Estimated Costs of Common Core Implementation (FY 2014)

In January, the Arizona School Boards Association and Arizona Association of School Business Officials conducted a survey of Arizona school districts on costs of implementing Arizona’s Common Core Standards.

Districts from urban, suburban and rural Arizona school districts statewide, representing 339,264 students or 38 percent of the total K-12 district population, responded. Statewide estimates were extrapolated from this information.

Based on the survey results, ASBA and AASBO estimate statewide costs for essential elements of Common Core implementation for fiscal year 2014 (the 2013-2014 school year) to be $156.6 million. This estimate is comparable to the estimate released in January by the Arizona Department of Education.

Training Costs: $47.8 million
The cost of training teachers and other district staff on the Common Core and related assessments.

Curriculum Materials and Textbooks: $96.1 million
For curriculum material and textbooks aligned to the new standards.

District-Level Assessments: $12.7 million
The cost of designing and revising district-level student assessments to bring them into alignment with the Common Core standards.

Future costs related to technology, including administration of the PARCC assessment
Based on survey data, ASBA and AASBO estimate that the cost of additional hardware and software necessary to implement Arizona’s Common Core Standards and the associated PARCC assessment of student mastery of the standards will be $205.6 million statewide. The cost of increasing internet capacity related to these items will be $24.6 million statewide. Twenty percent of survey respondents indicated that they may have difficulty finding the necessary internet capacity.