

ANNUAL 2013-14 REPORT



The Battle for the Negative Factor

Legislative battles over contentious issues are by their nature long and uncertain in their outcome, often to the very last minute. This year's **Battle for the Negative Factor** was as contentious as any fight we have had at the legislature — and not one that is likely to end anytime soon.

Over the past five years, a half dozen new and major education reform bills were implemented in Colorado. Meanwhile, the Colorado legislature has taken more than \$3 billion out of school finance through the negative factor, which is now projected to continue at a rate of nearly \$1 billion a year for the foreseeable future. Everyone at the state capitol touts the importance of a strong public education system, but no one has called for meaningful increases to current school funding levels.

This ongoing education funding crisis made it clearly evident what CASB should focus its efforts on this year: uniting school board voices in the battle to erase the negative factor. An across-the-state campaign launched in December, with CASB's Delegate Assembly and Board of Directors adopting resolutions making restoration of the negative factor our highest priority.

We knew we had our work cut out for us. Not only did the legislative session start with no money allotted for the negative factor buy down, we also learned many legislators didn't know what the negative factor was. Several legislators told us our resolution fell on deaf ears.

It wasn't long, however, before the negative factor became the hottest issue under the gold dome and in the news. Armed with a collection of CASB resources — Individualized Lobbying Plans, talking points, one-pagers and sample resolutions — school board members began educating legislators about how deeply the cuts in school finance have affected their students, families and schools, and the importance of increased funding for schools.

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They shared stories about the sacrifices their districts have made: how many programs have been cut, how many years have passed without raises and the irreplaceable teachers lost. Our members made calls and sent letters and emails to their communities, legislators and local newspapers. More than 50 school districts adopted resolutions calling upon the legislature to eliminate the negative factor and restore education funds.

School board members also showed up in droves for our Days at the Capitol events,

and they were well prepared, fired up and ready to lobby. Last year, many members didn't have relationships with their legislators and were unfamiliar with the goings-on at the capitol, so they cautiously dipped a toe into the legislative pool. This year, however, our members dove head first into the deep end — exploring on their own, knocking on legislators' doors and signing up to testify. The intensified school board presence at the capitol did not go unnoticed. One legislator quipped in a hearing that every day seemed to be CASB's Day at the Capitol.

And, just in case legislators didn't get the message through in-person lobbying, emails and phone calls, CASB demonstrated its conviction through a ditty. The now viral and surprisingly catchy negative factor song made its debut at our **Winter Legislative Conference**. *Chorus: Take that Negative Factor, make it go away! Come on put that billion back, do it with no strings attached. Take that Negative Factor make it go away.*

When the gavel banged down ending this session, the **negative factor payback had gone from zero to \$110 million**. This is well short of our goal even for the first year, but it is real progress. And, much of this success must be credited to our members. Looking ahead, we are committed to more funding, fewer mandates and the hard work it will take to accomplish those goals.

2012-13 AUDITED FUND BALANCE

July 1, 2012 Balance	June 30, 2013 Balance
\$(56,619)	\$(49,224)
Revenues \$2,385,026	
Expenses \$2,377,631	

INCOME	MEMBERSHIP DUES	\$1,260,549
	CONFERENCES/CONVENTION	\$527,755
	POLICY	\$158,778
	MEMBER PROJECTS	\$157,210
	AFFILIATE/BOCES DUES	\$10,350
	OTHER INCOME	\$270,384
	TOTAL	\$2,385,026

EXPENSES	OPERATING – GENERAL	\$943,082
	CONFERENCES/CONVENTION	\$476,079
	POLICY	\$300,277
	LEGAL	\$150,656
	COMMUNICATIONS	\$150,779
	MEMBER RELATIONS	\$144,552
	MEMBER PROJECTS	\$112,412
	ADVOCACY	\$99,794
TOTAL	\$2,377,631	

CASB Membership Benefits & Services In addition to daily phone and email support, CASB offers a diverse range of benefits and services that are included in membership dues, as well as additional fee-based customized services. The following list represents rural districts, based on Colorado Department of Education and Rural Education Council definitions.

RURAL DISTRICTS

Note: This list does not include districts that used CASB's Legal Services Program for general counsel services.

