

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

October 17, 2017

A Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of the Scottsdale Unified School District, #48, Maricopa County, was called to order at 5:03 PM, at the Scottsdale Unified School District Coronado High School, 7501 E. Virginia Avenue, Scottsdale, Arizona.

Board Members in attendance were Barbara Perleberg, President; Pam Kirby, Vice President; Allyson Beckham; Kim Hartmann; and Sandy Kravetz. Superintendent Dr. A. Denise Birdwell was also present. A quorum was present. President Perleberg called upon Mrs. Kirby to lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. Perleberg welcomed approximately 150 visitors.

Mrs. Perleberg called to order the Public Hearing on Adoption of FY2017-2018 Expenditure Budget Revision 1. There were no requests for Public Comment on the proposed Budget Revision 1.

Mrs. Perleberg moved to adopt Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Expenditure Budget Revision 1. Mrs. Hartmann seconded the motion.

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

The Public Hearing was adjourned and the Regular Meeting was called to order.

Mrs. Perleberg moved to approve the Agenda as presented. Mrs. Kravetz seconded the motion.

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

Public Comment

Eric Kurland announced that he is running for House Representative in District 23. He spoke concerning the Teacher Retention Report and actions that may be done at the local level.

Darlene Peterson spoke concerning a rumor she had heard that Coronado High School had been sold to Arizona State University. Board Members assured her this was not true.

David Hartwig spoke concerning recent changes at Pueblo Elementary School and the confusion caused by the transfer of Mrs. Kinney, principal.

Dana Roberts spoke concerning the District's practice of spraying insecticide in schools and the toxicity of this spray.

Katie Assali spoke of her concern for her students and that teachers are not being heard. She asked the Board to help teachers and students with input from teachers.

Julie Cieniawski spoke of her concern about the chosen direction of the District and that there has been deliberate action against uniting teachers. She asked for open and transparent communication.

Molly Simpson spoke concerning the rebuilding of Kiva Elementary School and the assurance given her that Kiva would be next on the rebuild list. She asked that the families served by the school be able to provide input on the rebuild.

It was noted that Students and Staff Recognition and Celebrations had been inadvertently omitted from the Agenda and that students were present to be recognized.

Mrs. Perleberg moved to have Students and Staff Recognition and Celebrations, as well as Superintendent's Comments, at this time of the meeting. Public Comment would continue immediately thereafter. Mrs. Kirby seconded the motion.

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

Students and Staff Recognition and Celebrations

Public Hearing on  
FY2017-18 Expenditure  
Budget Revision #1

Motion #17  
Approval of FY2017-18  
Expenditure Budget  
Revision #1

Regular Meeting Called  
to Order

Motion #18  
Approval of Agenda as  
Presented

Public Comment

Motion #19  
Pause Public Comment  
to Hear Students & Staff  
Recognition and  
Superintendent's  
Comments

Dr. Cecilia Johnson, Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Education, recognized the Copper Ridge School 8<sup>th</sup> grade English Language Arts Honors students. The students worked in groups to propose fundraising plans for the victims of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. The students raised \$6,000 to donate directly to the charities that would best provide relief to the victims.

Students & Staff  
Recognition and  
Celebration

Dr. Johnson introduced Dennis Roehler, Director of Facilities, who recognized the District's award-winning grounds crew. Greg Skelton, the District's grounds crew lead, thanked the grounds crew for maintaining the grounds at the District's five high schools. The fields at the schools have won many awards. Members of the grounds crew who were present at the meeting were introduced and thanked by the Governing Board.

Debbie Ybarra, Executive Director, Elementary Education, recognized Hohokam teacher Linda Tardie. Ms. Tardie was the winner of a Barbara Parks Literacy Grant, which she used to purchase 70 new books for the Hohokam library.

Superintendent's Comments

Dr. Birdwell thanked the community for its attendance at the recently held morning Community Forums in all five learning communities. The next set of Community Forums will be held in the evening and start next week.

Superintendent's  
Comments

The Arizona Department of Education has released preliminary A-F School Letter Grades. Dr. McCauley will discuss the District's letter grades later at this meeting.

This Saturday, October 21, the District will hold its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual SUSD Showcase at Cocopah Middle School. All 29 schools will be celebrating what is best about their students, their schools and SUSD.

A Hopi Elementary School parent forum was held yesterday. A Special Meeting will be called to discuss other options for the rebuilding of Hopi. Construction has been stopped for the moment. Dr. Birdwell thanked the community for its input. Their concerns, she said, "did not fall on deaf ears."

Public Comment – Continued

Dan Drake thanked Dr. Birdwell and Board Members Beckham, Kravetz and Perleberg for their appearance at the Hopi Parent Forum. The pause in construction will give the community the opportunity to get answers. They do not want to stop the building and upgrading of the school.

