



A LETTER FROM ASBCS

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

Board Updates & Action

September Board Meeting

The ASBCS September Board Meeting was held virtually Monday, September 14th, 2020. Thank you to all of our Board members and charter operators for their continued flexibility. The Board considered and voted on a number of charter contract amendments. See all Board action taken at the September 2020 meeting [here](#).

Please be aware that the next two Board meetings are not on a Monday:

Tuesday, October 13, 2020

Friday, November 20, 2020

-CORRECTION- ASBCS Compliance Statement of Assurance

The Board is issuing the following corrections and clarifications to the Compliance Statement of Assurance distributed August 25, 2020 to all charter representatives:

- "Once published by the Arizona Department of Education, the Charter Holder will post, on the school's website, a link to the required statutory handbook of parental rights. S.B.1061, 54th Legislature, Second Regular Session (2020)."
 - The Statutory Handbook of Parental Rights was published and distributed by the Arizona Department of Education today, September 16, 2020.
 - See the following section for details.
- "All student identification cards include information for suicide prevention resources, local crisis centers, and/or emotional support services, if applicable. S.B. 1446, 54th Legislature, Second Regular Session (2020)."
 - The statute referenced above does not go into affect until the 2021-2022 school year.
 - The statute only applies to grades 9-12.
 - The statute only applies to schools that currently utilize student identification cards- it does not require that schools begin to use student identification cards if they do not already.
 - If your school does not use student identification cards or you do not plan to implement changes until next school year, you may either initial or write in "N/A" for this requirement.

The Compliance Statement of Assurance is due October 1, 2020.

Please direct any questions or concerns to the charter's assigned [Education Program Manager](#).

Publishing the Arizona Parental Rights Handbook on Your District or Charter Website

From the Arizona Department of Education

Dear District & Charter Leaders,

During the 2020 Arizona Legislative Session, the Legislature passed [Senate Bill 1061](#) which went into effect on August 25, 2020. The new statute requires the Arizona Department of Education to establish and post a statutory handbook of parental rights.

Additionally, per statute, **each school district and charter school is required to post a link to this parental rights handbook in a prominent location on its website.**

ADE has created the 2020 Parental Rights Handbook for school districts and charter schools to post on their websites. You can find the handbook by visiting our "Parents & Families" page on our website or downloading the PDF below.

[ADE Resource Website](#)

[Parental Rights Handbook](#)

Sandra Day O'Connor Civics Celebration Day

The Arizona Department of Education's K-12 Academic Standards Department published the below newsletter to help schools in preparation for Sandra Day O'Connor Civics Celebration Day. Click on the image to download.

As a reminder, the State recognizes September 25th as Sandra Day O'Connor Civics Celebration Day, and all public schools are required to dedicate the majority of the September 25 school day to civics education per [statute](#).

More information can be found [here](#).

FEMA Policy Updates

FEMA has released an interim policy to clarify eligible work under the Public Assistance program as part of the response to coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

The interim policy "[COVID-19 Pandemic: Work Eligible for Public Assistance](#)" is applicable to eligible applicants only and is exclusive to emergency and major disaster declarations for the COVID-19 pandemic. This policy applies to work performed on or after September 15, 2020.

More information can be found at the below links.

Sandra Day O'Connor



After completing high school early and graduating from Stanford University and starting law school at Stanford in 1950. She had a hard time finding a job as a female attorney, but she and her husband, John O'Connor, settled in Arizona where she began to work as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Arizona. She was appointed and then won a seat in the Arizona Senate. She then won election to the Superior Court of Maricopa County and then appointed to Arizona's Supreme Court of Appeals. In 1981 she was appointed by President Reagan to fill a vacancy on the United States Supreme Court and was unanimously approved by the Senate. For over two decades as a Supreme Court Justice, Justice O'Connor became known as a firm, but fair justice sometimes swinging the majority opinion one way or another in divisive cases. In some of her pivotal cases she voted with the majority. Here are a few: *Mississippi University for Women, et al., v. Hogan*—men can be admitted to nursing school; *Shaw v. Reno*—restrict affirmative action policies and voting districts that are created to boost political power of minorities; *Aurelia Davis v. Monroe County Board of Ed*—Public school districts receiving federal funds are liable when “deliberately indifferent” to harassment of one student to another; *Stenberg v. Carhart*—Struck down laws that banned partial birth abortions; *Bush v. Gore*—ends recount of Florida thus making George W. Bush president.

