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# REPORT CARD

Vol. 43, No. 4

February 19, 2013

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## February 2013

- 19 **Legislative Update Webinar** – Call in (article below)
- 20 **Impact Aid Summit** – ASBA office
- 24 **ARN Lobby Day** – State Capitol/ASBA office

## March 2013

- 1 **Spring Legal Seminar** – Tucson
- 4 **ARN Lobby Day** – State Capitol/ASBA office
- 8 **Spring Legal Seminar** – Flagstaff
- 18 **ARN Lobby Day** – State Capitol/ASBA office

### **Legal Seminar Program highlight “What You Need to Know: School Attacks – 21<sup>st</sup> Century Responses to Keep Schools Safe”**

This critical issues session which addresses safety in schools – the number one concern of parents, educators, administrators and law enforcement – will be presented at ASBA’s 9th Annual Spring Legal Seminars in March. Other sessions include a comprehensive Legislative and Legal Update, The Latest on Principal and Teacher Evaluation Reform, School Board Micromanagement: What It Is and What It Is Not, and Tinkering with Facebook: How Far Can Schools Go in Dealing with Off-Campus, Online Speech of Students? The \$135 registration fee includes digital/online conference material, continental breakfast and lunch. Printed materials are available for an additional \$15 fee and must be ordered during online registration. Free in-meeting wi-fi will be provided to all attendees. The program is identical at both locations, so choose the date and location best for you. Hotel reservation deadline for both locations is Friday, Feb. 22, and information is on the registration page.

- Spring Legal Seminar – Tucson: Friday, March 1 [Register](#)
- Spring Legal Seminar – Flagstaff: Friday, March 8 [Register](#)

### **Call in today for latest legislative updates**

The ASBA Governmental Relations team’s second legislative conference update is scheduled for 4 p.m. this afternoon. Call in to get the most current information from the State Capitol on issues affecting public education. [Click to register](#). You will receive a confirmation email with specifics about joining the conference either online or by phone. Stay tuned for more information on upcoming legislative updates available to ASBA members.

### **First Arizona Relations Network (ARN) Lobby Day a success**

The first of several 2013 Arizona Relations Network (ARN) Lobby Days kicked off last week with rural and tribal board members and administrators attending training on the legislative process and how to lobby. They then attended a hearing of the Senate Education Committee and were introduced by the committee chair, Sen. Kimberly Yee. In addition, most members were also able to meet with their legislators to talk about important issues, such as Common Core implementation funding. A big thank you to all those who attended for helping our advocacy efforts; we couldn’t do it without you! [Check out](#)

[some of the photos](#) from the event.

There is still time to join with other members of ASBA and participate in our advocacy efforts for public schoolchildren. If you'd like to attend one of our upcoming lobby days, pick one of the available dates and times listed below and [fill out the form](#).

ARN LOBBY DAYS:

- Mon., Feb. 24, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Mon., March 4, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Mon., March 18, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

### **Winter 2013 ASBA Journal arriving in mailboxes next week**

The issue features interviews about Arizona K-12 education and the role of local governing boards with five influential policy leaders: Governor Brewer; Superintendent of Public Instruction John Huppenthal, Sen. Kimberly Yee, chair of the Senate education committee; Rep. Doris Goodale, chair of the House education committee; and Tom Tyree, president of the State Board of Education. You'll also find our Annual Awards Showcase, recognizing excellence in people and programs in Arizona public schools, plus an article on tech-based systems that some districts are using to aid in implementation of Arizona's new teacher and principal evaluations.

### **Executive Director Ogle to serve as National School Boards Action Center (NSBAC) advisor**

ASBA's Dr. Ogle has been invited to join the Executive Directors Advisory Committee to NSBAC for a two-year term. This associate organization was founded by NSBA to engage in direct and public lobbying activities and certain political activities. Dr. Ogle's oversight of ASBA's 501(c)(4) sister organization, Friends of ASBA, and his experience in dealing with the state of Arizona on education and funding issues were cited as bringing value to the effectiveness of NSBAC.

### **Register now for NSBA annual conference**

This year's conference is scheduled for San Diego, April 13-15. Don't miss NSBA's "national university of boardmanship" and the opportunity to join school board/superintendent teams focusing on the newest innovations in public education and best practices from school boards nationally. Highlights include the latest on student achievement and accountability, innovations in district operations, and best practices on governance and executive leadership. More than 200 sessions will be offered dealing with the most significant issues facing America's public schools today. Advance registration deadline is March 22. Register today at [www.nsba.org/conference](http://www.nsba.org/conference).

### **Appeals court hears *Niehaus v. Huppenthal***

The legality of vouchers, or education savings accounts, was argued before a panel of judges with the Arizona Court of Appeals, Division One, on Wed., Feb. 13. ESAs allow parents to receive money from the state to spend at a private or religious school, among other options. Don Peters, who represents the appellants (and ASBA), argued that the accounts violate the Arizona Constitution's Aid Clause and that the decision in *Cain v. Horne* from 2009 in which vouchers were found to violate the Aid Clause was precedent in looking at ESAs. A decision could come any time and we are hopeful that it comes as soon possible since legislation to expand ESA is proceeding at the Legislature.

### **Thank you to all respondents of ASBA's annual survey of teacher and administrator salaries**

Over 100 school districts responded to the recent salary survey of teacher and administrator salaries that was sent out two weeks ago. Data will be compiled and sent out in March. Hard copies will be mailed to all ASBA member districts and all respondents will also receive an electronic copy.

### **Top two Arizona youth volunteers honored for community service**

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards announced Arizona's top two youth volunteers of 2013: Morgan Beckwith, a senior at Lake Havasu High School, and Alexandra Cockett, an eighth-grade student from Litchfield Park. They will each receive a cash award, engraved medallions, and a trip to

Washington, D.C. This nationwide program, conducted by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals, is now in its 18<sup>th</sup> year and honors young people for outstanding volunteer work. Six other Arizona students were recognized as distinguished finalists for their impressive community service activities: Naveen Dasari, Aditi Poduval, and Matthew Safford from Desert Mountain High School; Sara Heiser, Catalina Foothills High School; Henry Ng, Glendale High School; and Braden Whitaker, Ironwood Ridge High School. For more about the program and information on the honorees: [Prudential Spirit of Community Awards](#).

### **Arizona PTA schools celebrate Take Your Family to School Week**

Gov. Jan Brewer has proclaimed February 2013, as “Family Engagement Month.” Arizona PTA schools – as well as schools nationwide – are encouraged to host events and open their doors to families during “Take Your Family to School” week (Feb. 18-22). Research studies have shown that parent and family involvement is a major factor in determining children’s success in school by contributing to better school attendance, improved homework completion rates, decreased violence, and higher graduation rates. The timing of this week in February also pays tribute to the day PTA was founded in 1897. For more information and resources: [AZPTA](#).

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## **ASBA Executive Searches**

### **OPENING SOON**

Superintendent, Coolidge USD

**Looking for an interim superintendent?** ASBA can help. We maintain a database of people interested in serving as interim superintendents. We will post your requirements and send to this list, then provide you with applications from those individuals interested in your position. There is no charge for this service. For assistance in this area, contact Steve Highlen, ASBA Executive Search Consultant, at [shighlen@azsba.org](mailto:shighlen@azsba.org).

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■ **Questions about the ASBA Report Card e-newsletter?**

Contact Shirley Simpson, ASBA Membership Services Coordinator, at [ssimpson@azsba.org](mailto:ssimpson@azsba.org).

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