

CASB Legislative Resolutions Committee

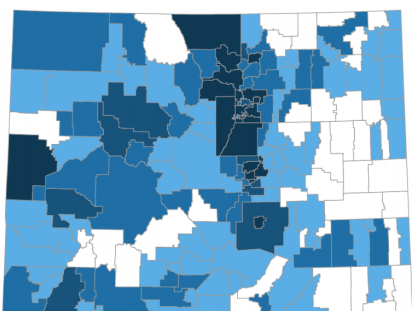
Quick Reference Guide

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 state government is to support research, promote best practices, and help ensure adequate per pupil funding.

PRIORITIES

LOCAL GOVERNANCE



- 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.
- 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.
- 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



- 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.
- New legislation must expressly consider cost at the state and local levels and be fully funded before it may be enforced by the state.
- Existing mandates that are ineffective or that have a larger cost than benefit must be rescinded so local boards may dedicate those financial resources to better use.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



- 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.
- CASB opposes any state mandate 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.
- 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.

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If you are interested in serving on the Legislative Resolutions Committee, contact Matt Cook, CASB director of public policy & advocacy at mcook@casb.org.

The CASB Legislative Resolutions Committee reviews resolutions presented by CASB members and develops recommendations to be considered at CASB's Annual Delegate Assembly. It also meets during the legislative session for a briefing on legislative issues and to determine CASB's position on individual pieces of legislation. The committee is made up of at least one school board member from each CASB region.

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.