After her retirement in 2006 she devoted her time to advocate for civics education in a K-12 setting and founded the *iCivics* organization dedicated to providing effective and creative tools for teachers to teach civics.

*Sandra Day O'Connor: Over, www.oyez.org/justices/sandra_day_oconnor. Accessed 13 Aug. 2020.

CIVICS CELEBRATION

This past year the state legislature created the Sandra Day O'Connor Civics Celebration Day on September 25th. In the legislation, it states that the majority of the school day be devoted to civics. We also know that Constitution Day is September 17th. We wanted to provide you with resources, lessons, and ideas that can help make these two days worthwhile, easy to prep for, and meaningful as we acknowledge the importance of civics and civic participation in our society. To make it easier we divided up resources by grade band and provided links to lessons that you can use to devote your day to celebrating civics in any grade.

Celebrating Civics Webinars
Come Learn Everything You Need to Know
Aug 27 and Sept. 3

KidCitizen

KidCitizen offers activities with lessons and short video clips for grades K-5 that focus on Congress and civic engagement. These K-5 activities include primary sources prepared for younger learners, photographs from the Library of Congress, are interactive and pair perfectly with our new standards. They are easily adaptable for online use and compatible with a wide variety of mobile devices. They also offer a guide for in-class or remote teaching that includes lessons and other resources for K-12 classrooms on a broad range of topics.

iCivics

iCivics is the brain child of Sandra Day O'Connor's initiative to increase civics education when she retired from the Supreme Court. This site has election games, lessons you can use, infographics, and webquests. The lessons cover a variety of topics all devoted to civics education, are interactive and use primary sources. The lessons are geared toward upper elementary through AP. All of their lessons can be used and adapted for easy online learning. *iCivics* also has on-demand webinars and blogs that help you use their tools.

KIDS VOTING

Kids Voting is an electronic tool you can use to have students vote and includes multiple curricula, interactive activities, and mock elections for grades K-12. Click the Educator tab to register and get started. [KidsVotingAZ](#)

VIDEOS

Need some videos to have your students watch online, check these out—[How Do U.S. Supreme Court Justices Get Appointed?](#) (6-12); [PBS Kids Voting](#) (3-6); [How GrownUps Vote](#) (K-3); [BrainPop Voting](#)

Books

Who Did It First? by Jay Leslie 2020 Notable Books
Sandra Day O'Connor Justice for All by Beverly Gherman
First by Evan Thomas
The Majesty of the Law by Sandra Day O'Connor
Out of Order by Sandra Day O'Connor
Chico by Sandra Day O'Connor
Finding Susie by Sandra Day O'Connor
[Watch the Civics Kids Reading List](#)

Mask Distribution Program

Eligibility Policy

Move On When Reading Submissions

This is an alternate submission year for Move On When Reading Submissions. Not all charters serving grades K-3 are required to submit.

Please review this [list of charters](#) to determine if your charter is required to submit a plan and data this year.

Failure to submit the required information by the required deadline of **October 1, 2020** may result in the charter holder's dashboard being marked for non-compliance.

Arizona Virtual Training Institute

Arizona Governor Doug Ducey, Superintendent of Public Instruction Kathy Hoffman, Helios Education Foundation and Arizona State University have announced a collaboration to provide training and professional development for every teacher in Arizona.

With financial support and policy engagement from the Governor's Office, the Arizona Department of Education and Helios, ASU Prep

Influenza (flu) vaccination message for schools

From the Arizona Department of Education and Arizona Department of Health Services

Dear School Leaders,

In the setting of the current COVID-19 pandemic, controlling the spread of respiratory illness is at the top of everybody's mind. In contrast to COVID-19, efforts to control the spread of influenza in our schools have long been practiced and refined. Schools play a sentinel role in making recommendations and demonstrating good health practices that protect students, staff and families from the spread of respiratory illnesses.

