

ASBA EQUITY WEBINAR SERIES

RURAL & REMOTE SCHOOLS

Advancing Equity Through Deeper Learning





TODAY'S DISCUSSION

TOPIC OUTLINE

- What is a rural or remote school?
- What are the assets of rural school districts?
- What are the challenges?
- Why rural schools should matter to all Arizonans
- Q&A
- Resources & recommendation

MEET THE PANELISTS

- TRACEY BENSON, ASSOC. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ASBA
- HOSTED BY: NIKKIE WHALEY, BOARD SUPPORT SPECIALIST, ASBA



WHITNEY CROW

Superintendent
Mohave Valley ESD



MELISSA SADORF

Superintendent
Stanfield ESD



KRISTIN TURNER

Superintendent
Paloma ESD

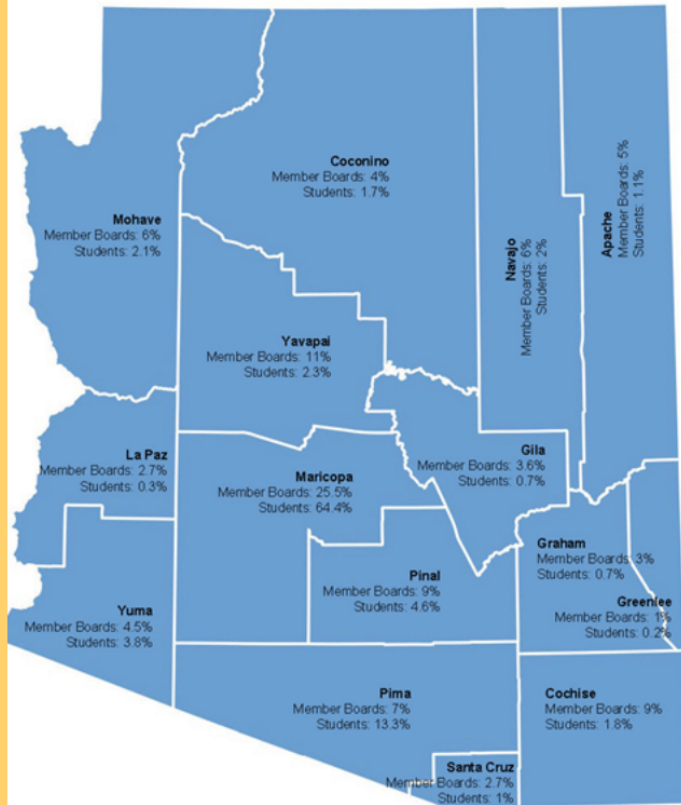


WHAT IS A RURAL / REMOTE

- **NON-URBAN (U.S.CENSUS)**
 - LESS THAN 50K RESIDENTS
- **NON-METRO AREA COUNTIES (U.S. DEPT. OF AG)**
 - OPEN COUNTRY SIDE
 - TOWNS WITH FEWER THAN 2,500 RESIDENTS
 - POPULATION OF 2,500-49,999 THAT ARE NOT CONNECTED TO METRO AREAS
- **ASBA RURAL & REMOTE DISTRICTS**
 - 60-65% SELF REPORT AS RURAL OR REMOTE

Arizona Counties

with % of ASBA District Boards and % of Statewide Students



THE LAY OF THE LAND

% OF ASBA DISTRICTS AND AZ STUDENTS BY COUNTY

- Apache.....(5% / 1.1%)
- Cochise.....(9% / 1.8%)
- Coconino.....(4% / 1.7%)
- Gila.....(3.6% / 0.7%)
- Graham.....(3% / 0.7%)
- Greenlee.....(1% / 0.2%)
- La Paz.....(2.7% / 0.3%)
- Maricopa.....(25.5% / 64.4%)
- Mohave.....(6% / 2.1%)
- Navajo.....(6% / 2%)
- Pima.....(7% / 13.3%)
- Pinal.....(9% / 4.6%)
- Santa Cruz.....(2.7% / 1%)
- Yuma.....(4.5% / 3.8%)

64%

64% OF ARIZONA STUDENTS LIVE
INSIDE MARICOPA COUNTY.

