

WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES: REGULAR MEETING AND EXECUTIVE SESSION

2013-2014

January 9, 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

Mr. Maza called the meeting to order at 7:01 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. Organization of the Board

Mr. Maza called for nominations for the position of President of the Washington Elementary School District Governing Board. Mr. Adams nominated Mrs. Tee Lambert as Governing Board President. Mrs. Lambert accepted the nomination and stated her reasons for desiring the position. There were no other nominations. A roll call vote was requested. Mrs. Lambert was elected Governing Board President by a 5-0 vote.

5-0 AYE

Mrs. Lambert called for nominations for the position of Governing Board Vice President. Mr. Jahneke nominated Mr. Bill Adams as Governing Board Vice President. Mr. Adams accepted the nomination and stated his reasons for desiring the position. There were no other nominations. A roll call vote was requested. Mr. Adams was elected Governing Board Vice President by a 5-0 vote.

5-0 AYE

C. Moment of Silence and Meditation

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

D. Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Lambert led the Pledge of Allegiance.

E. Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Maza that the Governing Board adopt the Regular Meeting Agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jahneke. The motion carried.

UNANIMOUS

F. Approval of the Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Graziano that the Governing Board approve the Minutes of the December 6, 2013 Special Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Adams. The motion carried.

UNANIMOUS

G. Approval of the Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Jahneke that the Governing Board approve the Minutes of the December 12, 2013 Regular Meeting and Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Maza. The motion carried.

UNANIMOUS

H. Current Events: Governing Board and Superintendent

Mr. Adams shared that he enjoyed visiting Moon Mountain Elementary School, Principal Sue Brown, and her wonderful staff.

Mr. Maza welcomed the District staff back for the new year. Mr. Maza stated it had been his pleasure to serve as Governing Board President the past three years and

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thanked his fellow Board members, Dr. Cook, and her staff for their support. Mr. Maza thanked Governing Board Administrative Assistant, Joyce Shiota, for her diligence and efforts.

Mr. Jahneke stated he had enjoyed serving as Vice President the past three years and thanked the staff who prepared the vouchers for his review.

Board members and Dr. Cook congratulated Mrs. Lambert and Mr. Adams for their new posts as Governing Board President and Vice President, respectively. Mr. Maza and Mr. Jahneke were thanked for their service as Governing Board President and Vice President, respectively, for the past three years.

Dr. Cook provided Governing Board members with the North Mountain Redevelopment Area Plan prepared by the City of Phoenix Planning and Development Department (for information only).

I. Special Recognition

Dr. Cook acknowledged special recognition of teachers who have achieved National Board Certification (NBC), the most prestigious credential a teacher can earn. Dr. Cook introduced Dr. Maggie Westhoff who congratulated the candidates who received National Board Certification: Kristin Roberts, Mountain View School; Jessica Looper, Mountain View School; Karen Mull, Mountain Sky Junior High School; Susan Duncan, Manzanita Elementary School; and Becky Wright, Manzanita Elementary School. The candidates received a sterling silver NBC pin and acknowledged the family members, friends, and school staff members who were in attendance to support and congratulate them.

J. Public Participation

There was no public participation.

K. Approval of the Consent Agenda

UNANIMOUS

Ms. Graziano requested that Item *II.D. – Out-of-County/State Field Trip be pulled from the Consent Agenda for separate consideration.

A motion was made by Mr. Maza that the Governing Board approve the remaining Consent Agenda items. The motion was seconded by Ms. Graziano. 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. Phoenix Writers Club donated a check in the amount of \$300.00 to be used towards the purchase of materials for the PencilPals program at Mountain View School.

2. Safeway Foundation donated a check in the amount of \$700.00 to be used for families in need for the holidays at Sweetwater School.

3. S.P.I.C.E. donated a check in the amount of \$2,033.00 to be used for the funding of a music competition field trip for the benefit of students at Mountain Sky Junior High School.

