

Critical Issues Breakout Sessions
Thursday, December 10, 2009
2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE: HOW BOARD MEMBERS CAN KEEP FROM MESSING IT UP! FLW Salon A
Governing boards set the policies relating to the discipline of school employees and approve employment contracts. Boards also are often the decision-makers of last resort in deciding discipline for employees under those policies. It is imperative that board members understand their critical roles in the process – as well as what their role is not. This session, led by a school employment law expert, will give board members a clear picture of the do's and don'ts on employee discipline.

Presenter: *Rob Haws, Attorney, Gust Rosenfeld*
Facilitator: *Arnold Goodluck, Apache County Director, ASBA*

A WINNING COMBINATION: EFFECTIVE DISTRICT-HIGHER EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP FLW Salon B
The partnership between Arizona State University and the Osborn Elementary School District in Central Phoenix is an award-winning, nationally recognized collaboration, initiated by a Title IIA grant in 1999 and sustained by mutual commitment and hard work. Osborn's steady improvement in student achievement is directly and strategically related to this long-term, active partnership which includes a Professional Development School, graduate courses for in-service teachers and our most recent collaboration to improve principal effectiveness.

Presenters: *Patty Tate, Assistant Superintendent/ Curriculum, Osborn ESD*
Dr. Scott Ridley, Asst. Dean, College Teacher Ed. and Leadership, ASU
Angie Linder, Osborn PDS Coordinator, Osborn ESD
Marty Makar, Principal, Osborn ESD
Facilitator: *Martie Payne, Cochise County Director, ASBA*

A DISTRICT'S JOURNEY TO BECOMING A PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY

FLW Salon C

The district began looking at specific strategies for improving student achievement for all students, specifically closing the achievement gap for English Language Learners. The governing board adopted a Professional Learning Communities Resolution focusing on shared mission, vision, values and goals, collaborative teams, collective inquiry, commitment to continuous improvement and results orientation.

Presenters: **Cindy Segotta-Jones**, *Assistant Superintendent, Cartwright ESD*
Shelby Jasmer, *Director of School Improvement, Cartwright ESD*
Deborah Bailey, *Director of Teaching/Learning, Cartwright ESD*
Dr. Sharon Kramer, *Solution Tree Consultant*

Facilitator: **Chuck Wahler**, *Coconino County Director, ASBA*

LEADING THE WAY IN SCHOOL SAFETY DESIGN

FLW Salon D

Learn how Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) leads to positive and safe learning and work environments for staff and students alike. We'll review the results of a real school security analysis and discuss strategies for secure schools. Attendees will receive easy-to-apply security solutions in areas of facility maintenance, lighting, planning, hardware, special event management, school safety planning, operations and systems.

Presenters: **Shamit Das**, *Security Specialist, DLR Group*
William Taylor, *DLR Group*
Bill Johnson, *Superintendent, Laveen ESD*

Facilitator: **Bob Cassa**, *Gila County Director, ASBA*

NATIONAL EDUCATION ISSUES AND THE FEDERAL RELATIONS NETWORK

FLW Salon G

Are you interested in the federal education issues that National School Boards Association (NSBA) is addressing? Do you want to know how to get involved and support NSBA in its federal lobbying efforts? Are you wondering what the Federal Relations Network actually is? Then this is the session for you. Anyone interested in getting involved in federal education issues is invited to attend. **All 2009 Arizona FRN conference attendees are expected to attend this session.**

Presenters: **Debbie King**, *President Elect, ASBA*
Janice Palmer, *Director of Governmental Relations, ASBA*
Panfilo H. Contreras, *Executive Director, ASBA*

Facilitator: **Debbie King**, *President Elect, ASBA*

AN UPDATE ON ARIZONA'S RACE TO THE TOP

FLW Salon H

This session will explain how Arizona developed a competitive application for Race to the Top Funds through the work of four task forces established around the four specific reform areas: Standards and Assessments; Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems/Use; Great Teachers, Great Leaders; Support to Struggling School.

Presenter: *Dr. Deb Duvall, Special Advisor to the Governor*

Facilitator: *Ken Van Winkle, Superintendent, Heber-Overgaard USD*

BUILDING A SAFETY PLAN

FLW Salon I

A safety plan is more than just a manual. This training provides step-by-step instructions on how to develop a safety plan for your district and how to integrate safety in your workplace.

Presenters: *Armado Sapien, Loss Control Consultant, SCF Arizona*
Tod Dennis, Association Coordinator, SCF Arizona

Facilitator: *Dee Navarro, Secretary, ASBA*

HOW STUDENT TUITION TAX CREDITS ARE FAILING ARIZONA'S SCHOOLS

FLW Salon J

Tuition tax credits were created in 1997 as a means to open the doors of private schools to disadvantaged public school students. Recent newspaper investigative reports reveal that the program is falling far short of that goal, that the program has little oversight and that the laws that are on the books are routinely ignored. Come to this session to hear how the credits are operating in practice – and to get mad about how almost \$60 million a year of your tax money is being spent each year!

