

Classrooms First Initiative Council

December 1, 2016



Social Media

- Twitter:
 - @AzGOVEducation
 - #CFICLive
 - #ClassroomsFirst

Website

- <http://education.azgovernor.gov/edu/classrooms-first-initiative>

Approval of August 9, 2016 Minutes



Discussion of Preliminary Draft Report



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- II. Council Membership
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- VI. Background Information
- VII. Review of Proposals
- VIII. Equitable Funding Recommendations
- IX. Recognition of Excellence Recommendations
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- XI. Acknowledgements
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REPORT FORMAT



- I. Picture of Arizona Classroom
- II. Title – “Classrooms First Council Final Report”



COVER



I. Full Council Membership

I. Pictures

II. Titles

III. Years Served on Council

*Inside of Cover

**Credit of Cover Photo

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP



- I. Governor Ducey Acknowledgement
- II. Individual Quotes from Council Members

FOREWORD



- I. Executive Summary
- II. Timeline of Council Work
- III. Background Information
- IV. Review of Proposals
- V. Equitable Funding Recommendations
- VI. Recognition of Excellence Recommendations
- VII. Student-Centered Learning Recommendations
- VIII. Acknowledgements
- IX. Exhibits

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- I. Mission Statement
- II. Purpose & Use of Report
- III. Recommendations
- IV. Next Steps

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



- I. Summary of December 2015 Findings
- II. Proposition 123/2016 Legislative Session
- III. Arizona Education Progress Meter
- IV. Achieve60AZ
- V. Arizona Academic Standards
- VI. Menu of State Assessments
- VII. A-F Accountability Redesign

BACKGROUND INFORMATION



I. Brief Summary of Each Proposal

- a. Arizona Connections Academy
- b. Arizona Parents for Education
- c. Arizona Charter Schools Association
- d. Arizona Alternative Education Consortium
- e. Craig Hazeltine, Education Advocate
- f. Arizona School Administrators
- g. Education Finance Reform Group
- h. A for Arizona
- i. Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- j. Stand for Children
- k. Arizona School Boards Association
- l. Window Rock Unified, Tucson Unified, Phoenix Union, Washington Elementary Unified, Holbrook Unified, Maricopa Unified, and Tempe Elementary Unified
- m. JTED Consortium
- n. Arizona Schools Now

**SUBMITTED
PROPOSALS**



Systemic Reforms

- Simplified formula (collapse variables)
- Single formula for all public schools
- Continue unique student and school weights
- Reduce reliance on local property taxes outside the revenue control limit
- Develop single and uniform statewide tax rate
- Increase teacher salaries
- Reward performance w/ focus on low-income schools
- Institute poverty reward or system weight
- Focus on early literacy
- Complete special education & ELL actuarial study w/ consistent reporting mechanisms
- Structure system resources as fungible, flexible and lump sum
- Reduce regulation & reporting
- Revise current capital finance system
- Discuss Proposition 301 renewal

School Type Reforms

- Incentivize teachers at Title I schools
- Restore funding to online schools at 100%
- Alternative schools weight (Group B)
- Rural schools (transportation)
- Restoration of JTED funds (reductions, 9th grade, transportation)

ANALYSIS OF PROPOSALS



- The Council's recommendations are predicated on the belief that statutory changes must be implemented through a robust stakeholder process with legislative input and approval
- As such, the report identifies strategies for success but allows for a broader, deliberative policy-making process that extends beyond the Council itself

CONTEXT OF RECOMMENDATIONS



- The Council also recognizes that recommendations contained in the report that require additional funding are beyond the original scope of the Executive Order
- However, the Council also acknowledges that through almost 18 months of stakeholder engagement, an equality outcome-based education system must be built using practices that move the needle on student performance
- The Council provides these recommendations to Governor Ducey as he considers targeted investments and funding opportunities which were raised as the most impactful reforms by the education community

CONTEXT OF RECOMMENDATIONS



- Develop a simplified & single school finance formula
- Create standardized & consolidated tax rates
- Reduce reliance on local property tax funding generated outside of the revenue control limit
- Operationalize school finance laws into State Board of Education rulemaking
- Allocate resources to schools in lump sum funding, fund simplification and full expenditure flexibility

EQUITABLE FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS



- School systems to provide parents a school level accounting of resources (actual vs. budget)
- Develop a parent portal to explain school funding system and include mechanism in which parents can calculate the amount their student generates

EQUITABLE FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS



- Reward academic outcomes, as measured by A-F Accountability System, with additional funding (weight), in a tiered system that prioritizes high performing schools in high poverty areas
- Revise A.R.S. § 15-215 to adjust evaluation criteria and list of regulations from which high performing schools can be exempt
- Encourage school systems to include principals and other school leaders in internal budgetary processes, not only at their school level, but as part of system wide budgetary decisions

RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE RECOMMENDATIONS



- Adopt the Arizona Education Progress Meter
- Honor the teaching profession
 - Increase teacher salaries across the board
 - Incentivize teachers to transfer or remain in high poverty schools
 - Expand teacher loan forgiveness programs
 - Develop mentoring programs
 - Streamline certification requirements

STUDENT-CENTERED LEARNING RECOMMENDATIONS



- Closing the Achievement Gap
 - Address early literacy needs with a funding priority for low income communities
 - Reward academic outcomes, with special focus on high performing, low-income schools
 - Institute poverty indicator to address gaps in achievement – and to resolve student funding inequities (desegregation)
 - Address student learning inequities in rural communities (increased technology access, facilities, teacher recruitment incentives, actual costs of transportation)
- Conduct an actuarial cost study on special education costs & identify ways to address adequacy of funding based on study results

STUDENT-CENTERED LEARNING RECOMMENDATIONS



- Capital Finance Reform
- Proposition 301 Renewal

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS



- Acknowledge all stakeholders and groups that contributed to the Council's work
- Recognition of individuals who consistently shared feedback as part of the public comment period

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



- Executive Order 2015-02
- Executive Order 2016-04
- Press Release
- Working Groups and Meeting Schedule
- Agendas & Minutes
- Presentations
- Proposals
- Public Feedback (online submittals)

EXHIBITS



Public Comments



Next Meeting

December 14, 2016 @10am
Executive Tower
1700 West Washington
2ND Floor Conference Room
Phoenix, AZ 85007

