

# A LETTER FROM ASBCS

"To improve public education in Arizona by sponsoring charter schools that provide quality educational choices"

March 13, 2020



## Board Information

### Are Your Boards Aligned?

One of the most common operational issues Board staff finds is related to board alignment. Compliance with Open Meeting Law and ASBCS Rule, the following should be true for your corporate and school governing boards:

1. A charter holder's corporate board is aligned with the board on file with the Arizona Corporation Commission.
2. The members listed in a charter holder's corporate board minutes align with the corporate board members listed with ASBCS.
3. The school governing body members listed on the charter holder's website and in school governing body minutes align with the members listed with ASBCS

For full compliance with Arizona's Open Meeting Law, ensure that when individuals who are not board members (i.e. school leaders, parents) are included in minutes, it is done in a section separate from where board members are recorded absent or present.

## ASBCS Resources



[Website](#)



[Youtube](#)



[Newsletter](#)



[Facebook](#)

## Board Information

### COVID-19 & Coronavirus Updates

ASBCS is working with all appropriate agencies to help provide schools information regarding the Novel Coronavirus ("COVID-19").

For the most recent information available visit:

- [Arizona Department of Health Services](#)
- [Arizona Department of Education Guidance to Schools on COVID-19](#)
- [Arizona Department of Education: Pandemic Preparedness](#)

You are also encouraged to reach out to your local county health department for information specific to your county. For additional information visit the following:

- [Maricopa County Department of Public Health](#)
- Centers for Disease Control for [COVID-19 information](#) and [Interim Guidance for Administrators of US Childcare Programs and K-12 Schools](#)
- ADE's [School Health and Safety school guides](#) and [checklists for Pandemic & Influenza planning](#).

As the Board receives additional information and guidance, it will be provided to the charter community.



# A LETTER FROM ASBCS

"To improve public education in Arizona by sponsoring charter schools that provide quality educational choices"

March 13, 2020

## Board Updates & Action

### Public Comment

ASBCS will be posting the following for public comment:

- Changes to the complaint process
- Requiring Charter Holder Governance Amendments go before the Board after a 50% change in membership

### Teacher & Administrator Evaluation Updates

During the previous legislative session, the Arizona Legislature passed a new regulation which requires charter school governing bodies to establish a teacher performance evaluation system and policies for principal evaluations that include the use of quantitative data on the academic progress for all students. The full statute can be found [here](#).

**Beginning in FY 2021, Board staff will begin collecting documentation and confirming compliance with this statute during site visits.**

The Charter Schools Association will be presenting a session related to this topic during its Governance Week.

## Dates & Announcements

**April 13, 2020:**

Next Regular Board Meeting

## Outside Agency Information

### Governor's Office of Youth, Faith, and Family

This past month, GOYFF opened the application process for the Governor's Youth Commission (GYC). The GYC is comprised of high school students who represent their peers from all the 15 counties of Arizona. The Commission advises the Governor on the greatest challenges facing youth in Arizona and addresses these challenges through impactful service projects throughout the state. Last year's GYC focused their projects on minimizing accidents caused by distracted driving, raising awareness of the importance of literacy, educating peers on the dangers of human trafficking, encouraging mindful decision making to curb drug and alcohol abuse, and working to prevent teen dating violence.

High school students who apply should be sophomores, juniors, and seniors during the 2020-2021 academic year. More information can be found below and applications can be found [here](#).

### Arizona Department of Education

Updates made to the 2020 PHLOTE form (attached and found [here](#))

**Primary Home Language Survey questions will no longer need to be included on enrollment documents per SBE Rule change**



# A LETTER FROM ASBCS

"To improve public education in Arizona by sponsoring charter schools that provide quality educational choices"

March 13, 2020

## Reminders

### Military Student Identifier

The Military Student Identifier ("MSI") is a recently established code by which families indicate upon enrollment at a school that their student has at least one parent who is a member of the Armed Forces on active duty. All charter schools are required to add the MSI question to the enrollment paperwork for the upcoming school year.

A reminder of this change will be in the ASBCS monthly newsletter through the end of Fiscal Year 2020. More information regarding the MSI can be found [here](#).

### What Information Do You Need From The Board?

Board staff will be providing informative blurbs based on questions we have received from charter operators, public members, and other stakeholders. If you have a topic you would like to see covered, please email [Serena.Campas@asbcs.az.gov](mailto:Serena.Campas@asbcs.az.gov).

## Stakeholder Information

### Charter Schools Association Governance Week

The Arizona Charter Schools Association is hosting its annual Governance Week from March 31-April 2.

Governance Week is an event specifically designed for Arizona's public charter school governing boards and their leaders. One of the pillars of a quality school is good governance. Whether you're a brand new board member or a veteran, don't miss this deep dive into your legal obligations as a public charter school board member.

