

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE GOVERNING BOARD  
SCOTTSDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 48**

March 22, 2016

A Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of the Scottsdale Unified School District, #48, Maricopa County, was called to order at 5:07 PM, at the Scottsdale Unified School District Coronado High School, 7501 E. Virginia Avenue, Scottsdale, Arizona.

Board Members in attendance were Bonnie Sneed, President; Barbara Perleberg, Vice President; Kim Hartmann; George Jackson; and Pam Kirby. Interim Superintendent Dr. A. Denise Birdwell was also present. A quorum was present. President Sneed called upon Barbara Perleberg to lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. Sneed welcomed approximately 130 visitors.

Students and Staff Recognition and Celebrations

Dr. Dave McNeil, Executive Director of Elementary Education, recognized the following:

- The Hohokam students that placed first and second at the state robotics competition. The first place winners qualified for the world competition in Louisville, Kentucky.
- The Desert Canyon students and their teacher for the shoe drive.

Dr. Mitch von Gnechten, Executive Director of Secondary Education, recognized the following:

- Saguaro robotics team who placed first in the state championship and qualified for the world competition in Louisville, Kentucky.
- Saguaro student who received an art award from the Arizona Department of Education.
- Students who received the Gold Key Awards from the 2016 Art and Writing Awards.
- Three Chaparral students who were named winners of the Arizona Educational Foundation's 2016 Polly Rosenbaum Writing Contest.

Dr. Mitch von Gnechten will be attending the robotics world competition as a representative for both the Hohokam Elementary and the Saguaro High School competitors. Dr. A. Denise Birdwell reminded the audience that this is a wonderful opportunity that can be supported in part through tax credit contributions. George Jackson recognized the parents for all the support they provided to the students.

Superintendent's Comments

Dr. Birdwell announced:

- National Middle School Education Month is celebrated during the month of March. This is an important time in the education of students, and we are proud of our middle school students and their accomplishments.
- This month we also celebrate Read Across America.
- March is National Nutrition month. The food service employees work very hard to provide nutritious meals that support the well-being of students and increase their ability to learn.
- Over the weekend of February 13<sup>th</sup>, four high school choral groups competed at the NAU Jazz/Madrigal Festival. Chaparral received "Superior" rating in the Madrigal Festival, Coronado ACE Choir received a "Superior" rating in both the Jazz and Madrigal Festival, Desert Mountain received a "Superior" rating in the Madrigal Festival and their Jazz Choir received and "Excellent" rating in the Jazz Festival, and the Saguaro Jazz Choir received a "Superior" rating in the Jazz Festival.
- Over the weekend of February 27<sup>th</sup>, the Desert Mountain High School Jazz band competed in the NAU Jazz festival. They received straight "1" ratings, the highest honor available from the judges, and a "Superior" rating.
- Chaparral students Brain Lee and Amanda Chin placed second at ASU's High School World Language Fair for the Novice Midlevel. Mandarin student, Katherine Luo placed second in the Intermediate/Highest Level. Congratulations to the students and their Mandarin teacher, Mrs. Yuan.
- Coronado and Saguaro High Schools were active partners in the Safe and Supportive Schools grant, which was designed to improve school climates, and remove barriers to learning. Both schools noted several positive outcomes from the initiatives established to support those goals.
- Elementary World Language offerings will begin in the 2016-17 school year. Spanish will be added to the curriculum of Pima, Copper Ridge, Anasazi, and Cherokee. Desert Canyon Elementary will offer Mandarin Chinese.

Students and Staff  
Recognition and  
Celebrations

Superintendent's  
Comments

- Several schools represented the District at the Arizona SciTech Festival. Students showcased their robotics work and had an opportunity to learn about the latest gadgets and new technologies.
- Congratulations to the Charro Foundation's Outstanding Educators and High School Students of the Year. Educators and students will be honored by their peers and the community at the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Outstanding Educators and Students Awards Banquet, Friday, April 22, 2016.
- Tonalea Elementary recently received the Silver designation by the Beat the Odds Institute.
- All-City Winter Awards Banquet was held on March 21, 2016, to honor the academic and athletic accomplishments of high school athletes during the winter sport season.
- Thank you to everyone that participated in the 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Parada del Sol on February 13, 2016.
- Student work from grades kindergarten through high school will be on exhibit at the First Baptist Church on Osborn Road in Scottsdale for the Scottsdale Unified School District's (SUSD) Fine Arts Festival March 31st - April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

#### Public Comment

Edmund Richard, Supai parent, indicated he felt a comment made by Mrs. Sneed, Governing Board President, at the last meeting regarding the state of the campus after the rebuild positively impacting student learning was insulting. He indicated that he feels it is thanks to the teachers, administrators, and parents that students are more effective. Mrs. Sneed apologized if any comments made by her regarding the positive impact of a rebuild was offensive to any former or current Coronado Don.

