



ACADEMIC STANDARDS ANNUAL REPORT FY22

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Mission: To empower all educators and stakeholders across the birth to postsecondary continuum to increase achievement and opportunity for all students.

Vision: Promoting educator expertise to impact student success.

Academic Standards

Learning begins at birth and continues throughout every stage of life. The Academic Standards team oversees the standards for learning for children and students in Arizona from birth to high school graduation to their postsecondary paths. The Academic Standards team leads standards work across the state by writing, revising, and implementing the standards with different stakeholders. This team provides professional learning opportunities, resources, guidance, and technical assistance to build educator and caregiver capacity in best practices across the birth through twelfth grade through postsecondary continuum. The Academic Standards team leads state-level work related to early childhood, literacy, computer science, educational technology, English Language Arts, history and social sciences, math, physical education, science, world and native languages, the Arizona Charter School Program, and post-secondary initiatives.

FY22 Professional Learning

Focus Area	Number of PD Hours Provided	Number of Educators Trained
Arizona Charter Schools Program	280	1772
Computer Science	51	807
Early Childhood	134	4492
Educational Technology	4	62
English Language Arts	240	5838
Mathematics	85	1010
Health and Physical Education	28	384
Postsecondary Initiatives	106	2047
Science and STEM	150	1484
Social Studies	101	1856
World and Native Languages	9	177
Totals	1,188 Hours of PD Provided	19,929 Educators Trained
Students Impacted: 518,154		
<small>(*Estimated class size of 26 students per teacher)</small>		

FY22 Funding Provided to the Field

Focus Area	Amount of Funding Provided
Arizona Charter Schools Program Grant	\$8,000,000
Comprehensive Literacy State Development Grant	\$4,000,000
Computer Science Professional Development Grant	\$484,704
Dyslexia Designee Training Grant	\$1,900,000
Early Literacy Grant	\$12,000,000
Move On When Reading	\$45,000,000
State Tutoring Grant	\$1,500,000
Total	\$ 72,884,704.00

FY22 Standards Revision

Focus Area	Status
Educational Technology Standards	Adopted January 2022

Highlights

[Arizona Charter School Program](#)

Team: Mark Frances, Jane Smoudi, Kelly McQuaid, David Fox, and Nancy Penzone

The Arizona Charter School Program (AZCSP) oversees a \$55,000,000 federal grant to support newly opening charter schools. Funding is targeted to schools that are serving Arizona's most vulnerable populations. The AZCSP funded 30 schools in FY22, 6 of which were newly added during the fiscal year. Each of these newly opening/recently opened schools received targeted training in the use of Harvard Instructional Rounds to observe classrooms and generate positive solutions for improvement. Additionally, each school received training in formative assessment instructional practices, which are evidence-based practices that lead to increased student learning and agency. A key requirement of the grant is that the school must serve a majority vulnerable population.

[Computer Science](#)

Team: Sarah Sleasman, Sean Ross, and Alecia Henderson

The computer science team leads the implementation of the recently adopted Computer Science Standards, providing training in best practices in teaching the standards. To support the teaching of the Computer Science Standards, the team oversees the Computer Science Professional Development Grant (CSPD). This grant provides up to \$25,000 to high schools to provide high-quality professional learning in computer science to their educators so that the school may start a new computer science course over the next two years. The grant is designed to support the expansion of computer science courses, such as courses in cybersecurity and coding, and is especially targeted to rural schools. In FY22, the CSPD grant allotted almost half a million dollars in funding to schools, with the majority being awarded to rural schools. This grant will allow rural students equitable access to technology courses, opening new opportunities for the future.

Additionally, the computer science team worked closely with the Arizona Computer Science Teachers' Association to facilitate Computer Science Professional Development Week, which was a week of learning for educators from across the state.

[Early Childhood](#)

Team: Lori Masseur, Laura Lee, Patsy Rethore-Larson, Brooke Colvin, and Alexis Horne

The ADE early childhood team provides high-quality training and focused technical assistance in best practices in working with early learners, teaching the Arizona Early Learning Standards, and informing educators about the Infant and Toddler Developmental Guidelines. The team especially focuses on providing training in adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), protective factors for young children, and early literacy.

