

WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES: REGULAR MEETING

2014-2015

January 8, 2015

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, Mr. Larry Herrera, and Mr. Aaron Jahneke. Ms. Clorinda Graziano was not in attendance.

**B. Organization of the Board**

Mrs. Lambert 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 4-0 vote.

4-0 AYE

Mrs. Lambert called for nominations for the position of Governing Board Vice President. Mrs. Lambert 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 4-0 vote.

4-0 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. Adams 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 Mr. Jahneke that the Governing Board approve the Minutes of the December 11, 2014 Regular Meeting and Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Herrera. The motion carried.

UNANIMOUS

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

Mr. Adams shared that he enjoyed visiting Arroyo Elementary School and thanked Principal Phil Liles and his staff for their time. He stated that the atmosphere was very upbeat.

Mrs. Lambert, Mr. Adams, and Mr. Jahneke welcomed new Governing Board Member, Larry Herrera, to his first Governing Board meeting.

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Dr. Cook made the following acknowledgments:

- Congratulated Mrs. Lambert and Mr. Adams for being elected as the Governing Board President and Vice President, respectively.
- Welcomed Mr. Herrera to the WESD Governing Board.
- Acknowledged Dr. Paul Stanton's attendance at the Governing Board meeting. Dr. Stanton will be the WESD Superintendent effective July 1, 2015.
- Acknowledged 2015 calendars presented to the Board members from SUNDT/Stacy and Witbeck which highlighted the story of the light rail project with pictures in calendar form.

Mrs. Lambert acknowledged and thanked the students and art teachers at Chaparral, Ironwood, John Jacobs, Lookout Mountain, Moon Mountain, and Shaw Butte schools for the artwork displayed in the Governing Board Room.

#### **H. Celebrations of Successful Programs**

Dr. Cook introduced Shaw Butte Principal, Tracy Maynard, who presented information regarding the University of Virginia (UVA) Turnaround Initiative Principal Collaboration Activities. Mrs. Lambert thanked Ms. Maynard for the informative presentation and was impressed with the collaboration of everyone involved. Mr. Herrera expressed his appreciation to Ms. Maynard and her team for their efforts.

Dr. Cook stated that District employees had been attending PLCs at all of the District's schools and acknowledged that she had recently attended Shaw Butte's PLC which was well planned and executed. Dr. Cook acknowledged that following Shaw Butte's PLC, there was a volunteer reception to thank the parent volunteers which was a wonderful event. Ms. Maynard introduced staff members who were in attendance at the meeting: Cody Riding, Assistant Principal; Tracy Farrell, Interventionist; and Mellissa Reimink, 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher.

Dr. Cook acknowledged that she had attended PLCs for all five of the schools participating in the University of Virginia Turnaround Initiative and that all of them were doing a wonderful job of carrying out the UVA plans.

#### **I. Public Participation**

There was no public participation.

#### **J. Approval of the Consent Agenda**

A motion was made by Mr. Herrera that the Governing Board approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jahneke. The motion carried.

**UNANIMOUS**

### **II. CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **\*A. Approval/Ratification of Vouchers**

Approved and ratified the vouchers as presented.

**UNANIMOUS**

#### **\*B. Personnel Items**

Approved the personnel items as presented.

**UNANIMOUS**

**\*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. Sumner W. Brown donated a check in the amount of \$2,000.00 for the benefit of WESD student and staff recognition programs.
2. Credit Union West donated a check in the amount of \$2,000.00 to support the Community Food Drive (t-shirts and an iPad for students and an ice cream party for the winning school).
3. John C. Lincoln Health Networks Employee Fund donated a check in the amount of \$2,000.00 to support the Student of the Month and Employee of the Month dinner at Sunnyslope School.
4. Lookout Mountain Elementary School Parent/Teacher Organization donated a check in the amount of \$20,000.00 to purchase Smartboards, including installation and related items.
5. Safeway, Inc. donated Starbucks gift certificates with a value of \$1,250.00 for the staff at Cactus Wren Elementary School.
6. Telephone Pioneers donated 40 computers, cables, monitors, keyboards, cords and related items with an approximate value of \$3,260.00 for the benefit of students at Acacia Elementary School.
7. Mountain Sky Junior High School SPICE (PTO) donated a check from the music performance fundraiser proceeds in the amount of \$3,610.00 to be used toward the per student cost of the out-of-state field trip for the music department.
8. Jill Vavra donated toys, batteries, pumps, cards and wrapping supplies with an approximate value of \$921.18 to benefit Sunnyslope School families during the holiday season.
9. Susan Westcott donated a mobile whiteboard with an approximate value of \$700.00 for the benefit of students at Ironwood Elementary School.
10. Stacey Alyse Wieser donated a check in the amount of \$1,000.00 for 6<sup>th</sup> grade field trips and for the sports programs at Orangewood School.