Jim Heather spoke regarding the fact that special interest groups should not control the needs of the District. Additionally, he indicated that the Interim Superintendent's contract should be extended to give the community time to see what can be accomplished under her leadership, and before beginning a superintendent search.

Estella Ranger, Arcadia Neighborhood Learning Community (ANLC) parent, spoke about maintaining Br. Benjamin Roat as the principal. She feels his leaving will be a loss to the school.

Sandy Cruz was a second grade teacher at Sequoia prior to her resignation. She spoke regarding the situation surrounding her resignation and requested that the Governing Board and the Interim Superintendent review her resignation and the accompanying parent statements of support. She provided copies for the Governing Board and the Interim Superintendent of the parental statements requested for review.

Luz Madrid, parent of second grader at Sequoia, spoke on behalf of many of the parents of second grade students at Sequoia regarding their support of Ms. Cruz. She wanted to share how much Ms. Cruz has meant to the students and their parents, and that her departure from the District will be a loss.

Ora Amsellem, teacher at Pima, spoke regarding the potential passage of Prop 123. She hopes that, should it pass, funds will be designated to teachers for overdue increases in pay.

Ian Stephan, teacher at Saguaro and parent of students in the District, also spoke about focusing on returning dollars to the teachers should Prop 123 receive voter approval.

Julie Cieniawski, teacher and President of the Scottsdale Education Association (SEA), spoke about election day in Arizona and what qualities she considers important in the leadership roles.

#### Consent Agenda

- A. Acceptance of Gifts - \$106,305.56
- B. Accounts Payable Vouchers 01/06/2016 through 01/27/2016
- C. Payroll Vouchers Processed from 02/03/16 through 03/04/2016
- D. Personnel Actions – 01/26/2016 through 02/29/2016
- E. Approval of Minutes of February 4, 2016 Special Board Meeting-Study Session/Executive Session
- F. Approval of Minutes of February 9, 2016 Regular Board Meeting
- G. Approval of Minutes of February 12, 2016 Special Board Meeting/Executive Session
- H. Approval of Minutes of February 25, 2016 Special Board Meeting
- I. Auxiliary Operations Statement for January FY06
- J. Student Activities Statement for January FY16

Public Comment

Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda Continued

- K. Tax Credit Statement for January FY16
- L. Overnight, Out-of-State, Foreign Trips
- M. Hearing Officer's Recommendation
- N. Approval and Issuance of Contracts to All Certified Employees
- O. Approve the Issuance of Request for Proposals (RFP's) for Multiple Commodities and Services
- P. Approve the Issuance of a Request for Proposal (RFP) for GPS Vehicle Tracking Service
- Q. Approval of Acknowledgement and Consent for Improvements and Upgrades to Existing AT & T Telecommunications Site at Pima Elementary School Known as P122-Pima Site Number 10091376
- R. Approval of the Termination of Intergovernmental Agreement ("IGA") between City of Scottsdale ("COS") and the District ("SUSD") Construction and Lease Parks Rooms at 100<sup>th</sup> Street School Known as Cheyenne Traditional School
- S. Approval of Annual Renewal of Intergovernmental Agreement between Scottsdale Unified School District (SUSD) and East Valley Institute of Technology (EVIT) Carl Perkins for the 2015/2016 School Year
- T. Approve the Award of Request for Proposal (RFP) #16040, Scottsdale Online Learning Advertising
- U. Approval of the Ratification of the Intergovernmental Agreement ("IGA") between Scottsdale Unified School District ("SUSD") and Holbrook Unified School District ("HUSD")
- V. Approval of the Reduction in Force (RIF) of Certified Positions for 2016-2017

Mrs. Kirby moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mrs. Sneed seconded the motion.

The motion was approved with a vote of 5 - 0.

Information/Discussion Items

Dr. Karen Benson, Executive Director of Instructional Services, and Dr. Dave McNeil, Executive Director of Elementary Education, presented Information/Discussion Item VII .B. K-5 World Language Modified Adoption. Dr. McNeil presented information on why World Language is an important offering on the elementary level, and how it continues to evolve as an educational opportunity. Dr. Karen Benson reviewed program types available for consideration at the elementary level: Exposure Class, Foreign Language in Elementary Schools (FLES) and Immersion (FLI). As we begin to introduce World Language offerings in phases in SUSD, sites will have the autonomy to choose the model that works best for their community. At the Governing Board Regular Meeting on April 19, 2016, the World Language Committee final vendor recommendations will be presented, along with the associated cost structures.

