

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

October 18, 2016

A Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of the Scottsdale Unified School District, #48, Maricopa County, was called to order at 5:10 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 Denise Birdwell was also present. A quorum was present. President Sneed called upon Mr. Jackson to lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. Sneed welcomed approximately 125 visitors.

Mrs. Sneed noted that an Amendment to the Agenda had been posted 24 hours prior to the meeting. Consent Item VII. P. Tax Credit Statement for June Fiscal Year 2016, was amended and Consent Item VII. T. Classification Framework Revisions, was tabled.

Mrs. Kirby moved to approve the Agenda as amended. Mrs. Perleberg seconded the motion.

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

Students and Staff Recognition and Celebrations

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

- Ingleside Middle School Language Arts teacher Shalese Doan, who was recently named 2016 Middle School Teacher of Excellence by the Arizona English Teachers Association.
- Instructional Technology Coach Vicki Anderson who is SUSD's first-ever *Google for Education Certified Trainer*. She is one of only seven such trainers in the Phoenix metro area.

Dr. Milissa Sackos, Executive Director for Support Services, recognized the SUSD Foundation Gala Honorees:

For their accomplishments in the area of Civic Leadership:

- Desert Canyon Middle School drama teacher Julie Cieniawski
- Arcadia High School senior Keaton McDonald
- Mohave Middle School Principal Chris Asmussen

For their accomplishments in Performing Arts:

- Chaparral High School senior Ellie Hoffman
- Arcadia High School Creative Musical Arts and Sciences (CMAS) teacher, and three-time Grammy nominee, Richard Maxwell
- Tonalea K-8 School co-Principal Shelley Hummon

Dr. Sackos introduced Dr. Mark Slater, SUSD Foundation Board Member and vice president of Honor Health, to recognize the SUSD teachers who took part in an innovative new program designed to support excellence in bioscience education in our classrooms. The teachers recognized were:

- Marcy Cameron
- Steve Geislinger
- Eric Bodznick
- Amy Johnson
- Derek Nietz
- Susan Lindberg
- Heather Moll
- Sean Collier
- Matt Bohnert

Dr. Karen Benson, Executive Director for Teaching and Learning, recognized Janet Blum, SUSD Fine Arts Academic Coach, who was named 2016 Outstanding Administrator by the Arizona Art Education Association.

Amendments to Agenda

Motion #15

Approval of Agenda as Amended

Students and Staff
Recognition and
Celebrations

Dr. David McNeil, Assistant Superintendent for Educational Leadership, recognized five SUSD students, who were named grand prize winners in the Scottsdale Mayor's Constitution Day Contest:

- Melanie McIntire, Anasazi Elementary School, 1st – 5th grade essay winner
- Jordan Schein, Desert Canyon Middle School, 6th – 8th grade essay winner
- Jeannie Ko, Chaparral High School, 9th – 12th grade art winner
- Lexi Holtz, Chaparral High School, 9th – 12th grade essay winner
- Zachary Astrowsky, Cocopah Middle School, 6th – 8th grade art winner

Public Comment

Cathy Skinner shared the excellent results of a test she gave to her SUSD students on *The Growth Mindset*. She was very proud of her students, ages 9, 10 and 11.

Julie Cieniawski, president of the Scottsdale Education Association (SEA), asked the Board to make it a priority to support SUSD teachers.

Rony Assali spoke in regard to the process in the selection of a permanent superintendent and asked the Board to continue to move forward with the selection process.

Christine Marsh spoke in regard to the process in the selection of a permanent superintendent and asked the Board to continue to move forward with the selection process.

