

# CASB Federal Relations Network

## Quick Reference Guide



The Colorado Association of School Boards represents local school boards who believe:

- Control of public school systems is best directed by locally elected boards of education and not legislated at the state or federal level.
- Local boards are better positioned to make effective decisions for children, as they are directly accountable to their communities for oversight, efficient use of financial resources, and student outcomes.
- The role of the federal government is to support research, promote best practices, and help ensure equal education opportunities for every child.
- Federal education requirements should be few in number, limited in scope, judiciously made, and fully funded.

## PRIORITIES

### Full Funding of the IDEA



The Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB) calls on the United States Congress to meet the funding requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA). Since the implementation of IDEA in the early 1970s, Congress has never fully funded the Act as written. The nation's most vulnerable students deserve the adequate funding required to provide each and every student the resources needed to achieve their full academic potential.

### Career and Technical Education



To be successful contributing members of a global society, Colorado students need access to Career and Technical Education in addition to other academic and extracurricular activities. The Colorado Association of School Boards supports ongoing and sustainable funding by the United States Congress to support the “Strengthening the Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century” Act, such as by providing resources to lessen the financial impact of a qualified instructor entering the field of Career and Technical Education. Career and Technical Education must be available to all Colorado students regardless of where they live within the state.

### School Nutrition Funding



The Colorado Association of School Boards supports enhancements to the various federal nutrition programs to allow for the most flexibility in menu choices, a reduction in regulations, and maximum reimbursements to Colorado schools. Colorado community schools are an important source of healthy meals and nutrition education for the state's preschool and K-12 students. Further, CASB supports programs to allow school meal programs to locally source ingredients produced in Colorado.

### Sustainable and Equitable Access to Broadband Data Networks

Colorado students in the 21st Century require broadband data access to reach their full academic potential. Colorado students should not be penalized for lack of access based on where they live within the state. The Colorado Association of School Boards supports ongoing efforts to increase access via funding for the E-Rate Program.

## Colorado FRN Chair

**Lori Goldstein**

Adams 12 (Congressional Dist. 7)

## Congressional District 1

**Dr. Carrie Olson**

Denver Public Schools

## Congressional District 2

**Jason Unger**

Boulder Valley School District

## Congressional District 3

**Jasmin Ramirez**

Roaring Fork Schools

## Congressional District 4

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## Congressional District 5

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## Congressional District 6

**Anne Keke**

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## Congressional District 8

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Jeffco Public Schools

## Congressional District 8

**Natalie Mash**

Weld County 6

## Ex-Officio

**Matt Cook**

Director of Public Policy & Advocacy  
Colorado Association of School Boards

**Jubal Yennie**

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If you are interested in serving on the Federal Relations Network, contact Matt Cook, CASB director of public policy & advocacy at [mcook@casb.org](mailto:mcook@casb.org).

The Colorado Federal Relations Network (FRN) reviews federal legislation and advocates the views of Colorado school boards to Congress. It is composed of two school board members from each of Colorado's Congressional districts. The FRN meets quarterly.

## **CASB Mission**

The Colorado Association of School Boards, through leadership, service, training, and advocacy, engages and supports local boards of education to advance a system of public schools where each and every student is equipped to meet their full potential.

CASB is a non-partisan organization representing school board members from Colorado's 178 school districts. CASB does not have a political action committee nor does CASB endorse candidates.