Presenter: *Chris Thomas, Director of Legal Services, ASBA*

Facilitator: *Robert Rice, President, ASBA*

3:30 p.m. Exhibit Viewing/Door Prizes and Beverage Break

McArthur Ballroom

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**UNDERSTANDING STATE AND NATIONAL
SCHOOL LABELS AND HOW TO IMPROVE THEM**

FLW Salon A

Annual data analysis meetings are held at each school by team or grade level to review the indicators of AZ LEARNS, AYP determination indicators, AIMS demographic breakouts, and cohort achievements. The analysis group determines areas of strength and need, and then creates S.M.A.R.T. goals, strategies and actions designed to support and increase student achievement.

Presenters: **Roger Jacks**, *Superintendent, Kingman USD*
Pat Carlin Jr., *Board President,*
Kingman USD

Gretchen Dörner, *Director Title I and*
Assessment, Kingman USD

Facilitator: **Karen McClelland**, *Yavapai County*
Director, ASBA

**MORE TIME, MORE MONEY, MORE STUDENT
ACHIEVEMENT: WHY A LONGER SCHOOL YEAR
MAKES SENSE**

FLW Salon B

In March 2009, the Balsz School District Governing Board adopted the first 200-day instructional calendar in Arizona. The Arizona Department of Education is collaborating with school districts to extend the school year and this session will discuss why this reform strategy holds great potential to close the achievement gap. It also will examine the research and the intuitive logic of a longer year and show how the process is used for gaining support from key stakeholders in the local community.

Presenters: **Dr. Jeff Smith**, *Superintendent, Balsz ESD*
John Stollar, *Assoc. Supt. For Accountability,*
Arizona Department of Education

Facilitator: **Mark Tregaskes**, *Superintendent,*
Safford USD

UPDATE ON ENERGY PROJECTS AND FUNDING FOR BUILDING SAFETY REGARDING STRUCTURAL ISSUES

FLW Salon C

Included in this session will be an update on SFB funding, including \$100 million in Qualified School Construction Bonds, the Building Renewal Grant and Emergency Deficiencies Correction funds; a discussion on water intrusion into school building interiors, providing information on how mold and cleanup costs are becoming an issue due to water migrating exterior block walls and how simple investigation and maintenance will help prevent these issues; and structural and roof failures in Arizona's schools and upcoming prevention training.

Presenter: **Dean Gray**, *Executive Director, School Facilities Board*

Facilitator: **Suzanne Schweiger-Nitchals**, *Past President, ASBA*

CAN WE REALLY REDUCE THE COST OF HEALTH INSURANCE?

FLW Salon D

This session will explore the key components of being able to reduce health care costs and the underlying cost of health insurance.

Presenter: **Jerry Edwards**, *ASBAIT Administrator, Edwards Risk Management*

Facilitator: **Mike Wearne**, *Greenlee County Director, ASBA*

KEY STRATEGIES AND ROLES TO COMMUNICATING DIFFICULT INFORMATION

FLW Salon G

The downturn in state funding for education has created a complex maze for districts to manage in a manner that is clear, open and honest. It requires multiple layers of communication among the governing board members, administrators, employees, parents, community members and the media. A well thought out process or lack of one can be the demise or triumph of a districts' future. The presentation will outline proven strategies that will strengthen your district's communications.

Presenters: **Dr. Tim Ham**, *Superintendent, Madison ESD*
Kristen Landry, *Director of Marketing and Information, Madison ESD*

Facilitator: **Rudy Parker**, *La Paz County Director, ASBA*

STATE-LEVEL LEADERSHIP: SERVING ON ASBA'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FLW Salon H

This session will answer your questions about how to become an ASBA officer or county director.

Presenters: **Robert Rice**, *President, ASBA*

Debbie King, *President-Elect, ASBA*

Facilitator: **Debbie King**, *President-Elect, ASBA*

POWERFUL SCHOOL LEADERSHIP DURING TOUGH ECONOMIC TIMES

FLW Salon I

Current educational research points to the connection between great leadership and great school districts. Demonstrating visionary leadership becomes even more important if our schools are to survive these extremely tough economic conditions. Those districts committed to leadership at all levels, core values, customer focus and systems thinking, will become even stronger because they will have stayed true to their vision and mission against the toughest odds.

Presenter: **Dennis Dearden**, *Sr. Vice President, Partnership for Excellence*

Rocco Sugameli, *Educational Consultant, Partnership for Excellence*

Facilitator: **Kevin Clayborn**, *Maricopa County Co-Director, ASBA*

A DISTRICT'S RISE FROM FINANCIAL, GOVERNANCE AND POLITICAL TURMOIL

FLW Salon J

In 2003 the Wilson Elementary School District was under a tremendous amount of scrutiny and turmoil. There were lawsuits, investigations, audits, judgments and strained relations on many fronts. Today our schools are highly performing. How did this change occur? What turned the tide of chaos to where the district is in good/great standing? Presenters will cover the following: Forces of change in a time of crisis, role of board members, development of new perspective, dealing with outside forces, working with state agencies, and communicating with the community.

Presenters: **Antonio Sanchez**, *Superintendent, Wilson ESD*

Virginia Mendoza, *Board Member, Wilson ESD*

Usebia Joyce, *Board Secretary, Wilson ESD*

Denise Finell, *Finance Officer, Wilson ESD*

Mario Martinez, *Board President, Wilson ESD*

Cindy Campton, *Principal, Wilson ESD*

Lupe Orosco, *AEA Representative*

Facilitator: **David Evans**, *Maricopa County Co-Director, ASBA*