The early childhood team works closely with early childhood organizations around the state, including First Things First, the Department of Economic Security, and Head Start, to maximize impact. Their work focuses on ensuring that Arizona's most vulnerable young learners have access to high quality early learning environments.

In FY22, the early childhood team oversaw the following processes that will be fully implemented in FY23:

- The selection and implement a Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA)
 - Training in the effective use of a KEA
 - Training in formative assessment practices, which lead to increased student achievement and agency
 - Training in best practices in the key domains of early learning assessed by the KEA
- The use of \$95,000,000 in funding from DES to open seats for vulnerable children in high quality early learning environments
- The provision of early literacy coaches across the state to train early learning educators in the science of reading
- Training in the Pyramid Model for early childhood educators

Educational Technology

Team: Eboney McKinney, Alecia Henderson, Laurel Cherry, Sean Ross, Sarah Sleasman, and Rebecca Garelli

In FY22, the educational technology team led the revision and adoption of Arizona's Educational Technology Standards. Arizona had last adopted educational technology standards in 2009, so it was time for a new set of standards to equip teachers and students for the ever advancing world of technology. Due to the pandemic, the revision process was done virtually. Almost 50 educators from 10 counties donated over 350 hours of their time to develop the new standards, which were unanimously adopted by the State Board of Education in January 2022.

English Language Arts

Team: Amy Boza, Sarah Bondy, Lauren Spenceley, and Maggie Velazquez

The English language arts (ELA) team provides professional learning, guidance, resources, and technical assistance on best practices in teaching the ELA standards, with a special focus on early literacy. In FY22, the ELA team oversaw:

- The review of Move On When Reading literacy plans for every elementary school in the state (over 1,300 schools), providing technical assistance to strengthen K-3 literacy systems
- The building and implementation of the Dyslexia Designee Grant, which provided almost \$2,000,000 for educators across Arizona to recognize and work with students with dyslexia
- The establishment of the K-5 Literacy Endorsement
- The provision of free trainings focused on the science of reading, dyslexia, and working with adolescent struggling readers
- The provision of 14,000 free slots for educators to take the Foundations of Reading Exam, which is required to earn the K-5 Early Literacy Endorsement
- The provision of free LETRS training for over 3,000 educators across the state over the next two years
- The provision of highly-trained early literacy coaches to the highest needs schools to support early literacy initiatives and to build teacher capacity
- The provision of over 600 seats for secondary educators in the Reading Apprenticeship program, which trains secondary educators in disciplinary literacy

Mathematics

Team: Eboney McKinney and Laurel Cherry

The ADE math team provides high-quality professional learning centered on best practices in teaching the math standards. In particular, the math team focused their time and attention on schools that participate in the State Tutoring Grant. These schools have letter grades of D or F and receive funding for high-dosage tutoring. The math team met with these schools to determine the areas in which the students are in most need for tutoring. The math team provided educators from these schools with training in these areas to strengthen their Tier I instruction, thereby reducing the need for their students to receive tutoring.

Additionally, in FY22, the math team:

- Convened working groups of high school math educators to build comprehensive resources for educators to effectively teach Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II to fulfill HB 2135
- Provided trainings to elementary, middle, and high school educators on key topics of struggle at those levels
- Worked with Arizona State University to implement the Math Momentum Program, which provides properly certificated math teachers to schools without those teachers, with inexperienced teachers, or with long-term substitutes in the math classroom
- Worked with the University of Arizona Center Recruitment and Retention of Teachers of Mathematics to provide high-quality training to educators and high-quality tutoring to students across Arizona at no charge

Health and Physical Education

Team: Angela Budovsky-Robinson and Keri Schoeff

This is a new part of the Academic Standards team that hit the ground running in FY22. This team works hard to drive home that physical health is as important to a successful life as every other academic subject area. The physical education team trained hundreds of educators across the state and provided sessions at state and national conferences. Additionally, the team is leading the work of surveying the field to help with the evaluation of the implementation of the Recess law, which requires that all K-5 schools provide two recess periods per day.

