

WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES: SPECIAL MEETING, EXECUTIVE SESSION, AND  
REGULAR MEETING

2010-2011

January 27, 2011

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

**I. SPECIAL MEETING – GENERAL FUNCTION**

**A. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Mr. Maza called the meeting to order at 6:30 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. Adoption of the Special Meeting Agenda**

A motion was made by Mr. Adams to adopt the Special Meeting Agenda. The motion was seconded by Ms. Graziano. The motion carried.

UNANIMOUS

**II. CALL FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

UNANIMOUS

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

A.5 – Discussion 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 Board’s interests for the 2011 Interest-based Negotiation (IBN) process.

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

**III. RECESSING OF SPECIAL MEETING FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION – GENERAL FUNCTION**

**A. Call to Order and Roll Call**

All Board members were in attendance.

**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.5**

A.5 – Discussion 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 Board’s interests for the 2011 Interest-based Negotiation (IBN) process.

January 27, 2011

V. RECESSING OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

VI. 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**

A motion was made by Mr. Adams to 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. Adams that the Governing Board approve the Minutes of the January 13, 2011 Special Meeting, Executive Session (Confidential) and Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jahneke. The motion carried.

UNANIMOUS

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

Mr. Adams shared that he enjoyed attending the Washington Education Foundation (WEF) Bowl-a-Thon on January 23, 2011 and thanked Jeffrey Cook for bowling for him.

Mr. Adams congratulated Mr. Maza and Mr. Jahneke for being elected Governing Board President and Vice President, respectively, and looked forward to working with them.

Mr. Jahneke thanked everyone involved in the WEF Bowl-a-Thon which was a big success and raised over \$7,700.00.

Mr. Jahneke acknowledged that January 28 will mark 25 years since the Challenger spaceship explosion. He recognized the event to honor teachers.

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

- John Jacobs Elementary School – Martin Luther King Freedom Program
- Sahuaro Elementary School – African Dance Assembly
- Sunburst Elementary School – Beginning Band/Strings Concert
- National Board Certified Teacher Visits at Moon Mountain Elementary School and Sunnyslope School
- WEF Bowl-a-Thon
- Elementary and Middle Schools Choral Festival at Thunderbird High School
- Ironwood Elementary School – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Choral/Beginning Strings Concert

Ms. Graziano thanked everyone involved for their efforts for the Parent University to be held on January 29, 2011 and apologized for not being able to attend due to a prior commitment.

Mrs. Lambert thanked the staff for their work on the Parent University to be held on January 29, 2011. She thanked the District for recognizing the need to address parent concerns.

Mrs. Lambert shared that she was appointed to the City of Phoenix Pension Reform Task Force. She is looking forward to working on this project.

Mr. Maza shared that the WEF Bowl-a-Thon was a fun event and thanked his fellow bowlers for participating.

Mr. Maza congratulated the National Board Certified (NBC) teachers who were on the Agenda for Special Recognition.

Mr. Maza stated he was looking forward to the Parent University on January 29, 2011. He stated it was important for the community to know that the Governing Board and the District are committed to lifelong learning.

Dr. Cook acknowledged the Board members for being extremely involved and attending many District events which were duly noted by staff, parents and community members.

Dr. Cook introduced Ms. Kaylene Ashbridge, principal of Cactus Wren Elementary School, who in turn introduced 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher, Ms. Janae Fuentes, her student, Eric Lopez and his family, and student teacher, Ms. Shannon Nolte. Eric demonstrated a mathematics concept by looking at data to solve a problem using a pictograph. Eric was presented with a certificate, mathematics book, and a ruler, calculator and pencils.

**G. Special Recognition**

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: Emily Church, Shaw Butte; Elena Dowers, Moon Mountain; Beth Perry, Sunnyslope; and Marlene Olson, Sunnyslope. Dr. Westhoff also congratulated the teachers who have renewed their National Board Certification Certificate: Nancy Lehmann, Ocotillo; Jill Miraz, Ocotillo; and Deborah Waldenberger, Maryland. All candidates who received the National Board Certification were presented with a sterling silver NBC pin. Candidates who renewed their certification received a glass paperweight with the NBC symbol on it. Mr. Maza congratulated the NBC candidates and stated he was proud to be in the education profession and proud of all public educators.

