

Name	Monica Timberlake
District Name	Quartzsite Elementary School District
Student Enrollment	140
County	La Paz
Years on Your Board	13
Position you are interested in running for (select only one):	Treasurer
Cell Phone number	(928) 916-4120
Email address	mtimberlake73@gmail.com
Eligibility Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have served on my school district governing board for at least two years. • I will be serving on my school district governing board for 2024 • I certify that these responses are true and understand that they will be validated/confirmed by ASBA
Involvement with ASBA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have served on the ASBA Board of Directors within the past four years
Please provide position(s) held and years	La Paz County Director 2018-2022, Executive Secretary 2023-2024
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have served on an ASBA committee within the past four years
Please provide committee name(s) and year(s) of service	I have been on both the Equity Committee and the Legislative Committee for the last 4 years. I also previously served on the Nominating and Governance Committees
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have served as an officer for an ASBA alliance or caucus within the past four years
Please provide position(s) held and years	Rural Alliance Vice-Chair 2022-2024
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have been a member of an ASBA alliance or caucus within the past four years.
Please provide name(s) of alliance and/or caucus	Rural Alliance, Black Alliance and Hispanic Native American Indian Caucus
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have served as a delegate at the Delegate Assembly within the past four years
Please provide year(s)	

I have served as a delegate for 11 of the last 13 years

- I have completed ASBA New Board Member Orientation.
- I have received at least 36 hours of training from ASBA.
- I certify that these responses are true and understand that they will be validated/confirmed by ASBA.

Candidate Statement

Please provide a statement of up to 200 words on why you want to serve in this capacity and what you can offer as a member of the ASBA Board of Directors. If you are selected as a candidate, this statement will be published in the “ASBA Officer Voting Guide” provided to the membership.

I want to serve as Treasurer on the ASBA Executive Team because my experience, and drive are a benefit. I see so many positive things that ASBA has to offer, yet I also see room for growth. I think we as an organization need to embrace those opportunities to make us stronger. I have served on the Board of Directors for 6 years, in roles of both a County Director and as the current Executive Secretary, and have served on most of the committees and in Alliance Leadership. I believe this gives me a good understanding of the Association and it's goals, but also the ability to see where there are some opportunities for change. I'd like to continue to be part of a team that moves ASBA forward as we as we continue to be the best resource for school board members. My perspective as a board member from a small, rural district allows me to help the association gain an understanding that is sometimes unintentionally lacking. Yet, I work hard to insure all voices are heard and we make space for each other, so we can truly meet the needs of all districts.

Candidate Photo

If you are selected as a candidate, your photo will be published in the “ASBA Officer Voting Guide” if you desire. The photo must be submitted at this time for it to be included in the guide.

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Required Narrative Questions

Questions 1: Why do you want to be an ASBA elected officer?

I want to continue to be an officer because I care about the future of ASBA. I truly believe in the mission of the association, and want to continue to help support board members as they strive to provide the best education for the children in their District. I have valued every opportunity I've had to connect and talk with board members from around the state. Many times, I've taken the stories you've shared with me from your district, about the challenges you face and shared those stories with state and federal officials as I've advocated for Arizona students . Being part of the executive team gives me the platform to elevate the needs of districts around the state, as we work to protect public education in Arizona

Questions 2: What unique capabilities do you bring to the ASBA Executive Officer Team, and how would you use them for the benefit of ASBA and its members?

The biggest thing I bring to the table is my drive and passion for public education. I will continue to show up and work hard for you, and the organization to help us meet our goals. I think outside the box to try to find unique solutions for what are often complex problems. I have served on many different boards and committees, and have a proven ability to work with others, even when their opinions are different from mine. I'm willing to listen to others and will work to try to understand their perspective to find common ground. I also have taken every opportunity available to me to make me a better leader and public education advocate. As an Alumni for both The Arizona Center For Rural Leadership and and the Flinn-Brown Fellowship, I gained so much, in both knowledge and resources that I will use to help us achieve our mission.