Unique to seasonal influenza is the availability of a vaccine. Vaccination against influenza has been a cornerstone of our effort to protect our communities against influenza; not only preventing infections but also making illness with flu less severe

Digital's Arizona Virtual Teacher Institute will provide both group and personal training to help Arizona teachers succeed in delivering online instruction.

Free training programs for schools and teachers begin August 11 with a three-day program, "Thriving as a Digital Teacher." Topics are relevant to all digital learning tools and include best practices in online instruction, Web 2.0 tools, setting up a virtual instruction plan, pace charts, monitoring student progress, teaching time and stress management and more.

More information on the Arizona Virtual Training Institute can be found [here](#).

and preventing hospitalization and severe consequences. This flu season, more than ever, we must roll up our sleeves and vaccinate against flu for the safety and well being of our communities. Schools have always been strong and trusted voices in their communities, and we hope you will partner with us to spread this message and get vaccinated yourselves.

The ADHS has planned a far-reaching campaign to encourage vaccination against flu. We hope you can join with us to spread this message. An interactive map showing where your community members can get vaccinated is available at vaccinefinder.org.

ADE/ADHS Message

FY2020 AFR Package Released

On September 4, 2020, the Office of the Auditor General and Arizona Department of Education ("ADE") released the fiscal year 2020 Annual Financial Report ("AFR") package and updates to the Uniform System of Financial Records for Arizona Charter Schools ("USFRCS"). The AFR package includes the forms and instructions for completing the fiscal year 2020 AFR, Classroom Site Project Narrative Results Summary, School-Level Reporting form, Food Service AFR and Results-Based Funding Expenditure Report.

By October 15, 2020, all charters that operated in fiscal year 2020 must complete and submit the fiscal year 2020 AFR, which is required by A.R.S. §§ 15-183(E)(6) and 15-904, and the School-Level Reporting form, which is required by Laws 2017, Ch. 11 and the federal Every Student Succeeds Act.

By November 15, 2020, all charters that operated in fiscal year 2020 must complete and submit the fiscal year 2020 Classroom Site Project Narrative Results Summary, which is required by A.R.S. § 15- 977(J).

Charters that participated in the National School Lunch Program in fiscal year 2020 must complete and submit the Food Service AFR by October 15, 2020.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-249.08, charters that received results-based funding in fiscal year 2020 must complete and submit the Results-Based Funding Expenditure Report by November 1, 2020.

Failure to timely submit the fiscal year 2020 reports identified above as reported to the Board by ADE will be noted on the charter holder's operational performance dashboard and may result in the charter being placed on a subsequent Board agenda for consideration.



Arizona FAFSA Kick-Off

Please join the Arizona Department of Education, Arizona Governors Office of Education and College Success Arizona in a statewide 2020 FAFSA Kick-Off on September 30, 2020 from 9:30AM-11:30AM.

Remarks will be made by Superintendent Kathy Hoffman and Governor Ducey expressing their excitement for this new FAFSA season as well as, the State's Commission Office announcing our 2021 FAFSA Finish Line Goal.

Register [here](#).

Guidance Issued on Recording and Reporting COVID-19 Costs

On September 10, 2020, the Office of the Auditor General issued three new FAQs on reporting and reporting COVID-19 costs paid through federal relief grants, including the Enrollment Stability Grant Project in fiscal years 2020 and 2021.

The FAQs address recording these costs in charters' accounting records and reporting them in the annual financial statements and annual financial reports.

More information can be found [here](#).

[AG FAQ Page](#)

AIHA Guidance Resources

The American Industrial Hygiene Association has developed and compiled [25 industry-specific guidance documents](#) to assist organizations in getting back to work safely.

These documents were developed by a task force of over a dozen experienced AIHA members – OHS professionals dedicated to anticipating, recognizing, evaluating and controlling disease in the workplace, and who represent various business sectors, including government, private, higher education and consulting.

The documents are “living”, which means they are kept up-to-date with the latest information and best practices for preventing the spread of COVID-19.

Please contact [Aaron Baldwin](#) with any questions.

Reminders

Compliance Statement of Assurance Due Oct. 1

The Compliance Statement of Assurance is to be submitted by October 1, 2020 .

Next Board Meeting

Date: October 13, 2020

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: Virtual

