



Serving on Your Local School Board



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Webinar Overview

- Think About
- Who is ASBA?
- The Job of a County Superintendent
- Legal Basis of School Boards
- Eligibility to Run

- Basics of Board Service
- Teamwork
- Power and Authority
- Ethics
- Get Started!
- Resources

Think About...

*Do you have a
vision for student
success?*

The Value of Membership



Training and Leadership Development

Conferences, workshops, free webinars, board self-evaluation, superintendent evaluation, Phone-A-Friend consultation

Representation and Advocacy

Local, state and federal advocacy, State Board of Education, Arizona Department of Education, legal issues impacting education

Products and Services

Policy services, superintendent search, on-site customized trainings, employee handbook, customer service training

County Superintendent

OUR MISSION

The Yavapai County Education Service Agency provides quality leadership, services, and support in response to identified and anticipated needs that will ensure the highest quality education for students.

WE BELIEVE

- In being responsive to the needs of schools
- In the benefits of partnership and collaboration
- That organizational and personal excellence depends on continuous improvement
- Quality service to education requires the highest level of honesty and integrity
- Education is the single most important aspect in which any society can engage

Network with schools and districts throughout the county, paying attention to individual and common needs and goals.

Listen

Develop projects, programs, and partnerships to provide solutions and enhance resources.

Innovate

Provide assistance, support and leadership to effect quality education opportunity for all students.

Serve





**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:

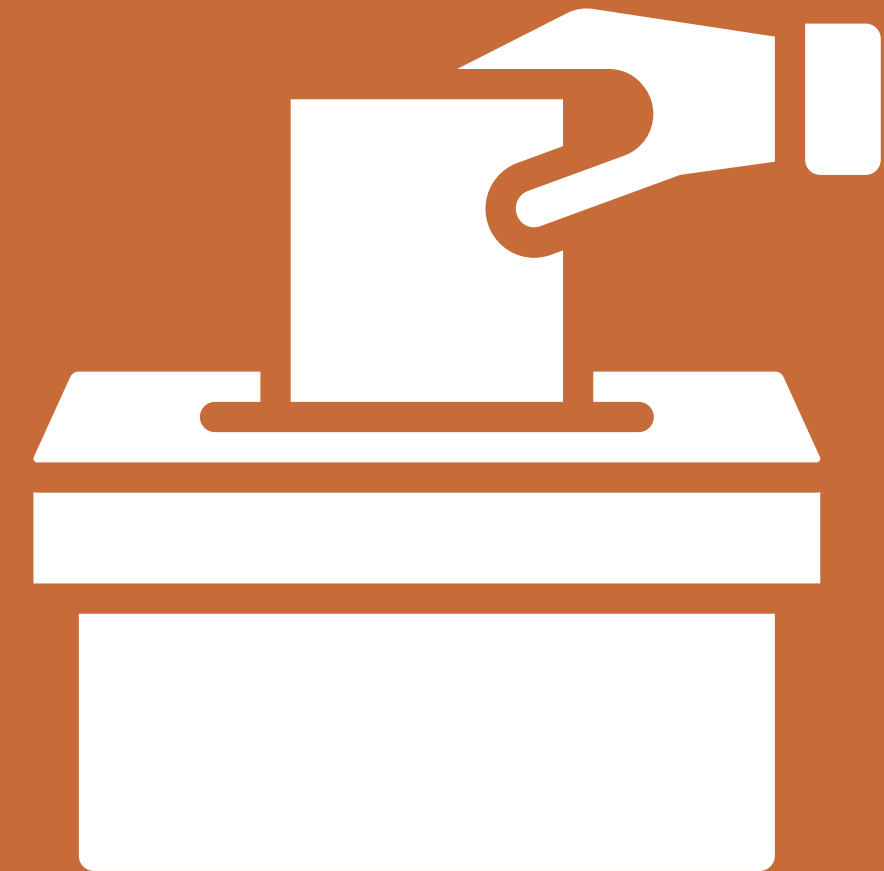
- A resident of the district (at least one year prior to the date of the election)
- A registered voter
- Be 18 years of age
- A U.S. citizen
- Possess your civil rights

Board members cannot:

- Be employed by the district (or have a spouse/spouse of a third-party provider or dependent employed by the 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, more than two related (within third-degree) members serve on the same board

Basics of Board Service

- Four-year terms although some may be two-year depending on the district
- Community college seats are six-year terms
- Elections in general election, even-numbered years
- Volunteer position
- Vacancies filled by county superintendent or by special election



Think About...

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

SCHOOL BOARDS MATTER



They affect virtually every important aspect of local schools and determine how the community's children are educated



Support and improve teaching and learning in the community's schools.



Determine how tax dollars are spent.

SCHOOL BOARDS MATTER



The behaviors and attitudes of board members affect the reputation of the entire school district.



Board members represent district stakeholders and are the voice of the community.

