



## A LETTER FROM ASBCS

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

### Onward and Upward from President Mary Ellen Lee

Dear Charter Community,

To say 2020 was a challenge would be quite the understatement- the last year has been a difficult one for so many of us. We all know that there was a lot of bad, but moving into the new year, 2021, let us take a little time to think about the good. Where we made sacrifices to keep students safe by keeping them home, we also made strides in providing new, innovative models to ensure they kept on learning. When you all were called upon to pivot on a dime and make numerous changes to continue providing a high quality education to your scholars- you answered swiftly and without hesitation.

The resilience this community has shown over the last year is not lost on our Board. We have thanked you for your work many times, and we will continue to thank you at every opportunity because you have earned it, over and over again. It takes all of us working together to get through unexpected obstacles. The Board is here to be a resource and support system as we begin 2021 and beyond. Though we cannot be certain what this year may bring, we can be confident in our knowledge that we have built a community that is dedicated to serving the students and families of Arizona with the utmost care and commitment. 2021, we are ready for you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Ellen Lee".

Mary Ellen Lee, President  
Arizona State Board for Charter Schools

### 2020 Annual Report Released

The Arizona State Board for Charter Schools' [2020 Annual Report](#) is here! Thank you to all of our charter operators, administrators, and community members for all of their hard work this last year.

As your authorizer, we are truly grateful to continue working hand in hand with you all to improve the educational landscape of the great State of Arizona. Cheers to the new year!



# COVID Vaccination Information for K-12 Educators

Several counties throughout Arizona, including Maricopa & Pima County, are moving into Phase 1B of the COVID Vaccination Plan. Per AZDHS, Phase 1B includes Education & Childcare workers.

It is estimated that Phase 1B registration and vaccination will begin in Maricopa County as soon as January 11, 2021. The Maricopa County Department of Public Health offers a weekly webinar which focuses on topics relevant to K-12 schools every Thursday at 2PM. The January 7th webinar was the first of two focused entirely on the COVID-19 vaccine and the administration process for K-12 employees, staff, and faculty. The January 14th webinar will be focused on vaccine distribution information, as well. The links to the January 7th webinar, slide deck, and Maricopa Department of Public Health website can be found below.

Please reach out to your local county health department with any questions about the COVID Vaccine and distribution plan.

Maricopa County Dept. of Health

Maricopa January 7 Webinar Slides

Maricopa January 7 Webinar Recording

## Board Updates & Action

### December Board Meeting

The ASBCS December Board Meeting was held virtually Tuesday, December 15, 2020. Thank you to all of our Board members and charter operators for their continued flexibility. The Board approved changes to the complaint policy and the creation of a new Change in Charter Control amendment.

Congratulations to those charters that were approved for renewal, and the successful new charter applicants.

See all Board action taken at the December 2020 meeting [here](#).

**Please be aware that the January meeting has been canceled.**

[Tool Assists Charters in Monitoring Financial](#)

[Enrollment Guidance Website](#)

## Performance

To facilitate charter holders monitoring, throughout the school year, their performance under the Board's Financial Performance Framework, the Board has developed a performance calculator, which is available on the Board's [website](#).

For the current school year, the charter holder should select the FY2021 Financial Framework Measure Calculator template that corresponds to the charter holder's number of years in operation as of fiscal year 2021.

If you have any questions, please reach out Board staff at 602-364-3080 or email [charterschoolboard@asbcs.az.gov](mailto:charterschoolboard@asbcs.az.gov).

## Now Live

In an effort to provide quality customer service and provide timely assistance to all charter holders, Board staff has created a new [Google Site](#) to use as a reference for enrollment practices.

This guidance should not be considered legal advice. Charter schools should consult their own legal counsel for further information and advice.

Charter holders are encouraged to review the site, make adjustments to their documents and practices as needed, and reach out to their assigned [Education Program Manager](#) if they have any questions.

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## 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](#)

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## Reminders

**January Board Meeting has been canceled.**

## Next Board Meeting:

Date: Monday, February 8, 2021

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: Virtual

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