?

A: I am 56 years old, married with five children, two of which are 5th graders at EMES in the Liberty School District. I am an entrepreneur with success in building high tech businesses and want to take that experience and apply it

to the public school system. Integrity is essential to drive high standards and competition, creating a winning school model.

Q: I know you have a real-life example of putting students first in your time on the board - can you discuss that a little bit?

A: Recently the ASBA sent a policy change to the board to remove board oversight on supplemental educational materials. I tabled the policy change, then modified the policy that will require board approval and requires all educational materials to be placed on the district website. As a board member, my job is to ensure that every new and revised policy be placed under extreme scrutiny. Any policy change on the agenda is an excellent opportunity to add language that supports the students' and your constituents' best interests.



Associate Member Profile: Geraldine Kleber

Q: What got you involved in the Vail School Board conversations?

A: We moved to Vail in December of 2019. When I lived in Wisconsin, I was very involved with the schools and the board. But since we were new here when Covid closed down our country, I didn't get to attend any meetings for a while. In November of 2019, I found out that the meetings were open to the public, so I showed up. I spoke at that meeting, asking for schools to open back up, as my child with special needs was suffering too much, and I was not a very good paraprofessional to help her with school work. Since that first time, I have attended all but two meetings. I have also participated in all town halls and even met with the superintendent a few times.

Q: How have you been able to have productive conversations and make changes at your local board?

A: Yes, I believe I have. I have spoken at many meetings and have even written to the board. I have received emails from all the board members. I talk to them after meetings, and I even have sat down with one multiple times during the year. I know that people say they have had a hard time communicating with our board, but respect and courtesy go a long way toward having productive conversations.

"I am a momma bear, and I have always been. I have advocated for my children since they were born. I will do anything for them."

Geraldine Kleber
**ON WHAT SHE WANTS
MEMBERS TO KNOW ABOUT
HER**

Q: Why are you passionate about The Coalition's mission to put students first?

A: I believe that our school districts have moved away from students first, and the more we stray from that, the worse schools will become. I have always advocated for my children and feel that the districts they have attended in their tenure have been wonderful. But I see some teachers in our country straying a bit from students being #1. I have not encountered much of that with my children's teachers, but I have heard some teachers have become Social Justice Warriors in our district.

Q: What is your favorite book?

A: The Outsiders. I read it when I was learning English (I grew up in Argentina), and I found it so intriguing that I could not put it down! I still love it!

Q: Is there anything else you want to tell me?

I love glitter!! Anything sparkly catches my eye, I have to have it!!! I have over 1000 different glitters in my glitter collection.



Policy Spotlight

Policy Objectives: It is the intent of the governing board to ensure that all curriculum meet rigorous expectations of academic quality and political impartiality. Curriculum Policy design should promote transparency in all areas.

Teachers should be encouraged to supplement classroom instruction with effective educational resources, collaborating among its educators. Parental awareness of the materials and activities used in instruction should be prioritized with an adoption of an academic transparency procedures.

The board, in consultation with parents, teachers and administrators, shall develop and adopt a policy to promote a curriculum policy for all schools within the district, including the following objectives:

A. Each school operated by [the district] shall prominently list on a publicly accessible portion of its website:

- All learning materials and activities that were used for student instruction at the school during the most recently completed school year, organized at a minimum by subject area and grade.
- The procedures in effect for the documentation, review, or approval of learning materials and activities used for student instruction at the school organizations, excluding student presentations.

B. A school shall be required to list only the information necessary to identify the specific learning materials and activities used for instruction, including the title and the author, organization, or internet address associated with each material and activity. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require either:

- The digital reproduction of the materials themselves, nor
- The separate reporting of individual components of materials produced as a single volume, except that for digital volumes containing works by multiple authors, the school shall provide either a table of contents or internet address that discloses the discreet works and authors contained within the volume.

C. For each school, the principal or another site administrator designated in writing by the superintendent shall annually report to the superintendent whether the information listed pursuant to paragraph A accurately reflects the learning materials, activities, and procedures employed at the school.

D. The superintendent shall develop a template, subject to approval by the board, to be available for use at each school to report the information required pursuant to paragraph A. The template may, but is not required to, utilize collaborative online document or spreadsheet software that allows multiple authorized users to update or make additions to posted content on an ongoing basis.

E. The listing of materials for each school year shall remain available via the school website until at least the completion of the following year's listing.

- The learning materials and activities that were used for student instruction at the school during the most recently completed school year, organized at a minimum by subject area and grade.
- The procedures in effect for the documentation, review, or approval of learning materials and activities used for student instruction at the school.

*This is not legal advice. Please consult with a lawyer regarding legal questions.



Tools, Tips, and Tricks

In the 2020 Arizona Legislative Session, the Legislature passed Senate Bill (SB) 1061, which the Governor signed on June 5, 2020, establishing the Parents' Bill of Rights.

SB 1061 established ARS § 15- 249.16, which requires the Arizona Department of Education to establish and post a statutory handbook of parental rights.

A few highlights:

ARS 15-102 A: The governing board, in consultation with parents, teachers and administrators, shall develop and adopt a policy to promote the involvement of parents and guardians of children enrolled in the schools within the school district

ARS 15-730: On written request, school personnel designated by the governing board shall permit parents or guardians access to instructional materials currently used by or being considered for use by the school district.

You can read the Parents' Bill of Rights in it entirety by clicking [here](#)!



Update on Required Quarantines

Senator Kelly Townsend requested an opinion from Attorney General Brnovich on whether A.R.S. § 36-789(M) applies to isolated or quarantined students sent home from a school due to potential exposure to COVID-19. As you may know, many school districts in the state require unvaccinated students who come into "close contact" with COVID-19 to quarantine for ten days.

AG Brnovich has issued an opinion on the issue - if your child is sent home to quarantine when school resumes because of possible exposure to COVID-19, you have the right to challenge that in court, AND the state even will pay for your lawyer. Anyone ordered isolated or quarantined can go to court to demand to be released from the restrictions.

The court must hold a hearing within 24 hours and issue a decision within 48 hours. According to the opinion, "The language in A.R.S. § 36-789(M) unambiguously provides that the court shall appoint counsel at state expense in any of those circumstances, and **there is no exception** that would apply where a school district enforces a quarantine requirement enacted by a local health department pursuant to A.R.S. § 36-788."

Those of you who attended our inaugural training event earlier this month were able to hear about the implications of this statute from Alexander Kolodin in his discussion about parental rights in education. Thank you, Alex, for keeping us informed of our rights!



YOU CAN READ AG BRNOVICH'S ENTIRE OPINION [HERE!](#)



How to Get Involved

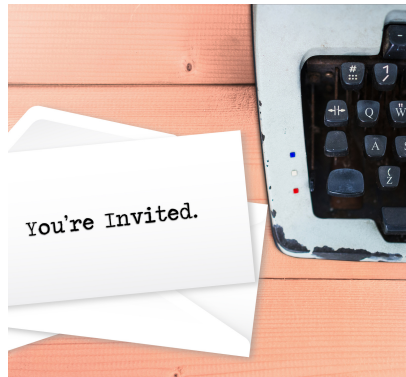
Next Steps

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!



Invite your Friends

Our members will be at the forefront of the mission to put Students First. When the legislature is called in to session in January, we want our members to be ready to support policy that aligns with our mission.



Write a Letter to the Editor

If you are interested in writing a letter to the editor in your local paper, please contact Katie at Katie@azcoalition.org. She will help you find your local paper and identify how to submit a letter. We would love to have you support The Coalition in your communities!