



# NEWS RELEASE

## Arizona State Legislature

House Speaker Rusty Bowers (R-25)

Senate President Karen Fann (R-1)

1700 West Washington • Phoenix, Arizona • 85007-2844

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Thursday, August 29, 2019  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Legislature Creates Study Committee on Special Education Weights and Funding for Gifted Pupils

**STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX** – House Speaker Rusty Bowers (R-25) and Senate President Karen Fann (R-1) today appointed members to a study committee on special education weights and funding for gifted pupils.

Representative Shawna Bolick (R-20) will serve as chair of the study committee, and Senator Sylvia Allen (R-6) will serve as vice chair.

The committee will study the unique needs of gifted students, the current special education weights, and potential opportunities to enhance support for gifted education.

Speaker Bowers also appointed Representatives Leo Biasiucci (R-5), Walter Blackman (R-6), Alma Hernandez (D-3), and Arlando Teller (D-7) to serve on the committee, and President Fann appointed Senators Heather Carter (R-15), Sine Kerr (R-13), Lela Alston (D-24), and Andrea Dalessandro (D-2).

**“Gifted students learn differently and tend to thrive in environments that challenge their thinking in ways a typical classroom might not,”** said Representative Bolick. **“I am looking forward to diving into the topics of gifted funding and gifted educational needs, and exploring options to meet the needs of this student population.”**

**“As Chair of the Senate Committee on Education, I’m looking forward to serving on this study committee and helping play a role in finding the best way to provide an education for gifted students,”** said Senator Allen. **“The committee will learn about specific approaches schools are taking to teach gifted students, as well as other methods and solutions that can be used to fit their unique educational needs.”**

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