***D. Out-of-County/State Field Trip**

UNANIMOUS

1. Diana Polanski, Desert Foothills Junior High School, Mountain Sky Junior High School, and Palo Verde Middle School, submitted an out-of-county/state field trip to Show Low High School, Show Low, AZ, February 22, 2014, for 7th and 8th grade choral and orchestra students at a cost of \$2,118.84.

A motion was made by Ms. Graziano that the Governing Board approve the out-of-county/state field trip request as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Adams. The motion carried.

Ms. Graziano thanked the school orchestra teachers, Diana Polanski, Samantha Hart, and Michael Glynn for their time and efforts in planning the trip to the AMEA Elementary School and Junior High All-State festivals. Ms. Graziano appreciated that the teachers volunteered their time on a Saturday to take the students to the festivals.

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

UNANIMOUS

1. Joel Hanania, School Psychologist, to attend the 22nd Annual Butters-Kaplan West Coast Neuropsychology Conference, March 20-23, 2014, in San Diego, CA, at no cost to the District.

***F. Affiliation Agreement with Arizona State University**

UNANIMOUS

***G. Agreement with the City of Phoenix to Extend a Temporary Construction Easement Associated with the Northwest Extension of the Light Rail**

UNANIMOUS

***H. Acceptance of the US Airways Grant in the Amount of \$500.00**

III. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEM

A. Permission to Pursue Employee Phased Retirement Program

UNANIMOUS

Dr. Cook advised the Board that the Interest-Based Negotiations (IBN) team had in the past recommended an employee phased retirement program. The IBN team offered a recommendation for the 2014-2015 school year in an effort to assist employees with making decisions about phased retirement. Dr. Cook introduced Mr. Justin Wing who reviewed the IBN team's interest-based process for the recommendation.

Mr. Wing advised the Board that smartschoolsplus, inc. must offer employee health benefits effective with the 2014-2015 school year in order to comply with the Affordable Care Act. Mr. Wing stated that the company had not finalized the health insurance plan it will offer and its related costs. Therefore, smartschoolsplus, inc. had not yet prepared a contract for the District.

Mr. Wing presumed that because of the company's increased operational costs, the resulting savings to the District could diminish relative to prior years. Mr. Wing advised the Board that the 2013-2014 phased retirement program provided an approximate \$450,000.00 savings for the District. Mr. Wing stated that the savings for the District for 2014-2015 could be approximately \$325,000.00-\$450,000.00, depending on the number of participants electing insurance through smartschoolsplus, inc. (assuming that the number of participants is the same as in the 2013-2014 school year).

Ms. Graziano asked if the healthcare cost would increase for the retired employees using smartschoolsplus, inc. Mr. Wing responded that several healthcare options were available to retired employees and costs would vary, e.g., ASRS insurance, Cobra insurance through the District, smartschoolsplus, inc. insurance, or an individual healthcare policy.

A motion was made by Mr. Maza that the Governing Board authorize WESD to pursue an employee phased retirement with smartschoolsplus, inc. for the 2014-2015 school year in accordance with current WESD phased retirement guidelines. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jahneke. The motion carried.

Mr. Maza asked Mr. Wing if he had a recent event to report. Mr. Wing replied that he was the Vice President elect for the Arizona School Personnel Administrator Association (ASPAA). Mr. Maza congratulated Mr. Wing on his elected post.

IV. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future agenda items.

V. GOVERNING BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

There were no acknowledgments.

VI. CALL FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

UNANIMOUS

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

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

- A.5 - Discussions 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 2012 Interest-based Negotiation (IBN) process.

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

VII. RECESSING OF REGULAR MEETING FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

VIII. 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.5

- A.5 – Discussions 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 2012 Interest-based Negotiation (IBN) process.

IX. RECONVENING OF REGULAR MEETING

X. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Maza to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:24 p.m. The motion **UNANIMOUS** 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

1/23/14
DATE

BW Adams
BOARD OFFICIAL

1/23/14
DATE