

WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES: REGULAR MEETING

2012-2013

September 27, 2012

Administrative Center
Governing Board Room
4650 West Sweetwater Avenue
Glendale, AZ 85304-1505

I. REGULAR MEETING – GENERAL FUNCTION

A. Call to Order and Roll Call

Mr. Jahneke called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. Governing Board members constituting a quorum were present: Mr. Bill Adams, Ms. Clorinda Graziano, Mr. Aaron Jahneke, and Mrs. Tee Lambert. Mr. Chris Maza was not in attendance.

B. Moment of Silence and Meditation

Mr. Jahneke called for a moment of silence and meditation.

C. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Jahneke led the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Adams that the Governing Board adopt the Regular Meeting Agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lambert. The motion carried.

UNANIMOUS

E. Approval of the Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Graziano that the Governing Board approve the Minutes of the September 13, 2012 Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Adams. The motion carried.

UNANIMOUS

F. Current Events: Governing Board and Superintendent

Mrs. Lambert shared that she enjoyed attending the Business Advisory Team (BAT) meeting which had approximately 130 attendees who discussed what was happening in their neighborhoods and how to support each other. Mrs. Lambert appreciated the District's connectivity with the community members. She stated that City Council members spoke to the group and advised community members that they could be added to a vendor list that the City of Phoenix utilizes which would benefit the City's revenue. She felt that the BAT was a very worthwhile endeavor for the District and thanked everyone involved.

Ms. Graziano shared the following:

- Acknowledged and thanked the students and teachers at Abraham Lincoln Traditional School, Cholla Middle School, Mountain Sky Junior High School, and Palo Verde Middle School for the artwork displayed in the Governing Board Room.
- Enjoyed attending the Arizona Business and Education Coalition (ABEC) Forum regarding Proposition 204. She provided Board members with copies of information she received at the forum.
- Enjoyed attending the Clean Elections Forum for District 20 candidates.
- Enjoyed hearing updates from the City of Phoenix Council members at the Business Advisory Team meeting.
- Thanked the Greenway High School band for hosting the Desert Foothills Junior High School band at one of its football games.

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- Thanked Doreen Zannis and members of Support Our Schools AZ (SOSAZ) for their continued support of public education and congratulated the group on their successful rummage sale.

Mr. Adams shared the following:

- Enjoyed attending the Business Advisory Team meeting and gave kudos to Jill Hicks and her team for putting together the impressive event. He agreed with Mrs. Lambert's comment regarding the connectivity of the attendees.
- Enjoyed attending the District 20 Clean Elections Forum and encouraged everyone to study all of the issues and get to know the candidates.
- Enjoyed attending the Arizona School Boards Association (ASBA) Board meeting. He advised that ASBA plans to use more technology to conduct business and will continue to offer transparency. He thanked his fellow Board members for supporting the ASBA events. He reminded Board members that the ASBA County Workshop would be held on October 1, 2012.

Mr. Jahneke shared that he enjoyed attending the Business Advisory Team meeting. He was glad to see the City Council members in attendance to show their support for our District. He was pleased to see the solidarity of the community members.

Mr. Jahneke thanked everyone for their concern last year during his illness. He stated he is feeling well and is now enjoying teaching on a full-time basis. He anticipates having more time for activities related to the District.

Dr. Cook introduced Janelle Chisholm, WESD Math Program Coach, who shared how she supports the K-8 teachers and principals with the implementation of the new Arizona Common Core Mathematics content.