Questions 3: What leadership experience have you demonstrated on your board in your district community (elevating the voice of your community and district, leadership on policy, leading advocacy work locally, etc)?

Having served on my local board for the last 13 years, with almost half of them as President, I am often talking about public education. Whether it's speaking at a council meeting or other forum locally, or with people from around the state, I am often trying to help others understand the current position of our schools in Arizona, especially our small, rural schools. I have been working with ASBA's legislative team to try to change the small school funding formula in order to provide additional funding for smaller schools all around the state. I am also working to try to get districts funded for any, non taxable federal lands within their borders. I get other people outside of the education community to support our goals. I have conversations with council members. county

supervisors, or other community leaders and legislators both locally and federally. I share with them the facts and answer their questions about either education in general or share stories, about my school and other districts around the state. Most importantly, I invite them to join us, in making sure our students have the opportunities they need for success.

Questions 4: ASBA has a diverse membership. What would you do to ensure we are meeting as many of our members' needs as possible?

I think the biggest thing I can do to ensure we are meeting our member's diverse needs is to just have conversations. The best way to truly understand what a district needs is to ask them. I attended every county meeting this fall as a member of the executive team. because I feel that it is important to show up and listen. I was the driving force behind the Rural Town Hall hosted by the Rural Alliance, in an effort to have substantive conversations about challenges districts are facing, the similarities and differences, and to find creative solutions to meet those challenges. After all, who knows what your district needs better than you. I also think as an association, we need to do better about getting out around the state, and visiting districts, and taking the opportunity to not only talk about your needs, but also to hear your success.

Questions 5: From your perspective and involvement with ASBA, what opportunities do you see; for example professional development, member service, advocacy, etc?

There are so many opportunities that I see for ASBA to expand it's services. For a long time, ASBA was the only resources for school board members. However, in today's climate, we have to continue to be the BEST resource for school board members. That involves offering more services and programs for school district, potentially allowing for an opportunity to bundle more services at a savings. Some of the opportunities I see include offering pre-paid legal services or encouraging ASBAIT to add property and liability insurance to their line of products. I also think some of our more common trainings, such as open meeting law training could be offered to districts via a pre- recorded webinar at no cost. This wouldn't work for district specific trainings , like strategic planning, but for general information it would be a more equitable way of getting resources to all of our districts. From the individual side, there are many opportunities for PD and Advocacy . I've actively attended ASBA conferences and events for the last 13 years, and there's never a time that I haven't walked away with something new, a new strategy , an innovative program, a new resource. I'm continually learning by attending events., and by networking. There are hundreds of hours of recorded webinar's online available to board member's at no cost. The Advocacy Response Team is a great way to get involved in advocacy work. I want to help insure there is continued value in these services.

Questions 6: What is your perspective with the term "Equity"? As a leader of ASBA how would you advocate this term in relationship to student academic/vocational success?

Equity is so very important but over the last few years the term has become so politicized. Living in rural Arizona I see this happening a lot. If you ask board members if they think all students should have the tools they need to be successful, they'll tell you yes. However, we sometimes lose board members when we start talking about Equity. As an organization, we need to evaluate what is important. Is it the word, or is it the concept? ASBA is non-partisan, but unfortunately, the word equity isn't today. So I would start talking about academic/vocational success as just that. "What do you need for all of your student's to be successful?" It's about meeting districts where they are. Many of our districts have embraced equity as a goal, but how do we reach the remaining districts? To start, we have to be able to at least facilitate the conversation. and if we lose them over a word, we'll never get there. We want all Arizona students to have what they need. We need to continue to offer training, resources and data related to equity, but for those that don't quite understand the term let's get them to at least embrace the idea. My personal vision for Arizona, is that ALL STUDENTS have access to the same resources, programs and opportunities as their peers, regardless of zip code.