

eSATS says:

Welcome to the
Arizona State Legislature



[Arizona State Legislature](#)

Over the past 10 years we have been working with the Arizona State Legislature to bring a viable eLearning system to every K-12 education student. Every legislature we speak with likes the idea and attributes of eLearning. They like the eSATS teacher-student design focus and understand the school-by-school transformation to 21st Century eLearning design. The challenge rests in the design of the 2 year tenure of the legislators and a system that is not designed to implement long range transformation. Planning and negotiations rarely go beyond this year's challenges and budget crisis.

Systemic long range K-12 education change has happened in the past. Lead by David Kret Majority Leader in the Senate the entire school finance law was rewritten in 1972. The funding inequity range between districts of \$500 to \$1500 per student was corrected. On October, 2007 a task team had their first meeting to address an estimated three year effort to overhaul the intervening 35 years of incrementalized school funding laws. Strategic, long range, innovation driven change is possible. With its ten year eLearning systems design, road map, and incredible power of persistent advocacy, eSATS intends to be the trim-tab that slowly changes the direction of Arizona's ship of state.

October 2007

After a summer of meeting with enterprise, education and governance knowledge experts eSATS has developed a strategy for the 2008 legislative session. The broadband access to rural communities and state wide systems design will be addressed by a sister organization Arizona Telecommunications and Information Council and Government Information and Technology Agency.

eSATS has a bill sponsored again by Representative Mark Anderson, Chairman of the House Appropriations committee that is being drafted by Legislative Council. It is expected that it will be "dropped" on the first day for bills, November 15th.

This bill is addressing seven critical areas:

- Transforming 10 new and legacy schools to 21st Century eLearning schools;
- Study and initial implementation of teacher computers, essential software suite, electronic white board,...;
- Study and design accounting system for funding individual mastery learning by grade level;
- Accelerate creation and use of integrated data driven decision support system at local district and Arizona Department of Education;
- Study and design implementation of the transformation of Arizona colleges of education to graduate eLearning savvy educators;
- Expand Integrated Data to Enhance Arizona's Learning (IDEAL) system to serve 60,000 educators with professional development and digital curriculum access system;
- Study, design and establish a digital curriculum institute, starting with science, math, engineering and technology, that would deliver decision support system for adoption including an extension service to the school.

The budget short fall of about \$600 million for Arizona's 2007-2008 fiscal year has put a bit of a damper in new money bills. The initial funding request for \$55 million (\$55 per student) will be a challenge.

eSATS strategy has always been base on the entrepreneurial code: "Keep one eye on the vision while making what ever progress that can be made today."

As a non-profit civic entrepreneurship driven advocacy organization eSATS has taken the stance of "frontal attack." By engaging the entire legislature in a vocal and open dialogue the vision sinks in deep each year. Every step takes us forward. We are still in the foot hills and have not yet started the steep climb.

This year's bill sets in motion all the critical system aspects (pilots, infrastructure, policy) that will be ready when the big push comes.

2007 Legislative Session

Representative Mark Anderson sponsored an eSATS bill that focused on legacy school transformation to 21st Century eLearning school. The policy was set in place but only one K-8 schools was funded for \$1 million.

2006 Legislative Session

Senate President Ken Bennett sponsored a comprehensive eSATS bill that resulted in \$2.5 million for the Arizona Department of Education data warehouse system; \$3 million middle school math pilot program for three years and 1500 students; and a ten year Arizona eLearning Task Force appointed by the

Governor, Speaker of the House and President of the Senate with a policy to lead the deployment of eLearning to Arizona's K-12 education.

2005 Legislative Session

The complete eSATS system was proposed in a Senate bill, but no action was taken by the Senate education committee.

1997 Legislative Session

The school facilities funding bill Students First bill passed with the words equipment and technology included. The result with multiple funding sources was approximately \$400 million invested in school wiring, servers and one computer per eight students. For several years Application Server Provider for 1 million teachers and students with digital curriculum and Internet interface was also funded.