

GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES: REGULAR MEETING AND EXECUTIVE SESSION

2011-2012

May 24, 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 7:00 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

UNANIMOUS

A motion was made by Mr. Adams that the Governing Board adopt the Regular Meeting Agenda with flexibility. The motion was seconded by Mrs Lambert. The motion carried. At the discretion of the chair, Mr. Maza moved Information/Discussion Item IV.A. – Update Regarding Arroyo INC before the Arroyo INC student presentation at the end of I.G. - Current Events.

E. Approval of the Minutes

UNANIMOUS

A motion was made by Mr. Jahneke that the Governing Board approve the Minutes of the May 10, 2012 Special Meeting – Study Session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Graziano. The motion carried.

F. Approval of the Minutes

UNANIMOUS

A motion was made by Mrs. Lambert that the Governing Board approve the Minutes of the May 10, 2012 Regular Meeting and Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Adams. The motion carried.

IV. INFORMATION / DISCUSSION ITEM

A. Update Regarding Arroyo INC

I. G. Current Events: Governing Board and Superintendent

Mr. Adams shared that he enjoyed participating in the Invest in Education Golf Classic held on May 19, 2012, at the Pointe Tapatio Golf Club. He thanked Ms. Sandy Mendez Benson and her team for organizing the fantastic event. Mr. Adams acknowledged Ms. Benson’s mother-in-law, Nancy Benson, who attended the Board meeting. Mr. Adams reported that Nancy Benson was a retired principal (47 years) from Corpus Christi, Texas.

Mr. Jahneke shared that he enjoyed attending the following events:

- Literacy Night at the Cholla Public Library – thanked everyone who participated
- WESD Retiree Reception – great event to honor our retiring employees

Mrs. Lambert shared that she enjoyed attending the following events:

- Roadrunner Elementary School – Mr. John Huppenthal, Arizona Superintendent of Public Instruction, honored the school for receiving the Green Ribbon Award from the Federal Government.
- WESD Retiree Reception – had a special meaning this year because many of her children's teachers were retiring.

Ms. Graziano acknowledged the following schools and art teachers for the artwork displayed in the Board Room and thanked the students who volunteered to have the artwork displayed for the summer:

- Manzanita Elementary School
- Ocotillo Elementary School
- Tumbleweed Elementary School
- Mountain Sky Junior High School
- Orangewood School
- Lookout Mountain Elementary School
- Sunburst Elementary School
- Richard E. Miller Elementary School

Ms. Graziano shared that she enjoyed seeing the following schools perform in California:

- Alta Vista's Island Waves steel drum band received Superior and 1st place for percussion ensemble.
- Mountain Sky's Choir received 1st place Superior. The Jazz Band, Band, and Orchestra all received Silver/Excellent.
- Palo Verde's Hand Bells received 1st place Superior. The Band and Strings received Good and Strings received 1st place.

Ms. Graziano shared that she enjoyed attending the following events:

- Governor Brewer's visit to Acacia Elementary School - thanked Governor Brewer for announcing her Summer Reading Program at Acacia
- Superintendent Huppenthal's visit to Roadrunner Elementary School for the Green Ribbon Award
- Royal Palm's Spring Orchestra/Band Concert
- Maryland's Band Concert
- Chaparral's Band Assembly
- Literacy Night at the Cholla Public Library – enjoyed reading to students and thanked WDEA for organizing the event and Cholla Library for hosting the event
- Desert View's Spring Music Concert
- Palo Verde's Spring Concert
- Desert Foothill's Choir and Strings Concert
- Desert Foothill's Spring Guitar Concert
- Royal Palm's Spring Choral Concert
- Mountain View's Band and Strings Concert
- WDEA Recognition and Installation Dinner
- Mountain View's Chorus Concert

- WESD Retiree Reception – thanked retiring employees for their years of service, dedication, and caring for the students. Ms. Graziano also thanked Carol Donaldson and her staff for organizing the event.

Mr. Maza shared that he enjoyed attending many of the aforementioned events and thanked his fellow Board members for attending them.

Mr. Maza recognized Ms. Graziano as a retired teacher and thanked her for her years of service and attendance at many of the District events. Ms. Graziano stated it was her privilege to represent the Board at the events and thanked Mr. Maza.

