



Expect More Arizona®
THE MOVEMENT FOR
WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION

Long-Term Advocacy Agenda

Expect More Arizona champions an excellent education for every Arizona child, every step of the way. To ensure we're accomplishing this shared vision, we advocate for policies and long-term funding strategies that advance the Arizona Education Progress Meter as the widely accepted education framework for the state and achieve the meaningful goals set for each indicator by the dedicated partners that crafted them.

Goal: Increase Arizona median teacher pay to the national median in 5 years.

- Provide salary incentives for teachers to complete and maintain research-based credentials proven to lead to improvements in student achievement (NBCT scholarship fees, release time, annual stipend for the life of the certification).
- Providing salary increases for teachers serving in schools with high concentrations of poverty, rural schools, or in hard to staff subjects (math, science, and special education).

Goal: Increase the number of 3 and 4 year olds in quality early learning settings to 45% by 2030

- Increase and continue quality offerings to advance school and literacy readiness.
- Support tiered reimbursement for early childhood programs to incentivize quality.
- Create pathways and incentives for pre-K teachers seeking degrees.

Goal: Increase 3rd grade reading proficiency to 72% by 2030

- Support evidence-based interventions to improve literacy and reading proficiency in 3rd grade, as reflected in LEA reading plans, including:
 - Opportunities for early identification and screening
 - A continuum of coordinated, specific and meaningful professional development for teachers (including coaching)
 - Increased instructional time, and other effective strategies targeted to students most in need
 - Quality, developmentally appropriate kindergarten, including data driven instruction, early identification and screening, and implementation of high-quality formative assessments
- Support existing and new early childhood education evidence-based early childhood education interventions that improve 3rd grade reading proficiency.
- Support Move on When Reading and other policies to support those groups of children who most need to close the achievement/opportunity gap, including but not limited to those students with special needs, English Learners, and those who are below proficient on the state assessment.
- Sustain and ensure funding for early literacy and early childhood education to support reading proficiency and students most in need.
- Prioritize solutions for reducing chronic absenteeism in the early grades

Goal: Increase the percent of 8th graders ready for high school math to 69% by 2030

- Support funding for early, evidence based interventions for elementary students struggling with key math concepts.
- Promote policies that assist in early identification of students falling behind in math.
- Encourage access to and readiness for higher level math courses pre-high school.

- Target policy changes and services to support those groups of children who most need to close the achievement/opportunity gap, including but not limited to those students with special needs and English Learners

Goal: Improve our 4-year graduation rate to 90% by 2030

- Support an increase in the compulsory attendance age to 18.
- Support policies that help districts in developing interventions on leading indicators of drop-outs such as failing core classes in middle school.
- Push policies that reduce truancy and absenteeism.
- Provide school counselors with relevant, ongoing professional development in college and career readiness.
 - Integrate college and career readiness into graduate school counselor programs.
- Improve the school counselor to student ratio in Arizona, which is currently the worst in the nation.

Goal: Raise post-high school enrollment to 70% by 2030

- Support policies that improve awareness of and progress towards college accessibility
- Support reinvestment in Arizona's community colleges.
- Support continued progress towards funding 50% of Arizona's university resident students.
- Ensure all students have access to rigorous, credit-bearing coursework (dual/concurrent enrollment, AP, or IB) in high school.
- Provide, but not mandate, free college prep and readiness assessments during the school day to all students.
- Align high school graduation requirements to college readiness and university acceptance requirements.
- Provide state-supported student financial aid across public post-secondary options for all residents.

Goal: Reduce the amount of opportunity youth to 7% by 2030

- Support high-quality programs for early interventions aimed at those students at highest risk of falling into the opportunity youth category.
- Promote policies for state-supported vocational training and subsidized apprenticeship programs.
- Work to reduce recidivism through educational options for those in prison who fall in the opportunity youth category.

Goal: Increase Arizona's attainment rate to 60% by 2030

- Support reinvestment in Arizona's community colleges.
- Support continued progress towards funding 50% of Arizona's university resident students.
- Support the restoration of 9th grade funding for CTE
- Promote career awareness in 6th-8th grades.
- Prioritize efforts to increase degree attainment for adults lacking a few credits.
- Support policies that encourage reverse transfer through community college and university partnerships.

Goal: Elevate the Progress Meter as the widely accepted education framework for the state of Arizona and improve access to and localize data for each indicator

- Support efforts that improve data both at the state and site level for each indicator, where applicable.
- Promote ideas that would clarify school-level teacher salary data.
- Work to include Progress Meter data in school report cards.
- Ensure state goals for ESSA and its successor law, including those related to school accountability, are aligned to the Progress Meter.