

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

2013-2014

May 22, 2014

**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**

Mrs. Lambert called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Governing Board-members constituting a quorum were present: Mrs. Tee Lambert, Mr. Bill Adams, Ms. Clorinda Graziano, Mr. Aaron Jahneke, and Mr. Chris Maza.

**B. Moment of Silence and Meditation**

Mrs. Lambert called for a moment of silence and meditation.

**C. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mrs. Lambert 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 Mr. Maza. 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 May 8, 2014 Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jahneke. The motion carried.

**UNANIMOUS**

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

Ms. Graziano acknowledged and thanked the art teachers and students at Ocotillo, Sahuaro, and Washington Schools for the artwork displayed in the Governing Board Room.

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

- Acacia – Band and Strings Concert
- Palo Verde – Choir and Handbells Concert
- Royal Palm – Band and Strings Concert
- Shaw Butte – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Music Program
- Desert Foothills – Choir and Strings Concert
- Orangewood – Band Concert
- WDEA Recognition Dinner
- Acacia – A++ Celebration
- Palo Verde – Band and Strings Concert
- Cholla – Band, Strings, and Choir Concert
- Desert Foothills – Band Concert
- After-School Academy Awards
- Retiree Reception – Thanked all of the retirees for their years of service to the District.

May 22, 2014

Mr. Jahneke shared that he enjoyed attending the following events and offered his congratulations to the school and retirees:

- Acacia – A++ Celebration
- Retiree Reception

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

- WDEA Dinner – congratulated the newly elected officers.
- Retiree Reception – acknowledged retirees for their many years of service.

Mr. Maza thanked all of the District employees for their hard work this year. Mr. Maza stated that as we enter into the summer, it will be a political season where we will hear people speak about educators and public schools in Arizona which, unfortunately, may not be a positive experience. Mr. Maza assured the educators that the District's Administration and Governing Board would support the strong, positive practices for our students and for our system.

Mrs. Lambert shared that she enjoyed attending many of the events mentioned by fellow Board members and also enjoyed attending the BEGIN Graduation. Mrs. Lambert shared that she was looking forward to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade promotions starting Friday, May 23, 2014 and the following week.

Dr. Cook acknowledged and thanked the Governing Board, Administrators, teachers, and staff for participating in the end of the year events.

Dr. Cook advised the Board that the District had been celebrating the successes of the District's schools this school year. Dr. Cook stated it was appropriate that Sahuaro Elementary School Principal, Dave Anderson, was making the final presentation because he was retiring. Dr. Cook reported that Mr. Anderson would be missed and that all of the school's successes were attributable to his leadership and the leadership he had engendered with his staff. Dr. Cook introduced Principal Dave Anderson and Program Coach Nora Gottschlich, who shared information regarding the school's student achievement gains and were proud that the school had maintained a letter grade of "B" for three consecutive years. Mr. Anderson introduced his wife who attended the meeting. Mrs. Lambert acknowledged Mr. Anderson's leadership efforts which contributed to Sahuaro's successes. Mrs. Lambert stated that Mr. Anderson had trained his staff to be able to continue with everything that he had implemented and thanked Mr. Anderson for his years of service.

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

Dr. Cook advised the Board that Acacia Elementary School had celebrated its A++ School of Excellence award on May 20, 2014 at the school with students and staff. Principal Christine Hollingsworth had reported that 34 schools received the A++ recognition in the State of Arizona. Dr. Cook stated that Ms. Hollingsworth had failed to mention that there were only four schools who received the award for the second time this year which was a huge accomplishment. Ms. Hollingsworth thanked and acknowledged the staff in attendance at the Board meeting. Ms. Hollingsworth stated that the staff did not take individual credit, but it was about marketing for public schools in Arizona. Mrs. Lambert congratulated Mrs. Hollingsworth and her staff and presented her with a recognition plaque.

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

There was no Public Participation.

**I. Approval of the Consent Agenda**

**UNANIMOUS**

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

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

Dr. Cook congratulated and introduced Ms. Audra Bailey, new Assistant Principal at Acacia Elementary School. Ms. Bailey stated she was excited to be a part of the District and hoped to make a positive impact at Acacia.

