

WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES: REGULAR MEETING AND EXECUTIVE SESSION

2011-2012

January 26, 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. Maza called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Governing Board members constituting a quorum were present: Mr. Chris Maza, Mr. Bill Adams, Ms. Clorinda Graziano, Mr. Aaron Jahneke, and Mrs. Tee Lambert.

**B. Moment of Silence and Meditation**

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

**C. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mr. Maza 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 Mr. Jahneke that the Governing Board approve the Minutes of the January 12, 2012 Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Adams. The motion carried.

UNANIMOUS

**F. Current Events: Governing Board and Superintendent**

Board members thanked Lookout Mountain Elementary School students for the 2012 calendar and artwork. They enjoy receiving the calendars each year.

Ms. Graziano acknowledged and thanked Arroyo, Desert View, Ocotillo, Sahuaro, and Washington Schools for the artwork displayed in the Governing Board Room.

Ms. Graziano congratulated the students who participated in the District's Spelling Bee held that morning. She stated that she looked forward to honoring them at a future Board meeting.

Mr. Adams thanked Mr. Bill Gates, Phoenix city councilman for District 3, for the wonderful article in the *Phoenix Republic* about the Washington Elementary School District's Parent University. Mr. Adams acknowledged Mr. Gates' kindness in writing the very positive, complimentary article.

Mrs. Lambert stated she was appreciative of the relationship that Ms. Jill Hicks, Community Outreach Specialist, and others in the District have built with the City Council members serving in the Washington Elementary School District (WESD) area. Mrs. Lambert advised that every newsletter from the District's City Council members mentioned something about what WESD is doing and acknowledged the good work that WESD is doing in the community to build a stronger relationship.

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Mr. Maza shared that he enjoyed attending the District's Principals' meeting. He offered the group, as well as individuals within the group, congratulations on behalf of the Governing Board.

Mr. Maza shared that he was invited to attend the speech by President Obama, at which Dr. Murosky, Director of Academic Support Programs, was also in attendance. Mr. Maza reported that President Obama reiterated his comments in regard to education that he had stated the night before in his State of the Union Address.

Dr. Cook congratulated the 32 students who participated in the District's Spelling Bee, especially Mountain Sky Junior High School student, Mark Morissey, who prevailed in first place after 26 rounds of spelling. The top eight participants will be acknowledged at a future Governing Board meeting.

#### **G. Special Recognition**

- Mr. Maza recognized and welcomed members of Boy Scout Troop 827 who were working on the "Citizenship in the Community" badge. Several of the troop members attend Mountain Sky Junior High School.
- Dr. Cook acknowledged special recognition of teachers who have achieved National Board Certification (NBC), the most prestigious credential a teacher can earn; and special recognition of teachers who have renewed their National Board Certification. Dr. Cook introduced Dr. Maggie Westhoff who congratulated the candidates who received National Board Certification: Linda Armbruster, Washington School; Lee Deremo, Sahuaro School; Jackie Krzak, Lookout Mountain School; Jennifer Lauzon, Acacia School; Sara Pearson, Washington School; and Amanda Taylor, Lookout Mountain School. All candidates who received the National Board Certification were presented with a sterling silver NBC pin. Dr. Westhoff acknowledged and thanked the following support staff who worked with the NBC candidates: Barbara Post, Administrator for Gifted Services; Nancy Lehmann, teacher at Ocotillo Elementary School; and Jill Mirza, teacher at Ocotillo Elementary School.

Dr. Westhoff also congratulated the teachers who have renewed their National Board Certification (NBC) Certificate: Leah Esmont, Washington School, and Nina Mikulich, Washington School. Candidates who renewed their certification received a glass paperweight with the NBC symbol on it.

Mr. Maza congratulated the NBC candidates on behalf of the Governing Board and stated that receiving the NBC Certificate was a distinction of the high quality of teaching and learning. He thanked the candidates for being an example to the rest of the WESD staff. Mr. Maza also thanked Dr. Westhoff and Ms. Post for their hard work and efforts.

#### **H. Public Participation**

There was public participation. Ms. Sheryl Kronenberg advised that the Washington District Education Association (WDEA) and the Washington Education Foundation (WEF) will be partnering with the District to celebrate the annual Read Across America program. The kick-off breakfast will be called the "culmination" breakfast this year and will be held on March 2, 2012 at Ironwood Elementary School at 7:00 a.m.. Ms. Kronenberg invited everyone, including Governing Board members, to read to students at one of the District's schools following the breakfast. Popcorn and cups were provided to Board members in honor of the movie based on the Dr. Seuss book, The Lorax, which will be released on March 2, 2012.

