

## CASB Legislative Resolutions Guidance

The Delegate Assembly is the foundation of CASB's governance structure and provides critical direction as CASB represents members' interests before state and national policymakers, as reflected through the resolutions passed at the Assembly. Working with CASB's advocacy staff and the Legislative Resolutions Committee (LRC), designated delegates from local boards help ensure that CASB reflects the interests of boards of education across the state.

The Delegate Assembly is made up of up to 178 delegates who are appointed/designated by their local school boards in 12 geographic regions throughout Colorado. Each member board casts one vote, so your board's representation at the Delegate Assembly is of the utmost importance to both your district and to CASB.

Thank you for your interest in submitting a resolution to the CASB Delegate Assembly. Resolutions are the advocacy agenda for CASB and provide the "road map" for issues critical to public education for the foreseeable future.

We are excited for another year of CASB member resolutions. The resolutions information packet and template are designed to give you guidance as you are writing your resolutions and help the LRC organize and simplify the voting process at the Assembly.

Some important practices to note:

- **Coordinated resolutions:** If we receive resolutions that are very similar, we will coordinate a process with the submitting districts to try to come up with one acceptable resolution to bring forward to the Assembly.
- **Federal Standing Resolutions:** Federal issues are very important. Last year we passed several standing resolutions which will be reaffirmed this year. If you have a new standing resolution you wish us to consider, please submit it to the Delegate Assembly. Most issues and lobbying on Federal issues will continue to be handled by our Federal Relations Network. Last year we added several standing resolutions that we will re-affirm along with our state standing resolutions. Federal issues in general are handled by our Federal Relations Network so most issues will be handled by that committee vs through resolutions at Delegate Assembly.
- **Resolution Rationale:** We ask that resolutions are submitted with a rationale. Why is the issue in the resolution an important CASB priority? What is the underlying issue or problem that this resolution would address/why would this move school districts forward in serving students?

The rationale will help delegates evaluate the resolutions more completely ahead of the Assembly; facilitate districts in taking a position on the resolutions; and will also limit the need for lengthy explanations during the Assembly. Resolutions should have wide impact on districts across the state or region versus impacting only a single district.

Resolutions typically fall into 3 overall categories and there are standing resolutions in each area. ***Please read the standing resolutions and consider them when deciding on whether a new resolution is needed.*** The four categories of resolutions are:

- Student Academic Growth and Achievement
- Finance
- Local Governance
- Federal Standing Resolutions

## **CASB Standing Resolutions**

### **Student Academic Growth and Achievement**

**SR1** The Colorado Association of School Boards 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.

**SR2** 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.

**SR3** 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.

### **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. Further, the state must increase the total annual appropriation of state special education funding by at least at the cost of inflation and caseload growth, to reduce unreimbursed special education expenditures at the local level.

**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.

## **Local Governance**

**SR7** 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.

**SR8** 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.

**SR9** 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.

## **Federal Standing Resolutions**

### **Full Funding of the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA)**

**FSR1** The Colorado Association of School Boards 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**

**FSR2** 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**

**FSR3** 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.

A couple of additional items will help the LRC and FRN Committees as they review the resolutions submitted:

- Are you working with a legislator on introducing a bill or bills related to this resolution?
- Please provide your thoughts on whether this resolution would require additional funding if enacted.

Based on your input on the above items, the CASB Advocacy Team will work with your board to hold further conversations.

The following template provides you with the questions to be addressed when submitting the [call for resolutions form](#). The resolutions template can be found on pages 5-6. It mirrors the online submissions form and can guide you as you write your resolution.

**The deadline for your board to submit a resolution is Monday, August 30, 2021.**

**Thank you for submitting a resolution to CASB!**



Contact Information

Organization\*

Organization is required

Contact Name\*

Contact Name is required

Email

Preferred\*

Preferred is required

Phone

Preferred\*

Preferred is required

Proposed Resolution

Thank you for your interest in submitting a resolution to the CASB Delegate Assembly. A few process changes we are making with efficiency in mind:

- **Coordinated resolutions:** If we receive resolutions that are very similar, we will coordinate a process with the submitting districts to try to come up with one acceptable resolution to bring forward to the Assembly.
- **Federal Standing Resolutions:** Federal issues are very important. We know that we must advocate on a consistent basis for re-authorization or full funding of key pieces of legislation (e.g. IDEA, Secure Rural Schools funding, and Carl Perkins funding for CTE). Similar to our regular standing resolutions, we will be introducing some Federal standing resolutions that we can reaffirm easily each year. Federal issues in general are handled by our Federal Relations Network so most issues will be handled by that committee versus through resolutions at Delegate Assembly.
- **Resolution Rationale:** We ask that resolutions are submitted with a rationale. Why is the issue in the resolution an important CASB priority? What is the underlying issue or problem that this resolution would address/why would this move school districts forward in serving students? The rationale will help delegates evaluate the resolutions more completely ahead of the Assembly; facilitate districts taking a position on the resolutions; and will also limit the need for lengthy explanations during the Assembly. Resolutions should have a wide impact on districts across the state or region vs. impacting only a single district.

Resolution Title or Subject: Please add a one sentence title or subject for your resolution.\*

Resolutions typically fall into 3 overall categories and there are standing resolutions ([linked here](#)) in each area. Please read the standing resolutions and consider them when deciding on whether a new resolution is needed. The three categories of resolutions are: Local Governance, Finance, and Student Academic Achievement and Growth.

Category:\*

- Local Governance
- Finance
- Student Academic Achievement and Growth
- Other

Are you working with a legislator on introducing a bill or bills related to this resolution?\*

- Yes
- No



Please provide your thoughts on whether this resolution would require additional funding if enacted.\*

**Resolution**

*Note: Proposed resolutions do not need to be submitted in final form. CASB legal staff will draft a proposed resolution to reflect your board's recommendations, then submit it to your board for final approval. If your board needs help formulating a resolution, contact CASB at 303-832-1000.*

Resolution Text\*

Background Information and Rationale: Why is this resolution needed? Is there an underlying problem that needs to be addressed? How would this resolution facilitate service to students?\*

Within 10 days of submitting your proposed resolution, you should receive an email from Matt Cook at CASB confirming our receipt of your proposal. If you do not hear from Matt within 10 days, please contact him at [mcook@casb.org](mailto:mcook@casb.org). It is important that you do so to ensure your proposed resolution is included in the resolutions packet presented during the 2020 Fall Delegate Assembly Conference, October 30. If you are having difficulty submitting this form electronically, please call Matt Cook at 303-832-1000. Thank you.

Submit