MARCH 2014
7  Spring Legal Seminar – Flagstaff  Info/register
10  ARN Lobby Days – Phoenix  Info/register
25  Webinar: School Board Service in Arizona  Info/register
31  Webinar: School Board Service in Arizona  Info/register

APRIL 2014
5-7  NSBA Annual Conference – New Orleans  Info/register
26  Webinar: School Board Service in Arizona  Info/register

‘12 Years a Slave’ film, book and study guide to be made available to public high schools by NSBA
In an initiative coordinated by Montel Williams, the National School Boards Association is partnering with New Regency, Penguin Books, and the makers of the Academy Award winning film “12 Years a Slave” to distribute copies of the acclaimed film, the book on which it is based, and a student study guide to America’s public high schools beginning in September 2014. The book and film depict the true story of a free black man who was kidnapped in Washington, D.C., in 1841 and sold into slavery. More information and details will be available in future issues of ASBA Report Card. Read more about the initiative

Look for the new ASBA Journal in your mailbox this week
This issue focuses on 2014 ASBA President Elaine Hall’s theme, “Our Students, Our Future,” and is packed with information on related topics, including a report on early childhood education from the recent Arizona Town Hall, articles on the success of Baboquivari USD and Benson USD on student achievement and the courageous decisions made by their school boards. Our annual board member showcase is also featured. Get ahead of the game by reading the full issue online.

Last chance: Flagstaff ASBA Spring Legal Seminar this Friday, March 7
Presentations at this day-long seminar include a legislative and legal update, best financial practices for schools, teacher evaluation and due process after HB2500, actions boards can take to lower legal costs, challenges and opportunities for schools related to the affordable care act, and board ethical dilemmas. Register and view the agenda Registration fee includes digital/online conference materials, continental breakfast and lunch. The Flagstaff event will be held at High Country Conference Center. You may reserve rooms at the adjacent Drury Inn by calling 800.325.0720. Be sure to mention that you are attending the ASBA seminar.

Sign up for final 2014 Arizona Relations Network (ARN) Lobby Day
Our third and final Lobby Day for the session is coming up on Monday, March 10. Join ASBA staff and board members from around the state at the ASBA office (2100 N. Central Ave., Phoenix) to learn more about the legislative process and how to lobby, then proceed to the Capitol to meet with legislators. Info/register

“School Board Service in Arizona” to be topic of upcoming webinars
ASBA will host three free webinars this spring aimed at providing information and resources to community members interested in learning more about what it takes to serve on a local school board. The one-hour, online events will cover the rewards and challenges of board service, what school board members do (and what they don’t do), and eligibility and the basics of running for office. ASBA staff will also provide answers to frequently asked questions about board service as well as respond to questions from webinar participants.

The webinars will be held on
- Tuesday, March 25 from noon to 1 p.m.
- Monday, March 31 from 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- Saturday, April 26 from 10-11 a.m.

For those unable to participate live at one of these times, a recorded version of the webinar will also be available on ASBA’s website on March 26.

To register for the webinars, download the flyer and access the recorded webinar when it becomes available, visit the Becoming a Board Member page on our website.

Results of ASBA’s annual superintendent salary and benefits survey announced
The mean base salary for Arizona school district superintendents in 2013 was $98,000, according to the results of the Arizona School Boards Association’s annual survey of school district superintendent salary and benefits. Higher mean rates were shown in high school, joint technology education districts (JTEDs) and accommodation districts.

The survey also showed that pay-for-performance incentives are provided to superintendents in all but 19 percent of districts. Other benefits were analyzed as well.

Over two-thirds of Arizona superintendents completed the survey, with 50 percent of respondents having been a superintendent for six or more years. Twenty percent of respondents identified their district as being urban or suburban, 62 percent as rural, and 18 percent as being both rural and remote.

Get an overview of these and other survey findings

Scottsdale and Casa Grande students honored for outstanding acts of volunteerism
The Prudential Spirit of Community Award Program in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals has named Vedant Lahoti of Desert Mountain High School (Scottsdale USD) and Tegan Homol of Casa Grande as Arizona’s top two youth volunteers for 2014. Each student will receive a $1,000 award, a medallion and an all-expenses paid trip to Washington, D.C., to compete on a national level. The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, now in its 19th year, is the United States’ largest youth recognition program based solely on volunteer service. Congratulations to these students for their outstanding community service! Click here for more information on this year’s state honorees and distinguished finalists.
Dr. Lattie Coor, Grady Gammage, Jr. featured speakers at ABEC 2014 Annual Conference
Mark your calendars for Friday, May 30, for the conference at Desert Willow Conference Center, 4340 E. Cotton Center Blvd., Phoenix. This year’s theme is *School Finance: A Driver of Education and the Economy – Building a Foundation on Common Ground*. Topics will focus on how to keep taxes low while providing quality education, whether or not we have a ready workforce, and Arizona’s future and how we can write it together. Register

ASBA Executive Searches

Now open:
- Superintendent, Santa Cruz Valley USD (closes 12 p.m., March 7): [online application](#)
- Superintendent, Somerton USD (closes 5 p.m. March 19): [online application](#)
- Superintendent, Payson USD (closes 12 p.m. March 12): [online application](#)

Opening soon:
- Superintendent, Palominas ESD (opens March 7)

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.

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