Dr. Cook congratulated and introduced Mr. Scott Mikes, new Assistant Principal at Desert Foothills Junior High School. Mr. Mikes said he appreciated the opportunity at Desert Foothills and was excited to join the District.

Dr. Cook congratulated and introduced Mr. Jason Nuttall, new Assistant Principal at Royal Palm Middle School. Mr. Nuttall thanked everyone for the opportunity and was happy to be joining the WESD team. He felt that the District had a very welcoming environment.

Mrs. Lambert advised that with the approval of the Personnel Items, the Governing Board approved Superintendent Dr. Susie Cook's retirement and one year contract with SmartSchools to allow for a smooth transition. Mrs. Lambert thanked Dr. Cook for her dedication to the District and the students.

**\*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. Arizona Diamondbacks donated game tickets with a value of \$1,100.00 to be used for the benefit of summer school students and their parents at Mountain View School.
2. General Mills Box Tops for Education donated a check in the amount of \$512.90 to be used for the benefit of students at Moon Mountain Elementary School.
3. General Mills Box Tops for Education donated a check in the amount of \$356.86 to be used for the benefit of students at Sunnyslope School.
4. General Mills Box Tops for Education donated a check in the amount of \$342.40 to be used for the benefit of students at Mountain Sky Jr. High School.

5. General Mills Box Tops for Education donated a check in the amount of \$608.00 to be used to purchase library books at Washington Elementary School.
6. Sam's Club via Bookpals/Pencil Pals donated a check in the amount of \$1,000.00 to be used for the benefit of students in the Pencil Pals Program at Mountain View School.
7. Janet and Robert Kenneavy donated a 1937 Cable baby grand piano with an approximate value of \$4,000.00 to be used for the benefit of students at Washington Elementary School.
8. Orangewood School Parent/Teacher Organization donated a check in the amount of \$510.00 to assist in paying for a student field trip to Camp Colley.

**\*D. Out-of-County/State Field Trips**

**UNANIMOUS**

Approved the Out-of-County/State Field Trips as presented.

1. Samantha Hart, Palo Verde Middle School, submitted an out-of-county/state field trip to Knott's Berry Farm, Buena Vista, CA, Esperanza High School and Lakeview Elementary School, Anaheim, CA, April 24-26, 2015, for 7th and 8th grade students at a cost of \$21,441.40.
2. Kathryn Schene, Sahuaro Elementary School, submitted an out-of-county/state field trip to Astrocamp, Claremont, CA, September 22-24, 2014, for 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade students at a cost of \$15,234.00.

**\*E. Out-of-State Travel**

**UNANIMOUS**

Approved the out-of-state travel as presented.

1. Cathy L. Martinez, Student Services Specialist at Cactus Wren and Sweetwater Schools, to attend the Character Development Seminar, July 9-11, 2014, in Dallas, TX, at a cost of \$825.00 (grant funds).
2. Benjamin Glenn Metcalf, Program Coach for Mathematics in Academic Services, to attend the LearnZillion Dream Team Teach Fest, June 4-7, 2014, in New Orleans, LA, at no cost to the District.
3. Dr. Susan Jane Cook, Superintendent, Dr. Linda Jean Bailey, Assistant Superintendent, Janet A. Sullivan, Assistant Superintendent, Justin Peter Wing, Director of Human Resources, Dr. Janet Kinahan Altersitz, Administrator of Professional Development, Shannon Beth Bonnette, Principal at Richard E. Miller Elementary School, Rebeccah Marlene Potavin, Principal at Maryland School, Michael Stephen Waters, Principal at Mountain View School, Tracy Maynard, Principal at Shaw Butte Elementary School, and Susan Brown, Principal at Moon Mountain Elementary School, to attend the University of Virginia Turnaround Program – Cohort 11 Summer Session, June 14-21, 2014, in Charlottesville, VA, at no cost to the District.