Superintendent's Comments

Dr. Birdwell commented that:

- October 1st was Love Our Schools Day. Valley faith organizations helped at least 14 SUSD schools with projects such as cleaning and organizing classrooms, sweeping sidewalks and planting flowers.
- The 2nd annual SUSD Showcase is October 22nd at Cocopah Middle School. All are invited.
- Critical Languages College and Career Night takes place on November 1st at Saguaro High School. This is an opportunity for parents and students to find out what post-secondary educational and career opportunities are available today.
- Twenty-two SUSD high school seniors have been named National Merit Scholarship Program Semifinalists. Another 63 seniors received Letters of commendation.
- The District hosted 2016 Bond and Override Election Community Information Meetings in each Learning Community. Dr. Birdwell thanked all the community members who attended.
- Sanghi Foundation Arizona State FIRST Robotics Championship was hosted by Arcadia High School. Saguaro High School, who teamed with Coconino High School in Flagstaff and Westwood High School in Mesa, took second place.

Consent Agenda

- A. Acceptance of Gifts - \$130,014.82
- B. Accounts Payable Vouchers September 7, 2016 through October 5, 2016
- C. Payroll Vouchers Processed from August 25, 2016 through October 6, 2016
- D. Personnel Actions – 08/27/2016 through 09/30/2016
- E. Approval of Minutes of September 13, 2016 Regular Board Meeting
- F. Action of Hearing Officer's Recommendation
- G. Overnight, Out-of-State, Foreign Trips
- H. Auxiliary Operations Statement for June fiscal Year 2016
- I. Auxiliary Operations Statement for July Fiscal Year 2017
- J. Auxiliary Operations Statement for August Fiscal Year 2017
- K. Auxiliary Operations Statement for September Fiscal Year 2017
- L. Student Activities Statement for June Fiscal Year 2016
- M. Student Activities Statement for July Fiscal Year 2017
- N. Student Activities Statement for August Fiscal Year 2017
- O. Student Activities Statement for September Fiscal Year 2017
- P. Tax Credit Statement for June Fiscal Year 2016 - **AMENDED**
- Q. Tax Credit Statement for July Fiscal Year 2017
- R. Tax Credit Statement for August Fiscal Year 2017
- S. Tax Credit Statement for September Fiscal Year 2017
- T. Classification Framework Revisions - **TABLED**
- U. Approval for 2016 Chinese Bridge Delegation Trip
- V. Approval of Lease at Copper ridge School for DC Ranch Community Garden

Public Comment

Superintendent's Comments

Consent Agenda as Amended

Consent Agenda - continued

- W. Approval of Ratification of Renewal of IGA between SUSD and Maricopa County Head Start Preschool Program
- X. Approval of Renewal of IGA between SUSD and Joint Technical Education District (“Pima County JTED”)
- Y. Approve the Award of Request for Proposal (RFP) #17061, Special Education Teacher Services Recruit & Placement

Mrs. Hartmann moved to approve the Agenda as amended. Mr. Jackson seconded the motion.

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

Information/Discussion Items

Dr. Pam Sitton, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel and Specialized Services, presented Information/Discussion Item VIII. A. Principal and Teacher Classification. A PowerPoint was shown reviewing the results. State Statute requires the Governing Board to discuss these classifications annually. A PowerPoint was shown reviewing the breakdown of the classifications for teachers and principals for the 2015-2016 school year. Discussion followed regarding the percentage of teachers and principals who were classified as highly effective and whether it reflects if there is continued improvement in performance. Dr. Sitton noted that Arizona lawmakers developed this system to help in the distribution of Proposition 301 dollars. Dr. Birdwell noted that it was never the intent to classify every teacher as highly effective and that an environment should be created that encourages growth.

Dr. Sitton presented Information/Discussion Item VIII. B. Proposed School Year District Calendars for 2018-2019, 2019-2020, and 2020-2021. A PowerPoint was shared reviewing the work of the Calendar Committee. Ten years ago, the Governing Board approved a ten-year template for the school year calendar, which ends this year. Last year the Board approved a template for the 2017-2018 school year. In preparation for a new template, a survey was conducted with participation from students, parents and teachers. The current template was preferred by all groups and was continued for an additional three years. Discussion was also had regarding half-days for professional development and instruction on those days. Board Members would like to have a future agenda item on what instruction actually looks like on those days. The topic will be discussed at a future Board Meeting.