- Ms. Graziano stated she was under the impression that the new Common Core Standards were to align the whole country so that everyone would be teaching the same curriculum at the same grade levels. Ms. Graziano asked if the new Common Core Standards realigned the same curriculum or was it the approach that was changing. Ms. Chisholm responded that this was new content with new emphasis on problem solving and rigor. There are new standards, e.g., 6th and 7th grades have a new domain for ratio and proportional thinking. Ms. Chisholm stated that the Arizona Department of Education had created new standards in order to compete in the global economy and prepare students for high school and college.
- Dr. Cook advised that this was not a national initiative, but a multi-state initiative. Dr. Cook stated that Arizona was part of the PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College) consortium. She further advised that the new standards were an effort to narrow and deepen the curriculum.
- Mrs. Lambert stated she appreciated the District's focus on the new Common Core Standards and the efforts to train teachers to use better strategies to reach the students. Ms. Chisholm replied that they are focusing on conceptual understanding which should produce good results.
- Mr. Jahneke thanked Ms. Chisholm for her presentation and felt this would be a benefit for the District's students for their future endeavors.

G. Special Recognition

Mr. Jahneke recognized Governing Board members for their diligent work with the Arizona School Boards Association (ASBA) programs for continuing education and training. The following Board members were presented with a plaque and were informed that a duplicate plaque was hung in the District's Governing Board Room:

- Bill Adams was awarded the Certificate of Boardmanship, Associate of Boardmanship, and Masters of Boardmanship.

- Clorinda Graziano was awarded the Associate of Boardsmanship and Masters of Boardsmanship.
- Tee Lambert was awarded the Associate of Boardsmanship.

H. Public Participation

There was no public participation.

I. Approval of the Consent Agenda

UNANIMOUS

A motion was made by Ms. Graziano that the Governing Board approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lambert. The motion carried.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

***A. Approval/Ratification of Vouchers**

UNANIMOUS

Approved and ratified the vouchers as presented.

***B. Personnel Items**

UNANIMOUS

Approved the personnel items as presented.

***C. Public Gifts and Donations (The Value of Donated Items is Determined by the Donor)**

UNANIMOUS

Approved the public gifts and donations as presented.

1. Rodel Foundation of Arizona donated a check in the amount of \$5,625.00 to be used for the MAC-Ro Math Program kick-off assemblies and student incentives for the benefit of participating students at Acacia, Desert View, Mountain View, Shaw Butte, and Sunnyslope Elementary Schools.
2. The Phoenix Zoo donated scholarships with a value of \$2,100.00 to the Cactus Wren Academy for 36 students to attend ZooReach Night Camp.
3. Genesis donated 300 photo albums with an approximate value of \$1,500.00 for the benefit of families at Chaparral Elementary School.
4. Ironwood Parent Teacher Organization donated a check in the amount of \$1,281.50 towards the cost of subscriptions to Scholastic News and Science Spin for all 1st through 6th grade students at Ironwood Elementary School.
5. Target, Take Charge of Education Program, donated a rebate check in the amount of \$1,824.82 for the benefit of students at Lookout Mountain Elementary School.
6. Target, Take Charge of Education Program, donated a rebate check in the amount of \$349.50 for the benefit of students at Mountain Sky Junior High School.

***D. Acceptance of E-rate Funds**

UNANIMOUS

***E. Declaration of Curricular and Instructional Alignment to the Arizona Academic Standards**

UNANIMOUS

***F. Second Reading and Adoption of Proposed Amended Board Policy DJG – Vendor/Contractor Relations**

UNANIMOUS

III. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Request to Delay Full Implementation of New Teacher and Principal Evaluation Plans UNANIMOUS

Dr. Cook advised the Board that House Bill 2823 includes a provision that allows school district governing boards to delay full implementation of the revised teacher and principal evaluations until the 2013-2014 school year if approved by a majority vote of the board at a public meeting prior to September 30, 2012. Dr. Cook introduced Ms. Sue Snyder who had worked with the District's Teacher Evaluation Committee and provided a summary of the recommendation.

Ms. Graziano stated she was pleased that the bill had a provision to delay full implementation of the revised teacher and principal evaluations for one year to give the District time to use it and make changes, if necessary.

Ms. Graziano asked to meet with someone to offer some suggestions for the wording on the evaluations and answer questions she had.