**\*D. Retro-commissioning Agreements with SRP for Orangewood School, Ocotillo Elementary School and Washington Elementary School UNANIMOUS**

**III. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEM**

**A. Employee Phased Retirement Program UNANIMOUS**

Dr. Cook advised the Board that the Interest-Based Negotiations (IBN) team members met on December 8, 2014 and considered the feasibility of recommending that an employee phased retirement program be reauthorized for the 2015-2016 school year. Dr. Cook reported that this information was presented to the Governing Board as early as possible in order to help plan for openings for next year. Dr. Cook introduced Mr. Justin Wing to summarize the findings of the IBN team.

Mr. Wing provided Governing Board members with the background and history of the phased retirement program through *smartschoolsplus, inc.* Mr. Wing reviewed the details regarding the IBN's interest-based process.

Mrs. Lambert asked the following questions:

- Does *smartschoolsplus, inc.* have a pool of retired teachers to use as a hiring resource? Mr. Wing responded that *smartschoolsplus, inc.* does not have a pool of teachers.
- If a *smartschoolsplus, inc.* participant is eligible to receive a stipend, is it reduced to 75% or do they receive the full stipend? Mr. Wing replied that the individual would receive the full stipend.

A motion was made by Mr. Adams that the Governing Board authorize Washington Elementary School District to pursue a contract with *smartschoolsplus, inc.* for the 2015-2016 school year, in accordance with the parameters set forth in the Interest-Based Negotiations Team's proposal. The motion was seconded by Mr. Herrera. The motion carried.

#### **IV. INFORMATION / DISCUSSION ITEM**

##### **A. 2014 Accountability Update – Assessment Report: Part Two**

Dr. Cook advised the Board that Janet Sullivan had an unanticipated family situation and was unavailable to present the 2014 Accountability Update. Dr. Cook introduced Courtney Stevens, Director of Accountability, to provide Part Two of the 2014 Accountability Update – Assessment Report.

Ms. Stevens provided the Board with information on District assessments in the areas of Reading/Language Arts and Mathematics and how data from these assessments were utilized at the District and school levels.

Mr. Jahneke thanked Ms. Stevens for the presentation and appreciated the work of the Assessment team with the Arizona College and Career Ready Standards and preparing for the transition from Arizona's Instrument to Measure Standards (AIMS) to AzMERIT. Ms. Stevens reported that the assessment team was excited when they reviewed components on AzMERIT. Ms. Stevens stated that the District had been proactive and that the new math assessments used this year contain many of the same types of items that will be tested on AzMERIT. Therefore, the District's students will have a year of practice and will give them an advantage when changing to AzMERIT.

Mrs. Lambert asked the following questions regarding interim tests:

- Do the teachers score the administered interim tests? Ms. Stevens responded that the teachers have an active part in scoring the interim tests which was one component and the remainder was scored at the District level. The results were then provided to the schools.
- What is the turnaround time for returning the test data to the teachers in order to assist them in their classroom instruction? Ms. Stevens replied that the goal is to provide the data within a week.
- Is the data also provided by grade level? Ms. Stevens reported that the digital data includes teacher data, as well as grade level data. Mrs. Lambert stated that the data would be beneficial to the school to identify focus areas for professional development.

Mrs. Lambert thanked Ms. Stevens for the informative presentation.

V. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future agenda items.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

UNANIMOUS

A motion was made by Mr. Adams to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. The motion 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

1/22/15  
DATE

Bw Adams  
BOARD OFFICIAL

1/22/15  
DATE