

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

2010-2011

June 9, 2011

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 Mrs. Lambert that the Governing Board adopt the Regular Meeting Agenda. The motion was seconded by Ms. Graziano. 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 May 26, 2011 Regular Meeting and Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lambert. The motion carried. Mr. Adams abstained from the vote for the Executive Session minutes.

**UNANIMOUS**

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

Mr. Adams shared that he enjoyed attending the celebration for educators at Orangewood Church of the Nazarene. Mr. Adams congratulated Ms. Carmen Kemery, principal at Palo Verde Middle School with 40 years of service in public education, who was one of the honorees.

Mr. Adams shared that he enjoyed Jill Hick's video regarding community outreach to our District constituents. He thanked Ms. Hicks and the video production team for the informative video.

Mrs. Lambert shared that she and Mr. Adams enjoyed attending the Arizona Business & Education Coalition annual conference. She provided Board members with a program from the conference which addressed education reform. She asked Ms. Shiota to make copies of brochures from the conference for Board members.

Mr. Maza thanked Board members and the public for their indulgence for his rushed arrival to the Board meeting as he was attending another Board meeting (at his District of employment) before the Washington Elementary School District Board meeting. He stated that the two Board meetings will conflict during the summer.

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Dr. Cook introduced Ms. Rebecca Potavin, Summer Academy Program Coordinator, who, in turn, introduced Ms. Shirit Levine, Tumbleweed Elementary School's Summer School Coordinator. Ms. Levine introduced 5<sup>th</sup> grade student, Isaiah Turner, and his family. Isaiah demonstrated a math story problem. Isaiah was presented with a certificate, mathematics book, a pencil holder, a ruler, calculator and pencils.

**G. Public Participation**

There was public participation. Ms. Bev Harvey, community member in the Roadrunner Elementary School/Palo Verde Middle School area, advised that she served on the selection committee for the Palo Verde principal and assistant principal search. Ms. Harvey spoke on behalf of the United Neighbors Association and advised that they were very impressed with the selection process and the commitment and caring of the teachers and staff involved with the selection committee. Ms. Harvey stated that the United Neighbors Association was very pleased with the committee's recommendation to hire Carol Patterson as the principal and Paul Quesada as the assistant principal, and felt that they will provide the leadership needed to make Palo Verde an excelling school.

**H. Approval of the Consent Agenda**

**UNANIMOUS**

Mr. Jahneke requested that Item \*II.B. – Personnel Items be pulled from the Consent Agenda for separate consideration.

A motion was made by Ms. Graziano that the Governing Board approve the remaining Consent Agenda items. 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**

A motion was made by Mr. Jahneke that the Governing Board approve Consent Agenda item \*II.B. – Personnel Items as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lambert. The motion carried

Dr. Cook acknowledged and congratulated the hiring of the following employees:

- Philip (Phil) Liles – Principal at Arroyo Elementary School
- Paul Quesada – Assistant Principal at Palo Verde Middle School
- James (J.J.) Spellman – Interim Assistant Principal at Mountain View School

Mr. Maza thanked the new administrators for their commitment to public education.

**\*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. The John Jacobs Parent/Teacher Organization donated a check in the amount of \$3,456.30 to be used for four patio tables for the benefit of students at John Jacobs Elementary School.
2. Alliance Residential Company donated a check in the amount of \$1,000.00 to be used for student sports and equipment for the benefit of students at Lookout Mountain Elementary School.

3. Fresh & Easy donated a rebate check in the amount of \$503.87 to be used for the benefit of students at Mountain View School.
4. Bonnie Stevens donated personalized shirts with an approximate value of \$500.00 to be used for the benefit of students in a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class at Shaw Butte Elementary School.

