



STATE OF ARIZONA  
SCHOOL FACILITIES BOARD

Governor of Arizona  
Douglas A. Ducey

Executive Director  
Andy Tobin

## School Facilities Board FY2020 Tribal Annual Report

### Agency Overview

The charge of the School Facilities Board (SFB) is to maintain, manage, and administer the capital finance program known as Students FIRST (Fair and Immediate Resources for Students Today.) This program is funded by appropriations from the State General Fund. The School Facilities Board (SFB) consists of nine voting members appointed by the Governor. The Superintendent of Public Instruction also serves as a non-voting member. The SFB is supported by an Executive Director and a small professional and administrative staff. The Board is charged with the administration of three capital funds: 1) New School Facilities Fund (A.R.S. §15-2041); 2) Building Renewal Grant Fund (A.R.S. §15-2032); and 3) Emergency Deficiencies Correction Fund (A.R.S. §15-2022). The SFB funding is only available for Arizona K-12 School Districts and is not available for BIE, charter, or private schools.

### Response to COVID-19

In response to the COVID-19 Executive Orders all SFB services continued and were transferred to an online environment. SFB Meetings were conducted online, all contact between staff and district were conducted online. The Tribal Liaison was moved to the Governor's Office to coordinate state response to COVID-19 for the duration of the event, and subsequently returned to the SFB. The Tribal Liaison was instrumental in developing communications like infographics on CDC recommended cleaning standards for school reopenings. During the COVID-19 emergency the SFB continued to approve BRG projects needed in the state.

### Tribal Liaison

The SFB has designated Liaison Debora Norris to serve as the Tribal Liaison. That assignment has helped focus SFB awareness of Tribal issues and concerns in our work with school districts serving Tribal lands. The Tribal Liaison will continue to be the point of contact for the SFB on all matters related to the 22 Indian Tribes/Nations of Arizona.

### Tribal Government Consultation Policy

The SFB's adopted Tribal Government Policy (policy book Section X) is available on the agency's website at <https://sfb.az.gov/board-information/policies-opinions/sfb-policy-book>.

### Tribal Consultation Activities

The Arizona School Facilities Board is charged with the construction of new school facilities; administering the distribution of building renewal monies; and inspecting school buildings to ensure compliance with the building adequacy standards prescribed in ARS §15-2011 for all K-12 public school districts including those that are on Tribal Nations. All public K-12 School Districts, including those on Tribal Nations, are treated equally by the School Facilities Board. All districts follow the same statutes, guidelines, and procedures as related to facilities.

### **New School Facilities Fund**

School districts may submit an annual capital plan for analysis of enrollment projections to determine their need for new school facilities pursuant to A.R.S. §15-2041. School districts that are over capacity in the current fiscal year are awarded a new construction project and the Legislature appropriates the funding based on the new construction cost index, including funding needed for land and site conditions. The New School Facilities awards in FY2020 did not include any that were on Tribal Nations.

### **Building Renewal Grant Fund**

In FY2020 the Legislature appropriated \$79,458,00 and an additional Supplemental Request of \$28,000,000 to the Building Renewal Grant fund for the School Facilities Board to administer and distribute to school districts for the purpose of maintaining the adequacy of existing school facilities. School districts may request Building Renewal Grant funding for primary building renewal projects which the Board will prioritize based on school district routine preventative maintenance and the matching of monies provided by the fund. In FY2020, the SFB approved 627 Building Renewal Grant projects. School districts on Tribal Nations awarded Building Renewal Grant funding in FY2020 are listed here:

### **Total BRG District Funding FY2020**

<b>District</b>	<b>Project Awards FY2020</b>
<b>Ganado</b>	<b>\$284,176.000</b>
<b>Red Mesa</b>	<b>\$90,130.00</b>
<b>Window Rock</b>	<b>\$1,287,536.00</b>
<b>Pinon Unified</b>	<b>\$1,409,695.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,160,110.00</b>

### **Emergency Deficiencies Correction Fund**

The Emergency Deficiencies Correction program is application-based; school districts must apply by submitting an application on the SFB website. The Emergency fund does not normally receive an annual appropriation, rather excess funds in the New School Facilities fund may be transferred to the Emergency Deficiencies Correction fund pursuant to A.R.S. §15-2022. There were no school districts on Tribal Nations awarded Emergency Deficiencies Correction funding in FY2020.

### **5-Year Assessments**

A.R.S. §15-2002.A.3 requires the SFB to inspect school buildings once every five years to ensure the compliance with building adequacy standards as prescribed in A.R.S. §15-2001. These inspections are designed to verify the reported size of each school and to ensure that each school continues to meet all school facility minimum adequacy guidelines. Each fiscal year, SFB staff performs 5-year assessments of randomly selected school districts. The school districts selected for FY2020 did not include any that were on Tribal Nations.

**Preventative Maintenance Inspections**

A.R.S. §15-2002.A.3 requires the SFB to randomly select twenty school districts every thirty months and inspect them with regard to routine preventative maintenance. Prior to performing any inspections, the SFB provides the school district staff with a self-evaluation questionnaire, the inspection criteria, and the forms SFB staff will use during the inspection process. The SFB also facilitates a training workshop as part of the inspection process to help individual school districts with staff training and a 6-month follow-up to reinforce school district staff knowledge. The school districts selected for FY2020 did not include any that were on Tribal Nations.

Goal	Objective	Activity & Performance Measure
Address school facilities issues affecting Tribal Nations in Arizona	Build relationships between the State and Tribal Nations.	<p>Scheduled ongoing meetings for liaisons to visit school districts on Tribal Nations to discuss and address facilities needs and to increase BRG grant eligibility.</p> <p>This has led to a 580% increase in awards to districts located on Tribal Nations compared to last year. (2018 BRG awards were \$543,263.00)</p>
	Increase Awareness of design and construction bidding opportunities for local and American Indian owned businesses.	Presented at 2019 ASU Construction in Indian Country CIIC Annual Exhibit and made contact with over 20 American Indian Owned Design and Construction Companies.
	Increase awareness of Tribal and district procurement policies on Tribal Nations.	<p>Increased communication with procurement vendors on Tribal procurement resources to increase awareness of bidding opportunities for local and American Indian owned businesses.</p> <p>3 Procurement vendors expressed interest in expanding RFP communications to local and American Indian owned businesses.</p>

For questions or for more information, please contact Debora Norris, SFB Tribal Liaison, at 602-568-5591 or by email at [dnorris@azsfb.gov](mailto:dnorris@azsfb.gov) .