

**FINAL
RESOLUTIONS**

**78th Annual
Delegate
Assembly**

Adopted
Saturday, October 20, 2018



Colorado Association of School Boards
CASB.org

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Standing Resolutions

Local Governance

- SR1** Colorado's Constitution acknowledges the diverse nature of Colorado school districts and establishes locally elected school boards vested with control of instruction as the guarantor of educational quality responsive to local needs.
- SR2** Control of instruction, including efforts to restructure and fund public education, must be guided by student needs, improved academic growth and achievement, with responsible use of financial resources as determined by the locally elected school board.
- SR3** Essential functions of the local board of education's constitutional authority include establishing the course of curriculum and instruction, the process for determining the terms and conditions of employment for school district employees, and the budget to be used to implement the local community's priorities.

Finance

- SR4** The state must provide Colorado’s public schools with adequate and reliable funding pursuant to a formula that balances federal, state and local revenue sources and is intended to fully fund the legal requirements for and meet the educational needs of all Colorado students.

- SR5** New legislation must expressly consider cost at the state and local levels and be fully funded before it may be enforced by the state.

- SR6** Existing mandates that are ineffective or that have a larger cost than benefit must be rescinded so local boards may dedicate those financial resources to better use.

Student Academic Growth and Achievement

- SR7** CASB supports a system of accountability that stresses local measures that inform instruction and separately acknowledges a need for a statewide system that allows measurement of school and district effectiveness and comparison between school districts.

- SR8** CASB opposes any state mandates beyond the federal minimums with respect to assessment and educator licensure to assure local boards’ flexibility to allocate instructional time and place the best teacher in every classroom.

- SR9** Colorado school boards’ constitutional authority includes the right to develop schools and programs to supplement current programs and ensure student access to diverse learning opportunities.

2019 Legislative Session Resolutions

Submitted by local boards of education or CASB's Legislative Resolutions Committee, the following resolutions adopted in 2018 form the basis of the CASB Legislative Advocacy platform at both the state and federal levels.

Local Governance

- LR1** CASB supports allowing local boards of education to meet in executive session with school district staff for the purpose of determining positions with respect to employee negotiations.
- LR2** CASB supports repeal of the Claire Davis School Safety Act.
- LR3** CASB supports elimination of the state required high school social studies exam.
- LR4** CASB urges the Colorado General Assembly, the Colorado Department of Education and the Colorado State Board of Education to support legislation that requires review and assessment of the effectiveness of existing K-12 education laws and programs to determine whether the laws and programs should be continued, revised, or rescinded. The scope of this review should include the effectiveness of the program, associated costs of the program and ultimately whether the program has advanced the educational outcomes of Colorado students. The review should include participation by school administrators and teachers.
- LR5** CASB supports the authority of local boards of education to hold accountable multidistrict online charter schools operating within their boundaries and to make decisions, including continued operation or closure, based on achievement standards that align with state law and the needs of the local community.
- LR6** CASB urges the United States Congress to amend the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act to include an exception for the administration of non-psychoactive cannabinoid oils to students on school grounds under medical supervision when recommended by a treating physician.

- LR7** CASB supports a change in existing law to provide that new oil and gas operations should be placed no closer than 1,000 feet from school outdoor activity areas. The local board of education should have control over whether to designate certain parts of its school properties as school outdoor activity areas.
- LR8** CASB encourages the Colorado General Assembly to eliminate portions of Colorado's Student Data Transparency and Security Act that are unduly burdensome and impractical for school districts and supporting organizations to implement.
- LR9** CASB urges the Colorado General Assembly to develop legislation that prohibits use of cell phones (both voice and text) while operating a motor vehicle in school zones unless in a legally parked vehicle or not in a vehicle (persons on foot in safe pedestrian areas).
- LR10** The Colorado Department of Education (CDE) should establish an office, with the directive and funding, to support the recruitment and hiring of teachers in small and rural school districts within the state. The current process of referring prospective teaching candidates to Teachers-Teachers.com may be cost-effective for the individual, but is often prohibitive for Local Education Agencies due to budgetary constraints, disproportional concentration of teachers in specific regions of the state, and a general lack of exposure for the communities in greatest need of new professionals to the marketplace. The advent of job hiring sites like Glassdoor, Indeed.com, ZipRecruiter, and others has been beneficial to the cause, however, a direct liaison between job seekers and the locations that need them the most is the next logical progression. Many administrators feel this connection should be augmented by CDE and its resource capability.
- LR11** CASB supports revising SB 191 teacher evaluation requirements to allow for evaluating non-probationary teachers in alternating years.

