

WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES: REGULAR MEETING

2014-2015

November 13, 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. Jahneke that the Governing Board adopt the Regular Meeting Agenda. The motion was seconded by Ms. Graziano. The motion carried.

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E. Approval of the Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Adams that the Governing Board approve the Minutes of the October 16, 2014 Executive Session and Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Maza. The motion carried.

UNANIMOUS

F. Approval of the Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Adams that the Governing Board approve the Minutes of the October 24, 2014 Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Maza. The motion carried.

UNANIMOUS

G. Approval of the Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Graziano that the Governing Board approve the Minutes of the October 25, 2014 Executive Session and Special Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Adams. The motion carried.

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H. Current Events and Acknowledgments: Governing Board and Superintendent

Ms. Graziano acknowledged and shared the following:

- Thanked everyone who attended the Community Forum to meet the final candidates for the Superintendent position. It was nice to see many groups represented, e.g., staff, parents, community members, businesses, and a representative from the Glendale Union High School District.
- Thanked the stakeholder groups (including teachers, parents, administrators, community members, and classified personnel), for submitting comments on over 300 index cards for the Governing Board to use during the Superintendent Search. After contract negotiations are completed, a copy of all of the comments will be presented to Dr. Paul Stanton. She stated that the stakeholder groups played an important part of the Superintendent search by providing input to the Governing Board.

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- Enjoyed attending the Glendale Union High School Marching Band Exposition, where many former WESD students participated. Congratulated Moon Valley, Thunderbird, Greenway, and Glendale high schools for qualifying in the original rounds of the marching band competition. Congratulated Thunderbird and Greenway high schools for being selected in the top 10 for Division 3 bands for the State Marching Festival.
- Hope everyone enjoyed the Veteran's Day holiday and wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Adams shared the following:

- Enjoyed attending Manzanita's 50th anniversary celebration, where many community members attended, including Mayor Greg Stanton.
- Enjoyed visiting the Principals and staff at Mountain Sky and Alta Vista schools. Mr. Adams thanked the Facility Managers for their efforts at the sites.

Mr. Jahneke was pleased with the Superintendent search process and that the Governing Board's thoughts and questions aligned with the comments received from the stakeholder groups. He thanked the Superintendent search sub-committee, comprised of Mrs. Lambert and Ms. Graziano, for their diligent work.

Mr. Maza thanked all of the educators, e.g., certificated staff, education support professionals, and administrators for everything that they do for the District. Mr. Maza commented on the assessment issue with AIMS being removed and the AzMERIT assessment approved by the State Board of Education. Mr. Maza stated that the educators are focused on student growth and achievement, contrary to public opinion. Mr. Maza recognized all educators and, specifically, Superintendent Susie Cook and Assistant Superintendents Janet Sullivan and Lyn Bailey, for their guidance through the assessment changes which may affect the evaluation system and performance based pay.

Mrs. Lambert shared that the superintendent search took a lot of hard work and the Governing Board appreciated the support of the administrative staff. She thanked Terry Kidd and Joyce Shiota for their assistance through the process. The Board presented Terry and Joyce with a bouquet of flowers.

Dr. Cook advised the Board that they received a hardbound historical book at their place on the dais. She acknowledged that the Arizona Historical Society had donated 1,300 Arizona historical books for 4th-8th grade classrooms throughout the State. Dr. Cook stated that attendees (which included a number of educators from other districts) at the last Business Advisory Team meeting were presented with the books.

I. Celebrations of Successful Programs

Dr. Cook advised the Board members that they will be presented information at the next five Board meetings to celebrate the District's participation in the University of Virginia program. Dr. Cook introduced Shannon Bonnette, Principal of Richard E. Miller Elementary School, to describe how she introduced the revised *Roadmap* to her staff. Ms. Bonnette stated that the *Roadmap* was the guide to student growth. Ms. Bonnette reported that they have interim assessments and make adjustments, as needed.

Mrs. Lambert thanked Ms. Bonnette for her presentation and appreciated the staff's willingness to continually evaluate the *Roadmap*.

J. Special Recognition

Dr. Cook introduced Ms. Natalie McWhorter, Director of Curriculum, who, in turn, introduced Roger Wakeford and Vicky Bonavito.