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|---|------------------|
| <b>*D. Out-of-County/State Field Trips</b>  | <b>UNANIMOUS</b> |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. John Vasey, Orangewood School, submitted an out-of-county/state field trip request to Hoover Dam, Boulder City, NV, Sky Y Camp and Goldwater Lake, Prescott, AZ, October 11-14, 2011, for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students at a cost of \$21,173.40.</li> <li>2. John Vasey, Orangewood School, submitted an out-of-county/state field trip request to the University of Arizona Flandrau Planetarium, Tucson, AZ and Biosphere 2, Oracle, AZ, November 15, 2011, for 6<sup>th</sup> grade students at a cost of \$1,513,80.</li> <li>3. Elizabeth Gonzales, Orangewood School, submitted an out-of-county/state field trip request to the University of Arizona Flandrau Planetarium, Tucson, AZ and Biosphere 2, Oracle, AZ, November 17, 2011, for 6<sup>th</sup> grade students at a cost of \$1,513,80.</li> <li>4. Melissa Griffin, Orangewood School, submitted an out-of-county/state field trip request to the University of Arizona Flandrau Planetarium, Tucson, AZ and Biosphere 2, Oracle, AZ, November 22, 2011, for 6<sup>th</sup> grade students at a cost of \$1,513,80</li> </ol> |                  |
| <b>*E. Award of Contract – Bid No. 10.039, Maintenance Supplies</b>   | <b>UNANIMOUS</b> |
| <b>*F. Award of Contract – Bid No. 11.002, Commercially Purchased Milk, Juice and Dairy Products</b>  | <b>UNANIMOUS</b> |
| <b>*G. Award of Contract – Bid No. 11.003, Commercially Purchased Pizza</b>   | <b>UNANIMOUS</b> |
| <b>*H. Award of Contract – Bid No. 11.004, Commercially Purchased Food and Non-Food Expendable Supplies, Exclusive of Dairy Products, Non-frozen Baked Goods, and Commercial Pizza</b>  | <b>UNANIMOUS</b> |
| <b>*I. Award of Contract – Bid No. 11.005, Student Accident Insurance</b>   | <b>UNANIMOUS</b> |
| <b>*J. District Representative for Procurement Protests for Fiscal Year 2011-2012</b>   | <b>UNANIMOUS</b> |
| <b>*K. Re-Authorization of Bank Accounts and Signers</b>  | <b>UNANIMOUS</b> |
| <b>*L. Signatories for Payroll and Expense Warrants for 2011-2012</b>   | <b>UNANIMOUS</b> |
| <b>*M. Petty Cash Accounts for 2011-2012</b>  | <b>UNANIMOUS</b> |
| <b>*N. Re-Authorization of Revolving and Change Funds for 2011-2012</b>   | <b>UNANIMOUS</b> |
| <b>*O. Adoption of Resolution Authorizing the Execution of Warrants Between Board Meetings</b>  | <b>UNANIMOUS</b> |
| <b>*P. Student Activity Treasurer for 2011-2012</b>   | <b>UNANIMOUS</b> |

- \*Q. **Second Reading and Adoption of Proposed Amended Policy IHBHD – Online/ Concurrent/Correspondence Courses** UNANIMOUS
- \*R. **Second Reading and Adoption of Proposed Amended Policy JFB – Open Enrollment** UNANIMOUS
- \*S. **Second Reading and Adoption of Proposed Amended Policy JFAB – Tuition/ Admission of Nonresident Students** UNANIMOUS
- \*T. **Second Reading and Adoption of Proposed Amended Policy JHD – Exclusions and Exemptions from School Attendance** UNANIMOUS

**III. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- A. **Award of Contract – Bid No. 10.044, School Site Improvements at Acacia, Desert View, Manzanita and Maryland Schools to D.L. Withers Construction LC in an Amount Not to Exceed \$835,200.00** UNANIMOUS

Dr. Cook advised the Board that the District is recommending an award of contract for several school site improvement projects and stated that Cathy Thompson, Mike Kramer, and Howard Kropp were available to answer questions. Ms. Thompson advised that these are the first four projects for the bond implementation plan.

Mrs. Lambert asked if the projects would be completed before the start of the 2011-2012 school year. Ms. Thompson and Mr. Kramer stated that they plan to have all the projects completed before the beginning of the next school year.

A motion was made by Mrs. Lambert that the Governing Board approve the award of contract for Bid No. 10.044, School Site Improvements at Acacia, Desert View, Manzanita and Maryland Schools, to D.L. Withers Construction LC in an amount not to exceed \$835,200.00. The motion was seconded by Ms. Graziano. The motion carried.

- B. **Renewal of Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Phoenix for the Head Start Program and Approval of the WESD Head Start Program Planning 2011-2012** UNANIMOUS

Dr. Cook advised the Board that the District is recommending the annual renewal of the Head Start Agreement with the City of Phoenix. Dr. Cook stated that Susan Burns, Director of Preschool/Head Start, was available for questions.

Dr. Cook and Mr. Maza thanked Ms. Burns, who is retiring, for her years of service and dedication to the Head Start Program.