Postsecondary Initiatives

Team: Andrea Glenn

The ADE postsecondary team works with higher education organizations, including the Arizona Board of Regents and community colleges, to strengthen the connection between K-12 and higher education. Additionally, the team works closely with organizations such as College Depot and Ask Benji to make it easier for students, especially students from vulnerable populations, to matriculate to higher education. In FY22, the team oversaw:

- FAFSA Kickoff Day, which coordinated with ADE, the Governor's Office, and other organizations to provide direct technical assistance to students and families to assist in the completion of FAFSA forms (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
- FAFSA Drive-Thrus, which provided specific tutoring and supports for families and students in regions across the state to assist with the completion of FAFSA forms
- The establishment of the first ever Arizona Postsecondary Committee, which is a group of higher education officials, agencies focused on college matriculation, K12 teacher, and students that focus on building postsecondary-related policy recommendations for the Arizona Legislature

Additionally, this team led the ADE RFGA Process, which reviewed applications for ADE ESSER funding and awarded millions of dollars to community and educational organizations to support children and families during and after the pandemic.

Science and STEM

Team: Sarah Sleasman and Rebecca Garelli

The ADE science team provides training on best practices in 3-dimensional science teaching the recently adopted science standards, which present a large shift in science instruction for educators. Where the previous standards had students simply learn about science through the memorization of isolated facts, the recently adopted Arizona Science Standards focus on helping students make sense of the world around them through the 3-dimensions: The Science and Engineering Practices, the Crosscutting Concepts, and the Core Ideas. Three-dimensional instruction requires a major shift in instruction and is a big change for educators, which is what makes the work of the science team so vital.

During FY22, the science team:

- Trained over 1,000 educators in the new science standards
- Worked with the Arizona Science Teachers Association to develop key elements to implementing the standards, which will serve as key resources for teachers across the K-12 continuum
- Provided school and district-specific trainings to build capacity in sites to effect wholesale change
- Led the committee to select the Presidential Award winner for the teaching of science
- Worked with the ADE Assessments team to develop the AzSCI exam for 5th, 8th, and 11th grades
- Brought in a National Leader in science education, Brett Moulding, through funding from a community partner to develop professional learning experiences and lessons that are aligned to the Arizona Science Standards

Social Studies

Team: Tammy Waller and Linda Burrows

The History and Social Sciences Standards focus on building student's ability to investigate, find evidence, and build arguments about historical events and figures, using multiple perspectives and primary sources. They promote inquiry and investigation as students learn about the historical events that shaped the nation and world.

During FY22, the ADE social studies team:

- Trained over 1,800 educators in best practices in teaching the History and Social Sciences Standards
- Worked with the Office of Indian Education to provide trainings for Arizona educators on integrating Indigenous voices and Native American Boarding Schools into their schools
- Provided school and district-specific trainings to build capacity in teaching the standards
- Co-authored a grant with three other states and National Geographic to have Arizona educators travel to the Four Corners to learn about Indigenous populations, land use, and water rights
- Led the committee to select the Arizona History Teacher of the Year for the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History
- Oversaw the dissemination of the Seal of Civic Literacy diploma seal for graduating students
- Oversaw the dissemination of the Seal of Personal Finance diploma seal for graduating students
- Built and disseminated specific resources related to 9/11, AAPI history, BIPOC history, woman's history, the Holocaust, and Indigenous people's history

World and Native Languages

Team: Tammy Waller and Linda Burrows

The ADE world and native languages (WNL) team oversees the implementation of the World and Native Languages Standards. They provide training on best practices in teaching the standards. The standards focus on using proficiency to guide a student through their language learning, using authentic resources and tying language learning to cultural competencies. Additionally, the team oversees the Seal of Biliteracy, a diploma seal that recognizes a student's demonstrated mastery of English and another language. The team works closely with the State Board of Education on vetting and approving assessments for the program.