Public Comment -  
Continued

Beth Parsons spoke about a shrinking commodity in SUSD – (lack of) trust.

Victoria Canada spoke concerning rumors regarding ties between the consulting firm PGPC and SUSD. She is concerned that public funds are being utilized incorrectly.

Molly Pont-Brown spoke concerning SUSD teachers who want to be trusted and valued. She implored the Board to reject the proposed Policies relating to teacher workdays that were being presented at this meeting.

Andrew Brown, a 5<sup>th</sup> grade student at Hopi, asked the Board to continue to allow family members in classrooms before and after school.

Gene Zischke urged the Board to reconsider and not vote on teacher issues. He has been told that morale is horrible.

Nora Leader Schaefer stated that the Policies on the Agenda violate provisions in the Teacher Employment Agreement and asked the Board to not vote on the policies.

Darci Aronson spoke regarding her concern about an 8-hour, mandated work day and asked the Board to listen to teachers' voices.

Mike Peabody spoke concerning the Arizona Department of Education Letter Grades and asked if the District was going to protest the grades. He would also like an update on what is happening at Coronado High School, stating that nobody knows what is happening in the District.

Elizabeth Halverson spoke about her concern with proposed, new Board Policies, asking the Board to reject the Policies.

Shannon Stapley spoke in regard to the 8-hour work day for teachers, asking the Board to treat teachers as professionals.

Jason Skrodenis spoke concerning the 1.06% state-issued raise for teachers and that it is not enough.

Karen Treon asked the Board to stop the construction at Hopi Elementary School and asked why the Board is not listening to teachers regarding the Policies being presented. Concerning the Open Enrollment Policy and the single read, she believed there was not enough time to study the policy before voting on it.

Susan Hughes spoke concerning reinstating the Teacher Employment Agreement and asked the Board to not approve the Policies presented tonight.

Consent Agenda

- A. Acceptance of Gifts – \$95,594.01
- B. Accounts Payable Vouchers September 6, 2017 through September 27, 2017
- C. Payroll Vouchers August 24, 2017 through September 21, 2017
- D. Personnel Actions – 08/29/2017 through 09/26/2017
- E. Approval of Minutes of September 7, 2017 Special Board Meeting/Study Session
- F. Approval of Minutes of September 12, 2017 Regular Governing Board Meeting
- G. Approval of Minutes of September 29, 2017 Special Board Meeting
- H. Action of Hearing Officer's Recommendation
- I. Overnight, Out-of-State, Foreign Trips
- J. Ratification of Approval of IGA with AZ Dept. of Economic Security for Transition for School to Work Services
- K. Ratification of Approval of IGA with City of Phoenix for School Resource Officers for SUSD
- L. Approve the Designation of Sole Source for Write Brain LLC
- M. Approve the Purchase of Multiple Commodities and Services through MOHAVE Contracts
- N. Approve the Purchase of Multiple Commodities and Services through STATE Contracts
- O. Approve the Purchase of Playground Materials and Structures for Cheyenne Traditional School
- P. Approve the Renewal of Contract

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

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

Information/Discussion Items

Debbie Ybarra presented Information/Discussion Item XI. A. Reflections on Professional Development Celebrations. Pima principal Alexis Cruz-Freeman reported to the Board on the training happening at Pima as it transitions to a traditional school next school year.

Dr. Anna McCauley, Assistant Superintendent, Accountability and Instruction, presented Information/Discussion Item XL. B. Arizona Department of Education Preliminary School A-F Letter Grades. A PowerPoint was shared that gave a brief overview of the implementation of letter grades. The Board discussed the formula used and discussed the grades for the District's schools.

Laura Smith, CFO, presented Information/Discussion Item XI. C. Annual Report of FY2017 Bond Projects. Ms. Smith noted that this report on Bond and Capital Override expenditures is required by Arizona State Statute §15-491. A PowerPoint presentation was given reviewing the 2016-2017 Bond Expenditures and the FY2016-2017 Capital Override Summary. The District's Bond Oversight Committee has reviewed these reports.

Dr. Pam Sitton, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel and Specialized Services, and Dr. Anna McCauley presented Information/Discussion Item XI. D. Principal and Teacher Classification. Arizona State Statute §15-203(38) requires a discussion on principal and teacher classification at

Consent Agenda

Motion #20

Approval of Consent Agenda as Presented

Information/Discussion

•Reflections on Professional Development Celebrations  
•AZ Dept. of Ed. Preliminary School A-F Letter Grades

•Annual Report of FY2017 Bond Projects

a public meeting. Dr. Sitton reviewed the performance classifications of principals and teachers for FY2016 and FY2017. Discussion followed on Proposition 301 Performance Pay calculations and how the information is communicated via email.

