

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-second Legislature  
First Regular Session  
2015

# HOUSE BILL 2207

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 15-342, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARDS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:  
2 Section 1. Section 15-342, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
3 read:  
4 15-342. Discretionary powers  
5 The governing board may:  
6 1. Expel pupils for misconduct.  
7 2. Exclude from grades one through eight children under six years of  
8 age.  
9 3. Make such separation of groups of pupils as it deems advisable.  
10 4. Maintain such special schools during vacation as deemed necessary  
11 for the benefit of the pupils of the school district.  
12 5. Permit a superintendent or principal or representatives of the  
13 superintendent or principal to travel for a school purpose, as determined by  
14 a majority vote of the board. The board may permit members and members-elect  
15 of the board to travel within or without the school district for a school  
16 purpose and receive reimbursement. Any expenditure for travel and  
17 subsistence pursuant to this paragraph shall be as provided in title 38,  
18 chapter 4, article 2. The designated post of duty referred to in section  
19 38-621 shall be construed, for school district governing board members, to be  
20 the member's actual place of residence, as opposed to the school district  
21 office or the school district boundaries. Such expenditures shall be a  
22 charge against the budgeted school district funds. The governing board of a  
23 school district shall prescribe procedures and amounts for reimbursement of  
24 lodging and subsistence expenses. Reimbursement amounts shall not exceed the  
25 maximum amounts established pursuant to section 38-624, subsection C.  
26 6. Construct or provide in rural districts housing facilities for  
27 teachers and other school employees that the board determines are necessary  
28 for the operation of the school.  
29 7. Sell or lease to the state, a county, a city, another school  
30 district or a tribal government agency any school property required for a  
31 public purpose, provided the sale or lease of the property will not affect  
32 the normal operations of a school within the school district.  
33 8. Annually budget and expend funds for membership in an association  
34 of school districts within this state.  
35 9. Enter into leases or lease-purchase agreements for school buildings  
36 or grounds, or both, as lessor or as lessee, for periods of less than ten  
37 years subject to voter approval for construction of school buildings as  
38 prescribed in section 15-341, subsection A, paragraph 7.  
39 10. Subject to chapter 16 of this title, sell school sites or enter  
40 into leases or lease-purchase agreements for school buildings and grounds, as  
41 lessor or as lessee, for a period of ten years or more, but not to exceed  
42 ninety-nine years, if authorized by a vote of the school district electors in  
43 an election called by the governing board as provided in section 15-491,  
44 except that authorization by the school district electors in an election is  
45 not required if one of the following requirements is met:

1 (a) The market value of the school property is less than fifty  
2 thousand dollars or the property is procured through a renewable energy  
3 development agreement, an energy performance contract, which among other  
4 items includes a renewable energy power service agreement, or a simplified  
5 energy performance contract pursuant to section 15-213.01.

6 (b) The buildings and sites are completely funded with monies  
7 distributed by the school facilities board.

8 (c) The transaction involves the sale of improved or unimproved  
9 property pursuant to an agreement with the school facilities board in which  
10 the school district agrees to sell the improved or unimproved property and  
11 transfer the proceeds of the sale to the school facilities board in exchange  
12 for monies from the school facilities board for the acquisition of a more  
13 suitable school site. For a sale of property acquired by a school district  
14 prior to July 9, 1998, a school district shall transfer to the school  
15 facilities board that portion of the proceeds that equals the cost of the  
16 acquisition of a more suitable school site. If there are any remaining  
17 proceeds after the transfer of monies to the school facilities board, a  
18 school district shall only use those remaining proceeds for future land  
19 purchases approved by the school facilities board, or for capital  
20 improvements not funded by the school facilities board for any existing or  
21 future facility.

22 (d) The transaction involves the sale of improved or unimproved  
23 property pursuant to a formally adopted plan and the school district uses the  
24 proceeds of this sale to purchase other property that will be used for  
25 similar purposes as the property that was originally sold, provided that the  
26 sale proceeds of the improved or unimproved property are used within two  
27 years after the date of the original sale to purchase the replacement  
28 property. If the sale proceeds of the improved or unimproved property are  
29 not used within two years after the date of the original sale to purchase  
30 replacement property, the sale proceeds shall be used towards payment of any  
31 outstanding bonded indebtedness. If any sale proceeds remain after paying  
32 for outstanding bonded indebtedness, or if the district has no outstanding  
33 bonded indebtedness, sale proceeds shall be used to reduce the district's  
34 primary tax levy. A school district shall not use this subdivision unless  
35 all of the following conditions exist:

36 (i) The school district is the sole owner of the improved or  
37 unimproved property that the school district intends to sell.