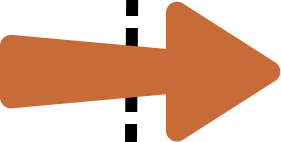
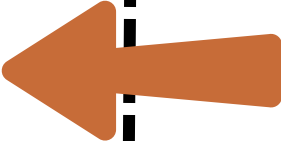
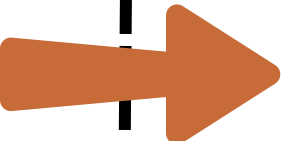
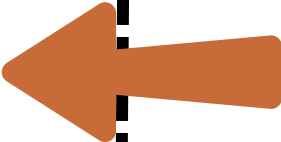


The economic well-being of the community and the quality of life in its neighborhoods are impacted.

Think About...

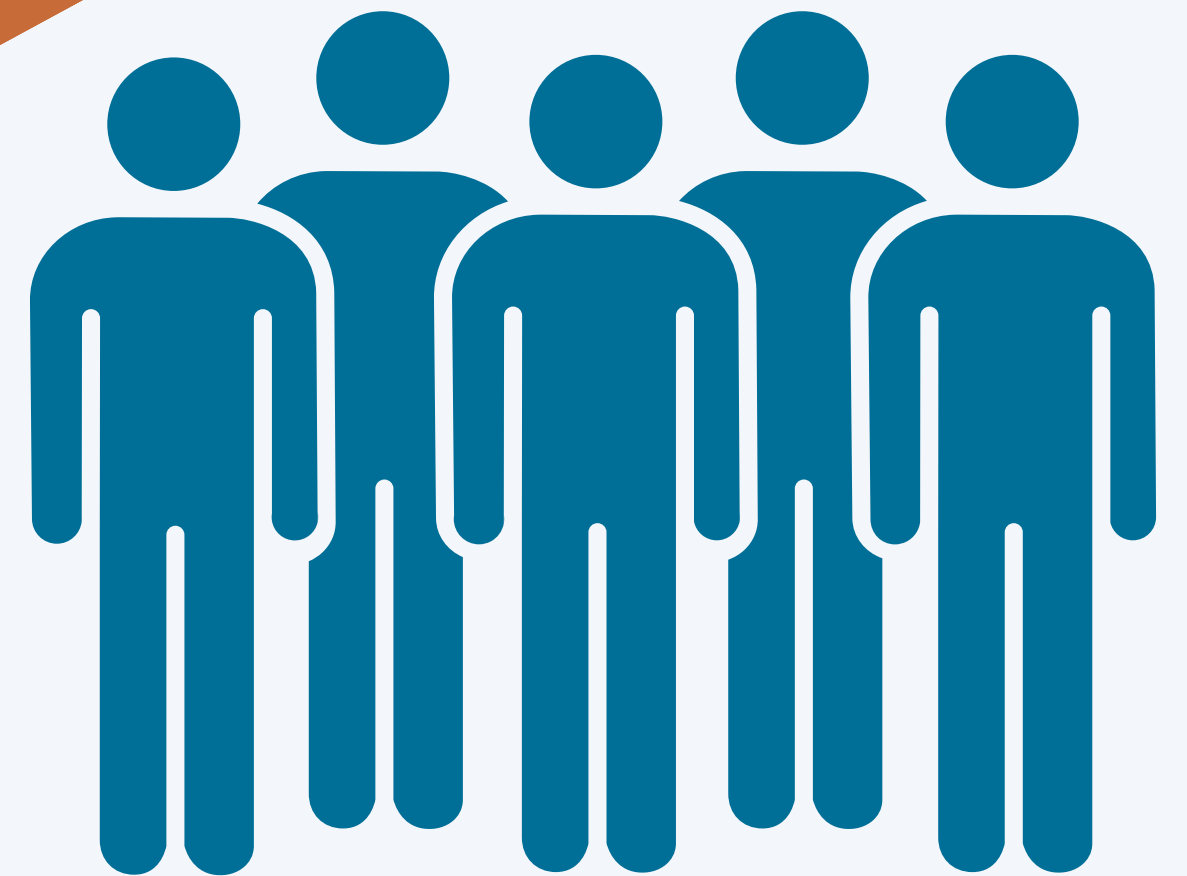
Do you understand that your focus will be on the “big picture” and not the day-to-day operations of the district?

A Relationship of Trust

The Board		The Superintendent
Why? What? How much?	 	How? When? Where? Who?
Vision Mission Goals Policies Monitor Vote	 	Objectives Action Plans Regulations Procedures Implement Recommend

In the Board Room

- The power/authority of school boards happens when there is a quorum of members acting on a duly posted agenda 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.



Power v. Influence

The legal power or legal authority of a board is only in properly noticed meetings with a quorum of board members present.



The influence you have as an individual board member is significant and that influence leads to a “perception of individual power.”

Think About...

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

How do I Get Started?

- Pick up an information packet from the county superintendent of schools. (www.azsba.org/becoming-a-board-member/)
- File a Statement of Interest with the county superintendent (A.R.S. §16-311H)
- 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 \$1400.00.
- File signature pages and forms with the county superintendent of schools. (June 8-July 8, 2024)
- Run your campaign



New Board Member Orientation

Wednesday, December 18, 2024

J.W. Marriott at Desert Ridge

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

*Mark
your
Calendar*

Thank You

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