

**WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES: REGULAR MEETING**

2010-2011

September 9, 2010

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 7:03 p.m. Governing Board members constituting a quorum were present: Mr. Chris Maza, Mr. Bill Adams, Ms. Clorinda Graziano, and Mr. Aaron Jahneke. Mrs. Tee Lambert was not in attendance.

**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 to adopt the Regular Meeting Agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jahneke. The motion carried.

**UNANIMOUS**

**E. Approval of the Minutes**

A motion was made by Mr. Adams that the Governing Board approve the Minutes of the August 26, 2010 Special Meeting – Executive Session and Study Session, Regular Meeting, and Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Graziano. The motion carried.

**UNANIMOUS**

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

Mr. Adams shared that he attended Mr. Rich Curtin's Social Studies class at Palo Verde Middle School on September 3, 2010. He was a judge for the hearing regarding the history and current issues of immigration. He stated that Dr. Cook, Dr. Bailey and Ms. Graziano also participated in the hearings as judges.

Ms. Graziano shared she enjoyed attending Mr. Rich Curtin's Social Studies class at Palo Verde Middle School and participating as a judge for the immigration hearings. She commended Mr. Curtin for teaching the students about citizenship, e.g., you can disagree and still obey the law. Also you can disagree and work to change the law.

Mr. Maza shared that he is proud to be a member of his union in the District where he is employed and thanked Washington Elementary School District employees for their participation in their unions and associations.

Mr. Maza shared that his 3 year old niece started preschool in Chicago. His family has elected to send her to public school as she will probably be diagnosed as a special needs student. He thanked the taxpayers of Chicago for supporting public education so that his niece will be able to receive the services she will need as a special needs student in the public school.

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Dr. Cook shared that Channel 3 had formed a partnership with Communities in Schools and the Washington Elementary School District for a volunteer program. Dr. Cook thanked Ms. Carol Donaldson for her work with Channel 3 to formulate this program. A public service announcement was filmed at Orangewood School and was shown.

**G. Public Participation**

There was public participation. Mr. Carey Mason stated an affirmative action plan needs to be implemented in the District.

**H. Approval of the Consent Agenda**

**UNANIMOUS**

Ms. Graziano requested that Item \*II.H. – Acceptance of the Target Grant in the Amount of \$2,000.00, the Wells Fargo Grant in the Amount of \$500.00 and the City of Phoenix Neighborhood Block Watch Grants in the Amount of \$38,884.00 be pulled from the Consent Agenda for separate consideration.

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

**UNANIMOUS**

Approved the public gifts and donations as presented.

1. Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Arizona donated a check in the amount of \$500.00 (in appreciation for participation and student surveys in the “Walk On Program”) to be used for the benefit of students at Orangewood School.

2. Kathleen L. Hetrick donated SmartBoard lessons for grades 3-5 and 50 SmartBoard graphic organizers for grades 2-5 with an approximate value of \$37.94 for the benefit of students at Richard E. Miller Elementary School.

3. Richard E. Miller Parent Teacher Organization donated a check in the amount of \$2,500.00 to the library to purchase books for the benefit of students at Richard E. Miller Elementary School.

4. The Phoenix Zoo donated scholarships with a value of \$2,072.00 to Acacia Elementary School for 36 students and chaperones to attend Night Camp.

**\*D. Annual Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchase Agreements with the Mohave Educational Services Cooperative (MESC) and Greater Phoenix Purchasing Consortium of Schools (GPPCS)**

**UNANIMOUS**

**\*E. Extension and Renewal of Annual Contracts for Specified Goods and Services**

**UNANIMOUS**

**\*F. Affiliation Agreement to Provide Meals to ACCEL School**

**UNANIMOUS**

**\*G. 2010-2011 Qualified Evaluators**

**UNANIMOUS**

- \*H. Acceptance of the Target Grant in the Amount of \$2,000.00, the Wells Fargo Grant in the Amount of \$500.00 and the City of Phoenix Neighborhood Block Watch Grants in the Amount of \$38,884.00 **UNANIMOUS**

A motion was made by Ms. Graziano that the Governing Board approve the acceptance of the Target Grant in the Amount of \$2,000.00, the Wells Fargo Grant in the Amount of \$500.00 and the City of Phoenix Neighborhood Block Watch Grants in the Amount of \$38,884.00. The motion was seconded by Mr. Adams. The motion carried.

Ms. Graziano thanked the organizations for their generous grants and asked what Community Improvement/Crime Prevention programs will be used for the City of Phoenix Neighborhood Block Watch grants. Dr. Bailey responded that the schools will open their gyms, computer labs and libraries for after-school hours and on weekends. Dr. Bailey advised that Dr. Murosky's department meets with the Neighborhood Block Watches to determine the progress on their grants and opportunities for further grant proposals.

### **III. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### **A. Adoption of the Mathematics Program Guide**

**UNANIMOUS**

Dr. Cook advised the Board that the District's practice was to develop a curriculum guide, use the guide for one year, obtain input from teachers, revise as necessary, and present the guide for adoption the following year. Dr. Cook introduced Ms. Janet Sullivan who reviewed the process for the Mathematics Program Guide.

