



Serving on Your Local School Board

YOUR PRESENTERS



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WEBINAR OVERVIEW

Think Abouts

Who is ASBA?

Our Services

Legal Basis for School Boards

Eligibility to Run

Basics of Board Service

Teamwork

Power and Authority

Ethics for School Board

Members

Get Started!

New Board Member Orientation

TODAY'S CONTENT

THINK ABOUT...

**Do you have a vision
and goals that will
enable student
success in your
school district?**



ASBA KEY FUNCTIONS



Training and
Leadership
Development



Representation and
Advocacy



Services and
Resources

What We Do For Our Members...

Training and Leadership Development

- Conferences
- Workshops
- Free Webinars
- Board Self Evaluation
- Superintendent Evaluation

Representation and Advocacy

- Local, State and Federal Advocacy
- State Board of Education
- Arizona Department of Education
- Legal Issues

Products and Services

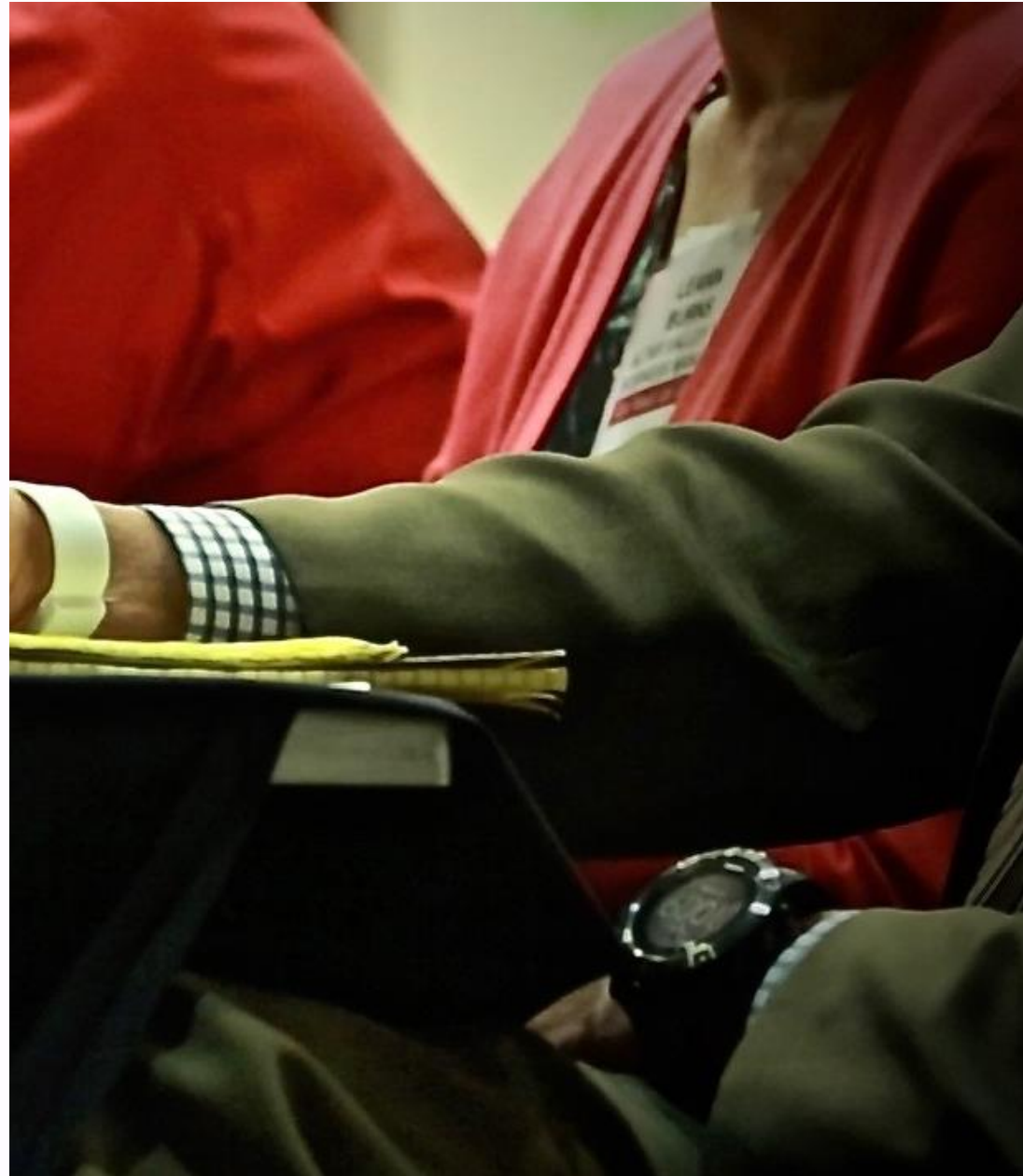
- Policy Services
- Superintendent Search
- Customized Trainings
- Employee Handbook

“

You should absolutely get involved, especially those local politics like school board seats. That's really where America happens.

