

## **Executive Order 2016-04**

### **RENEWING THE CLASSROOMS FIRST INITIATIVE COUNCIL**

**WHEREAS**, every child in Arizona, regardless of where they live, must have access to a high quality education;

**WHEREAS**, Arizona students must have access to a high quality education that promotes excellence and school choice, and is equitably funded through a financial system of clarity, transparency and recognition of student achievement;

**WHEREAS**, academic outcomes must be the cornerstone of a funding system that drives success and through it, a natural, organic focus on classroom-related and instructional spending;

**WHEREAS**, since its inception over 30 years ago, Arizona's K-12 public school finance code has morphed into a complex and intricate system that has burdened our schools with excess bureaucracy and reporting and disincentivized school leaders to strive for innovation and efficiency;

**WHEREAS**, a single funding formula is achievable but must take into consideration differences in education delivery and funding formula inequities among public schools; and

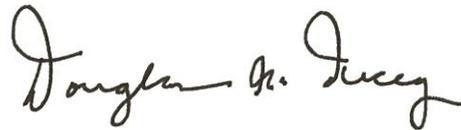
**WHEREAS**, the objective of a simple, equitable and fair funding structure should be an efficient and flexible funding formula that has standardized property tax rates, combined with state General Fund appropriations that contribute to all K-12 students in Arizona.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of this State, do hereby establish the Classrooms First Initiative Council (the "Council") and I order as follows:

1. Membership of the Council shall include the following members appointed by the Governor:
  - The Superintendent of Public Instruction, or designee;
  - The President of the State Board of Education;
  - The President of the State Board for Charter Schools;
  - A county school superintendent;
  - A charter school operator;
  - A school district superintendent;
  - A public school principal;
  - A public school teacher;
  - A finance expert from a school district;
  - A finance expert from a charter school;
  - A representative from the business or taxpayer community;
  - A representative of the Governor; and
  - At the discretion of the Governor, additional members with relevant experience.
2. Members of the Council serve at the pleasure of the Governor.
3. The Chair of the Council shall be selected from the majority of the members of the Council.

4. The Council shall meet at least once per month and as often as required, as determined by the Chair.
5. No later than October 1, 2016, the Council shall provide the Governor with a final report.
6. The report shall include recommendations to revise the K-12 public school finance code and any other items consistent with the policies and principles set forth in this Executive Order.
7. The Executive Order expires on December 31, 2016.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona.



**GOVERNOR**

**DONE** at the Capitol in Phoenix on this Fifteenth day of June in the Year Two Thousand and Sixteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the Hundred and Fortieth.

**ATTEST:**



**Secretary of State**

