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

February 2, 2017

A Special Meeting of the Governing Board of the Scottsdale Unified School District, #48, Maricopa County, was called to order at 4:05 PM, at the Scottsdale Unified School District Coronado High School, 7501 E. Virginia Avenue, Scottsdale, Arizona. Mrs. Perleberg welcomed approximately 50 visitors.

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. Mrs. Perleberg led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Birdwell presented Information/Discussion Item III. A. Discussion on Opportunities for the Granite Reef Corridor. A PowerPoint was shown that reviewed a survey of approximately 178 parents who chose to leave SUSD. The comments from the parents indicated that there is a great deal of mobility in the Scottsdale Unified School District and that the District is in a culture and climate of choice.

Daniel O’Brien, CFO, continued the presentation with a review of the five elementary schools that are the subject of this meeting: Pueblo, Navajo, Pima, Hohokam, and Yavapai Elementary Schools. Mr. O’Brien reviewed the original construction timelines, the acreage for each site, the square footage of the school buildings, and the 2017 student enrollment for each school.

Dr. Anna McCauley, Assistant Superintendent for Accountability and Instruction, along with Casey Miller, the District’s data analyst, presented detailed enrollment data for the five schools. Discussion followed regarding capture rates for students within the District and the impact on education when students enroll out of their school boundaries.

Dr. Steve Nance, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, discussed Hohokam Elementary School as a traditional school. Traditional school instruction focuses on basic skills. Several years ago, the Hohokam community expressed a desire to be a traditional school. However, the principal of the school at the time was not at Hohokam long enough to properly implement the traditional program. The name “Traditional” is still attached to Hohokam, but in actuality, the school does not follow the traditional strand of instruction. The traditional label is not necessary to the success of the school, as Hohokam attracts students and has been very successful in student achievement. Chuck Rantala, principal of Hohokam, was asked if his community has a desire to be a traditional school. Mr. Rantala stated that he is not sure if that is the direction his community would like to go. The vision for the school is to continue doing what they are doing, as they are doing well; but they are always looking to improve.

The Board also discussed Pueblo Elementary School’s Foreign Language Immersion (FLI) program and the continuation of the program beyond K-5 grade levels. Also discussed was the need for the Board’s decision on what school would be second to be rebuilt with funds from the 2016 Bond Election and whether one of the Granite Reef Corridor schools should become a K-8 school.

Future Items
The Board would like discussions on:

- Next steps for the FLI program
- Possible K-8 at Hohokam Elementary School
- Capture rates
- Continued conversation on academic rigor
- STEM Program at all schools
- RFP process

At 6:26 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 2nd day of February 2017.

The Governing Board of the Scottsdale Unified School District #48

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Barbara Perleberg, President                  Pam Kirby, Vice President

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Allyson Beckham                               Kim Hartmann

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Sandy Kravetz