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REPORT CARD

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March 2013

- 8 **Spring Legal Seminar** – Flagstaff
- 18 **ARN Lobby Day** – State Capitol/ASBA office

April 2013

- 13-15 **NSBA Annual Conference** – San Diego

ASBA provides overview and analysis of state report on classroom spending

The office of the Arizona Auditor General released its annual report on classroom spending on Friday. Eroding state funding for K-12 education has left a smaller percentage of dollars available for Arizona school districts to dedicate to teachers (including teachers aides and substitutes), general instructional supplies like paper and pencils, instructional aides like textbooks and instructional software, and activities like choir, band and field trips. Despite this, the majority of dollars, including classroom dollars and those for student support and instructional support continue, to be dedicated to improving and supporting student learning. Learn more about what the Arizona Auditor General's Report on Classroom Spending (2012) means – and what it doesn't. [Read ASBA's analysis of the report](#)

FY 2014 costs of implementing Common Core estimated at \$156.6 million statewide

In late January, ASBA and the Arizona Association of School Business Officials conducted a survey of Arizona school districts on costs of implementing Arizona's Common Core Standards. Districts from urban, suburban and rural Arizona school districts statewide, representing 339,264 students or 38 percent of the total K-12 district population, responded. Statewide estimates were extrapolated from this information.

Based on the survey results, ASBA and AASBO estimate statewide costs for essential elements of Common Core implementation for fiscal year 2014 (the 2013-2014 school year) to be \$156.6 million. This estimate is comparable to the estimate released in January by the Arizona Department of Education.

[View a summary of the results](#), including breakdowns of costs for training, curriculum materials and textbooks, and district-level assessments. An estimate for future costs related to technology, including administration of the PARCC assessment, is included as well.

ADE, Governor's Office surveying teachers statewide on Common Core

The Arizona Department of Education and the Governor's Office of Education Innovation have emailed an extensive survey to teachers statewide aimed at gauging their perceptions of Arizona's Common Core Standards, their understanding of the standards, and whether they believe they are receiving adequate training and support on implementation of the standards within their schools and districts. The survey closes on March 22. According to ADE, the purpose of the survey is "to identify how educators may be best supported during the transition to Arizona's Common Core Standards."

Final Legal Seminar opportunity in Flagstaff this Friday, March 8

There is one last chance to attend ASBA's 9th Annual Spring Legal Seminar. This intensive one day event focuses on topics and issues critical to school leaders during the important spring decision-making period. Sessions include school safety (What You Need to Know: School Attacks – 21st Century Responses to Keep Schools Safe), concerns on school governance (The Latest of Principal and Teacher Evaluation Reform, School Board Micromanagement: What It Is and What It Is Not) and technology issues (Tinkering with Facebook: How Far Can Schools Go in Dealing with Off-Campus, Online Speech of Students?). There will also be a comprehensive Legislative and Legal Update.

Digital/online conference material is included in the \$135 registration fee. Printed materials are available for an additional \$15 fee and must be ordered during online registration. Also included are a continental breakfast and lunch. Free in-meeting wi-fi will be provided to all attendees. Don't miss it!

- Spring Legal Seminar – Flagstaff: Friday, March 8 [Register](#)

Latest legislative updates available today

ASBA Governmental Relations team continues its biweekly legislative conference today at 4 p.m. Call in to get the latest information from the State Capitol. [Click to register](#). Once registered, you will be sent an email confirmation with details on how to join the conference either online or by phone. Stay tuned for more information on upcoming legislative updates available to ASBA members.

Chris Thomas selected to serve on the board of the National Council of School Attorneys.

ASBA's General Counsel/Director of Legal and Policy Services Chris Thomas has been nominated for another two-year term on the National School Boards Association Council of School Attorneys (COSA) Board of Directors. Chris has been a member of the COSA board since 2011 and continues to serve locally as the director of the Arizona Council of School Attorneys. Be sure to check out the article that Chris wrote on behalf of COSA in the April 2013 edition of the NSBA American School Board Journal.