- I. Approval of the Consent Agenda** **UNANIMOUS**  
A motion was made by Mr. Jahneke 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 \$6,466.00 to be used for the MAC-Ro Math Program for the benefit of participating students at Desert View, Mountain View, Shaw Butte, and Sunnyslope Schools.
  2. Campos Creative School Portraits donated a commission check in the amount of \$376.00 for the benefit of students at Arroyo Elementary School.
  3. Safeway Diversity Board donated 48 - \$25.00 Safeway gift cards for a total value of \$1,200.00 for the benefit of families in need in the Cactus Wren Elementary School community.
  4. Kroger (Fry's Food Stores) donated a VIP Shopper's Card commission check in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the benefit of students at Desert Foothills Junior High School.
  5. Kroger (Fry's Food Stores) donated a VIP Shopper's Card commission check in the amount of \$500.00 for the benefit of students at Ironwood Elementary School.
  6. Kroger (Fry's Food Stores) donated a VIP Shopper's Card commission check in the amount of \$500.00 for the benefit of students at Mountain View School.
  7. Box Tops for Education (General Mills) donated a check in the amount of \$425.80 to be used to purchase books for the library for the benefit of students at Mountain Sky Junior High School.
  8. Southwest Desert Cardiology donated toys with an approximate value of \$500.00 for the benefit of McKinney-Vento students at Orangewood School.
  9. Baseline Trees donated a tree with an approximate value of \$700.00 which was planted in memory of an Orangewood School student who passed away.
  10. Ontime Nuclear Imaging, LLC donated toys with an approximate value of \$800.00 for the benefit of McKinney-Vento students at Orangewood School.
  11. Assistance League of Phoenix donated 214 books with an approximate value of \$2,761.86 for the benefit of kindergarten and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students at Sunnyslope School.

- 12. Assistance League of Phoenix donated 470 books with an approximate value of \$7,073.00 for the benefit of 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students at Sunnyslope School.
- 13. Royal Palm Middle School students and staff donated \$645.00 for a monument in honor of Math teacher, Bonnie Novaky, who passed away this year.
- \*D. Extension and Renewal of Annual Contract for Specified Goods and Services UNANIMOUS
- \*E. Annual Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchase Agreements with the Greater Phoenix Purchasing Consortium of Schools (GPPCS) and Strategic Alliance for Volume Expenditures (SAVE) UNANIMOUS
- \*F. Annual Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchase Agreements with the Mohave Educational Services Cooperative (MESC) and State Procurement Office (SPO) UNANIMOUS
- \*G. Issue RFP for Specified Services – Magazine Subscriptions and On-line Resources to Support Social Studies UNANIMOUS
- \*H. Acceptance of the Target Grant in the Amount of \$700.00 and the Walmart Foundation Grants in the Amount of \$3,000.00 UNANIMOUS

**III. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEM**

- A. Refiling of Lookout Mountain Elementary School as a Single Plat and Dedication of a Right of Way Easement to City of Phoenix** UNANIMOUS

Dr. Cook advised the Board that they were being presented information regarding the need to refile information with the City of Phoenix regarding Lookout Mountain Elementary School. Dr. Cook introduced Ms. Cathy Thompson, Director of Business Services, and advised the Board that Mr. David Schmidt from Orcutt/Winslow Partnership was available to answer questions.

Ms. Thompson reviewed the recommendations that the District will submit to the City of Phoenix regarding the easements and combining the two separate pieces of land as a single plat.

Mrs. Lambert asked if anyone knew why the site was originally recorded as two separate pieces of land. Ms. Thompson responded that she did not know the history of the property. Mr. Schmidt stated that he did not know why it was recorded as two pieces of land. He stated that it was not uncommon because when the original owner subdivided the property, they may not have intended it to be a school. He advised that refile as a single plat was necessary because the City of Phoenix does not like the fact that the District may be draining water from one site to another in the event that the property could theoretically be sold as separate pieces of land. Therefore, the District is recommending refile as a single plat.

A motion was made by Mr. Jahneke that the Governing Board approve the submittal of a request to file and record Lookout Mountain Elementary School as a single plat of land. Mr. Jahneke further moved that the Governing Board approve the submittal of a request to the City of Phoenix to abandon the current 55 foot easement and to replace it with a 30 foot right of way easement along Coral Gables Drive (the 25 foot right of way easement along Central Avenue will remain as is). Mr. Jahneke also moved that the Governing Board authorize the Superintendent to execute all documents related to the transactions. The motion was seconded by Ms. Graziano. The motion carried.

#### IV. INFORMATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

UNANIMOUS

##### A. Truancy Prevention Unit (TPU) Update

Dr. Cook advised the Board that due to a personal crisis in Mr. John Shikany's family, he was unable to attend the meeting to present the TPU Update. She recommended that the agenda item be tabled until the February 9, 2012 Governing Board meeting.