Action Items

Dr. A. Denise Birdwell presented Action Item VIII. A. District Reorganization. Dr. Birdwell indicated that an organizational chart should support the vision and mission of the District. The reorganization will allow for greater collaboration; it is specific to the business of education. The new organizational chart will highlight team leaders, their workforce, and what area they support. The area presented at this time is the first phase of a process that will take place over the next year. It is representational of cabinet level members critical to moving forward the District vision of excellence in academic achievement and student learning. It is Dr. Birdwell's intention to have every department/director's organizational chart available in the new format for the Governing Board by the end of the summer. The first department to provide the information in this format was the Public Information and Marketing Department. The number of full-time equivalency positions (FTE), their responsibilities, and how other areas of the District are affected by their work are illustrated in the flow chart. Another change within the organization of immediate impact will be the roll-out of enrollment back to the sites. The Desert Mountain Learning Community will be the first to experience this change. The goal set for the return of enrollment to all sites will be August of 2016, for school year 2016-2017.

Mrs. Kirby moved to approve the District Reorganization. Mrs. Perleberg seconded the motion.

The motion was approved with a vote of 5 - 0.

Mrs. Sneed asked for a 5 minute break in the meeting at 7:35 PM

The meeting resumed at 7:41 PM.

Consent Agenda Continued

Motion #80

Approval of Consent Agenda

Information/Discussion

•K-5 World Language

Action Items

•District Reorganization

Motion # 81

Approval of District Reorganization

Dr. Kyle Ross presented Action Item VIII. B. Approve the Award of Request for Proposal (RFP) #16101, Instructional and Assessment Improvement. The recommendation of the Assessment Committee was for the vendor, School City. The committee felt this was the best product to be used as an all-inclusive tool. It was a teacher centric, user friendly product, with easy to use dashboards, a short learning curve, and professional development included. The pre and post-tests that have already been written will be brought over, and there is a bank of tests available.

•Instructional and Assessment Improvement

Mrs. Kirby moved to approve the Award of Request for Proposal (RFP) #16101, Instructional and Assessment Improvement. Mr. Jackson seconded the motion.

Motion #82  
Approve the Award of Request for Proposal (RFP) #16101, Instructional and Assessment Improvement

The motion was approved with a vote of 5 - 0.

Dr. Birdwell thanked the committee for their work.

•Bond Refinance

Daniel O'Brien, CFO, presented Action Item VIII. C. Bond Refinance. Mr. O'Brien indicated that the refinancing of the general obligation bonds that are callable is beneficial to the District and exhibits fiduciary responsibility to the tax payer. It is currently advantageous to refinance in the market as the interest rate is lower. The bonds are callable through IRS regulations, and refinancing would lower future payments. The savings does not come back to the District per se. The savings is demonstrated in the lessened amount that would be collected from the tax payer to make the payment. Refinancing does not extend the length of the payment term, and tax payers would see savings in the 2016-17 year.

Mrs. Kirby moved to approve the Bond Refinance. Mrs. Hartmann seconded the motion. Mr. Jackson abstained from the motion.

Motion #83  
Approval of Bond Refinance

The motion was approved with a vote of 4 – 0, with 1 abstention by Mr. Jackson.

Future Items

There were no future items presented.

Future Items  
None

Dates of Upcoming Meetings

Thursday, April 7, 2016 – 3:00 PM – Special Meeting – Study Session  
Thursday, April 14, 2016 – 3:00 PM – Special Meeting – Study Session  
Tuesday, April 19, 2016 – 5:00 PM – Regular Governing Board meeting  
Thursday, April 21, 2016 – 3:00 PM – Special Meeting – Study Session

Dates of Upcoming Meetings

Governing Board Reports

Mrs. Hartmann reported that in regard to community outreach, she attended the BUSS/Education Outreach at SkySong on February 27, 2016, where over 200 business and community leaders were in attendance. Additionally, she attended the East Valley School Boards' dinner in Tempe where Dr. Michael Crowe, ASU President, was the keynote speaker. The discussion extended to what a more strategic plan (P20) K-12 and ASU relationship might look like. Mrs. Hartmann continues her work on community partnerships through an exploration of community college collaborative relationships with Dr. Birdwell and other important Scottsdale Unified School District (SUSD) community partners such as Scottsdale Parent Council (SPC), and Foundation and BUSS leadership. They are working on exploring how a tighter working relationship might prove to be beneficial to our students. She also met with the representative of ASU's Teacher's College to explore online professional development opportunities for our teachers.

Governing Board Reports

Mr. Jackson also attended the BUSS/Education Outreach at SkySong on February 27, 2016. Mr. Jackson participated in the Read Across America event at Tonalea Elementary. Mrs. Perleberg reported that she attended the High School Unitown event held at Friendly Pines Camp, held in Prescott, AZ,

At 8:21 PM, Mrs. Sneed moved to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Kirby seconded the motion.

Motion #84  
Adjournment

The motion was approved with a vote of 5 – 0.

Dated this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March 2016.

The Governing Board of the Scottsdale Unified School District #48

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Bonnie Sneed, President

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Barbara Perleberg, Vice President

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Kim Hartmann

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George Jackson

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Pam Kirby