



## 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

# A YEAR OF BUILDING COMMUNITY AND SUPPORT

Arizona State Board for  
Charter Schools

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In 2022, we began with a plan to demonstrate the many lessons we learned these past two years and show how these lessons have contributed to our improved and flexible systems for supporting and monitoring our schools while keeping a focus on our mission:

**To improve public education in Arizona by sponsoring charter schools that provide quality educational choices.**

Our approach to fulfilling our mission has shifted greatly over the last two decades. As a regulatory agency, it can be challenging to balance our duty to ensure charter schools remain in compliance with the law while offering effective and helpful support.

A renewed emphasis on compliance and accountability for charter schools over the years has resulted in positive revisions to our frameworks and policies, and with your input and feedback, our agency has identified key areas where we can better serve and support our schools. Consistent communication, informative webinars and training, and dialogue with school leaders through both onsite and virtual meetings allow us to balance compliance with assistance.

However, we are continually working to improve, and we invite you all to reach out at any time with suggestions, feedback, questions, or concerns so that we can better serve our portfolio! We continue to build on these efforts each year, and we are truly excited for the future of this Board and its portfolio of quality schools.

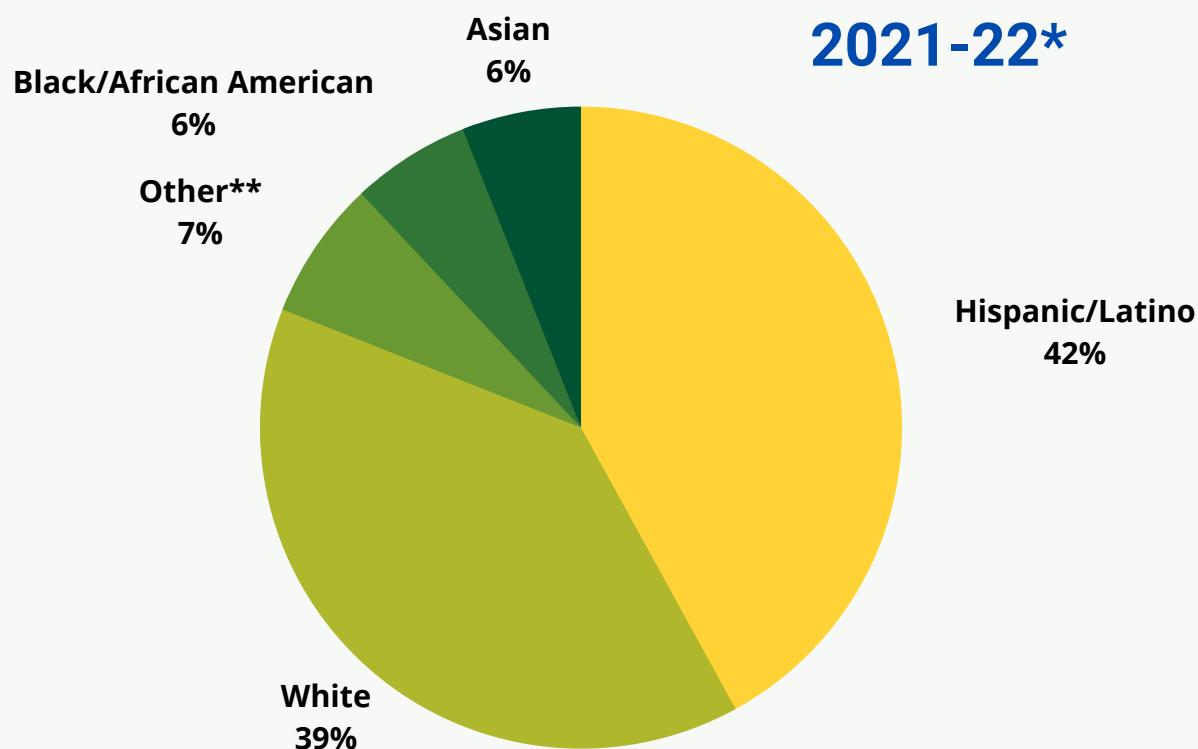
Thank you for your unending dedication to the students and families of Arizona, and your tireless efforts to create innovative, creative, and advantageous spaces in which our students can excel. The charter community is stronger for it.