Action Items

Michelle Marshall, District Legal Counsel, presented for a second read Action Item XII. A. Approve the Revision and Adoption of Governing Board Policies:

- GBK – Grievances
- GCL – Professional Work Days
- GCC – Absences

Policy GBK – Grievances is a new policy and is the Arizona School Boards Association (ASBA) policy model. Discussion followed regarding the process for filing a grievance and the desire that grievances be resolved at the lowest point. An escalation process will be followed, as it is not only certified employees that file grievances, but also District-level employees. Ms. Marshall noted that there have been discussions concerning adding a form to fill out for grievances and adding it to the Employee Handbook. The form could also be an Exhibit to the Policy.

Policy GCL – Professional Work Days is a new policy. The policy development group discussed Policy GCL with respect to an 8-hour workday. It did not reach consensus on a recommendation. With respect to the language concerning family members being allowed in teacher work areas, it was noted that the language presented is to ensure children are properly supervised. The District has had a similar regulation, KI-R – Visitors to Schools, for many years. Further discussion ensued regarding the definition of an 8-hour day. Ms. Marshall noted that contrary to some of the statements that have been made, the District would never ask an employee why they are going to a doctor. The Board requested that Policy GCL be sent back to the Policy Development Committee for further discussion.

Policy GCC – Absences. This current policy is being recommended for revision by deleting language that is in the SUSD Policy but not in the ASBA policy model.

Mrs. Kirby moved to adopt Policies GBK – Grievances and GCC – Absences, and to send Policy GCL back to the Policy Development Committee for further clarification. Mrs. Hartmann seconded the motion.

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

Ms. Marshall presented Action Item XII. B. Governing Board Policy JFB – Open Enrollment. The Board is asked to waive a “second read” on this policy due to the recommended change to begin the priority application process on November 1. The recommended changes discussed include the addition/clarification of open enrollment priority categories from two categories to seven categories; priority open enrollment applications to be accepted from November 1 – December 1; and deletion of the end date for high school open enrollment. The Board requested a sentence be added under “**Enrollment Priorities**” stating that “Every attempt will be made to not split a family.” Also, it was noted that under “**Exception,**” the third bullet should read “~~Without~~ regard to enrollment preference.”

Mrs. Kirby moved to approve Policy JFB – Open Enrollment, as amended. Mrs. Hartmann seconded the motion.

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

Mrs. Perleberg presented Action Item XII. C. Arizona School Boards Association (ASBA) Proposed Bylaw Changes. The Board discussed the eight bylaw change proposals.

Mrs. Perleberg moved to approve the ASBA Bylaw Change Proposals as discussed. Mrs. Hartmann seconded the motion.

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

Future Items

There were no Future Items requested.

•Principal and Teacher Classification

Action Items

•Revision and Adoption of Governing Board Policies GBK, GCL, GCC

Motion #21

Adoption of Policies GBK and GCC. Policy GCL Sent Back to Committee

•Policy JFB – Open Enrollment

Motion #22

Approval of Policy JFB – Open Enrollment, as Amended

•ASBA Proposed Bylaw Changes

Motion #23

Approval of ASBA Bylaw Change Proposals as Discussed

Dates of Upcoming Board Meetings

Thursday, November 9, 2017 – 3:00 PM – Special Governing Board Meeting  
Tuesday, November 14, 2017 – 5:00 PM – Regular Governing Board Meeting

Governing Board Reports

Mrs. Hartmann reported:

- She has been working with Business United for Scottsdale Schools (BUSS). The date has been set for the BUSS Fall Breakfast - November 8 at 7:30 AM at Scottsdale Community College.
- She has been working with the BUSS Board, Dr. Cecilia Johnson and Clif McKenzie, along with Mark Heigel from the Scottsdale Area Chamber of Commerce, on a Chamber website that will support a business community speaker bureau and internship website that supports SUSD students.
- Updated the Charros Education Committee regarding its many SUSD investments, including Coronado CSI progress, mentor program, teacher scholarships and Robotics. Mrs. Hartmann thanked the Charros for their continued investment in SUSD.
- She is working with Dr. Amy Fuller and Scottsdale Charros to support and secure the first ten mentors for the Coronado HS pilot Mentor Program.

Mrs. Kravetz thanked the attendees of this meeting for staying for the entire meeting and not leaving after Public Comment. She also visited schools and thanked the following:

- Anasazi Elementary School - Mr. Barnes and Mrs. Victor
- Mohave Middle School – Mr. Asmussen
- Hopi Elementary School – Mrs. Jagodzinski

At 9:16 PM, Mrs. Kirby moved to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Hartmann seconded the motion.

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

Dated this 17<sup>th</sup> day of October 2017

**The Governing Board of the Scottsdale Unified School District #48**

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Barbara Perleberg, President

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Pam Kirby, Vice President

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Allyson Beckham

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Kim Hartmann

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Sandy Kravetz

Future Items

Dates of Upcoming Board Meetings

Governing Board Reports

Motion #24  
Adjournment

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