Mr. Maza thanked the staff, students, and parents for the end of another good school year. He stated that he was pleased to be part of a profession that had endings and beginnings and wished everyone a good, safe summer.

IV. INFORMATION / DISCUSSION ITEM (Moved at discretion of Chair)

A. Update Regarding Arroyo INC

Dr. Cook introduced Arroyo Principal, Philip Liles, who, in turn, introduced after-school coordinator, Penny Hughes, and teachers, Rhoda Mason, Lisa Hayes, and Beth Hudson who spearheaded the Arroyo INC program. Mr. Liles introduced and thanked Ms. Sandy Mendez Benson for her support and connections with local business partners who supported the program.

Mr. Liles stated that the Arroyo INC after-school program was launched with 65 fifth and sixth grade students and incorporated the Junior Achievement Biz Town curriculum.

Mr. Liles advised that Arroyo INC was the recipient of a \$5,000.00 grant awarded from the Arizona Diamondbacks Foundation. They also received 2,000 tickets for a Diamondbacks baseball game.

Mr. Liles shared a video, produced by Media Services Coordinator Paul Askew, of Arroyo INC's inaugural year.

Mr. Liles thanked the Governing Board and the District for its support of the Arroyo INC program and looks forward to continuing the program in 2012-2013 and expanding it to include students in third through seventh grades.

Ms. Sandy Mendez Benson thanked the District for giving her the opportunity to work with the Arroyo INC program. She acknowledged the incredible efforts of the students participating in the program. Ms. Benson also acknowledged the Business Advisory Team members who participated in the program. She stated that the program would not have been possible, nor as successful, without the support of the Business Advisory Team members.

I. REGULAR MEETING – GENERAL FUNCTION (continued)

G. Current Events: Governing Board and Superintendent (continued)

Teacher Beth Hudson and students from Arroyo INC shared what they did in their after-school entrepreneurial curriculum. Ms. Hudson stated that the teams created many diverse and unique companies. Board members were presented with lip gloss from Pocket Buds, the team who placed second in the competition. Ms. Hudson introduced the first place winning team who presented their "Shark Tank" product

and marketing ideas. Arroyo students Barton Arias Reyes, Meagan Heffke, Trenten Murray, Syderah Rakos, and Destiny Vasquez were on the first place winning team and created the company, Tick-er-Time that marketed aroma therapy, personalized, and character clocks. The students gave a presentation of their financial plan and strategies for marketing and implementation of the product. The students were presented with a certificate, lanyard, and calculator.

Ms. Penny Hughes acknowledged Beth Hudson for her hard work with the Arroyo INC program. Ms. Hughes stated that Ms. Hudson's enthusiasm and work ethic made the Arroyo INC inaugural year a success. Ms. Hudson was presented with the Lead the Way 2012 Arroyo INC award.

Dr. Cook acknowledged the students on the winning team for their efforts in prevailing over the tough competition. Dr. Cook also acknowledged the Arroyo principal, Mr. Philip Liles, his staff, and the parents for supporting the students and the program. Dr. Cook congratulated the Arroyo INC team for its success.

Mr. Maza requested that the students on the Pocket Buds team be advised of the Board's appreciation for the lip gloss gift.

Mr. Maza acknowledged and thanked Ms. Sandy Mendez Benson for her efforts with the Arroyo INC program and for bringing her talents/expertise to the District.

Ms. Graziano acknowledged how the program taught the students many skills, e.g., math, reading, science, technology, public speaking, and real life business skills. She stated the program was a true test of integrating everything together.

H. Public Participation

There was public participation. Ms. June Blatter and Mr. Jonathan Sloan, Summer Math Academy Co-Chairs, gave an overview of the Summer Math Academy that will be held on July 23-25, 2012, at Cholla Middle School. Board members were invited to attend and asked to pre-order a lunch selection if they planned to have lunch there. The Board was thanked for the professional development math opportunity for the students.

I. Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Adams that the Governing Board approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jahneke. The motion carried.

UNANIMOUS

II. CONSENT AGENDA

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

Approved and ratified the vouchers as presented.

UNANIMOUS

***B. Personnel Items**

Approved the personnel items as presented.