-Dan Crenshaw

LEGAL BASIS OF SCHOOL BOARDS



- School districts are political subdivisions of the state possessing only the authority granted to them in statute by the legislature
- Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) give certain powers to the governing board as a body.
- No authority is given to individual board members by statute.
- A board's power is through majority votes at the board table.
- A.R.S. § 15-341 outlines general powers and duties.
- A.R.S. § 15-342 outlines discretionary powers.

ELIGIBILITY TO RUN

Board members must be:

- A resident of the district (at least one year prior to the date of the election)
- A registered voter

Board members cannot:

- Be employed by the district (or have spouse or dependent employed by district)
- Serve simultaneously on more than one school board
- If serving on a five-member board, have lived with an immediate family member within the last four years
- In Maricopa and Pima counties with districts of more than 250 students, have more than two related (within third degree) members serve on the same board



Basics of Board Service

1

FOUR YEAR TERMS

There may also be two-year terms on the ballot depending on your school district.

2

VOLUNTEER POSITION

If elected term begins January 1 of the following calendar year.

3

ELECTIONS IN EVEN NUMBERED YEARS

Nonpartisan Seats--no primaries.

4

VACANCIES FILLED BY THE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS



FIVE PILLARS OF BOARD SERVICE

- **CONDUCT AND ETHICS**
- **VISION**
- **STRUCTURE**
- **ACCOUNTABILITY**
- **ADVOCACY**

THINK ABOUT...

Are you willing to actively work to inspire students, parents and other stakeholders to have confidence in your school district?



WHY SCHOOL BOARDS MATTER

Your local school board makes decisions that...

- Affect virtually every important aspect of the local schools.
- Determine how your community's children are educated.
- Support teaching and learning and ensure student achievement.
- Determine how tax dollars are spent.





Why School Boards Matter

The behavior and attitude of board members affects the reputation of the entire school district.

The board's decisions impact:

- Students and their families
- School district employees
- The economic well-being of the community and the quality of life in its neighborhoods



THINK ABOUT...

**Do you understand
your focus as a board
member will be on
the "big picture" and
not the day-to-day
operations of the
district?**



Leadership Team Roles...

Board

- Role is to govern
- Evaluates and supervises the superintendent
- Sets direction
- Adopts policies and budget
- Monitors progress on strategic goals

Accountable to
the community

Superintendent

- Role is to manage
- Oversees the day-to-day operations of the school district
- Implements policies set by the board
- Develops plans to meet the strategic goals

Accountable to
the board

THINK ABOUT...

Are you committed to focusing on a multitude of district issues, rather than one single issue?



SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

THE BOARD AND THE SUPERINTENDENT...

Understand
and respect
each others'
role.

Partner
together to
provide the
tools needed
for student
success.

Communicate
frequently
and in both
directions.

Demonstrate
support, do
not spring
surprises.

TEAM SUCCESS = DISTRICT SUCCESS

IN THE BOARD ROOM...



- **The power/authority of school boards happens when there is a quorum of members at a publicly noticed meeting.**
- **Meetings are used to have discussion around agenda items, to vote on agenda items and to listen to information that will help members make decisions.**
- **Once the board votes on an item, board members support the will of the majority.**

OUTSIDE OF THE BOARD ROOM...

Board Members

- No "official" power
- Can be a great ambassador or undermine the district

Superintendents

- Significant responsibility to run district operations

THINK ABOUT...

Are you committed
to doing what is best
for all students, even
in the face of
opposition?



Rewards of Board Service

IMPACT ON STUDENT
SUCCESS

SERVING YOUR
COMMUNITY

CIVIL, ROBUST
DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

PERSONAL GROWTH

STUDENTS THRIVING

A PLATFORM FOR
ADVOCACY

BUILDING
RELATIONSHIPS

STAFF SUCCESSES

- File a Statement of Interest with the county superintendent (A.R.S. §16-311H)
- Pick up an information packet from the county superintendent of schools.
(www.azsba.org/becoming-a-board-member/)
- Collect signatures. (signature requirements can be found on your county school superintendent's website)
- File a campaign committee organization statement with the county elections office when combined revenue and expenses reach \$1300.00.
- File signatures pages and forms with the county superintendent of schools. (June 11-July 11, 2022)
- Run your campaign.

How Do I Get Started?

*The decision is made by the voters
in your school district.*

NEW BOARD MEMBER ORIENTATION

Wednesday, Dec. 14, 2022
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
JW Marriott Desert Ridge



MARK
YOUR
CALENDAR!!



CONTACT INFORMATION

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