



## Governing Board Agenda Item

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Meeting Date: September 3, 2026

From: Denise Linsalata, Assistant Superintendent

Subject: Partnership Agreement with Arizona Humanities and AZ Reads  
On The Same Page: Kindergarten Reading Adventure Grant

Priority: To provide rigorous, relevant, and innovative academics

Consent ☒ Action ☐ Discussion ☐

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### Background:

The purpose of this agenda item is to approve the Partnership Agreement with Arizona Humanities to share Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act compliant achievement data that directly relates to this grant and accept the \$2,000 funding award.

The State & Federal Programs Department has been awarded a Arizona Humanities/AZ Reads grant to support kindergarten students and families to encourage a positive start to their academic success. This \$2,000 grant will provide high-quality, take-home book packs for kindergarten students as part of a broader effort to promote foundational literacy skills.

AZ Reads supports innovative and engaging literacy initiatives in K-12 schools across Arizona, with a focus on integrating the humanities to enhance learning experiences. *On the Same Page* Program supported by this grant, as well as other funding sources, is designed to strengthen family-school literacy partnerships by providing curriculum-aligned books and training for families to support reading at home.

The Partnership Agreement with Arizona Humanities has been approved by District legal counsel.

### Recommended Motion:

I move that the Governing Board approve the Partnership Agreement with Arizona Humanities and AZ Reads *On The Same Page*: Kindergarten Reading Adventure Grant.

Approved for transmittal to the Governing Board:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Streeter', written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Daniel Streeter, Superintendent

*Questions should be directed to: Denise Linsalata, Assistant Superintendent*  
*Phone: (520) 616-6351*



## **AZ Reads Program Partnership Agreement**

Arizona Humanities (AH) and Marana Unified School District #6 (Program Partner) hereby agree to the following terms:

**Program Title:** On the Same Page: Kindergarten Reading Adventure

**Program Description:**

On The Same Page strengthens literacy by strengthening relationships between children, families, schools, communities and the humanities. Through the program, families receive high-quality books along with practical, time-efficient strategies that help turn reading into a shared experience. Parents learn simple ways to engage children in conversation about stories by asking questions such as: What do you think this character is feeling? Why do you think they made that choice? Does this story remind you of something in your life? These discussions help children develop vocabulary, comprehension, empathy, and critical thinking. Equally important, families begin to see themselves as essential partners in their child's learning who can help children connect stories to their own lives and experiences. The program intentionally centers the humanities by selecting texts that reflect diverse cultures and perspectives, along with a mix of fiction and nonfiction titles aligned with MUSD's literacy curriculum. These stories invite families to explore ideas about identity, community, and human experience together. In this way, reading becomes more than decoding words on a page; it becomes an opportunity for reflection, dialogue, and connection.

By providing books and family literacy guidance at no cost, the program ensures that every child, regardless of background, has access to meaningful reading experiences at home. Ultimately, On The Same Page creates opportunities for families to read, talk, and learn together, helping young children build both strong literacy skills and a deeper understanding of the world around them.

When families read together, children gain more than literacy skills. They gain a sense that stories matter and that their voices matter too. Programs like On The Same Page help create those moments: a parent and child talking about a character's choices, laughing over a favorite page, or connecting a story to their own lives. These everyday conversations build the foundation for confident readers, thoughtful learners, and students who are prepared for academic success. With support from Arizona Humanities, these shared reading experiences can open doors to empathy, understanding, and opportunity for hundreds of young learners across our community.

See attached book list.

**Program Facilitator:** Mackenzie Massman

**Program Schedule:** Summer 2026 – May 2027

**Program Location:** Marana Unified School District

**Funding Budget:**



Program Partner is a K-12 school, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that works with a K-12 school, or a governmental or tribal entity that works with families. AH will directly cover the items outlined in the budget. Program Partner will use the items in accordance with the budget.

| Item     | Description | Cost    |
|----------|-------------|---------|
| Supplies | Books       | \$2,000 |

**Total Estimated Cost: \$2,000**

**Federal Funding Contingency:**

This partnership program is supported through a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. All programmatic expenses outlined in your budget will be purchased by AH pending the availability of federal funds.