75%

75% OF ARIZONA SCHOOL
DISTRICTS ARE **OUTSIDE**
MARICOPA COUNTY

330,000+

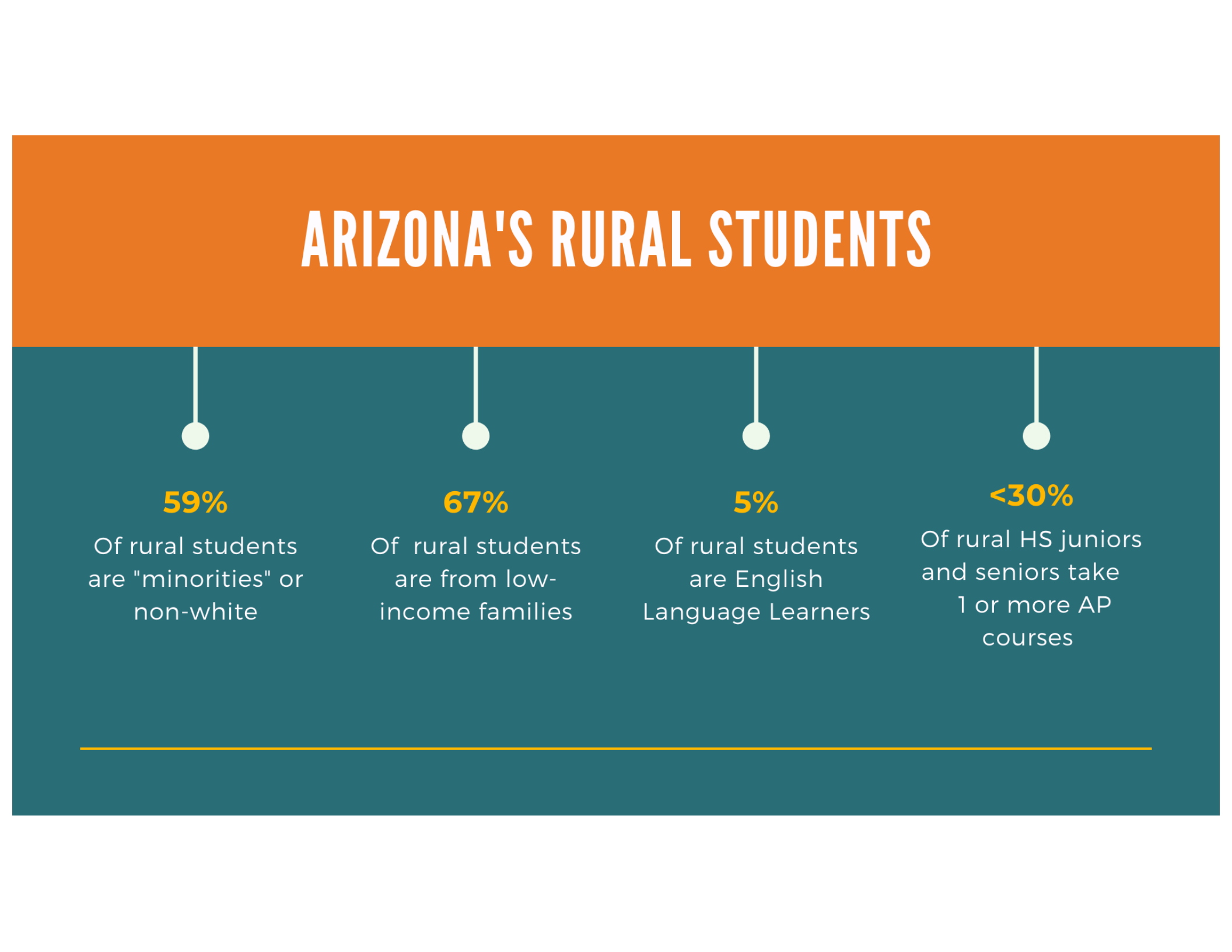
330,000+ STUDENTS LIVE OUTSIDE
MARICOPA COUNTY

More than 30% of Arizona's K-12 students live outside of Maricopa county,...

