

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

February 14, 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. Kravetz to lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. Perleberg welcomed approximately 130 visitors.

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

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

Students and Staff Recognitions and Celebrations

Dr. David McNeil, Assistant Superintendent for Educational Leadership, recognized Omkar Bharath, 4<sup>th</sup> grader from Redfield Elementary School, the 2017 SUSD Spelling Bee Champion.

Also recognized were the SUSD runners-up who will also represent the District in the Region II Spelling Bee on Feb. 17 at Cave Creek Unified School District. They are:

- Gabriella Tadio, 7<sup>th</sup> grade, Desert Canyon Middle School
- Dean Alkhairy, 5<sup>th</sup> grade, Kiva Elementary School
- Max Greenspan, 5<sup>th</sup> grade, Cherokee Elementary School
- Tanner Hertz, 5<sup>th</sup> grade, Copper Ridge School
- Andrew Pham, 5<sup>th</sup> grade, Pueblo Elementary School

Dr. Mitch von Gnechten, Executive Director for Secondary Education, recognized the State 5A Girls Soccer Champions from Chaparral High School. The girls were joined by Coach Robyn Carlson and Assistant Principal/Athletic Director Tommy Eubanks.

Dr. von Gnechten recognized the State 4A Boys Soccer Champions from Coronado High School. The boys were joined by Coach Nick Barker and Assistant Principal/Athletic Director David Huffine.

Dr. Karen Benson, Executive Director of Instructional Services, recognized Rachel Mazzullo, Orchestra Director at Ingleside Middle School, who is a 2017 National Board Certified Teacher. Ms. Mazzullo was joined by Dr. Chris Thuman, Principal of Ingleside Middle School.

Public Comment

Julie Cieniawski, President of the Scottsdale Education Association (SEA), spoke concerning the voice of the teacher being vital to the success of students and the District. She challenged the District to make decisions and take actions to maintain what is best for SUSD teachers.

Joe Geusig spoke concerning advocating for education at the state Capitol and asked all to be advocates by contacting their state representatives.

Judy Edmondson spoke about the need to rebuild Hohokam Elementary School, asking the Board to not close the school.

Jenny Figley spoke about the need to rebuild Hohokam Elementary School, asking the Board to not close the school and t Hohokam K-8.

Jay D. Figley, a student at Hohokam Elementary School, asked the Board to make Hohokam a K-8 school.

Michelle Siek spoke about the need to rebuild Hohokam Elementary School, asking the Board to not close the school and to make Hohokam K-8.

Motion #54  
Approval of Agenda as Presented

Students and Staff Recognitions and Celebrations

Public Comment

Paula Waybright spoke about the need to rebuild Hohokam Elementary School, asking the Board to not close the school and to make Hohokam K-6.

Mike Peabody spoke about the need to rebuild Hohokam Elementary School, asking the Board to not close the school and to make Hohokam K-8.

Becky Wolf spoke about the need to rebuild Hohokam Elementary School, asking the Board to not close the school and to make Hohokam K-8.

Yessica Hernandez (through the District interpreter, Nicole Guest) spoke about the need to rebuild Hohokam Elementary School, asking the Board to not close the school and to make Hohokam K-8.

Lily Saldana (through the District interpreter, Nicole Guest) spoke about the need to rebuild Hohokam Elementary School, asking the Board to not close the school and to make Hohokam K-6 or K-8.

Maria Sandoval spoke about the need to rebuild Hohokam Elementary School, asking the Board to not close the school and to make Hohokam K-8.

Rosi Ramos (through the District interpreter, Nicole Guest) spoke about the need to rebuild Hohokam Elementary School, asking the Board to not close the school and to make Hohokam K-6 or K-8.

Miguel Loa (through the District interpreter, Nicole Guest) spoke about the need to rebuild Hohokam Elementary School, asking the Board to not close the school and to make Hohokam K-6 or K-8.

#### Superintendent's Comments

Dr. Birdwell asked Dr. David McNeil to present her comments to the Board:

- District elementary and K-8 schools concluded Kindergarten Roundups last week. So far, 352 children have been signed up to start kindergarten in the fall.
- Three SUSD students have been named U.S. Presidential Scholar nominees this year. They are:
  - Jake Ausdemore, Desert Mountain High School
  - Wesley Jung, Desert Mountain High School
  - Cameron Whyte, Saguaro High School
- The 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Parada del Sol was held on Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, with participation from Governing Board Members, District personnel and students.
- February 22<sup>nd</sup>, SUSD Adapted PE staff will host a “Special Kids Field Day” for District self-contained, special needs students in kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, Mountain View Park. All are invited to drop by.
- SUSD high school choirs will sing in the District’s annual Choral Festival on February 27<sup>th</sup> at Chaparral High School. All are invited.