During FY22, the ADE world and native languages team:

- Trained over 170 educators in best practices in teaching the World and Native Languages Standards
- Provided school and district-specific trainings to build capacity in sites to effect wholesale change
- Oversaw the dissemination of the Seal of Biliteracy diploma seal for 1,167 graduating students in over 12 different languages, including new seals awarded in Polish, Portuguese, and Somali

ADE Initiatives

Members of the Academic Standards team led or were key members of the following ADE initiatives:

- Acceleration Academies Grant
 - Academic Standards Team Members: Sean Ross, Lori Masseur, Laura Lee, Brooke Colvin, Patsy Rethore-Larson, Sarah Sleasman, and Lauren Spenceley
- ADE Assessments Conference
 - Academic Standards Team Member: Sean Ross
- ADE Events Management System Committee
 - Academic Standards Team Members: Regina Neal, Rebecca Garelli, and Sarah Bondy
- ADE ESSER RFGA Funding Review and Dissemination Team
 - Academic Standards Team Members: Andrea Glenn, Sean Ross, and Angela Budovsky-Robinson
- ADE Formative Assessment Committee
 - Academic Standards Team Members: Sean Ross, Eboney McKinney, Laurel Cherry, Lori Masseur, Mark Francis, Kelly McQuaid, and David Fox

- ADE Leading Change and Teachers' Institute Conference
 - Academic Standards Team Members: Sean Ross, Ieisha Johnson, Ebony McKinney, Laurel Cherry, Angie Budovsky-Robinson, Sarah Bondy, Lauren Spenceley, and Maggie Velazquez
- ADE Teaching and Learning Framework (Writing and Implementation)
 - Academic Standards Team Members: Sean Ross, Rebecca Garelli, Sarah Bondy, Kelly McQuaid, and Ebony McKinney

Academic Standards Partnerships

Members of the Academic Standards team sit on the boards of and/or serve in an advisory capacity for educational organizations across the state to both inform those organizations of state-level work and to ensure that they have a regular conduit for feedback from the field to best meet its needs.

- Arizona Association of Teachers of Mathematics
 - Academic Standards Team Members: Ebony McKinney and Laurel Cherry
- Arizona Board of Regents
 - Academic Standards Team Members: Andrea Glenn
- Arizona Branch of the International Dyslexia Association
 - Academic Standards Team Members: Maggie Velazquez
- Arizona Computer Science Teachers Association
 - Academic Standards Team Members: Sarah Sleasman and Alecia Henderson
- Arizona Council for Economic Education
 - Academic Standards Team Members: Tammy Wallers and Linda Burrows
- Arizona Council for History Education
 - Academic Standards Team Members: Tammy Waller and Linda Burrows
- Arizona Council for Social Studies
 - Academic Standards Team Members: Tammy Waller and Linda Burrows
- Arizona Early Intervention Program
 - Academic Standards Team Members: Lori Masseur and Brooke Colvin
- Arizona English Teachers Association
 - Academic Standards Team Members: Lauren Spenceley
- Arizona Geographic Alliance
 - Academic Standards Team Members: Linda Burrows
- Arizona Head Start Association
 - Academic Standards Team Members: Lori Masseur and Brooke Colvin
- Arizona Language Association
 - Academic Standards Team Members: Linda Burrows
- Arizona Math Leaders
 - Academic Standards Team Members: Ebony McKinney and Laurel Cherry
- Arizona Science Teachers Association
 - Academic Standards Team Members: Sarah Sleasman and Rebecca Garelli
- Arizona Technology in Education Association
 - Academic Standards Team Members: Ebony McKinney and Alecia Henderson
- College Depot Arizona
 - Academic Standards Team Members: Andrea Glenn
- First Things First
 - Academic Standards Team Members: Lori Masseur
- Read On Arizona
 - Academic Standards Team Members: Sean Ross and Lori Masseur
- STEMAZing (Pima County Superintendent's Office)
 - Academic Standards Team Members: Sarah Sleasman and Rebecca Garelli