Thank you,



*Ashley Berg*  
Executive Director

# Who Charters Serve



\*AZ Dept. of Education 2021-22 Enrollment Data

\*\* indicates Multi-racial, Native American, Pacific Islander

**20.3%**

total percent of public school  
students in charters

**34%**

charter students eligible for  
free and reduced lunch

**60,774**

charter students enrolled in  
grades 9 through 12

**9.5%**

charter students  
identified with disabilities

**170,038**

charter students enrolled in  
grades K through 8

**561**

charter schools operated  
by 414 charter holders

# ASBCS by the Numbers

**41%**

Decrease in number  
of complaints  
submitted to Board

**99%**

of charters met  
the Board's  
Operational  
Performance  
Expectations  
demonstrating a  
commitment to  
operational  
excellence &  
transparency

**412**

audits received & reviewed with  
**89%** of charters meeting the  
Board's Financial Performance  
Expectations

More than 15 expansion  
amendments were  
approved, creating

**7,686**

**Student Seats**

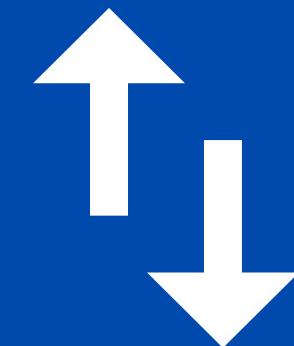
over the next 4 years

**169**

schools visited  
in-person or  
virtually

**404**

student records  
requests timely  
processed



# IMPACTS

The following initiatives took place this year, strengthening our approach to supporting our charter schools, school leaders and constituents. Through these efforts, we found key areas of impact for our schools.



## Increase in Staff

With over 550 schools to support, our Board annually recruits & hires additional staff to improve the efficiency of its practices and increase involvement with our schools. Since fiscal year 2022, the Board has added 3 new staff members.



## School Visits

Our charter schools are located throughout the State of Arizona in 12 different counties and to support them, our staff develops innovative monitoring practices for onsite and virtual school visits.



## Financial Framework

Full implementation of the Board's robust financial framework was in effect, including intervention processes and onsite school visits.



## Communication

An increase in communication to our school community through monthly newsletters, informational posts on social media, and a refresh to the Board's website.



## Legislative Action

Advocacy for legislative action to enhance the mission and oversight of charter schools. Board staff provides information to legislators each year to relay the impact of new legislation on the charter portfolio.



## Professional Development

Informative and enhanced trainings for school leaders and potential new charter school applicants. The hope is to provide information and training to get ahead of potential issues and to better support charters.

# A Brief History of ASBCS

## 1994

- The Arizona State Legislature passed the Charter School Law in 1994, effective September 16th of that year

## 1995

- In the fall, 67 schools opened and were sponsored by a school district, ASBCS, or the State Board of Education

## 2010

- State universities added to the list of agencies that can sponsor a charter school
- First charters up for renewal

## 2012

- Performance Frameworks approved
- Financial Performance (August 13)
- Academic Performance (October 14)

## 2014

- Operational Performance Framework approved Oct. 14th

## 2019

- Created a Financial Performance Framework Subcommittee
- Revised framework approved in December

## 2020

- Navigating distance learning for our schools
- Staff transitioned to teleworking

## 2021

- Increased the number of staff to 17
- Bootcamp trainings for new operators and existing charters

## 2022

- Increased number of school visits
- Increased customer service and facilitation through the complaint process

# BOARD MEMBERS 2022-2023



Mary Ellen Lee  
President



Hans-Dieter Klose  
Vice President



Kathy Hoffman  
Superintendent



Carlos Ruiz  
Public Member



Carol Crockett  
Public Member



Christina Foster  
Public Member



Eli Chmouni  
Public Member



James Swanson  
Business Community  
Member



Jessica Montierth  
Charter School Operator



Stepanie Bahr  
Charter School Teacher



Tim Stratton  
Business Community  
Member



Rachel Yanof



Justan Rice



Matt Mason

# BOARD MEMBERS 2021-2022



Rachel Yanof



Justan Rice



Matt Mason