Dr. Cook acknowledged that the District had participated in the Arizona Public Service Peak Solutions program from June 1, 2010 through September 30, 2010. Dr. Cook introduced Ms. Cathy Thompson who, in turn, introduced Mr. John King from Comverge, who coordinated the Arizona Public Service Peak Solutions program. Mr. King and two representatives from Arizona Public Service presented the District with a check in the amount of \$3,183.00 for their electrical load reduction.

**H. Public Participation**

There was public participation. Ms. Sheryl Kronenberg and Ms. Pam Horton advised the Board that the National Education Association's Read Across America program will be celebrated by the District. Board members were invited to attend the kick-off breakfast to be held on March 2 at Sunburst Elementary School. Ms. Kronenberg invited Board members to read to students at one of our schools.

**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 Mrs. Lambert. The motion carried.

**UNANIMOUS**

## VII. 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. Chuck and Nancy Smith donated Walmart gift cards with a total value of \$500.00 for the benefit of students and their families at Sunnyslope School.
  2. Lowe's Toolbox for Education donated a check in the amount of \$2,350.00 to purchase picnic tables for the benefit of students at Sunset Elementary School.
  3. Campos School Portraits donated a fall school pictures commission check in the amount of \$564.00 for the benefit of students at Ironwood Elementary School.
- \*D. Out-of-State Travel** **UNANIMOUS**  
Approved the out-of- state travel as presented.
1. Kathy Ann Ditsch, Routing Supervisor; Linda Campbell Mehrdad, Router; and Audrey Mae Alexander, Director of Transportation submitted a request to attend the Edulog Training Conference, March 28-31, 2011, in Las Vegas, NV, at no cost.
  2. Linda Fischetti, Saint Simon and Jude School teacher, submitted a request to attend the 59<sup>th</sup> NSTA National Conference on Science Education, March 9-12, 2011, in San Francisco, CA, at a cost of \$1,652.00.
  3. Lisa Ehlers and Valerie Miles, Northwest Christian School technology teachers, submitted a request to attend the CUE: Computer Using Educators conference, March 16-19, 2011, in Palm Springs, CA, at a cost of \$1,576.00.
- \*E. Award of Contract – RFQ No. 10.032, Architectural Services** **UNANIMOUS**
- \*F. Annual Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchase Agreements with the Greater Phoenix Purchasing Consortium of Schools (GPPCS) and Strategic Alliance for Volume Expenditures (SAVE)** **UNANIMOUS**
- \*G. Extension and Renewal of Annual Contracts for Specified Goods and Services** **UNANIMOUS**
- \*H. Resolution to Authorize Waiver of Service of Process** **UNANIMOUS**

## VIII. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Work Furlough** **UNANIMOUS**  
Dr. Cook advised the board that the District was in receipt of Education Jobs funding. The District's Interest-Based Negotiation (IBN) Team considered how to judiciously utilize the funds. Because of factors occurring statewide, the only recommendation at the time was to remove March 18, 2011 as a work furlough day. Because some District positions are not eligible to be paid from Education Jobs funds, the District's M&O fund would cover the furlough day for those positions. Governing Board members thanked the IBN team for their consideration and work.

A motion was made by Mr. Jahneke that the Governing Board designate March 18, 2011 as a regular, paid holiday. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lambert. The motion carried.

**B. Discussion, Consideration and Possible Approval to Designate Hearing Officers to Hear All Student Expulsions during 2011 and to Utilize Hearing Officers Qualified to Hold Expulsion Hearings** **UNANIMOUS**

Dr. Cook introduced Mr. Rex Shumway to explain recent legislation and the District's recommendation regarding hearing officers for expulsion hearings. Mr. Shumway advised the Board that new legislation eliminated the prior practice of meeting in executive session to determine whether the Board will hear the expulsion or whether the Board will appoint a hearing officer in each situation where the expulsion of a student is being considered. Mr. Shumway stated that the District is recommending that the Governing Board designate a hearing officer to hear all student expulsion hearings.