38 (ii) The school district did not purchase the improved or unimproved  
39 property that the school district intends to sell with monies that were  
40 distributed pursuant to chapter 16 of this title.

41 (iii) The transaction does not violate section 15-341, subsection G.

42 11. Review the decision of a teacher to promote a pupil to a grade or  
43 retain a pupil in a grade in a common school or to pass or fail a pupil in a  
44 course in high school. The pupil has the burden of proof to overturn the  
45 decision of a teacher to promote, retain, pass or fail the pupil. In order

1 to sustain the burden of proof, the pupil shall demonstrate to the governing  
2 board that the pupil has mastered the academic standards adopted by the state  
3 board of education pursuant to sections 15-701 and 15-701.01. If the  
4 governing board overturns the decision of a teacher pursuant to this  
5 paragraph, the governing board shall adopt a written finding that the pupil  
6 has mastered the academic standards. Notwithstanding title 38, chapter 3,  
7 article 3.1, the governing board shall review the decision of a teacher to  
8 promote a pupil to a grade or retain a pupil in a grade in a common school or  
9 to pass or fail a pupil in a course in high school in executive session  
10 unless a parent or legal guardian of the pupil or the pupil, if emancipated,  
11 disagrees that the review should be conducted in executive session and then  
12 the review shall be conducted in an open meeting. If the review is conducted  
13 in executive session, the board shall notify the teacher of the date, time  
14 and place of the review and shall allow the teacher to be present at the  
15 review. If the teacher is not present at the review, the board shall consult  
16 with the teacher before making its decision. Any request, including the  
17 written request as provided in section 15-341, the written evidence presented  
18 at the review and the written record of the review, including the decision of  
19 the governing board to accept or reject the teacher's decision, shall be  
20 retained by the governing board as part of its permanent records.

21 12. Provide transportation or site transportation loading and unloading  
22 areas for any child or children if deemed for the best interest of the  
23 district, whether within or without the district, county or state.

24 13. Enter into intergovernmental agreements and contracts with school  
25 districts or other governing bodies as provided in section 11-952.  
26 Intergovernmental agreements and contracts between school districts or  
27 between a school district and other governing bodies as provided in section  
28 11-952 are exempt from competitive bidding under the procurement rules  
29 adopted by the state board of education pursuant to section 15-213.

30 14. Include in the curricula it prescribes for high schools in the  
31 school district career and technical education, vocational education and  
32 technology education programs and career and technical, vocational and  
33 technology program improvement services for the high schools, subject to  
34 approval by the state board of education. The governing board may contract  
35 for the provision of career and technical, vocational and technology  
36 education as provided in section 15-789.

37 15. Suspend a teacher or administrator from the teacher's or  
38 administrator's duties without pay for a period of time of not to exceed ten  
39 school days, if the board determines that suspension is warranted pursuant to  
40 section 15-341, subsection A, paragraphs 21 and 22.

41 16. Dedicate school property within an incorporated city or town to  
42 such city or town or within a county to that county for use as a public  
43 right-of-way if both of the following apply:

1 (a) Pursuant to an ordinance adopted by such city, town or county,  
2 there will be conferred upon the school district privileges and benefits that  
3 may include benefits related to zoning.

4 (b) The dedication will not affect the normal operation of any school  
5 within the district.

6 17. Enter into option agreements for the purchase of school sites.

7 18. Donate surplus or outdated learning materials, educational  
8 equipment and furnishings to nonprofit community organizations where the  
9 governing board determines that the anticipated cost of selling the learning  
10 materials, educational equipment or furnishings equals or exceeds the  
11 estimated market value of the materials.

