

Name	Tadeo A. De La Hoya
District Name	Gadsden Elementary School District #32
Student Enrollment	4,985
County	Yuma
Years on Your Board	14
Position you are interested in running for (select only one):	President Elect
Cell Phone number	(928) 920-6428
Email address	tadh@hotmail.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	Yuma County Director (2015 - 2021), ASBA Executive Committee Secretary (2021 - 2022), ASBA Executive Committee Treasurer (2022 - Present)
	<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	Finance Committee (2022 - Present)
	<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	HNAIC
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 have enjoyed serving my community as a Gadsden Elementary School Board #32 member for the past 14 years. During my tenure, I strived to renew our community’s confidence and trust in our board. I have focused on a collaborative approach, working diligently to develop effective lines of communication among our staff and with community members. I believe that is the only way to unite all stakeholders to achieve meaningful outcomes.

That will also be my approach as ASBA President-Elect. I recognize the strength of this Association lies in its members—diverse school boards all around our state—and connections are essential. I also understand that our members expect ASBA to deliver on our stated mission: “We cultivate excellence in locally-governed school districts,” and vision, “The best schools in every community,” I will focus on doing just that.

All Arizona students deserve the best we can provide them. As President-Elect, I will work hard to ensure ASBA delivers its best for all our member boards. This will ensure that our school boards will be in the strongest position to exercise local control that best serves their districts and communities.

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.

- [portrait_2018.jpeg](#)

Required Narrative Questions

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

Having served as both the Secretary and now Treasurer, I have first-hand knowledge of what is required of ASBA elected officers and genuinely appreciate the honor and responsibility. I’ve also been on the ASBA Board of Directors for eight years and have learned so much from my fellow Board of Director members and from traveling around the state. I look forward to the opportunity to help lead this impressive team while ensuring we work together to provide the best possible support to our member boards.

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?

As I have in my school district, I will utilize my background and skills to produce the best possible outcomes for our member boards and their districts. I believe in analyzing performance with data and making appropriate decisions based on the staff recommendations and Association member needs. I will continue to promote ASBA’s training opportunities for board members across the state. As I understand we represent more than 200 districts, I recognize we must strive to ensure we provide appropriate tools and make ASBA’s trainings and webinars readily accessible.

I also served on the Board of Directors for the National Association of Latino Elected & Appointed Officials (NALEO) from 2015 to 2021, being reelected yearly since 2017 to be their Executive Board Secretary. My experience with NALEO is vast and has given me some valuable insights due to its national scope and membership of more than 8,500, including US Senators, Governors, Congressmen, Mayors, Council Members, and a large number of school board members. I have also been a Young Elected Officials Network (YEO) member since 2006. Most recently, in 2021, I was appointed to the Board of Directors of Campesinos Sin Fronteras. This local non-profit promotes health and community participation in local political processes.

I look forward to leveraging all the experience I have gained in these capacities to continue to serve ASBA to the best of my abilities.

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)?

In 2022, I was also elected to the local city council. Serving on both has allowed me to close that gap between city functions, events, and policy decision-making and try to connect them with our district’s needs. Our community has an average of 60% unemployment and 65% poverty rate. We have created partnerships with neighboring cities and local organizations to create a policy that closes those gaps. We have made agreements with the local college, allowing our elementary school students to take college-level courses. In May 2023, one

of our 8th graders received an Associate of Arts with a 4.0 GPA from Arizona Western College. This demonstrates leadership success and speaks volumes about the willingness of students and the community to come together to support the Early College Program.

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

With ASBA's diverse membership, and to ensure that the association meets as many members' needs as possible, I would encourage my fellow board members and colleagues to provide their input according to their counties' needs. All counties are different, hence ASBA's focus on local control while also working for equity and inclusion. I am from a rural border town where the community is 98% Latino and poverty and unemployment rates approach 70 percent. We have different needs than other cities in our county, even one only 25 miles north of us.

Our Association must reach all districts and communities, big or small, regardless of their political power. We must assist them (as needed) to become better representatives of their communities and be a voice for equal education for all children. I will be a strong voice and advocate for underrepresented communities, no matter where they exist. Regardless of our political views and preferences, our primary goal and focus should be quality education for every child in the state.

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

ASBA has been a beacon of knowledge since I was elected to the local school board in 2008. From the new board member orientation to the law conference, online training during COVID allowed us to further our knowledge as local elected officials. ASBA provides for us as school board members to advocate to the State Legislature on what we believe is best for local control. ASBA's policy services have been tremendously helpful to our districts. Needless to say, the Communications Department provides us with the right tools when in crisis and when our districts need to broadcast good news.

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?

As a board member, our commitment to equity must ensure each student receives the support they need to overcome barriers and challenges to ensure all students are successful. Focusing on closing the opportunity and achievement gap must be addressed and ensuring systemic inequities are removed so every student achieves their fullest potential. Equity is an issue that every community faces, whether that community is urban or rural. It is imperative for us to have these discussions to understand the barriers and challenges students in our districts face and then agree on how ASBA can best support equity around our state to ensure each student receives the best educational experience possible. We must continue to work together to diminish barriers, assist, and provide as many tools and resources as possible for all children in our districts and throughout the state.

I am currently ASBA's Treasurer and have been talking to my colleagues across Arizona during my tenure on the Executive Committee. I have connected with many board members to hear about their experience as board members in their districts, and I have been able to relay their message to ASBA.