A motion was made by Mr. Adams that the Governing Board approve delaying full implementation of both the revised teacher evaluation system and the revised principal evaluation system until the 2013-2014 school year. Additionally, it was moved that the Governing Board adopt the educator implementation plan outlined in attachments A through F. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lambert. The motion carried.

IV. INFORMATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Update Regarding A.R.S. 15-701 "Move on When Reading" and 15-211 K-3 Literacy Plans

Dr. Cook advised the Board that Mrs. Lambert had requested, as a future agenda item, an update regarding "Move on When Reading", the new K-3 Literacy Plans, and the associated revenue streams. Dr. Cook introduced Ms. Janet Sullivan who provided an update on the "Move on When Reading" and the K-3 Literacy Plans.

Ms. Sullivan stated that Senate Bill 1258 was amended on March 29, 2012 and allowed for two exemptions for promotion of a third grade student who fell far below the standard on the reading portion of Arizona's Instrument to Measure Standards (AIMS) or a successor test. The two exemptions are for English language learners who have had fewer than two years of English language instruction and for students with disabilities if the pupil's Individual Education Plan (IEP) team and the parent/guardian agree that promotion is appropriate based on the pupil's IEP.

Ms. Sullivan advised that SB 1529 became A.R.S. 15-211 that included a revenue stream of 0.040 support level weight per K-3 student which would be just under \$1.2 million for the District. In order to receive the funds, districts are required to have K-3 Literacy Plans outlining what they are doing to address reading in K-3 grades. Ms. Sullivan stated that very little in the plans is new to our schools in the District.

Mrs. Lambert asked the following questions:

- Does the statute require the District to use Response to Intervention (RTI)? Ms. Sullivan responded that the State Board of Education was charged with providing guidelines to districts for the K-3 Literacy Plans and that guidance was focused on RTI.
- Is the District using DIBELS or AIMS Web, or both, as progress monitoring tools? Ms. Sullivan replied that this is the second year that the District has used DIBELS Next across the system. The District does not use AIMS Web as there is a higher cost for the service.

- How much per student will the District receive from the revenue stream? Ms. Cathy Thompson responded that the 0.040 weight would calculate to \$138-\$140 per student.

Ms. Graziano asked the following questions:

- Is the first group of students to be affected by the statute 2nd graders now? Ms. Sullivan replied in the affirmative.
- Do you have an approximate number of how many students may not be promoted from the third grade if their reading falls far below the third grade level? Ms. Sullivan responded that with the two exemption criteria of Senate Bill 1258 effective March 29, 2012, there would have been 43 students that would not have been promoted from last year's third grade classes based on the AIMS test scores.
- Since this is based on a State statute, is there any recourse for parents if their child is not promoted? Ms. Sullivan stated that it will be based solely on test scores according to the statute and parents will have no recourse to protest the retention.

Mr. Adams asked how many 3rd grade students did the District have last year. Ms. Sullivan responded there were approximately 2,300 students and 43 would have been retained using the exemption criteria from Senate Bill 1258 effective March 29, 2012. Mr. Adams stated that was a low percentage and felt the District was doing a good job.

V. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future agenda items.

VI. GOVERNING BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Mr. Adams acknowledged Mr. Jahneke for the great job he did in conducting the Board meeting.

Dr. Cook acknowledged the members of the Parent Leadership Team who met for the first time. Dr. Cook subsequently met with individuals who were not able to attend the first meeting. She advised that they have scheduled a second meeting for October 2, 2012. They were provided a short summary of the Common Core Standards. The next topic of interest will be school lunches, followed by how the schools are funded. Dr. Cook acknowledged that they have embraced the conceptual meaning of the Parent Leadership Team.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Lambert to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:51 p.m. The **UNANIMOUS** motion was seconded by Ms. Graziano. The motion carried.

SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

Documents were signed as tendered by the Governing Board Secretary

Joyce Shiota
BOARD SECRETARY

10/18/12
DATE

Alw Jahneke
BOARD OFFICIAL

10/18/12
DATE