

**Advisory Committee of MUHSD & COCSD
1801 East Fir, Cottonwood, AZ 86326**

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING**

Mingus Union High School Library
Tuesday, March 20, 2018 4:00 PM

Members of the Committee

Dan Mabery – Committee Chairman
Claudia Aebby JoAnn Cook
DeAnna DeWitt Jason Finger
Anita Glazar David Gray
James Ledbetter Stephen Renard
Kelli Rhoda Micah Swenson
Philip Terbell Mike Westcott
Sonny Zale

I. OPENING

Mr. Mabery opened the meeting at 4:00 PM.

II. Public Comments

(members of the Advisory Committee shall not discuss matters raised during an open call to the public unless the matters are properly noticed for discussion and legal action)

III. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

III. 1. Approval of Meeting Minutes Not Previously Approved

Mrs. Glazar made a motion to approve the meeting minutes not previously approved. Mrs. Cook seconded the motion. The motion passed (10-0).

2/20/2018 - Advisory Committee Meeting

3/6/2018 - Advisory Committee Meeting

III. 2. Committee Progress Evaluation

The Members each evaluated the progress of the Committee to date. There was considerable discussion and the committee was somewhat split whether or not the Committee was accomplishing it's originally stated goals.

Mr. Mabery stated that he thought this committee would go very differently and that we would create a list of pros and cons and we would agree on that information. He felt that we should have an endgame and is should be soon. He stated that the Committee should not have many more meetings. Mrs. Glazar suggested that we need to figure out how to solve the questions to the issues. That is the hard stuff. If we move forward where are we going to find the answers.

III. 3. Classified Wage Equalization

The Committee discussed the difference between COCSD and MUHSD's classified wage schedules and possible costs involved to arrive at equalization.

Mrs. Glazar wanted the business managers to look at the cost of classified wages equalized. There may be as any as two hundred classified employees between the two districts and a business model needs to be created. They should have the information within the next two meetings. They would have to be requested by their respective boards. Mingus has already

asked their business manager to do this. A staffing comparison and the cost. It would be a direct comparison and not searching for a cost savings. We need to find the cost number involved to equalize the classified wages albeit a brief report that does not look for savings.

III. 4. Classroom Site Fund Equalization

The Committee discussed the equalization of the Classroom Site Fund for a unified district. We have already see information with salary equalization with and without 301 monies. Mr. Westcott just wants to have the committee agree that due to the structure of 301 funding MUHSD staff would see a decrease. It would have to addressed by the new board. Mr. Finger did not disagree with what Mr. Westcott stated although the “pie” is weighted and divided differently for high school districts and elementary districts.

III. 5. Curriculum Alignment

The Committee discussed curriculum alignment between the two districts. Mrs. Glazar felt that the discussion should be there and that the districts should work together regardless of consolidation. Dr. Hargrove spoke to some to the issues, challenges and successes for curricular alignment. Time is always the challenge. We have been working on collaborating with the Superintendents in the Verde Valley. The two district need to continue working together. There already seems to a great deal of intentional work.

III. 6. Plant Operations

The Committee discussed a memo generated by the Finance Director of Mingus Union High School Related to plant operations potential savings.

Mrs. Leonard created a detailed memo on the plant operations savings. She shared how she created this memo and where the numbers came from including the report that comes out of the Auditor General’s Office. She pointed out that many of the costs are fixed costs that are required to be paid and it is nearly mathematically impossible to have a savings. Mr. Mabery stated that he was never comfortable in just comparing the plant operations by averaging the square footage. According to the information from the AG’s Office both MUHS and COCSD are well below their peers in what is being spent. Mr. Finger said it was stated what the business managers where tasked with creating a unified organizational structure and add some numbers with it. There were not tasked with finding savings. Mr. Gray stated that if we cannot get the information form the Business Managers who work there, then who do we get the data from. They were tasked to create a model forward and on how they saw the two districts coming together. There was a robust discussion as to what the business managers were tasked with.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Mabery adjourned the meeting at 5:24 PM.

Dan Mabery
Committee Chair