12 19. Prescribe policies for the assessment of reasonable fees for  
13 students to use district-provided parking facilities. ~~The fees are to be~~  
14 ~~applied by the district solely against costs incurred in operating or~~  
15 ~~securing the parking facilities.~~ MONIES RECEIVED FROM THE ASSESSMENT OF  
16 PARKING FEES MAY BE USED FOR ANY LAWFUL EXPENDITURE. Any policy adopted by  
17 the governing board pursuant to this paragraph shall include a fee waiver  
18 provision in appropriate cases of need or economic hardship.

19 20. Establish alternative educational programs that are consistent with  
20 the laws of this state to educate pupils, including pupils who have been  
21 reassigned pursuant to section 15-841, subsection E or F.

22 21. Require a period of silence to be observed at the commencement of  
23 the first class of the day in the schools. If a governing board chooses to  
24 require a period of silence to be observed, the teacher in charge of the room  
25 in which the first class is held shall announce that a period of silence not  
26 to exceed one minute in duration will be observed for meditation, and during  
27 that time no activities shall take place and silence shall be maintained.

28 22. Require students to wear uniforms.

29 23. Exchange unimproved property or improved property, including school  
30 sites, where the governing board determines that the improved property is  
31 unnecessary for the continued operation of the school district without  
32 requesting authorization by a vote of the school district electors if the  
33 governing board determines that the exchange is necessary to protect the  
34 health, safety or welfare of pupils or when the governing board determines  
35 that the exchange is based on sound business principles for either:

36 (a) Unimproved or improved property of equal or greater value.

37 (b) Unimproved property that the owner contracts to improve if the  
38 value of the property ultimately received by the school district is of equal  
39 or greater value.

40 24. For common and high school pupils, assess reasonable fees for  
41 optional extracurricular activities and programs conducted when the common or  
42 high school is not in session, except that no fees shall be charged for  
43 pupils' access to or use of computers or related materials. For high school  
44 pupils, the governing board may assess reasonable fees for fine arts and  
45 vocational education courses and for optional services, equipment and

1 materials offered to the pupils beyond those required to successfully  
2 complete the basic requirements of any other course, except that no fees  
3 shall be charged for pupils' access to or use of computers or related  
4 materials. Fees assessed pursuant to this paragraph shall be adopted at a  
5 public meeting after notice has been given to all parents of pupils enrolled  
6 at schools in the district and shall not exceed the actual costs of the  
7 activities, programs, services, equipment or materials. The governing board  
8 shall authorize principals to waive the assessment of all or part of a fee  
9 assessed pursuant to this paragraph if it creates an economic hardship for a  
10 pupil. For the purposes of this paragraph, "extracurricular activity" means  
11 any optional, noncredit, educational or recreational activity that  
12 supplements the education program of the school, whether offered before,  
13 during or after regular school hours.

14 25. Notwithstanding section 15-341, subsection A, paragraphs 7 and 9,  
15 construct school buildings and purchase or lease school sites, without a vote  
16 of the school district electors, if the buildings and sites are totally  
17 funded from one or more of the following:

18 (a) Monies in the unrestricted capital outlay fund, except that the  
19 estimated cost shall not exceed two hundred fifty thousand dollars for a  
20 district that utilizes section 15-949.

21 (b) Monies distributed from the school facilities board established by  
22 section 15-2001.

23 (c) Monies specifically donated for the purpose of constructing school  
24 buildings.

25 This paragraph shall not be construed to eliminate the requirement for an  
26 election to raise revenues for a capital outlay override pursuant to section  
27 15-481 or a bond election pursuant to section 15-491.

28 26. Conduct a background investigation that includes a fingerprint  
29 check conducted pursuant to section 41-1750, subsection G for certificated  
30 personnel and personnel who are not paid employees of the school district, as  
31 a condition of employment. A school district may release the results of a  
32 background check to another school district for employment purposes. The  
33 school district may charge the costs of fingerprint checks to its  
34 fingerprinted employee, except that the school district may not charge the  
35 costs of fingerprint checks for personnel who are not paid employees of the  
36 school district.

37 27. Unless otherwise prohibited by law, sell advertising as follows:

38 (a) Advertisements shall be age appropriate and not contain promotion  
39 of any substance that is illegal for minors such as alcohol, tobacco and  
40 drugs or gambling. Advertisements shall comply with the state sex education  
41 policy of abstinence.