Mrs. Lambert made a motion that the Information / Discussion Item – Truancy Prevention Unit (TPU) Update be tabled until the February 9, 2012 Governing Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Adams. The motion carried.

##### B. Arizona School Boards Association (ASBA) Legislative Workshop and the ASBA and Arizona School Administrators (ASA) Annual Conference Update

Dr. Cook advised that Ms. Graziano requested an update regarding the ASBA Legislative Workshop and the ASBA and ASA Annual Conference as a future agenda item. Therefore, the agenda item was presented for the attendees' (Mr. Adams, Ms. Graziano, and Mrs. Lambert) update.

Mr. Adams recused himself from the update presentation as he attended the conference in a different capacity, not representing the Governing Board.

Mrs. Lambert reported that legal issues were presented at the Legislative Workshop. She reviewed the information from the breakout sessions she attended and provided Board members with copies of the PowerPoint presentations from the "Digital and Blended Learning" and "Move on When Reading" workshops.

Mrs. Lambert commented that she appreciated the following quote made by one of the guest speakers: "Poorly educated people become desperate and we end up either caring for them or fearing them."

Ms. Graziano reported that State Superintendent of Public Instruction Huppenthal attended the Legislative Workshop where he stated that the main focus of his department is customer service. Ms. Graziano advised that there was an interesting roundtable discussion with four State Representatives: Senator Rich Crandall, Representative Doris Goodale, Representative Eric Meyer, and Senator David Schapira.

Ms. Graziano commented on the breakout session she attended regarding Superintendent contracts which will now include performance pay. A suggestion made in the session was to make it similar to the teachers' performance pay which is approximately 1%-3%. Ms. Graziano stated that the performance pay recommendation must be presented at a public meeting of the Governing Board.

Ms. Graziano stated that the "Move on When Reading" program concerned her because the State Department of Education plans to have very prescriptive measures for the students who fall below the third grade reading level and are not promoted. Ms. Graziano acknowledged the District's work on the program to ensure that its students do not get into that position.

Mrs. Lambert and Ms. Graziano thanked the Board for allowing them to attend the worthwhile conference.

Mr. Adams thanked Mrs. Lambert and Ms. Graziano for the very detailed report.

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Mr. Maza appreciated having the item on the Agenda and thanked Mrs. Lambert and Ms. Graziano for the update.

**V. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no future agenda items.

**VI. GOVERNING BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

There were no acknowledgments.

**VII. CALL FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**UNANIMOUS**

Call for Executive Session: Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 – A.3 and A.5

It was recommended that the Governing Board establish an Executive Session to be held immediately during a recess in the Regular Meeting for:

- A.3 – Discussion or consultation for legal advice with the attorney or attorneys of the public body regarding the new law pertaining to superintendent contracts (A.R.S. §15-341[A][40]).
- A. 5 – Discussions or consultations with the designated representative of the public body in order to consider its position and instruct its representatives regarding negotiations with employee organizations regarding the salaries, salary schedule, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits of employees of the public body – specifically regarding the 2012 Interest-based Negotiation (IBN) process.

A motion was made by Mr. Adams to call for an Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lambert. The motion carried.

**VIII. RECESSING OF REGULAR MEETING FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION – GENERAL FUNCTION**

A. Call to Order and Roll Call

B. Confidentiality Statement

All persons present are hereby reminded that it is unlawful to disclose or otherwise divulge to any person who is not now present, other than a current member of the Board, anything that has transpired or has been discussed during this executive session. To do so is a violation of ARS §38-431.03 unless pursuant to a specific statutory exception.

C. Discussion under A.R.S. §38-431.03 – A.3

- A.3 – Discussion or consultation for legal advice with the attorney or attorneys of the public body regarding the new law pertaining to superintendent contracts (A.R.S. §15-341[A][40]).

D. Discussion under A.R.S. §38-431.03 – A.5

- A.5 – Discussions or consultations with the designated representative of the public body in order to consider its position and instruct its representatives regarding negotiations with employee organizations regarding the salaries, salary schedule, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits of employees of the public body – specifically regarding the 2012 Interest-based Negotiation (IBN) process.

X. RECONVENING OF REGULAR MEETING

XI. ADJOURNMENT

UNANIMOUS

A motion was made by Mr. Adams to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lambert. The motion carried.

SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

Documents were signed as tendered by the Governing Board Secretary

Joyce Shiota  
BOARD SECRETARY

2/9/12  
DATE

[Signature]  
BOARD OFFICIAL

02/09/12  
DATE