Finance

LR12 CASB recognizes that a structural change is needed in how the state funds K-12 education and other critical state and local programs. This structural change includes addressing the negative impacts of constitutional provisions like TABOR and Gallagher, which have put significant strain on the state budget. This has caused the Colorado General Assembly to subject K-12 education to significant budget cuts through the mechanism formerly known as the “negative factor.” Such budget cuts are contrary to the voters’ intent in passing Amendment 23, which called for the state to sustain K-12 education funding at a level equal to the growth in inflation plus enrollment. These budget cuts also significantly threaten the ability for K-12 educators to provide every Colorado child with a thorough and uniform education.

We therefore support actively advocating for the adoption of policies and legislation to provide the Colorado General Assembly with greater flexibility in setting the state budget.

Specifically, we support policies that address the structural imbalance within the state budget created by the current constraints of our state constitution.

LR13 CASB supports full federal funding and full funding of the state portion of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

LR14 CASB supports legislation requiring the Colorado Department of Education to collaborate with district and charter school boards of education and superintendents (as well as their professional associations, CASE and CASB respectively), to develop a system for counting student enrollment that is more equitable than the current single-day “October-count” model.

LR15 CASB believes the provisions in HB 17-1375, which create a so-called “mill levy equalization fund,” must be repealed or made subject to a new funding source approved by Colorado voters. HB 17-1375 uses general fund revenues to fund this “mill levy equalization fund.” The Budget Stabilization Factor (BSF) is above \$600 million and any general fund money diverted to benefit the students in the Charter School Institute (CSI) schools could and should be used to benefit all Colorado students through a buydown of the BSF. Moreover, about one-third of Colorado school districts also do not have any mill levy override (MLO) funding and providing funds only to CSI schools to

compensate for the lack of MLO funds is unfair and inequitable to the many public schools which do not have access to MLO funds.

- LR16** CASB urges the Colorado General Assembly, the Congress of the United States and the Colorado Department of Education to pursue funding to assist Colorado school districts with funds/programs to defray the costs associated with recycling of electronic equipment.
- LR17** CASB will advocate, upon the approval of Amendment 73 by Colorado voters, consideration for up to 50 percent of the first six months of the 2019 tax collections paid to districts based on per pupil count to be used for facilities to support desperately needed school capital construction projects.
- LR18** CASB will advocate for changes in state law to require that a minimum of an additional \$5 million per year be allocated during each of the next 10 budget years, from marijuana excise tax collections or other streams of revenue that may become available, to allow the Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) program to continue multi-year financing of large-scale capital facilities improvement projects for schools and districts in dire need, thereby allowing the BEST program to continue awarding multi-year financed projects until current Certificates of Participation payments are made in full and such funds become available to continue the financing of projects.
- LR19** CASB advocates the Building Excellent Schools Today program be given authority to spend down all reserves in excess of their one-year requirement.
- LR20** CASB encourages the Colorado General Assembly to continue to fund and expand social-emotional health supports (preventative and reactive) within Colorado, specifically for P-12 school-age youth.
- LR21** CASB urges the Colorado General Assembly to continue the additional funding of rural schools that was approved in SB 17-267, called the “Sustainability of Rural Colorado.”
- LR22** CASB urges the Colorado General Assembly to continue to fund educator preparation programs as well as educator recruitment and retention programs in order to reduce and eventually eliminate current and future educator shortages. Additionally, CASB urges the Colorado General Assembly to implement financial incentives such as loan forgiveness to those educators choosing to teach in small and rural school districts.

Student Academic Growth and Achievement

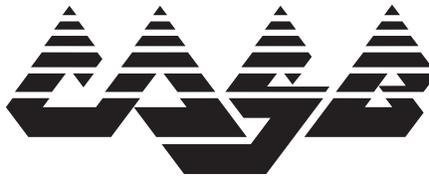
- LR23** CASB supports modernizing the seat time requirements for student funding to allow for a more streamlined approach for funding of blended learning (learning which takes place both in class and online).
- LR24** CASB urges the Colorado State Board of Education and Colorado Department of Education to change the School Performance Frameworks to implement a fairer school and district scoring system by recommending:
- Replacing “curve and percentile” based cut points with straight “percentage” based final assessment scoring.
 - Providing equity statewide for homogeneous and non-homogeneous student populations.
 - Modifying the definition of post-secondary success to account for traditional and non-traditional matriculation pathways.
- LR25** CASB encourages revisions in state law and rules to allow the Colorado Department of Education flexibility to adjust current timelines for Academic Standard Review. Currently, all 10 content areas are updated in one year, followed by a two-year implementation period; for a total of six years for the entire cycle.
- LR26** CASB believes that it is imperative for the state of Colorado to adopt an official definition of dyslexia as defined by the National Institute of Health in agreement with the International Dyslexia Association. We support early screening, professional development for educators, and additional funding to support the needs of these students.

Mission Statement

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

Vision Statement

*The Colorado Association of School Boards through leadership,
service, training and advocacy prepares local boards of education to
advance a system of public schools where all students are challenged
to meet their full potential.*



Colorado Association of School Boards

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