UNANIMOUS

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

Approved the public gifts and donations as presented.

UNANIMOUS

1. Anita Gullickson donated musical equipment with an approximate value of \$423.00 for the benefit of students at Mountain View School.

- *D. Out-of-State Travel UNANIMOUS
 Approved the out-of-state travel as presented.
 - 1. Karen Menaugh, Principal, Roadrunner Elementary School, to attend the Green Ribbon Conference and Award Ceremony, June 2-5, 2012, in Washington, D.C., at a cost of \$1,572.70.
- *E. Award of Contract – RFP No. 11.034, Educationally Related Mental Health Services UNANIMOUS
- *F. Proposed Governing Board Meeting Dates for the 2012-2013 School Year UNANIMOUS
- *G. Signatories for General Statement of Assurance UNANIMOUS

III. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. **Award of Contract – Bid No. 12.006 – School Site Improvements for: Sweetwater, Cactus Wren, Manzanita and Washington in an Amount Not to Exceed \$1,175,400.00** UNANIMOUS
 Dr. Cook introduced Mr. Mike Kramer, Director of Capital Projects/Maintenance, and Mr. Paul Hartley of the H2 Group to offer the Board a recommendation for an award of contract.

Ms. Graziano asked if the vendor selection qualification was based solely on the lowest bid. Mr. Kramer responded that one of the criteria was to select the lowest responsible bidder. He stated that there were other requirements, e.g., appropriate type of contracting license, appropriate types of bonding/insurance, and statements of qualifications.

A motion was made by Ms. Graziano that the Governing Board award a contract for Bid No. 12.006, School Site Improvements for: Sweetwater, Cactus Wren, Manzanita and Washington, to SD Crane Builders, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$1,175,400.00. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jahneke. The motion carried.

- B. **2012-2013 Desegregation Budget** 5-0 AYE
 Dr. Cook introduced Ms. Cathy Thompson, Director of Business Services, to offer a recommendation to the Board for the 2012-2013 Desegregation Budget.

Ms. Thompson advised that each year as part of the proposed budget process, the Board is presented with the desegregation budget for consideration. She stated that the desegregation funding is used to fund ELL program costs, which are those expenses that are incurred in addition to the normal costs of conducting programs for English proficient students.

Ms. Thompson stated that the desegregation budget is a separate levy to the taxpayers and the District is recommending the same desegregation amount as the current year of \$6,350,000.00. Preliminary numbers indicate that the desegregation levy for 2012-2013 could represent approximately 54 cents of the estimated \$2.80 levy per \$100.00 of assessed valuation. Ms. Thompson advised that the impact to an average homeowner in the District would be approximately \$56.00 per year.

Ms. Graziano asked for clarification that the desegregation budget for 2012-2013 will remain the same as the 2011-2012 desegregation budget, but the amount of the tax levy could increase slightly for the homeowner. Ms. Thompson responded that the desegregation budget amount will remain the same, however, the tax levy will increase slightly, from 48 cents to a projected amount of 54 cents. Ms. Thompson advised that the tax levy was based on many variables, e.g., cash balance at the end of the year and/or the assessed valuation of homes.

A motion was made by Mr. Jahneke that the Governing Board approve the 2012-2013 Maintenance and Operation desegregation budget and corresponding levy in the amount of \$6,350,000.00. The motion was seconded by Ms. Graziano. A roll call vote was requested. The motion carried 5-0.

C. Capital Outlay Revenue Limit (CORL) Transfer for Fiscal Year 2012-2013

UNANIMOUS

Dr. Cook introduced Ms. Cathy Thompson, Director of Business Services, to offer a recommendation to the Board for the 2012-2013 Capital Outlay Revenue Limit (CORL) transfer.

Ms. Thompson advised the Board that CORL is based on the capital outlay revenue limit at the State level. She stated that districts are allowed to use the CORL funding source for capital expenditures or the Maintenance and Operation (M&O) budget for general operating expenditures.

Ms. Thompson informed the Board that there was a need for fiscal year 2012-2013 to move a greater percentage of the CORL funds into the M&O budget in order to meet the operational needs for salaries and other resources. Therefore, a recommendation to transfer 75 percent of the CORL allocation into M&O was offered.