#### Consent Agenda

- A. Acceptance of Gifts - \$114,727.41
- B. Accounts Payable Vouchers January 11, 2017 through February 1, 2017
- C. Payroll Vouchers Processed from January 10, 2017 through January 26, 2017
- D. Personnel Actions – 01/04/2017 through 01/27/2017
- E. Approval of Minutes of January 12, 2017 Special Board Meeting/Study Session
- F. Approval of Minutes of January 17, 2017 Regular Board Meeting
- G. Approval of Minutes of January 30, 2017 Special Board Meeting
- H. Approval of Minutes of February 2, 2017 Special Board Meeting
- I. Overnight, Out-of-State, Foreign Trips
- J. Auxiliary Operations Statement for December Fiscal Year 2017
- K. Student Activities Statement for December Fiscal Year 2017
- L. Tax Credit Statement for December Fiscal Year 2017
- M. Approve the Delegation of Authority to Dispose of District Equipment
- N. Revisions to 2016-17 and 2017-18 High School Planning Guides (HSPG)

Superintendent's  
Comments

Consent Agenda

- O. Ratification of Approval of Annual Renewal of IGA –EVIT
- P. Approve the Issuance of a RFP for English Language Arts Intervention Resources
- Q. Approve the Award for RFP #17066, Teacher and Certificated Administrators Application Screening/Assessment

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

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

Dr. Birdwell introduced two new employees who were just approved with the Consent Agenda by the Governing Board:

- Christopher Gilmore, new principal of Coronado High School, effective July 1, 2017
- Laura Smith, new Chief Financial Officer (CFO), effective February 15, 2017

#### Information/Discussion Items

Dr. David McNeil and Ms. Kat Hughes, principal of ANLC, presented Information/Discussion Item VIII. A. Arcadia Neighborhood Learning Center (ANLC) Name Change. A short PowerPoint was shared, reviewing the steps taken at the school to communicate to the parents, staff and students the reasoning for the potential change. The school, founded in 1990, began as a multi-age instructional model. Today, the name of the school (Learning Center) reflects a specialized school, rather than the public K-8 school that it is. Staff has expressed a desire to be able to communicate on a large scale to the community about the potential change from a multi-age instructional model to a looping instructional model. A name change is the start of that process, with the first step being the presentation of the information to the Governing Board for its approval so that the school may begin marketing its new identity. As a result of input received from the community, staff and students, the new name proposed for ANLC is Echo Canyon K-8. The school mascot, Jaguars, would stay the same, with school colors becoming purple and black. The proposal will be brought back for action on the next Agenda.

Dr. Birdwell presented Information/Discussion Item VIII. B. Continued Discussion of Opportunities for Schools Within the Granite Reef Corridor. Dr. Birdwell addressed the Board and the audience, stating that many people are at this meeting because they think some decisions have been made. She continued, stating that there have not been any decisions made, and, further, it was never said that Hohokam Traditional School would be a K-8, nor was it ever said that Hohokam Traditional School would be closed. No school closures have been suggested. All that was said was that there was an interest within the Hohokam community of becoming a K-8. A process is being followed; there are many schools that have problems. Hopi, Hohokam and Pima Elementary Schools rose to the top of the list; however, the District cannot rebuild all the schools at the same time. The community has given the District funding by passing a Bond in 2016 for \$229 million. There is great responsibility in managing those funds. The Governing Board and Administration want to make the right decisions and request that the community not get caught up in the rumor mill.

Dr. Birdwell shared a PowerPoint that reviewed the matriculation of students in the Granite Reef Corridor schools. There are many instructional models that can be offered. Also reviewed were the advantages of a K-8 instructional model and of a middle school instructional model.

Although Hohokam is called Hohokam Traditional School, it does not teach Spalding or Saxon, the curriculum for 'traditional' school instruction. The original intent was to introduce that curriculum to the school, but due to a past change in the school's leadership, it was never developed. Dr. Birdwell stated the name of the school should not be misleading and should reflect what it is.

A discussion followed regarding the commonality that everyone in SUSD is working on academic achievement. Also, clarification was made to the public that the Governing Board can only discuss issues in a public forum and, therefore, statements may be made that should not be taken as a decision, but simply as a way to express ideas to each other. Dr. Birdwell will ask the Governing Board to meet on February 23, 2017, to make a decision on what two schools will be

Motion #55  
Approval of Consent  
Agenda as Presented

#### Information/Discussion

•ANLC Name Change

•Continued Discussion –  
Granite Reef Corridor  
Schools

next to be rebuilt or redesigned. It is not necessary, at this point, to make a decision on what instructional model will be used. That will be decided at a later date.

Future Items

Mrs. Beckham would like further discussion regarding the High School Planning Guide and the Seal of Biliteracy. She would like to know if the students who receive this Seal of Biliteracy are truly proficient in a foreign language.

Mrs. Perleberg would like the approval of the ANLC Name Change to be an Action Item at the Special Meeting of February 23, 2017.

Dates of Upcoming Meetings

- Thursday, February 23, 2017 – 3:00 PM – Special Governing Board Meeting at Coronado HS
- Thursday, March 16, 2017 – 3:00 PM – Special Governing Board Meeting/Study Session
- Tuesday, March 21, 2017 – 5:00 PM – Regular Governing Board Meeting

Governing Board Reports

There were no Governing Board Reports.

At 7:12 PM, Mrs. Kirby moved to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Beckham seconded the motion.

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

Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of February 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 Meetings

Governing Board Reports

Motion #56  
Adjournment

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