

Thank you for helping support our efforts to remove Dr Mark Syms from the ASDB Board. Governor Ducey needs to hear from you!

Here's how to let him know what you think.

- 1) Go to <https://azgovernor.gov/engage/form/contact-governor-ducey>
- 2) Under "Reason for Contacting the Governor" you can check either circle.
- 3) Fill in your appropriate contact information.
- 4) Under "Subject" scroll down to "Education"
- 5) Under comments, feel free to choose from the samples below
- 6) After submitting comment, be sure to complete the "Captcha" validation process. Then click "Send."

For ASDB Alumni:

Dear Governor Ducey,

I am a proud graduate of the Arizona Schools for the Deaf and the Blind. Through the years I have watched as my alma mater regained its strong footing, especially with the appointment of Annette Reichman as superintendent. Your visit and commitment of subsequent funding to the school and to improving deaf education in Arizona is admirable. We have much more to do. There is deadwood in the leadership that needs to be removed.

That deadwood is Dr Mark Syms. Amidst all of his voter fraud convictions and subsequent financial appeals, his clear lack of ethics reflects on his leadership and service on the ASDB board.

He won't resign. He thinks he is above reproach. I don't agree. You need to remove him from the board and appoint people who come in with clean hands and are committed to the future of education of our children in Arizona.

I trust you will listen me as an alumnus, voter, and taxpayer in the State of Arizona.

Sincerely,
(your name)

For Arizona residents

SAMPLE 1

Dear Governor Ducey,

I am a concerned resident of Arizona. I love this state and I love my home here. I am all for improving the educational standards of all deaf, deaf-blind, and deaf children with visual challenges.

This is about the presence of Dr Mark Syms on the board of the Arizona Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (ASDB). Amidst all of the negative press he has been getting and all of this talk of voter fraud, it is clear that Dr Syms does not have the ethical standards required of one to serve on the board of ASDB. He is clearly distracted with all of his legal challenges. He is also clearly not committed to what is best for the schools.

You would be doing Arizona a huge service by removing Dr Syms from the board immediately. I trust you will listen to your constituents like me and make this correct decision.

Sincerely,
(your name)

For Arizona residents

SAMPLE 2

Dear Governor Ducey,

I've had the privilege of living in this beautiful State for more than ____ years now and am proud to call myself a fully-transplanted Arizonian. Before moving here, I lived in the State of _____ where we all shared in a very dynamic educational process for our deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind, and deaf children with vision challenges. We community members worked with educators and other stakeholders to ensure that our children were receiving the best education under the best leadership.

Jimmy Wilson, the president of the Arizona Association of the Deaf, has attempted to communicate with you more than twice. You have not yet acknowledged his communications with you nor taken any action on the removal of Dr Mark Syms.

This is not a governing system I am accustomed to—I trust that you, as governor, will push for transparency and ethical behavior among your appointments to various boards of state institutions and agencies. It is clear that Dr Mark Syms, given the scandals surrounding his poor judgement and unethical behavior, is not fit to serve on the board of the Arizona Schools for the Deaf and the Blind. It is only right that you remove him so that the Board may better serve the schools without any cloud hanging over it.

I trust you will hear my voice and the voices of others and act accordingly. Thank you.

Sincerely,
(your name)

For parents of current and past students of ASDB

Dear Governor Ducey,

I am the parent of a child who attended ASDB and I am proud of the accomplishments my child made as a student there. There have often been challenges with the leadership at the school and I am happy to see how things have stabilized under the capable direction of Superintendent Annette Reichman. I am very concerned about the current board under the leadership of Dr Mark Syms. He is clearly not in a position to lead, and I have many questions about his ethics and commitment to educating our children. He needs to be removed. And you as the governor are the person to demonstrate ethical leadership by removing Dr Syms as it is clear he has no intention of resigning. His contempt for our children needs to be rewarded with swift action on your part.

Thank you for listening. I trust you will do what is best for our children by removing Dr Syms.

Sincerely,
(your name)