

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING and EXECUTIVE SESSION
OF THE GOVERNING BOARD
SCOTTSDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 48**

March 16, 2017

A Special Meeting and Executive Session of the Governing Board of the Scottsdale Unified School District, #48, Maricopa County, was called to order at 2:34 PM, at the Scottsdale Unified School District Mohave District Annex, 8500 E. Jackrabbit Road, Scottsdale, Arizona.

Board Members in attendance were Barbara Perleberg, President; Pam Kirby, Vice President; Allyson Beckham; and Sandy Kravetz. Board Member Kim Hartmann joined the meeting later via telephone. Superintendent Dr. Denise Birdwell was also present. A quorum was present.

Mrs. Perleberg moved to convene in Executive Session for:

- A. Discussions or consultations with designated representatives of the public body in order to consider its position and instruct its representatives regarding negotiations with employee organizations regarding the salaries, salary schedules or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits of employees of the public body so that those representatives can properly represent the Board in upcoming "Meet and Confer" sessions, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(5).

Mrs. Kravetz seconded the motion.

The motion was approved with a vote of 4 – 0.

At 3:53 PM, the Special Meeting reconvened. Board Members in attendance were Barbara Perleberg, President; Pam Kirby, Vice President; Allyson Beckham, Kim Hartmann (via telephone); and Sandy Kravetz. A quorum was present. Mrs. Perleberg led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Birdwell presented Action Item VII. A. Approval of Revisions to the Teacher Employment Agreement (TEA). Board President Perleberg called upon Mr. Maroun Assali, representing the Scottsdale Education Association (SEA). Mr. Assali presented a PowerPoint, outlining the SEA's position regarding the revisions to the TEA transfer process and to the selection of Department Chairs. The SEA members feel they were not part of the process and, therefore, do not feel valued by the District.

Dr. Birdwell presented a PowerPoint that reviewed the revisions to the TEA, as proposed by Administration. The revisions will help SUSD meet the challenges in hiring teachers in the state of Arizona. Dr. Pam Sitton, Assistant Superintendent of Personnel and Specialized Services, reviewed the hiring process and the staffing timeline presently followed by SUSD. Dr. Birdwell reiterated that SUSD is not asking any teacher to vacate a position for a more experienced teacher.

Another revision being proposed to the TEA concerns Department Chairs. Dr. Birdwell stated that today, education is in a new era, in which most districts have moved to instructional leadership teams, with the principal of the school as the lead instructional leader on a campus. She believes the principal should choose the leaders on a campus and that this model should be used for all levels: high school, middle school and elementary school.

A Board discussion ensued concerning the interview process for Department Chairs and the timeframe of the transfer process.

Mrs. Kirby moved to suspend the language in the 2016-2017 Teacher Employment Agreement concerning department chairs. Mrs. Perleberg seconded the motion.

The motion was approved with a vote of 4 – 1 (Mrs. Beckham voted NAY).

Motion #63
Convene in Executive Session

Special Meeting
Reconvenes

Action Item
•Revisions to TEA

Motion #64
Suspend Language in
2016-17 TEA Re: Dept.
Chairs

Motion #65
Suspend Section of
2016-17 TEA Entitled
"Transfer" & Adopt

Mrs. Beckham moved to suspend the section of the 2016-2017 Teacher Employment Agreement entitled “Transfer” and adopt the recommended staffing timeline that was presented by Dr. Sitton. Mrs. Kirby seconded the motion.

Recommended Staffing
Timeline

The motion was approved with a vote of 5 – 0.
At 5:33 PM, Mrs. Hartmann ended her telephonic connection and left the meeting.

Information/Discussion
•Employee Survey

Dr. Sitton presented Information/Discussion Item VIII. A. Review of Employee Survey. The employee survey, as presented to the Governing Board, is aligned to the District’s core values and contains some new questions. Discussion followed concerning the value of surveys and what is done with the information received from staff. SEA representatives told the Governing Board that the employee survey provides teachers with an important opportunity to have a voice in the District. It also gives principals a tool to evaluate their campus.

•Pima Elementary
School – Instructional
Model

Dr. Steve Nance, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, and Amy Uchacz, Principal of Pima Elementary School, presented Information/Discussion Item VIII. B. Update on Pima Elementary School – Instructional Model. A PowerPoint was presented, reviewing the conversations taking place about a traditional school in the southern part of the District. Changing Pima to a traditional school would not be a huge transition, as it is already very close to following a traditional instructional model. A discussion ensued regarding Saxon Math and its goal to have every student working a year ahead. Administration is recommending that Pima open as a Traditional K-5 or K-6 in a new facility in August 2018. Ms. Uchacz reported to the Board that discussions with parents and staff did not show a desire for Pima to become a K-8 school and that parents are happy with the options available to them for middle school.

Future Items

Future Items

Mrs. Perleberg noted that a draft of the calendar of Agenda topics was being prepared and would shortly be sent to Board Members.

Mrs. Beckham would like to start discussion on the 2017-2018 TEA as soon as possible.

Motion #66
Adjournment

At 7:00 PM, Mrs. Kirby moved to adjourn the Special Meeting. Mrs. Beckham seconded the motion.

The motion was approved with a vote of 4 – 0.

Dated this 16th day of March 2017.

The Governing Board of the Scottsdale Unified School District #48

Barbara Perleberg, President

Pam Kirby, Vice President

Allyson Beckham

Kim Hartmann

Sandy Kravetz

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