



**FINAL
RESOLUTIONS**

**80th Annual
Delegate
Assembly**

Adopted
Friday, October 30, 2020



Colorado Association of School Boards
CASB.org

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- SR6** Existing mandates that are ineffective or that have a larger cost than benefit must be rescinded so local boards may dedicate those financial resources to better use.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

2021 Legislative Session Resolutions

Student Academic Growth and Achievement

- LR1** Be it resolved that CASB supports having the State Legislators direct the State Auditor to conduct an independent performance audit of the state's current K-12 accreditation framework and accountability system; and
Be it further resolved that, after conducting the evaluation, the State Auditor report their findings to a joint meeting of the House and Senate Education Committees of the General Assembly.
- LR2** Be it resolved that CASB supports having the State Legislators clarify the definition of "internal or intergovernmental purposes" (C.R.S.29-270302 (2)) for the delivery of WiFi access to students in distance learning environments;
Be it further resolved that the definition of "internal or intergovernmental purposes" include internet networks originating from a public school and projected into the surrounding community for the sole purpose of providing internet connectivity to students learning from home.
- LR3** CASB supports continuing the COVID-19 waivers pausing state testing, related teacher accountability measures and the accountability clock for the 2020-2021 school year. Consideration should be given to the extension of these programs for as long as the future of education in the state is in flux and there is uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 health pandemic.
- LR4** CASB supports continued reform in the teacher evaluation process to encourage courageous conversations between administrators and teachers that leads to real goal setting and effective feedback. Evaluations are more effective when trust and communication are paramount, rather than rigidly imposed accountability measures that discourage continuous improvement in teaching methods.

Finance

- LR5** CASB supports current efforts to build a coalition addressing Colorado state funding requirements resulting from TABOR or the Gallagher Amendment that may result in a future statewide referendum or initiative for a ballot measure amending the Colorado Constitution. If Gallagher is amended, there should be a systematic and fair process put in its place to equalize local education funding across the State.
- LR6** CASB supports expansion of and additional funding for the E-Rate program for school broadband connectivity to include efforts for students in a virtual learning environment lacking reliable internet connections.
- LR7** CASB supports additional federal funding for school districts to compensate for COVID-19 related expenses and shortfalls in budgets resulting from economic effects of the pandemic.
- LR8** CASB urges the Colorado Department of Education to use past-years' enrollment averaging and other tools to soften the budget impact to school districts experiencing significant enrollment declines in the era of remote-learning due to COVID-19.
- LR9** CASB opposes attempts to divert public dollars away from public schools in the form of vouchers, tax credits, or any other mechanisms that have the effect of reducing funding to public schools.

Local Governance

- LR10** CASB encourages the Colorado General Assembly to modify state statutes to clearly state that the public disclosure of one finalist for an executive position, fourteen days before hire by a state or local public body, is permitted. The modification would also still permit the public disclosure of more than one finalist fourteen days before hire if the state or local public body chooses.
- LR11** 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 prescribed by a treating physician.
- LR12** CASB supports a proposal to use bus video to capture/penalize traffic violators of "Stop" arms on buses.
- LR13** CASB supports adoption of policies and legislation amending the Colorado Charter Schools Act regarding the process of obtaining waivers from Colorado law, including requiring the requesting charter school to provide a written rationale for seeking each such waiver.
- LR14** CASB supports the repeal of the Claire Davis School Safety Act.

Other

LR15 CASB supports giving teachers and school staff a high priority for receiving the COVID-19 vaccine, when available, to help ensure schools can operate effectively with in-person education.

LR16 CASB supports school boards placing a high priority on reducing carbon consumption in making decisions regarding capital improvement, energy use, and transportation; and supporting climate change and environmental education. CASB also urges the Colorado General Assembly and federal government to take swift and effective action on climate change to protect current and future students.