**\*F. Transportation Agreement with The Austin Centers for Exceptional Students, Inc.**

**UNANIMOUS**

### **III. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEM**

#### **A. Utilize Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchase Agreements with Strategic Alliance for Volume Expenditures (SAVE) Consortium for VersiFit Technologies, LLC**

**4 AYE  
1 NAY**

Dr. Cook advised the Board that it would be offered a recommendation regarding a data warehouse and introduced Ms. Janet Sullivan to offer information.

Ms. Sullivan stated that the District had begun the process of identifying potential vendors for the purchase of a data warehouse system in late 2013, which would be a repository for all of the data regarding our students. Ms. Sullivan reported that currently all of the data were in a variety of locations, e.g., Student Information System (SIS) Synergy, WESD Intranet sites, and external sources. The web-based application would collect data from any and all sources identified by the District, and place the data in one central repository which would allow the District to create clear, understandable dashboards and reports for all appropriate stakeholders to facilitate the most effective data-driven decision making and continuous school improvement.

Ms. Sullivan reported that the District had searched for available vendors and found that there was an Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchase Agreement for a vendor that was utilized by other school districts. Edvantage had been successfully implemented in three state education agencies and nearly 700 school districts. WESD administrators spoke to three Arizona school districts using the Edvantage system, as well as VersiFit Technologies representatives to have a number of questions addressed.

Ms. Sullivan advised that Mr. Don Hutchings, Vice President of Sales with VersiFit Technologies, was available to answer any questions from the Board.

Ms. Graziano asked the following questions:

- Was this part of the technology override or was this a stopgap measure because the override did not pass? Ms. Sullivan replied that it was not in the capital override plan, but it was in the Capital Plan and the District was able to set aside funding for the purchase of this product.
- Was it on the Capital Plan with the building improvements? Ms. Sullivan responded in the negative.
- Was it on the Technical Plan? Ms. Sullivan replied in the affirmative. Dr. Cook stated that this had been in the plan for approximately 16 years, but did not have the funding. Dr. Cook advised that it had always been a desire and a strong need of the District.

Mr. Adams made the following comments and asked the following questions:

- Summarized that the District had been collecting data in different locations and now was trying to accumulate the data in one warehouse. Dr. Cook confirmed that his summary was correct and advised that it would enable the District to provide real-time data to our students and teachers.
- Would this system be able to communicate with State data. Mr. Hutchings replied in the affirmative.
- Would this system have anything to do with the parent portal? Dr. Cook responded that this system was not related to the parent portal, however, the District planned to introduce its parent portal in the Fall.

Mrs. Lambert made the following comments and asked the following questions:

- Will the District's server be used or will VersaFit maintain another server? Mr. Hutchings replied that the District's server will be utilized with no changes to the environment, but will allow the District a single view of all of the data in one location.
- Because we are not sure what a state assessment will look like for the new standards, will this system be able to assist us and be able to measure our students' growth and build on the weaknesses in the classrooms? Ms. Sullivan responded that the system would allow the District to use trend data, including District assessments, to measure progress towards meeting the 2010 College and Career Ready Standards.
- It seems that this system will benefit the District's schools and classrooms. Ms. Sullivan advised that the system would provide an individual student profile that would reflect all of the student data, e.g., achievement data, interventions received, program membership (ELL or Special Education).

A motion was made by Mr. Jahneke that the Governing Board approve the utilization of the Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchase Agreements and contract purchases with Strategic Alliance for Volume Expenditures (SAVE) Consortium. Additionally, it was moved that the Governing Board award the contract for the Edvantage data warehouse system regarding Strategic Alliance for volume Expenditures (SAVE), to VersiFit Technologies, LLC for a cost not to exceed \$336,180.00. It was further moved that the Governing Board authorize the Superintendent to execute the required documents on behalf of the District. The motion was seconded by Mr. Maza. The motion carried 4-1.

**IV. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Clorinda Graziano requested a study session with all applicable stakeholders to discuss the Superintendent search process.


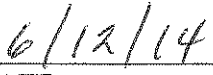


**V. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Adams to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jahneke. The motion carried.

**UNANIMOUS**

**SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS**

Documents were signed as tendered by the Governing Board Secretary

 _____ BOARD SECRETARY	 _____ DATE
 _____ BOARD OFFICIAL	 _____ DATE