	Membership benefits & services included with CASB dues								Fee-based services & special projects						
	Policy leadership & support	Legal consultation & updates	Advocacy & lobbying	Communications updates & support	Peer learning & networking	Board governance support*	Engagement and partnership with education stakeholders**	Days at the Capitol & Amendment 66 forum	Policy services	Annual convention	Fall & winter conferences, regional meetings, eClassrooms	Superintendent search	Community engagement & integration training	Board effectiveness workshops & retreats	BEST Health Plan
Alamosa Re-11J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					•
Archuleta #50 JT	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•		
Aspen School District	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Bayfield 10 Jt-R	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•			•		
Bennett 29J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Brush RE 2(J)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Buena Vista R-31	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•				
Canon City Schools	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Delta County 50J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•				
Durango 9-R	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•		
Eagle County Schools	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•		
East Grand School District	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				•	
Eaton RE-2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Elizabeth C-1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Ellicott 22	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•				•	
Estes Park R-3	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				
Fremont RE-2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Garfield County No. 16	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•				•	
Garfield Re-2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				•	
Gunnison Watershed RE1J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•			•	
La Junta Public Schools	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Lake County R-1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Lamar RE-2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Manitou Springs 14	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•				
Moffat County RE-1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•			•	
Monte Vista School District	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					•
Montezuma-Cortez RE-1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•			•		
Montrose County RE-1J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•				
Morgan County Re-3	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•				•
Platte Canyon #1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•				
Platte Valley RE-7	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•				
RE-1 Valley	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•				
Roaring Fork RE-1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Salida R-32-J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•				
Steamboat Springs RE-2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•				
Strasburg 31J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•				
Summit RE-1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Trinidad #1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Weld County RE-1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•				
Weld County RE-3J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Weld County Re-8	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•				
Weld RE-5J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•				
Woodland Park Re-2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•				

* Great Governing website, Gavel Guide™, board workshops on implementation of state mandates and education initiatives

** CASB cultivates engagement and partnerships with dozens of education and non-education groups to ensure a unified and effective voice and presence on behalf of its members. These include: CDE, CASE, CBA, CEA, Colo. Municipal League, Special District Assoc. of Colo., Colo. Counties Inc., Rural Ed Council, Governor's Education Leadership Council, Colo. State Land Board, CHSAA, National School Boards Assoc., Federal Relations Network, Great Education Colorado, Colo. School Finance Project, Colorado's Future, Colo. Education Initiative, Building Excellent Schools Today, Colo. Rural Schools Caucus, Colo. Council of School Board Attorneys, National Council of School Attorneys, Colorado School Public Relations Association, Council of Chief State School Officers, State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education, Colo. School Safety Resource Center, Colo. Dept. of Higher Ed, Amer. Assoc. of State Policy Services, National Conference of State Legislatures, Stand for Children, Colo. Children's Campaign, Dept. of Public Health & Environment, Education Commission of the States, Public Education & Business Coalition, area supt. councils and university education depts.

CASB Membership Benefits & Services In addition to daily phone and email support, CASB offers a diverse range of benefits and services that are included in membership dues, as well as additional fee-based customized services. The following list represents small rural districts, based on Colorado Department of Education and Rural Education Council definitions.

SMALL RURAL DISTRICTS

Note: This list does not include districts that used CASB's Legal Services Program for general counsel services.