A motion was made by Mr. Jahneke that the Governing Board approve the renewal of the Head Start Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Phoenix for the Head Start Program and authorize the Superintendent to execute the necessary documents. Additionally, it was moved that the Governing Board approve the WESD Head Start Program Planning 2011-2012. The motion was seconded by Ms. Graziano. The motion carried.

- C. **2011-2012 Desegregation Budget** 5-0 AYE

Dr. Cook advised the Board that Cathy Thompson, with assistance from Janet Sullivan, was offering information regarding the Desegregation Budget for 2011-2012. Ms. Thompson advised the Board that they were asked to approve the Desegregation Budget each year prior to the final preparation of the proposed budget for the subsequent year.

Ms. Thompson stated that the Desegregation Budget, along with Group B Weighted funding, is directly related to the educational delivery of services to English Language Learners (ELLs). Ms. Thompson advised that the recommended funding level will be maintained at the current level of \$6,350,000.00. She acknowledged that the final tax rate for 2011-2012 had not been set, however, preliminary figures indicate that the desegregation levy could represent approximately 47 cents (approximately 10 cent increase) of the estimated \$2.05 primary levy per \$100.00 of assessed valuation. This would reflect a cost of about \$48.00 for an average home in the District.

Mr. Adams asked how long the Desegregation Budget would be needed. Ms. Thompson stated that if the District received additional funding to service the ELL students, the District would be able to begin to decrease its dependence on the Desegregation Budget.

Mr. Jahneke stated that because of the necessary budget cuts, it would be very harmful to the District if the Desegregation Budget was reduced or eliminated.

Mrs. Lambert asked when the District first used desegregation funding. Ms. Thompson advised that the District entered into an administrative agreement with the Office for Civil Rights to ensure equal educational opportunity for all students, including language minority students in 1986. However, the District did not access desegregation funding until the 1997-1998 school year.

Mrs. Lambert asked how the District would pay for the ELL program costs if it did not have the Desegregation Budget. Ms. Thompson stated that portions of the programs funded by the Desegregation Budget are required by State law. Ms. Thompson responded that the District would have to eliminate other programs or increase class sizes in order to cover the mandatory costs if there was no Desegregation Budget.

Mr. Adams asked how many homes are levied in the District. Ms. Thompson stated she did have that information readily available. Mr. Adams asked how the District would be impacted if the Desegregation Budget was reduced by the approximately 10 cent increase per home. Ms. Thompson stated she would have to do some calculations in order to respond. She explained that even though the dollar amount on an average \$100,000.00 home may be higher and the tax rate also higher, the average assessed value went down almost 20%. Therefore, the taxpayer would possibly be paying the same amount or less.

A motion was made by Mrs. Lambert that the Governing Board approve the 2011-2012 Maintenance and Operation desegregation budget and corresponding levy in the amount of \$6,350,000.00. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jahneke. A roll call vote was requested. The motion carried 5-0 Aye.

**D. Capital Outlay Revenue Limit (CORL) Transfer for Fiscal Year 2011-2012**

**UNANIMOUS**

Dr. Cook advised the Board that the Capital Outlay Revenue Limit (CORL) transfer is presented to them annually for their approval. Dr. Cook stated that the CORL funding may be used for capital expenditures or a portion can be transferred into the Maintenance and Operation (M&O) budget. She advised the Board that the capital funding had been severely cut.

Dr. Cook introduced Cathy Thompson who reviewed the recommendation for the Board. Ms. Thompson stated that with the State funding reductions, CORL went from \$4.7 million to approximately \$2.3 million and, therefore, affected the M&O and Capital budgets.

Mrs. Lambert asked if the capital and CORL funds are derived from the property tax rate. Ms. Thompson replied that CORL, M&O, and soft capital are all part of the levy funds. She advised that part of it came from State equalization funds and part from taxpayers.

A motion was made by Ms. Graziano that the Governing Board approve the transfer of 60 percent of CORL budget capacity from Capital to M&O for fiscal year 2011-2012. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lambert. The motion carried.

**E. Arizona School Boards Association Action Agenda Proposals**

**UNANIMOUS**

Dr. Cook advised the Board that the Arizona School Boards Association (ASBA) Delegate Assembly was scheduled for June 25, 2011. She asked Board members to submit their recommendations by June 20, 2011. The action agenda proposals will be compiled in preparation for the delegates to offer the consensus vote during their attendance at the Delegate Assembly.