Dr. David McNeil and Kristin Kinghorn, principal of Desert Canyon Elementary School, presented Information/Discussion VIII. C. Update on Mandarin Program at Desert Canyon Elementary School (DCES). A PowerPoint was shared reviewing the program. The dual language immersion program will be rolled out to kindergarten next school year. The program is optional. Parents are excited and are already enrolling their students. The enrollment numbers will continually monitored and Administration would look to expand the program rather than turn anyone away. Ms. Kinghorn reported to the Board that they are working with Arizona State University and plan on having teachers ready step in if additional Mandarin positions become available.

Dr. Mai-Lon Wong, Director of Gifted Learning Services, presented Information/Discussion Item VIII. D. Update on Gifted Learning Services. A PowerPoint was shared reviewing the focus and practices of Gifted Learning. Areas Dr. Wong will be focusing on are Recruitment and Customer Service, Retaining Excellence, and Raising the Bar and Opportunities for Growth. It is being recommended that the Gifted Services program be offered starting with pre-kindergarten children through 12th grade. Dr. Wong also reviewed the next steps for the department, which include an accelerated Math program and revamping Honors’ Middle School Courses. Mrs. Sneed noted to the public that this presentation was a short version of the one presented to the Board at its Study Session on October 6, 2016, at which time the Board had a full discussion on Gifted Learning Services.

Dr. Mitch von Gnechten presented Information/Discussion Item VIII. E. Update on High School Dual Enrollment/Advanced Placement/Honors/International Baccalaureate Programs. A PowerPoint was shared reviewing the purpose and criteria of these programs. Discussion ensued regarding developing a strategy increasing the offerings for the programs. The Board also discussed improving communication with parents and how to motivate and inform parents and students of the benefits and advantages of the programs.

Dr. Anna McCauley, Assistant Superintendent for Accountability and Instruction, and Dr. Kyle Ross, Director of Assessment, presented Information/Discussion Item VIII. F. College Readiness

Consent Agenda – Continued

Motion #16

Approval of Consent Agenda as Amended

Information/Discussion

•Principal and Teacher Classification

•Proposed School Year Calendars – 2018-2021

•Update on Mandarin Program at DCES

•Update on Gifted Learning Services

•Update on HS Dual Enrollment/AP/Honors /IB Programs

•College Readiness Indicator System

Indicator System. A PowerPoint was shared reviewing the framework for a College Readiness Indicator System (CRIS). Having this system helps the District increase the number of students who will be college ready upon graduation by early identification of students, matching identified students with the supports needed, and addressing skills and capacities of staff. The Board discussed the recommendation of providing a nationally-normed assessment in the fall of the 8th grade year, such as the PSAT, instead of waiting until the 10th grade. The goal would be to motivate all students in all the SUSD high schools to develop high school course plans that would lead to postsecondary enrollment.

Future Items

Mrs. Hartmann would like to discuss the superintendent search and selection process on the November Board Agenda.

Mrs. Hartmann would also like to discuss teacher classification, particularly the culture surrounding the classification, so that there would be a more reflective teacher/principal evaluation process.

Mrs. Sneed noted that the Board would like to discuss the structure of instruction on half-day professional development days.

Mrs. Sneed also noted that the Board would like further discussion on Advanced Placement and Dual Enrollment offerings during Budget discussions, later in the school year.

Dates of Upcoming Board Meetings

- Thursday, November 17, 2016 – 3:00 PM – Study Session
- Tuesday, November 22, 2016 – 5:00 PM – Regular Board Meeting
- Thursday, December 8, 2016 – 3:00 PM – Study Session
- Tuesday, December 13, 2016 – 5:00 PM – Regular Board Meeting

At 8:11 PM, Mrs. Sneed moved to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Kirby seconded the motion.

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

Dated this 18th day of October 2016

The Governing Board of the Scottsdale Unified School District #48

Bonnie Sneed, President

Barbara Perleberg, Vice President

Kim Hartmann

George Jackson

Pam Kirby

Future Items

Dates of Upcoming Board Meetings

Motion #17
Adjournment