Ms. Graziano stated that she appreciated the strategic goal to reduce the M&O dependence on CORL funds. However, she was disappointed that the CORL transfer needed to be increased to 75 percent (60 percent for 2011-2012), but understood the rationale for doing so.

Mr. Jahneke asked if Ms. Thompson knew what percentage would be recommended for the 2013-2014 fiscal year. Ms. Thompson responded that the goal would be to reduce it to 60 percent for the 2013-2014 fiscal year, and the main goal was to reduce it to 50 percent, if possible.

Mr. Adams asked if the ability to purchase items was impacted. Ms. Thompson replied that the District had done a very good job managing the capital needs and had met the necessary needs of the classrooms.

Ms. Graziano asked if excess CORL funds were transferred to the Capital Budget at the end of the fiscal year. Ms. Thompson stated if there were any CORL funds remaining at the end of the fiscal year, the funds were transferred to the Capital Budget. Ms. Thompson advised that this was one area of the budget that the District had some flexibility to move funds between CORL, Capital, and M&O budgets.

Mr. Maza appreciated the depth of the conversation regarding this agenda item and wished that the employees and the community understood what the Board's vote encompassed.

A motion was made by Mrs. Lambert that the Governing Board approve the transfer of 75 percent of CORL budget capacity from Capital Budget to the M&O Budget for fiscal year 2012-2013. The motion was seconded by Ms. Graziano. The motion carried.

V. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Ms. Graziano requested a workshop for energy savings ideas to be provided to the Arizona School Boards Association (ASBA) for its Delegate Assembly to be held on June 30, 2012.

VI. GOVERNING BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Mr. Adams congratulated Dr. Cook on her son, Jeffrey's, upcoming high school graduation. Mr. Adams took the liberty of speaking on behalf of everyone to say how proud they were of Jeffrey and a job well done by Dr. Cook.

Mr. Jahneke acknowledged the Arroyo INC students' incredible presentation for work completed in only three weeks. He advised that he looked forward to seeing what the program accomplishes next year. He hoped that the whole District would be able to offer a similar program in the future.

Ms. Graziano acknowledged the consideration of school holidays and parent/teacher conferences when preparing the 2012-2013 Governing Board meeting dates.

Mrs. Lambert acknowledged the end of the school year and the hard work of the employees who made it a successful year.

Mrs. Lambert acknowledged that her son was awarded his Eagle Scout rank in the Boy Scouting program of the Boy Scouts of America. His project was to build a cabinet to hold large instruments at his school. Ms. Lambert acknowledged that he will be graduating from high school next week.

Mrs. Lambert acknowledged Mr. Maza for his leadership of the Governing Board.

Mr. Maza acknowledged the people who regularly attended the Board meetings this year. He also acknowledged Ms. Joslyn Brown, newly elected president of the Washington District Education Association (WDEA), for her and the organization's work to support the District.

Dr. Cook also acknowledged and congratulated Ms. Joslyn Brown for being elected president of WDEA and stated she looked forward to working with her.

Dr. Cook acknowledged a letter received from Edward and Deborah Hoff whose great granddaughter attended Abraham Lincoln Traditional School. They acknowledged that she had grown academically and socially due to the excellent teaching style of her teacher, Ms. Jeri Frederick.

Dr. Cook thanked Board members for attending and speaking at the upcoming promotion ceremonies.

VII. CALL FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

UNANIMOUS

Call for Executive Session: Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 – A.1

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

- A.1 – Discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, demotion, dismissal, salaries, disciplining or resignation of a public officer, appointee or employee of any public body, except that with the exception of salary discussions, an officer, appointee or employee may demand that the discussion or consideration occur at a public meeting – specifically regarding Dr. Susan J. Cook.

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.1

- A.1 – Discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, demotion, dismissal, salaries, disciplining or resignation of a public officer, appointee or employee of any public body, except that with the exception of salary discussions, an officer, appointee or employee may demand that the discussion or consideration occur at a public meeting – specifically regarding Dr. Susan J. Cook.

X. RECONVENING OF REGULAR MEETING

XI. ADJOURNMENT

UNANIMOUS

A motion was made by Mr. Jahneke to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 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

6/14/12
DATE

John Jahneke
BOARD OFFICIAL

06-14-12
DATE