Mr. Jahneke asked if parents were provided any resource materials in order to assist their children with schoolwork. Ms. Sullivan responded that parents are provided many handouts and ancillary materials.

Ms. Graziano was impressed and pleased that the teachers were continuing to reinforce the concepts that were previously taught.

Ms. Graziano asked if the Mathematics Program Guide met all the current State requirements, strands and performance objectives. Janet Sullivan responded that every concept, every strand and every performance objective are represented in the Mathematics Program Guide.

Ms. Graziano asked if the District's math textbook was sufficient to meet requirements or did additional materials need to be added. Janet Sullivan replied that there are several gaps, with larger gaps in the upper grades, which is why the District has provided additional resources, e.g., the Teaching Student Center Book for every K-8 teacher who teaches math, websites and activities. Ms. Sullivan advised that they were continually seeking new resource materials.

Mr. Adams asked if the information was online and available to parents. Ms. Sullivan responded that it was.

Mr. Maza asked if the change in math standards resulted in lower AIMS scores, thereby lowering schools' grading levels. Ms. Sullivan responded that the AIMS scores were lower after the change in math standards. Ms. Sullivan stated that it is anticipated that the State will implement new core standards within the next two years. Mr. Maza compared the change to a "moving target" and stated that schools are graded on those targets.

A motion was made by Ms. Graziano that the Governing Board adopt the Mathematics Program Guide. The motion was seconded by Mr. Adams. The motion carried.

**B. Governing Board Involvement in the Federal Relations Network**

**UNANIMOUS**

A motion was made by Ms. Graziano that the Governing Board table this Agenda item until the September 23, 2010 Governing Board meeting because it involved Mrs. Lambert who was absent. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jahneke. The motion carried.

**IV. INFORMATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**A. Geothermal Energy Systems Report**

Dr. Cook advised the Board that in February 2010, they were provided information on a potential geothermal energy system pilot project at Desert View Elementary School. Dr. Cook introduced Ms. Sue Pierce who provided an update on the project. Ms. Pierce advised the Board that the District had applied for an alternative energy incentive with Arizona Public Service (APS) and should have a response in the near future.

Ms. Pierce introduced Mr. Robert Erickson, an architect with Corgan Associates Inc. and Don Penn, an engineer with Image Engineering Group Inc. (IEG) who gave a report of the test well. The results of the test well were above average and these companies were interested in doing a pilot project at Desert View Elementary School to gather data on the effectiveness of geothermal in the Phoenix area.

Mr. Jahneke asked if the project would continue to other schools in the District after the Desert View pilot project is completed. Dr. Cook advised that there would only be one specific area at Desert View for the pilot project so that data could be compared to a similar wing of the school. The District would then present the Board with real data, costs and cost savings to determine if the project should be utilized at other schools in the District.

Ms. Graziano asked if we did not have funds from donations, would the cost savings justify the cost of the project. Ms. Pierce responded that they have saved over 50% of the cost as a result of donations received and because of APS incentives.

Mr. Adams asked if there were other school districts using the geothermal energy system and was advised that the Washington Elementary School District is the first in the State of Arizona to start a project.

Mr. Adams asked if the District will be using any other sources to confirm the project data. Ms. Pierce replied that the District has its own independent management energy company who is going to be sub-metering directly under the supervision of Mike Kramer. The data will be provided directly to the District, not through the vendors.

Mr. Adams asked what the payback timeline was. Ms. Pierce responded that the District's payback would be seven years. In addition to the 50% cost savings, the geothermal energy system's life span is 50+ years versus approximately 15 years for an air conditioning unit.

**B. Trust Board Update**

Mr. Maza introduced Mr. Rex Shumway who provided a review of the August 17, 2010 meeting of the Casualty Trust, Workers' Compensation Trust and Employee Benefit Trust Boards (EBT). Mr. Shumway reported that all of the Trusts are doing quite well. Mr. Shumway stated there will be a Study Session at the September 21, 2010 meeting regarding a comprehensive review of employee health care benefits. Mr. John Coyle from The Segal Company will present information to the EBT and members of the Superintendent's Health Insurance Committee who have been invited to participate in the Study Session.

Ms. Graziano asked if the Study Session is open to everyone. Mr. Shumway advised that it is a public meeting and anyone is welcome to attend.

**V. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Mr. Adams requested that there be a study session with Janice Palmer from the Arizona School Boards Association (ASBA) to provide an update regarding new laws that will impact our District.

Ms. Graziano requested that during the Study Session regarding Open Meeting Laws, there be a discussion regarding Interest-based Negotiations (IBN) information provided in Executive Sessions.

**VI. GOVERNING BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

There were no acknowledgments.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

**UNANIMOUS**

A motion was made by Mr. Adams to adjourn the meeting at 8:03p.m. The 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

9/23/10  
DATE

Christopher Pass  
BOARD OFFICIAL

9/23/10  
DATE