Mrs. Lambert asked if the new process would shorten the time a student is out of a learning environment. Mr. Shumway responded that the District's recommendation would streamline the process.

Mrs. Lambert asked if the new process would require a policy change. Mr. Shumway replied that the current process is not designated in a policy, therefore, no policy change would be required. Mr. Shumway advised that the process would be presented to the Board annually for their consideration.

Dr. Cook advised the Board that the District rarely expels a student, therefore, an expulsion would be a rare circumstance.

Ms. Graziano asked how the expulsion process would take place with the new process. Mr. Shumway replied that the hearing officer would hold the expulsion hearing and prepare a report. The expulsion recommendation would be presented to the Board in an executive session for their approval.

A motion was made by Mr. Adams that the Governing Board designate hearing officers to hear all student expulsion hearings during 2011 and approve the selection of Joe Negrón, and where necessary, such other qualified hearing officers, as selected by the Superintendent, to hold expulsion hearings. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jahneke. The motion carried.

**IX. INFORMATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**A. 2010 Accountability Update**

Dr. Cook introduced Ms. Janet Sullivan who provided the Board with information on District assessments in the areas of Reading/Language Arts and Mathematics. Ms. Sullivan explained how data from these assessments were utilized at the District and school levels.

Ms. Graziano asked if the District-wide Reading Assessment changes (K-2 Phonics Screener and Individual Reading Inventory for grades K-2) are in addition to DIBELS. Ms. Sullivan responded that these are in addition to DIBELS.

Ms. Graziano appreciated the photographs of the school data walls which are a good reference tool to see student progress.

Mr. Jahneke asked if the data rooms were only available to teachers or do students also see them. Ms. Sullivan responded that the data rooms are mainly for the teachers, however, students are aware of the information. Ms. Sullivan stated that several schools have individual student folders with student goals and achievements.

Mr. Jahneke asked if students only see their own data or can they see everyone's data. Ms. Sullivan replied that for the most part, student's only see their own data. However, several schools have classroom graphs where there is data for the class as a whole and a student would know their own individual data to compare to the whole class.

Mrs. Lambert asked about the development of school level formatives and said that she is aware that there was the possibility that the assessment of schools will be more of a portfolio. Mrs. Lambert asked if these assessments would be included in the portfolio or would they only use state guidelines. Ms. Sullivan advised there was a task force looking at what accountability may look like at the teacher level. Ms. Sullivan stated that school level formatives or common assessments are being used by whole grade level teams who work together and share teaching tools that are evaluated to determine the next steps, e.g., relearning or tutoring.

Mrs. Lambert asked if this would replace individual teacher assessments or was this another level of assessing. Ms. Sullivan advised this would not replace individual teacher assessments. She stated this creates more conversation among teachers regarding student instruction.

Board members thanked Ms. Sullivan for the report which was very informative and thanked the teachers for their efforts and changing their approach to teaching and assessments.

#### **B. Truancy Update**

Dr. Cook introduced Dr. Bailey who advised the Board that the District created an in-house truancy department in January 2009. The Truancy Prevention Unit (TPU) conducts home visits with parents, visits with students, makes presentations at schools about truancy and assists schools with their attendance problems for early intervention before citations are issued. Dr. Bailey introduced Mr. John Shikany who reviewed data of the TPU program and its success rate.

Mrs. Lambert asked why the truancy referrals doubled from last year. Mr. Shikany responded that schools saw the results from early intervention last year and are more cognizant this year of the need for early referrals.

Ms. Graziano stated that truancy is an important component of the District to keep the students in school for achievement priorities, as well as for our budget. Ms. Graziano was pleased to hear that the Arizona Department of Education, as well as other schools, had asked Mr. Shikany about the District's TPU program.

Mr. Jahneke asked if it would be possible to see if Glendale Union High School's graduation numbers have increased due to our truancy intervention program. Mr. Shikany stated he would try to obtain the data.

Board members thanked Mr. Shikany and his TPU team for their dedication and interest in assisting families with truancy issues.

#### **X. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no future agenda items.