	Membership benefits & services included with CASB dues								Fee-based services & special projects						
	Policy leadership & support	Legal consultation & updates	Advocacy & lobbying	Communications updates & support	Peer learning & networking	Board governance support*	Engagement and partnership with education stakeholders**	Days at the Capitol & Amendment 66 forum	Policy services	Annual convention	Fall & winter conferences, regional meetings, eClassrooms	Superintendent search	Community engagement & integration training	Board effectiveness workshops & retreats	BEST Health Plan
Agate 300	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					•
Aguliar Re-6	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Akron R-1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•					•
Arickaree R-2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•					•
Arriba-Flagler	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Consolidated 20	•	•	•	•	•	•	•								
Bethune School District	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•						
Big Sandy 100J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•					
Briggsdale RE 10-J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•					
Burlington RE-6J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Byers 32-J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•					
Calhan RJ1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Campo RE-6	•	•	•	•	•	•	•								
Centennial R-1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•	•	
Center Consolidated 26JT	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				•	•
Cheraw #31	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Cheyenne County Re-5	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Clear Creek RE-1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Cotopaxi RE-3	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•					
Creede School District	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•						•
Cripple Creek-Victor RE-1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•		•		•	
Crowley County RE-1J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Custer County C-1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
DeBeque 49-JT	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Deer Trail 26J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•				•	
Del Norte C-7	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					•
Dolores County RE-2(J)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•					
Dolores RE-4A	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•			•		
Edison 54JT	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•					
Elbert #200	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Fleming School	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•		•			
Fowler R4J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•					
Genoa-Hugo C-113	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				•	
Gilpin County RE-1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Granada RE-1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Hanover No. 28	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Haxtun RE-2J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				•	•
Hayden School District	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•		•			
Hi-Plains R-23	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Hinsdale County RE-1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Holly RE-3	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•					
Holyoke Re-1J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					•
Huerfano Re-1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•			
Idalia RJ-3	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•					
Ignacio 11-JT	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•		
Julesburg RE-1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•					•
Karval RE-23	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					•

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Kim R-88	•	•	•	•	•	•	•								
Kiowa C-2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•							
Kiowa County RE-1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
La Veta RE-2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Las Animas RE-1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Liberty J-4	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Limon Public Schools	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Lone Star #101	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Mancos Re-6	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•		•			
Manzanola 3J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
McClave RE-2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Meeker RE-1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Merino RE-4J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					•
Miami Yoder JT-60	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Moffat Consolidated #2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					•
Mountain Valley RE-1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•			•		
North Conejos RE 1-J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					•
North Park R-1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Norwood Public Schools	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					•
Otis R-3	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					•
Ouray R-1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Park County RE-2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Pawnee Re-12	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Peetz Plateau RE-5	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					•
Peyton 23-Jt	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Plainview RE-2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Plateau Valley 50	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Platte Valley Re-3	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Prairie RE-11J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Primero RE-2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Pritchett RE-3	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Rangely RE-4	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Ridgway R-2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Rocky Ford R2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Sanford School District	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					•
Sangre de Cristo RE-22J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					•
Sargent RE-33J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					•
Sierra Grande R-30	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Silverton Public Schools	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
South Conejos RE-10	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
South Routt RE-3	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Springfield RE-4	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Stratton R-4	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Swink #33	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Telluride R-1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Vilas RE-5	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Walsh RE-1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Weld RE-9	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					•
Weldon Valley RE-20J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•				•	
West End RE-2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
West Grand 1-JT	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				
Wiggins RE-50J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Wiley Re-13-Jt	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					
Woodlin R-104	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Wray RD-2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•				
Yuma 1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•					

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URBAN/SUBURBAN DISTRICTS

Note: This list does not include districts that used CASB's Legal Services Program for general counsel services.

	Membership benefits & services included with CASB dues								Fee-based services & special projects						
	Policy leadership & support	Legal consultation & updates	Advocacy & lobbying	Communications updates & support	Peer learning & networking	Board governance support*	Engagement and partnership with education stakeholders**	Days at the Capitol & Amendment 66 forum	Policy services	Annual convention	Fall & winter conferences, regional meetings, eClassrooms	Superintendent search	Community engagement & integration training	Board effectiveness workshops & retreats	BEST Health Plan
Academy 20	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Adams 12 Five Star Schools	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Adams 14	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Adams County 50	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Aurora Public Schools	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Boulder Valley Schools	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Cherry Creek Schools	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Cheyenne Mountain 12	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Colorado Springs D-11	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Denver Public Schools	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Englewood Schools	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Falcon 49	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Fountain-Fort Carson 8	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Harrison 2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Jefferson County Public Schools	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Lewis-Palmer #38	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				
Littleton Public Schools	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				•	
Mapleton Public Schools	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Mesa County Valley 51	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Poudre R-1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Pueblo 70	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Pueblo City Schools	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				
School District 27J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Sheridan School District	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
St. Vrain Valley RE-1J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Thompson R2-J	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•			
Weld County 6	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•			
Weld RE-4	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Widefield 3	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					

* Great Governing website, Gavel Guide™, board workshops on implementation of state mandates and education initiatives

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