The description of available seminars, schedule, and other details is attached. Additionally, more information can be found on the Association's [website](#) and participants can register [here](#).



# ARIZONA CHARTER SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION

*presents*

## 3rd Annual Governance Week

*March 31 - April 2, 2020*

tuesday

10AM - 11:30AM Proactive Compliance - A Board Member's Guide

*Presented by:*

Rachel Hannah, AZ State Board for Charter Schools

12:30PM - 2PM Dashboards and Frameworks - What are they?

*Presented by:*

Rachel Hannah

AZ State Board for Charter Schools

wednesday

10AM - 11:30AM Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about AZ Open Meeting Law ...

*Presented by:*

Lynne Adams, Osborn Maledon

12:30PM - 2PM Top 10 Mistakes Charter School Boards Make ... and How to Avoid Them.

*Presented by:*

Deanna Rader & Jamie Mayrose

Rader Mayrose LLP

thursday

10AM - 11:30AM What Charter Boards Need to Know about Contracts

*Presented by:*

Yvonne Moss, J.D. Caritas Law Group

12:30PM - 2PM Support & Evaluation of the School Leader: Is your Board Compliant?

*Presented by:*

Peter Boyle, Founding School Director,

Western School of Science & Technology



Arizona Charter Schools Association Training Center, 12439 N. 32nd St. Phoenix



## INSIDE THE WEEK

Join us for our 2020 Governance Week on March 31- April 2 an event specifically designed for Arizona's public charter school governing boards and their leaders. One of the pillars of a quality school is good governance. Whether you're a brand new board member or a veteran, don't miss this deep dive into your legal obligations as a public charter school board member.

One-day pricing is \$100, or register for the full seminar at our discounted rate of \$225. Continental breakfast and lunch are included.

### Day One

#### Session One: Proactive Compliance: A Board Member's Guide

Presenter: Rachel Hannah, ASBCS

10:00am – 11:30am

Charter schools have a multitude of compliance expectations that are monitored by the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools ("ASBCS"). While compliance is typically managed by school and charter leadership, there are many ways board members can proactively assist in monitoring, assessing, and maintaining compliance. Join ASBCS for an educational session about how you can use your position as a board member to help. Attendees will leave this session with strategies and resources to check compliance immediately.

Lunch 11:30pm – 12:30pm

#### **Session Two: Dashboards & Frameworks. What Are They?**

Presenter: Rachel Hannah, ASBCS

**12:30 – 2PM**

Statute requires that charter schools are evaluated by their authorizer in the areas of Academics, Operations, and Finance using adopted frameworks. This hands-on session will educate participants about the three different frameworks adopted by the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools ("ASBCS"), how they are used to create public dashboards, and how this information informs decisions made by ASBCS.

### Day Two

#### ***SESSION 1: Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about Arizona's Open Meeting Law . . . but Were Afraid to Ask.***

Presenter: Lynne Adams, Osborn Maledon

10:00am – 11:30am

This session will dive into Arizona's Open Meeting Law and help charter school board members and leaders understand and apply it to school governing board meetings. Using recent real-life examples of OML violations in Arizona public schools, this interactive session will ensure participants are well-equipped to run quality meetings that are compliant with state law.

Lunch 11:30pm – 12:30pm

***SESSION 2: Top Ten Mistakes Charter School Boards Make . . . and How to Avoid Them***  
***Presenters: Rader Mayrose LLP***

12:30pm – 2:00pm

Serving on a public charter school governing board is a big responsibility, and many of the choices made by a board can determine whether the school will fulfill its mission or become mired in a culture or in policies that stifle effectiveness and ultimately hinder student achievement and organizational sustainability. In this session facilitated by two veteran attorneys who are intimately familiar with Arizona's charter landscape, you'll learn the top 10 mistakes boards often make and how to avoid them.

**Day Three**

***SESSION 1: What You Need to Know About Contracts***  
***Presenter: Yvonne Moss, J.D. Caritas Law Group***

10:00am – 11:30am

Charter schools frequently enter into contractual relationships with vendors, service providers, employees, landlords, and others. A contract is a legal document binding you and the other party to certain obligations. The provisions in your contract are as important as the provisions left out. Mistakes made prior to signing a contract can result in the loss of time, money, and reputation. In this session, we will discuss the components of a contract and common mistakes in contracts that should be avoided.

Lunch 11:30pm – 12:30pm

12:30pm – 2:00pm

***SESSION 2: Evaluating Your School Leader: Meeting Statutory Obligations AND Improving Student Achievement***  
***Presenter: Peter Boyle, Founding School Director, Western School of Science and Technology***

One of the most critical functions of any governing board is to evaluate the School Leader. Not only is this best practice, but in Arizona, it's also required by statute. This interactive session will

review your board's obligations, as well as review best practices in the evaluation process that will support increases in student achievement data.