Mrs. Lambert asked that any comments made by Board members on the action agenda proposals also be provided to the delegates attending the Delegate Assembly.

A motion was made by Mr. Jahneke that the Governing Board provide a summary of Governing Board members' responses, indicating the acceptance or rejection of the proposed ASBA's Legislative Committee's recommendations, be given to delegate, Governing Board member Tee Lambert, and the alternate delegate, Governing Board member Aaron Jahneke, to use when participating at the ASBA Delegate Assembly representing the Washington Elementary School District Governing Board. The motion was seconded by Mr. Adams. The motion carried.

**IV. INFORMATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**A. Update Regarding Washington Resource Information Center (WRIC)**

Dr. Cook advised the Board that several District employees had been working with First Things First (FTF) to create a Washington Resource Information Center (WRIC) for parents. Dr. Cook stated that the District is very excited about this new project which will open on July 11, 2011.

She introduced Joe Negron, who was instrumental in the parent component. Mr. Negron provided a presentation regarding WRIC's mission, goals, and available services.

Mr. Adams expressed his support for the WRIC and asked how much the District received from FTF's grant. Mr. Negron responded that the District received \$65,000.00 this school year to start the project and will receive \$150,000.00 on July 1, 2011, with an option to renew the following school year.

Mr. Adams asked how the District was going to advertise the WRIC. Mr. Negron advised that they will have tear off posters at day care centers, schools, and local agencies. They plan to prepare a press release and contact local faith based partners.

Board members made the following comments:

- Thanked First Things First for the grant and the partnership to create the WRIC.
- Thanked District employees involved in the creation of the WRIC for their hard work and efforts.
- Appreciated having the WRIC for the benefit of parents and the community.

- Appreciated having one place for parents to go for the wide range of services available.
- Felt that the Washington Elementary School location was appropriate.
- Asked for a report at the end of the year of the WRIC's accomplishments.

**B. Update Regarding Possible Capital Override Recommendation**

Dr. Cook advised the Board that she was not making a recommendation to call for a capital override in 2011. She stated that several District employees were involved in a number of focus group meetings with members of the community (ranging from parents and Kiwanis groups to business groups) to obtain their input regarding a possible call for a capital override. Dr. Cook reported that a wide range of responses was received and the data were reviewed. Although there was a great need to call for a capital override election, the responses indicated that a November 2011 capital override election would not be in the District's best interest.

Dr. Cook stated that a future capital override is necessary and plans are being implemented to prepare for it. Educating District staff, parents and community members about technology and its role in education will be a priority during the 2011-2012 school year.

Mrs. Lambert stated that the District's technology upgrade was made possible by A Bonds in the past, however, the Legislature eliminated the use of A Bonds. Therefore, the only source of funding for technology was now capital funding (which has been greatly reduced by the State) or a call for a capital override election. Mrs. Lambert stated that technology is critical not only in the classrooms, but in order to run the business for the District.

Board members thanked Dr. Cook for her due diligence and thanked the staff and community members for their work.

Mr. Maza stated that there was no prior Board action regarding the decision to call for a capital override election.

**V. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Mrs. Lambert requested that there be a requirement that overnight field trips must have at least two adults per sleeping room and include the information in the Overnight Chaperone Plan.

**VI. GOVERNING BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Mr. Adams and Ms. Graziano advised that they will not be able to attend the June 23, 2011 Governing Board meeting.

Ms. Graziano corrected an omission from the May 26, 2011 Governing Board meeting when she failed to thank the principals and administrators for attending the Retiree Reception to support their retiring staff members.

Ms. Graziano congratulated Mr. Jahneke for having his letter to the editor of the Arizona Republic newspaper published.

Ms. Graziano acknowledged that she is performing with the Glendale Summer Band and stated that several District employees also perform in the band. The band is performing free concerts on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. in June and July at the Glendale Amphitheater.

Mr. Maza acknowledged that the Education Week had an article regarding National Education Association's (NEA) position on teacher evaluations. Mr. Maza advised he served on the committee that wrote the policy that will be voted on at the Assembly meeting in July.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Adams to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:28 p.m. The motion **UNANIMOUS** was seconded by Mr. Jahneke. The motion carried.

**SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS**

Documents were signed as tendered by the Governing Board Secretary

Joyce Shiota  
BOARD SECRETARY

6/23/11  
DATE

John Jahneke  
BOARD OFFICIAL

06-23-2011  
DATE