- Recognized Roger Wakeford, adaptive physical education teacher at Washington Elementary School, who was selected Arizona’s Adaptive Physical Education Teacher of the Year.
- Recognized Vicky Bonavito, physical education teacher at Desert View Elementary School, who was selected Arizona’s Elementary Physical Education Teacher of the Year.

Ms. McWhorter thanked Mr. Wakeford and Ms. Bonavito for everything that they do for the students. They were presented with certificates from the Board. Mr. Wakeford and Ms. Bonavito acknowledged family members who accompanied them to the Governing Board meeting.

K. Public Participation

There was no Public Participation.

L. Approval of the Consent Agenda

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Ms. Graziano requested that Item *II.D. – Out-of-County/State Field Trips 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**

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Approved and ratified the vouchers as presented.

***B. Personnel Items**

UNANIMOUS

Approved the personnel items as presented.

***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. Cactus Wren Parent Teacher Organization donated a check in the amount of \$2,733.81 for a SMART Board and installation cost in the Cactus Wren library.
2. Gardner’s Book Service donated books with an approximate value of \$650.82 for the Academic Services Department to be used for Gardner’s Story Box, in cooperation with Book Pals.
3. Donors Choose.org donated six Samsung Chromebook laptops with an approximate value of \$1,952.58 to be used for the benefit of science students at Mountain Sky Junior High School for the Honeywell Aerospace Challenge.
4. Tyler Allen Law Firm, PLLC. donated a check in the amount \$1,268.39 to purchase a projector, a document camera, and writing resources for the benefit of Ms. Jennings’ students at Abraham Lincoln Traditional School.

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

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

Ms. Graziano made the following comments:

- Thanked Dr. Cook, the field trip committee, Dr. Maggie Westhoff, and Ms. Terry Kidd for reviewing the process.
 - Appreciated the updated forms and additional information, e.g., detailed itinerary and lesson plans for students who will not be attending the trip.
 - Noticed that several of the large grade level trips, e.g., Catalina Island and Grand Canyon, have only one bus reserved with limited seating, and students are selected based on behavior and possibly a random drawing. Ms. Graziano asked teachers to keep track of data this year to see how many students were not able to go on trips because of space limitations. Teachers were asked to study the data and find a way to accommodate all the students who qualify for the trip.
 - Expressed concern for the safety of the students on field trips. She reiterated the need for all of the itineraries to align; the need for trained personnel to be present during physical activities, such as water activities; and the need to include accurate, detailed information. She expressed interest in well-planned, well-executed field trips for all students' safety.
1. Teri DeMore Stormer, Abraham Lincoln Traditional School, submitted an out-of-county/state field trip to Out of Africa Wildlife Park, Camp Verde, AZ, February 12, 2015, for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students at a cost of \$5,413.27.
 2. Stacy Bauer, Acacia Elementary School, submitted an out-of-county/state field trip to Sea World, San Diego, CA, May 14 and 15, 2015, for 6th grade students at a cost of \$24,818.88.
 3. Thomas Aron, Alta Vista Elementary School, submitted an out-of-county/state field trip to Music in the Parks Competition, Presbyterian Church, Placentia, CA and Disneyland, Anaheim, CA, May 8-10, 2015, for 5th and 6th grade students at a cost of \$6,927.00.
 4. Megan Burbank and Katie Fitzgerald, Arroyo Elementary School, submitted an out-of-county/state field trip to Catalina Island Marine Institute (CIMI), Avalon, CA, May 5-8, 2015, for 6th grade students at a cost of \$19,241.63.
 5. Tameri Bayus, Cholla Middle School, submitted an out-of-county/state field trip to Disneyland, Anaheim, CA, April 24 and 25, 2015, for 7th and 8th grade students at a cost of \$18,138.00.
 6. Sarah Lok, Ironwood Elementary School, submitted an out-of-county/state field trip to Catalina Island Marine Institute (CIMI), Avalon, CA, April 19-22, 2015, for 6th grade students at a cost of \$17,344.00.
 7. Sarah Kakritz, John Jacobs Elementary School, submitted an out-of-county/state field trip to Grand Canyon National Park, Grand Canyon, AZ, April 24, 2015, for 4th grade students at a cost of \$3,450.00.

