



Board Notes

Your CASB Board of Directors at work

Advancing excellence in public education through effective leadership by locally elected school boards.

The following is a summary of the CASB Board of Directors meeting held June 20 & 21, 2008 at the CASB offices in Denver.

Board discusses mill levy stabilization case

The board discussed the case in which a District Court judge ruled the mill levy stabilization measure enacted into law in 2007 unconstitutional under Colorado's Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR). State Board of Education Chair Pam Suckla was on hand to discuss the Board of Education's decision at their June 20 board meeting to appeal the decision.

Executive Director Ken DeLay advised the board that he believes districts should proceed as normal with their district budgets. CASB will keep members updated on the progress of this case.

[Click here to learn more about the mill levy stabilization case.](#)

Board passes resolution supporting Initiative 126

The board passed a resolution to support and endorse Initiative 126, Andrew Romanoff's proposal to shore up funding for education and to begin reform of Colorado's contradictory constitution. Among other things, the proposal de-bruces state revenues, creates a Savings Account for Education (SAFE) in the State Education Fund and repeals some of the spending mandates in Amendment 23.

CASB will support the initiative by educating CASB membership about Amendment 126, participate in [Believe in a Better Colorado \(BBC\)](#) efforts around the issue and encourage member school districts to adopt resolutions supporting Amendment 126.

Other 2008 Ballot initiatives discussed:

- **Initiative 113**, the governor's severance tax proposal eliminating property tax deductions currently allowed for oil and gas producers.
- **Amendment 47 and Initiatives 53 and 54** are all anti-labor proposals attempting to curb the role of labor unions in the workplace and in campaigns.
- **Initiatives 92 and 93** are pro-labor proposals requiring health insurance for employees and providing injured employees the right to sue.

Board is briefed on status of HB-07 1118 in SB-08 212

Jane Urschel reported on each school board's role in implementing the governor's education reform bill, SB-08 212. Specifically, she focused on the incorporation of HB-07 1118, which requires local school boards to conduct a community-based process to develop a blueprint for education, into the bill.

SB 212 requires that:

- By 2010, school boards must undertake a community-based process to develop a blueprint for the education system in the community and to determine the skills students will need to be successful after graduation
- School boards use this blueprint, along with guidelines developed by the state, to establish or revise high school graduation requirements.

Urschel mentioned that "school boards are going to have to define their own role" in SB 212, and CASB will help members with that effort. In the meantime, she said, school boards need to work with their communities to fulfill the original requirements of HB-07 1118, which are reiterated in SB 212. Read pages 28 – 29 and pages 49 – 50 of [SB 212](#) to learn more about the school board's role.

Board approves revised policy for CASB Board of Directors Nomination

The board approved a revision to CASB Board policy BBB, which changes the nomination process for the CASB Board of Directors. The change was initiated by the CASB Board Nomination Committee, which sought to align CASB's Board of Directors nomination process with the board election timeline and to create more consistency in the process. CASB will send nomination information to CASB members in early September.

In other business, the Board:

- Approved CASB's budget for 2008-09
- Discussed increasing the effectiveness of CASB's advocacy on legislative issues
- Approved regional map and transition plan

*The next meeting of the CASB Board of Directors will be
September 19 & 20, 2008 at the CASB offices, 1200 Grant Street, Denver.*