Hispanic/Native American Indian Caucus golf tournament fundraiser

ASBA's HNAI Caucus will be holding their 2nd Annual Spring Golf Tournament at Vistal Golf Club on Saturday, April 20. There is a 7:30 a.m. shotgun start and the format is four-man scramble. Your \$100 donation includes green fees, cart fees, practice balls and lunch after play and is partially tax-deductible. Hole sponsorships are also available. For more information: [HNAIC Golf Tournament](#).

There is still time to participate in Arizona Relations Network (ARN) Lobby Days

You have one more opportunity to join with other members of ASBA and lend your voice to our advocacy efforts for public schoolchildren. ASBA will provide training on the legislative process and information on how to lobby. Some members may have the chance to meet with legislators to talk about school board concerns with current issues such as Common Core implementation funding. This final session will be on Mon., March 18, from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. If you'd like to attend, [fill out the form](#).

2013 ARN Lobby Days has been very successful and we appreciate all who attended. We could not have done it without you! [Check out some of the photos](#) from previous Lobby Days.

Andy Chlup, Vail educator, named one of "20 to Watch" for education technology

The National School Boards Association has recognized Andy Chlup, Vail USD's director of technology, along with 19 other individuals across the country, for their excellence in education technology. Andy was noted for incorporating innovative technology into high-quality classroom learning and school district operations. He is one of the primary technology architects of Beyond Textbooks, the instructional playbook of Vail School District. Due to his efforts, Beyond Textbooks is also being used by 69 partner districts who are sharing successful lessons, tools, and assessments that are making the transition to the Common Core seamless.

NSBA annual conference registration deadline March 22

Don't miss NSBA's Annual Conference in San Diego, April 13-15, featuring Academy-Award winning actress Geena Davis, who will be speaking on gender stereotypes. There will be over 200 sessions highlighting best practices from school boards nationally as well as NSBA's "national university of boardsmanship," and the latest on student achievement and accountability, innovations in district operations, and governance and executive leadership. Registration deadline is March 22. Register today at www.nsba.org/conference.

Three K-12 Arizona schools receive gold awards from Beat The Odds Institute

James W. Rice Elementary School and Metro Tech High School in Phoenix and Estes Elementary in Marana were the only schools to attain gold medal status, the highest level of achievement in this program. Demonstrated, consistent growth in student academic achievement in math and reading over two or more consecutive years among other criteria is required to win and be conferred with the title of a Beat the Odds School. Fifteen Arizona schools earned silver and bronze awards.

Beat the Odds, an initiative of the Center for the Future of Arizona, is an intense multi-year school improvement program which provides training and mentoring for principals. The Beat the Odds program is based on methodology from best-selling author Jim Collins and focuses on minority-intensive, low income student populations.

Participation in Beat the Odds, now in its sixth year, is open to K-12 public, charter and tribal schools throughout the state. Additional information on the program and other winning schools is available at www.BeatTheOddsInstitute.org.

ADE article focuses on excellence in board leadership

Each month, the work of ASBA and our school board members is featured on the Arizona Department of Education's newsletter. For February, Robert Bernal, Benson USD; Richard Carino, Santa Cruz Valley UHSD; Mary Garcia, Crane ESD; Dr. Charles Lucero, Kingman USD; and Linda Yazzie, Holbrook USD; are highlighted as five school board members who exemplify excellence in leadership. [Read about them](#) beginning on page 9.

ASBA Executive Searches

[Superintendent, Buckeye UHSD](#) – Closes March 8, 2013

OPENING SOON

Superintendent, Coolidge USD

Superintendent, Sanders USD

Looking for an interim superintendent? ASBA can help. We maintain a database of people interested in serving as interim superintendents. We will post your requirements and send to this list, then provide you with applications from those individuals interested in your position. There is no charge for this service. For assistance in this area, contact Steve Highlen, ASBA Executive Search Consultant, at shighlen@azsba.org.

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Contact Shirley Simpson, ASBA Membership Services Coordinator, at ssimpson@azsba.org.

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Quality leadership and advocacy for children in public schools