



The ASCD Board of Directors is charged with periodically reviewing and making recommendations for changes to the ASCD Constitution and Bylaws. This current recommendation is very timely because ASCD has also been developing a new strategic framework, which affords us the opportunity to align the framework with the Constitution and Bylaws.

The Board of Directors has considered for the past several months a proposed Constitution and Bylaw change. The change will be voted on between **April 1–May 15** by the ASCD membership and, if approved, will be effective June 1, 2021. Following is a highlight of the change and a rationale for it. Please take a few moments to review the information prior to casting your vote. If you should have any questions, please contact ASCD governance manager at [barbara.woolley@ascd.org](mailto:barbara.woolley@ascd.org).

### **Board Size and Appointed Seats**

The number of Board members designated by the Constitution and Bylaws is 11, excluding the CEO/Executive Director. Eight Board members are elected by the membership and "up to 3" are appointed by the Board. The proposed change is to increase the number of appointed seats "up to 5."

### **Rationale:**

- The Board of Directors is in a unique position to assess firsthand the skills, talents, and abilities of a candidate in relation to the competencies needed on the Board and to address any shortcomings in its composition by filling seats with individuals who possess diverse and desirable credentials. The proposal seeks to leverage the expertise of individuals who can strengthen the Board, while placing emphasis on filling gaps in Board competencies. We believe this change will keep the organization governance structure strong and vibrant by affording a streamlined process for the Board to assess its needs and address competency gaps.
- With ASCD needing to evolve to better meet the needs of educators, we must look for ways to remain strong, while continuing to position the organization as a relevant and powerful resource for its members. These measures will help bring additional talent to the Board as we begin to implement a new strategic plan.

This is the proposed change to the ASCD Constitution and Bylaws. Our hope is that you are well-informed about the proposal and will cast your vote this upcoming April and May to adopt the change. The Board Governance Committee will be available to answer any questions members have during an 11:10–11:50 am session, January 29, 2021 at the upcoming [2021 Leadership Summit on Educator Mental Health and Wellness](#), January 27–29, 2021. Thank you for your continued support of ASCD!