8. Rachel Archuleta, Lakeview Elementary School, submitted an out-of-county/state field trip to YMCA Camp Sky-Y, Prescott, AZ, May 20-22, 2015, for 6th grade students at a cost of \$10,854.00.
9. Lisa Lacey, Lookout Mountain Elementary School, submitted an out-of-county/state field trip to Arizona Renaissance Festival, Gold Canyon, AZ, March 5, 2015, for 6th grade students at a cost of \$3,705.00.
10. Anthony W. Murphy, Mountain Sky Junior High School, submitted an out-of-county/state field trip to Marana High School, Arizona Junior High School Wrestling State Championships, Tucson, AZ, January 30 and 31, 2015, for 7th and 8th grade students at a cost of \$250.00.
11. John Vasey, Orangewood School, submitted an out-of-county/state field trip to Ocean Institute, Dana Point, CA, May 31 – June 4, 2015, for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students at a cost of \$28,750.00.
12. Dianna Bonney, Orangewood School, submitted an out-of-county/state field trip to Camp Colley, Payson, AZ and the Moqui Fire Lookout Tower, Coconino National Forest, Coconino County, AZ, May 19-21, 2015, for 5th, 6th, and 7th grade students at a cost of \$3,200.00.
13. Alex Keene, Orangewood School, submitted an out-of-county/state field trip to Disneyland/California Adventures, Anaheim, CA, May 7-9, 2015, for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students at a cost of \$23,262.31.
14. Krystin Yee, Royal Palm Middle School, submitted an out-of-county/state field trip to the Arizona Renaissance Festival, Gold Canyon, AZ, March 3, 2015, for 6th grade students at a cost of \$1,333.50.
15. Ashley Klein, Royal Palm Middle School, submitted an out-of-county/state field trip to the Arizona Renaissance Festival, Gold Canyon, AZ, March 5, 2015, for 6th grade students at a cost of \$1,333.50.
16. Azucena Parra, Royal Palm Middle School, submitted an out-of-county/state field trip to Disneyland, Anaheim, CA, April 24 and 25, 2015, for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students at a cost of \$15,030.00.
17. Alan Farmer, Shaw Butte Elementary School, submitted an out-of-county/state field trip to the Arizona Renaissance Festival, Gold Canyon, AZ, March 3, 2015, for 6th grade students at a cost of \$1,926.50.
18. Holly Sproul, Sunburst Elementary School, submitted an out-of-county/state field trip to YMCA Camp Sky-Y, Prescott, AZ, April 30 – May 1, 2015, for 4th grade students at a cost of \$6,841.00.
19. Jeffrey Stepien, Sunnyslope School, submitted an out-of-county/state field trip to Disneyland, Anaheim, CA, May 15-17, 2015, for 7th and 8th grade students at a cost of \$19,580.20.

***E. Annual Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchase Agreements with the Arizona Department of Education (ADE), Mohave Educational Services Cooperative (MESCC) and Strategic Alliance for Volume Expenditures (SAVE) UNANIMOUS**

- *F. **Acceptance of the 2014 City of Phoenix Neighborhood Block Watch Grants in the Amount of \$31,508.00** UNANIMOUS

III. INFORMATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. **Community Eligibility Provision and Title I**

Dr. Cook advised that Mrs. Lambert had requested a report for background information regarding the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) and its impact on Title I. Dr. Cook introduced Ms. Janet Sullivan, to offer the information.

Ms. Sullivan stated that the CEP provides an alternative to household applications for free and reduced priced meals in high poverty districts and schools. She reviewed the three ways to calculate free and reduced price meal percentages at the school level that have the potential to impact schools' Title I allocations.

Mrs. Lambert asked if this new provision was to help ensure that more students received their meals and nutrition. Mrs. Lambert asked if there were currently any schools doing the Community Eligibility Provision and had they been identified. Ms. Sullivan responded that there were schools who were being served under the CEP. However, the current year's Title 1 was based on last year's percentages of free and reduced lunch. Therefore, the CEP had not impacted this year's Title 1 ranking, but would definitely impact next year's ranking. Ms. Sullivan reported that the District plans to use the data from ADE's October official free and reduced reports that will be posted on its website in January. The data will be used to make projections for next year's Title 1 funding. Ms. Sullivan stated that during staffing meetings in February and March, they will have an estimate of the schools' rankings and what their allocations will be. The intention will be to not negatively impact an existing school and ensure that all schools can run a viable program that meets the schools' needs.

