

DISCUSSION OUTLINE
110th ARIZONA TOWN HALL
FUNDING PRE-K-12 EDUCATION

SESSION I - MONDAY MORNING – NOVEMBER 12

SETTING THE STAGE

1. What goals are we trying to accomplish with Arizona’s preK-12 education system? How well are we meeting these goals today? How well are we positioned to meet these goals in the future?
2. How does state funding for Arizona’s preK-12 education system affect the accomplishment of the goals identified in question one? What role should state funds play in achieving these goals? *Consider the differences, if any, in the state funding among urban, rural and tribal communities.*
3. What resources other than state funds play a role in accomplishing the goals identified in question one? How do these additional resources affect the accomplishment of these goals? How do these resources vary across the state? *Consider resources such as family and community involvement, grant availability, and bond capacity.*
4. How has Arizona’s move toward school choice impacted education in Arizona? *Consider impacts on funding, quality, location, availability, socioeconomic levels, and equity.*

SESSION II - MONDAY AFTERNOON – NOVEMBER 12

EFFICIENCY, EQUITY AND TEACHERS

1. To what extent are the methods currently used to distribute available funds for preK-12 education effective, equitable and efficient? What changes in the methods of distribution of available funds, if any, should be considered?
2. How does state funding for education affect the ability of preK-12 schools to recruit and retain teachers? How does current teacher compensation affect the quality of preK-12 education? *Consider the pipeline of teachers entering the field and how long they stay in Arizona preK-12 schools. Consider the differences, if any, between urban, rural, and tribal communities as well as communities of different socio-economic levels.* What changes, if any, need to be considered?
3. How does state distribution of funding for education affect preK-12 school infrastructure? *Consider new construction, major renovations, continuing maintenance, technology, equipment, and information resources.*

SESSION III - TUESDAY MORNING – NOVEMBER 13

REVENUE SOURCES

1. What amount of state funding is needed to achieve the goals of our public education system identified in Session One? *Consider what Arizona has historically spent, what other states currently spend, and the amount of state funding needed to operate a general and uniform system of public schools as required by the state Constitution.*
2. How do revenues from Proposition 301 and 123 affect current and future revenues for Arizona's public schools? What impact will the expiration of Proposition 301 on June 30, 2021 have on Arizona's public school systems? What actions, if any, should be taken with respect to current and future revenues received from Proposition 301 and 123?
3. What revenue sources should fund Arizona's public schools? *Consider existing sources; different or additional sources; sales, property, and excise taxes among others; tuition tax credits and other tax policies that impact the General Fund; state trust lands; and private, local, and federal sources of revenue.*
4. What are the barriers to improving Arizona's public school funding system to meet current and future goals identified in Session One? How can these barriers best be overcome? *Consider the amount of funding needed, funding limits, the method of distributing funds, constitutional and statutory requirements and limitations, political and public will, and other factors.*

SESSION IV – TUESDAY AFTERNOON – NOVEMBER 13

SETTING PRIORITIES AND TAKING ACTION

1. Considering the discussions from the previous sessions, what actions should be taken that will have the most beneficial impact on Arizona's future? How should they be prioritized and when can they be implemented? *Consider which actions are realistically achievable, have the greatest return on investment, and are most likely to be accomplished. Also consider how actions and priorities may vary for urban, rural and tribal communities.*
2. Who should lead the actions identified in Question 1? *If the action requires changes to financing systems, funding or changes to the law, identify how the action will be accomplished.*
3. What action or actions will you take as a result of your participation in this Town Hall?