**Post Program Report:**

Program Partner must provide the following information to AH by phone or email within 30 days of the completion of the program:

- Assessment information (e.g., data, surveys, testimonials from students, reflections from teachers, photos, etc.)
- Number of participants
- Cost share (e.g., estimated volunteer/work hours, donated supplies, cash match, etc.)
- Feedback on the outcome of the program

**Prohibition of Political Action, Lobbying or Advocacy**

AH, as nonprofit organization, cannot fund partisan political activities or programs. As such, all programs must be nonpartisan. We ask that you make every effort to avoid even the appearance of partisanship in your programming and promotion. If you have questions or need clarification, please contact Arizona Humanities in advance. AH guidelines prohibit the following:

- Promotion of a particular political, religious, or ideological point of view;
- Advocacy of a particular program of social or political action; or
- Endorsement of specific public policy, legislation, or candidates.

**General Terms and Conditions**

The program is designed to promote literacy and the humanities. Programs may combine a variety of formats/disciplines and may include but are not limited to the following: reading and discussion programs, storytelling and creative writing, peer-to-peer learning and discussion, or cultural learning/sharing.

**Non-Discrimination**

Program Partner agrees that in performing this agreement that they shall not discriminate against any worker, employee, applicant, or member of the public and will comply with Federal and State non-discrimination laws including but not limited to:

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, which prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in all areas of public life, including jobs, schools, transportation, and all public and private places that are open to the general public.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.), which provides that no person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which the applicant received federal financial assistance;

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. 794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicap in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance;

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance; and

Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance, except those actions which reasonably take age into account as a factor necessary for the normal operation or achievement of any statutory objective of the project or activity shall not violate this statute.

#### **Mandatory disclosures**

Per 2 CFR § 200.113, applicants, recipients, and subrecipients are now required to promptly disclose when they have “credible evidence” of violations of federal criminal law related to fraud, conflict of interest, bribery, or gratuity or of the civil False Claims Act. Such disclosures must be made in writing to NEH, NEH’s OIG, and the pass-through entity if applicable.

#### **Applicable Law**

This agreement shall be construed and enforced according to the laws of the State of Arizona.

#### **Copyright**

Program Partner may copyright any work that is subject to copyright and developed, or for which ownership is purchased, under an award. The U.S. Government and AH reserve non-exclusive license to use and reproduce for non-commercial purposes, without payment, any publishable matter, including copyrighted matter, arising out of a program partnership and authorize others to do so.

#### **Insurance**

AH undertakes no responsibility whatsoever for members of Program Partner’s staff, consultants, instructors, agents, audience members, premises occupied, or any other person or property involved in the program.

#### **Modification**

This agreement shall not be amended except by mutual written consent of all the parties to the agreement.



### **Termination**

This agreement may be terminated by the mutual written consent of the parties or by either party upon thirty (30) days written notice. In the event of termination, Program Partner shall return any funds already disbursed by AH.

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*Authorizing Official Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Brenda Thomson*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

*Executive Director, Arizona Humanities*

### **Primary Contacts:**

Mackenzie Massman

[m.a.massman@maranausd.org](mailto:m.a.massman@maranausd.org)

520-682-1006

**Book List:**

I've Got Feet!: Fantastical Feet of the Animal World - August 15, 2017 by Julie Murphy (Author), Hannah Tolson (Illustrator)

How Slow Is a Sloth?: Measure the Rainforest (Nature Numbers) – March 1, 2022 by Jill Esbaum (Author)

10 Things I Can Do to Help My World – March 13, 2012 by Melanie Walsh (Author, Illustrator)

They're Heroes Too: A Celebration of Community – July 5, 2022 by Pat Brisson (Author), Anait Semirdzhyan (Illustrator)

I Promise – August 11, 2020 by LeBron James (Author), Niña Mata (Illustrator)