Mrs. Lambert thanked Ms. Sullivan for the report and stated it was difficult because there were limited funds.

Mr. Adams asked if the three ways to calculate free and reduced price meal percentages at the school level were separate plans. Ms. Sullivan replied that they were not different plans, but were three different ways to identify eligibility.

Mr. Adams asked for confirmation that the District will provide meals to any student under the age of 18. Ms. Sullivan affirmed that he was correct.

Mr. Jahneke asked if the CEP impetus was to streamline the process so that families did not have to submit applications again. Ms. Sullivan reported that CEP reduces duplication of applications and paperwork for the families who had previously established eligibility through applications to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

Ms. Graziano thanked Ms. Sullivan for the information and asked if there were any schools that had received more applications than the percentage of SNAP or TANF families. Ms. Sullivan responded in the affirmative. Ms. Sullivan reported that through Provision 2, families submit applications for the District's free and reduced lunch program, but may elect not to apply for Federal assistance through SNAP or TANF.

B. 2014 Accountability Update – Assessment Report: Part One

Ms. Janet Sullivan, Assistant Superintendent of Academic Services, provided an update on the 2013-2014 accountability results which focused on the District's performance on state-administered assessments and the resulting accountability determinations. Spring 2014 results of the Arizona's Instrument to Measure Standards (AIMS), the Stanford 10 and the Arizona English Learner Assessment (AZELLA) were presented.

Ms. Courtney Stevens, Director of Accountability, presented information regarding data teams and the three phases used for individual student data analysis.

Mrs. Lambert expressed her appreciation for the update and asked if the schools received the assessment data as paper reports or electronically. Ms. Sullivan responded that the schools have both paper reports and an electronic database on an individual student level that identifies the demographics, e.g., ELL or Special Ed program.

Ms. Graziano made the following comments:

- Congratulated all of the schools who improved their letter grades or increased their points. Ms. Graziano thanked the teams for their hard work with the data assessments.
- Asked if only the AIMS data was used to determine if intervention was needed or were District interim tests also used. Ms. Sullivan replied that they start with the AIMS data to look at overall trends, however, the District data was reviewed throughout the year to determine if intervention was needed for students.
- With recent changes to curriculum and standards, has there been an increase in the number of students needing intervention assistance? Ms. Sullivan reported that it was difficult because of the standards changing from AIMS to the College and Career Ready Standards and that this was the first year in math that all teachers were focused on one set of standards. Ms. Sullivan stated that schools were reviewing data, making adjustments, and reinforcing math skills that may not have been taught in prior years because they were not in the standards that were measured on AIMS, but are now included in the College and Career Ready Standards. Therefore, there are more schools providing intervention in math.
- Asked if there was more emphasis on math in-service training in the PLC Wednesday meetings because of the changes to the math standards? Ms. Sullivan replied that the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade teachers have a number of opportunities during this year's PLC Wednesday meetings to work together to focus on math instruction and the new materials. Several school sites allow time during PLC meetings for teachers to look at the interim assessment tests. Teachers will analyze the data and determine the next steps for instruction.
- Asked if all of the staff meet together or break into grade level groups at the PLC meetings? Ms. Sullivan responded that some schools start with the whole group and then may break into grade level groups. Ms. Sullivan reported that a number of schools have grade level data meetings to look at their specific grade level or focus on a particular standard and plan their instruction accordingly.
- Asked if this was the first year for the Move on When Reading student retention mandate? Ms. Sullivan reported that last year was the first year that if students fell far below standards and were not exempted for either Special Ed or ELL provisions, that they had to be retained.

- Report indicated 3% of students fell far below – has that been a problem? Ms. Sullivan replied that it was not a problem because after taking into account the students exempted for either the Special Ed or ELL provisions, there were approximately 20 students. Some of those students attended summer school and less than five students were retained (after agreement with parents and teachers).

Mrs. Lambert thanked Ms. Sullivan and Ms. Stevens for the report and gave kudos to the staff and schools who have shown student growth.

IV. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future agenda items.

V. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Maza to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jahneke. The motion carried.

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SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

Documents were signed as tendered by the Governing Board Secretary

Joyce Shiota

BOARD SECRETARY

12/11/14

DATE

BW Coleman

BOARD OFFICIAL

12/11/14

DATE