42 (b) Advertising approved by the governing board for the exterior of  
43 school buses may appear only on the sides of the bus in the following areas:

- 1 (i) The signs shall be below the seat level rub rail and not extend  
2 above the bottom of the side windows.
- 3 (ii) The signs shall be at least three inches from any required  
4 lettering, lamp, wheel well or reflector behind the service door or stop  
5 signal arm.
- 6 (iii) The signs shall not extend from the body of the bus so as to  
7 allow a handhold or present a danger to pedestrians.
- 8 (iv) The signs shall not interfere with the operation of any door or  
9 window.
- 10 (v) The signs shall not be placed on any emergency doors.
- 11 (c) The school district shall establish an advertisement fund that is  
12 composed of revenues from the sale of advertising. The monies in an  
13 advertisement fund are not subject to reversion.
- 14 28. Assess reasonable damage deposits to pupils in grades seven through  
15 twelve for the use of textbooks, musical instruments, band uniforms or other  
16 equipment required for academic courses. The governing board shall adopt  
17 policies on any damage deposits assessed pursuant to this paragraph at a  
18 public meeting called for this purpose after providing notice to all parents  
19 of pupils in grades seven through twelve in the school district. Principals  
20 of individual schools within the district may waive the damage deposit  
21 requirement for any textbook or other item if the payment of the damage  
22 deposit would create an economic hardship for the pupil. The school district  
23 shall return the full amount of the damage deposit for any textbook or other  
24 item if the pupil returns the textbook or other item in reasonably good  
25 condition within the time period prescribed by the governing board. For the  
26 purposes of this paragraph, "in reasonably good condition" means the textbook  
27 or other item is in the same or a similar condition as it was when the pupil  
28 received it, plus ordinary wear and tear.
- 29 29. Notwithstanding section 15-1105, expend surplus monies in the civic  
30 center school fund for maintenance and operations or unrestricted capital  
31 outlay, if sufficient monies are available in the fund after meeting the  
32 needs of programs established pursuant to section 15-1105.
- 33 30. Notwithstanding section 15-1143, expend surplus monies in the  
34 community school program fund for maintenance and operations or unrestricted  
35 capital outlay, if sufficient monies are available in the fund after meeting  
36 the needs of programs established pursuant to section 15-1142.
- 37 31. Adopt guidelines for standardization of the format of the school  
38 report cards required by section 15-746 for schools within the district.
- 39 32. Adopt policies that require parental notification when a law  
40 enforcement officer interviews a pupil on school grounds. Policies adopted  
41 pursuant to this paragraph shall not impede a peace officer from the  
42 performance of the peace officer's duties. If the school district governing  
43 board adopts a policy that requires parental notification:

1 (a) The policy may provide reasonable exceptions to the parental  
2 notification requirement.

3 (b) The policy shall set forth whether and under what circumstances a  
4 parent may be present when a law enforcement officer interviews the pupil,  
5 including reasonable exceptions to the circumstances under which a parent may  
6 be present when a law enforcement officer interviews the pupil, and shall  
7 specify a reasonable maximum time after a parent is notified that an  
8 interview of a pupil by a law enforcement officer may be delayed to allow the  
9 parent to be present.