Many of those students attend rural or remote district schools.



ARIZONA'S RURAL STUDENTS



59%

Of rural students
are "minorities" or
non-white

67%

Of rural students
are from low-
income families

5%

Of rural students
are English
Language Learners

<30%

Of rural HS juniors
and seniors take
1 or more AP
courses

ASSETS OF RURAL SCHOOLS



Community



Relationships



Student Body



School Hub

Challenges of Rural Schools



INFRASTRUCTURE

Roads, Broadband,
Bonds/Overrides



ACCESS

Programs, Partners,
Resources



AMENITIES

Housing, shopping and
entertainment to attract
and retain teachers/staff



Q & A

Questions for our panel

RECOMMENDATIONS



ENGAGE LOCALLY

Maximize the talent and resources of your local community.

CONNECT REGIONALLY

Utilize your county superintendent and neighbor districts to discuss strategy and share resources.

LEVERAGE STATE RESOURCES

State departments like ADE, DHHS and associations like ASBA, AzSCA, and state colleges all have low or no cost training or support.

ADVOCATE

Use your voice to spotlight issues with your state and federal representatives.



RURAL FOCUS ADVOCACY DAY

MONDAY, FEB. 17 | 9 AM - 12 PM | STATE CAPITOL

Join colleagues from across the state to focus on the needs and challenges of rural and remote public schools.



ASBA
Arizona School Boards Association



RURAL FOCUS SAVE THE DATE

MONDAY, FEB. 17 | 9 AM - 12 PM | STATE CAPITOL

FREE EVENT AND LUNCH IS PROVIDED

Learn about what's developing in the 2020 Legislative Session, meet with your legislators to advocate for your school district and attend a House Education committee hearing!

This event is open to board members, superintendents and other public education advocates. More information will be available at azsba.org/events.

ASBA Rural Alliance



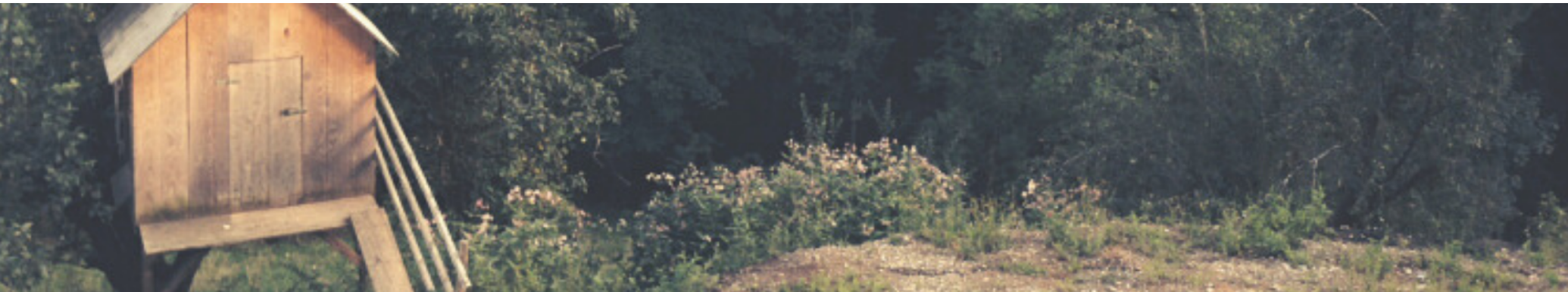
Join
Today!



The ASBA Rural Alliance will work to cultivate excellence in locally governed school districts, with a focus on:

- **Networking opportunities** to encourage positive, effective relationships and collaborative efforts among leaders of rural and remote school districts.
- **Collective and strategic advocacy and member education** to improve opportunities and outcomes for students in rural Arizona.
- **Ensuring representation** by rural and remote leaders within the governance of the ASBA.

[HTTPS://AZSBA.ORG/RURALALLIANCE/](https://azsba.org/ruralalliance/)



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