10 33. Enter into voluntary partnerships with any party to finance with  
11 funds other than school district funds and cooperatively design school  
12 facilities that comply with the adequacy standards prescribed in section  
13 15-2011 and the square footage per pupil requirements pursuant to section  
14 15-2041, subsection D, paragraph 3, subdivision (b). The design plans and  
15 location of any such school facility shall be submitted to the school  
16 facilities board for approval pursuant to section 15-2041, subsection 0. If  
17 the school facilities board approves the design plans and location of any  
18 such school facility, the party in partnership with the school district may  
19 cause to be constructed and the district may begin operating the school  
20 facility before monies are distributed from the school facilities board  
21 pursuant to section 15-2041. Monies distributed from the new school  
22 facilities fund to a school district in a partnership with another party to  
23 finance and design the school facility shall be paid to the school district  
24 pursuant to section 15-2041. The school district shall reimburse the party  
25 in partnership with the school district from the monies paid to the school  
26 district pursuant to section 15-2041, in accordance with the voluntary  
27 partnership agreement. Before the school facilities board distributes any  
28 monies pursuant to this subsection, the school district shall demonstrate to  
29 the school facilities board that the facilities to be funded pursuant to  
30 section 15-2041, subsection 0 meet the minimum adequacy standards prescribed  
31 in section 15-2011. If the cost to construct the school facility exceeds the  
32 amount that the school district receives from the new school facilities fund,  
33 the partnership agreement between the school district and the other party  
34 shall specify that, except as otherwise provided by the other party, any such  
35 excess costs shall be the responsibility of the school district. The school  
36 district governing board shall adopt a resolution in a public meeting that an  
37 analysis has been conducted on the prospective effects of the decision to  
38 operate a new school with existing monies from the school district's  
39 maintenance and operations budget and how this decision may affect other  
40 schools in the school district. If a school district acquires land by  
41 donation at an appropriate school site approved by the school facilities  
42 board and a school facility is financed and built on the land pursuant to  
43 this paragraph, the school facilities board shall distribute an amount equal  
44 to twenty ~~per cent~~ PERCENT of the fair market value of the land that can be  
45 used for academic purposes. The school district shall place the monies in



1 the unrestricted capital outlay fund and increase the unrestricted capital  
2 budget limit by the amount of the monies placed in the fund. Monies  
3 distributed under this paragraph shall be distributed from the new school  
4 facilities fund pursuant to section 15-2041. If a school district acquires  
5 land by donation at an appropriate school site approved by the school  
6 facilities board and a school facility is financed and built on the land  
7 pursuant to this paragraph, the school district shall not receive monies from  
8 the school facilities board for the donation of real property pursuant to  
9 section 15-2041, subsection F. It is unlawful for:

10 (a) A county, city or town to require as a condition of any land use  
11 approval that a landowner or landowners that entered into a partnership  
12 pursuant to this paragraph provide any contribution, donation or gift, other  
13 than a site donation, to a school district. This subdivision only applies to  
14 the property in the voluntary partnership agreement pursuant to this  
15 paragraph.

16 (b) A county, city or town to require as a condition of any land use  
17 approval that the landowner or landowners located within the geographic  
18 boundaries of the school subject to the voluntary partnership pursuant to  
19 this paragraph provide any donation or gift to the school district except as  
20 provided in the voluntary partnership agreement pursuant to this paragraph.

21 (c) A community facilities district established pursuant to title 48,  
22 chapter 4, article 6 to be used for reimbursement of financing the  
23 construction of a school pursuant to this paragraph.

24 (d) A school district to enter into an agreement pursuant to this  
25 paragraph with any party other than a master planned community party. Any  
26 land area consisting of at least three hundred twenty acres that is the  
27 subject of a development agreement with a county, city or town entered into  
28 pursuant to section 9-500.05 or 11-1101 shall be deemed to be a master  
29 planned community. For the purposes of this subdivision, "master planned  
30 community" means a land area consisting of at least three hundred twenty  
31 acres, which may be noncontiguous, that is the subject of a zoning ordinance  
32 approved by the governing body of the county, city or town in which the land  
33 is located that establishes the use of the land area as a planned area  
34 development or district, planned community development or district, planned  
35 unit development or district or other land use category or district that is  
36 recognized in the local ordinance of such county, city or town and that  
37 specifies the use of such land is for a master planned development.

38 34. Enter into an intergovernmental agreement with a presiding judge of  
39 the juvenile court to implement a law-related education program as defined in  
40 section 15-154. The presiding judge of the juvenile court may assign  
41 juvenile probation officers to participate in a law-related education program  
42 in any school district in the county. The cost of juvenile probation  
43 officers who participate in the program implemented pursuant to this  
44 paragraph shall be funded by the school district.

1           35. Offer to sell outdated learning materials, educational equipment or  
2 furnishings at a posted price commensurate with the value of the items to  
3 pupils who are currently enrolled in that school district before those  
4 materials are offered for public sale.

5           36. If the school district is a small school district as defined in  
6 section 15-901, and if permitted by federal law, opt out of federal grant  
7 opportunities if the governing board determines that the federal requirements  
8 impose unduly burdensome reporting requirements.