

**Minutes of the Regular Governing Board Meeting
Amphitheater Public Schools
Tuesday, October 6, 2026**

A Regular public meeting of the Governing Board of Amphitheater Public Schools was held on Tuesday, October 6, 2026, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the Wetmore Center, 701 W. Wetmore Road, Tucson, AZ 85705 in the Leadership and Professional Development Center.

Governing Board Members Present

Ms. Vicki Cox Golder, President
Ms. Deanna M. Day, M.Ed., Member
Dr. Michael Gemma, Member
Ms. Susan Zibrat, Member

Governing Board Members Absent

Mr. Matthew A. Kopec, Vice President

Superintendent's Cabinet Members

Mr. Todd A. Jaeger, J.D., Superintendent
Ms. Tassi Call, Associate Superintendent for Elementary Education
Mr. Matthew Munger, Associate Superintendent for Secondary Education
Mr. Scott Little, Chief Financial Officer
Mr. John Hastings, Director of Human Resources
Ms. Elizabeth Jacome, Director of Curriculum & Assessment
Ms. Kristin McGraw, Executive Director of Student Services
Mr. Richard La Nasa, Executive Manager of Operational Support
Ms. Michelle Valenzuela, Director of Communications

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Cox Golder called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Motion to Recess Open Meeting and Hold Executive Session for

A. Consideration and Determination of Appeal of Long-Term Suspension Hearing Officer's Recommendations, Pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-843(A) Regarding Student #30064625

Ms. Day moved that the Board go into an Executive Session to address the matters identified in item 2 of the Board's agenda and pursuant to the legal authorities listed on the agenda under item 2. Ms. Zibrat seconded the motion. Voice vote in favor- 4. President Cox Golder, Ms. Day, Dr. Gemma, and Ms. Zibrat. Opposed – 0

President Cox Golder declared they were in Executive Session at 5:30pm.

3. RECONVENE PUBLIC MEETING

The meeting reconvened at 6:01pm.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Superintendent Jaeger asked Amphi Middle School Principal, Ms. Angela Wichers to introduce her students. Ms. Wichers introduced Fabian, Samuel, Elsa, and Ismael who are members of Mr. Burch's technology class. She explained that some of the students' 3D printer artwork is displayed in the LPDC display case and that the students use innovative technology to bring their creative ideas to life. Superintendent Jaeger extended his gratitude for the Abraham Lincoln busts which the technology class recently made for him and which were displayed on the dais.

The students led the Pledge of Allegiance. Dr. Gemma presented the students with certificates of recognition. A picture was taken with the Governing Board, Superintendent Jaeger, Ms. Wichers, and the AMS students to mark the occasion.

5. RECOGNITION OF STUDENT ART

Ms. Wichers introduced Ms. Amy Rudd, the Art Teacher from Amphi Middle School. Ms. Rudd explained her class studied Pop Art and Andy Warhol who thought that anything could be art. The students were allowed to bring in any item they wanted to create pop art, but most chose candy as inspiration for their pieces. Ms. Rudd explained that Mr. Burch's beginning technology classes studied famous American pop artists and recreated their iconic works which are displayed in the case in the LPDC hallway. She explained the class used their Glowforge laser cutter, 3D printers, and Cricut machines to fabricate their designs.

Dr. Gemma presented Ms. Rudd with a certificate of recognition. A picture was taken with the Governing Board, Superintendent Jaeger, Ms. Wichers, and Ms. Rudd.

6. ANNOUNCEMENT OF DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT REGULAR GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

President Cox Golder announced that the next Special Governing Board meeting will take place Tuesday, October 20, 2026, at 5:30p.m., at the Wetmore Center, 701 W. Wetmore Road, Tucson AZ 85705 in the Leadership & Professional Development Center.

7. RECOGNITIONS

A. Presentation of Distinguished Service Awards

Superintendent Jaeger explained that each month during the school year, the Governing Board recognizes employees who have distinguished themselves through a level of service unparalleled in many respects. He asked Mr. Michael Warrick to come forward to introduce the professional recipient.

Mr. Warrick explained that he nominated his colleague, Ms. Nicole Stern because she goes above and beyond in her work and as a teammate. He shared that he was pleased to be able to recognize and celebrate her this evening.

A video presentation highlighted Ms. Stern's contributions to the District.

Ms. Zibrat asked Ms. Stern if she would like to share anything. Ms. Stern thanked her family, coworkers and shared that Administration is easy to work with. She thanked the Governing Board and Superintendent for the recognition and shared gratitude for Amphitheater that has allowed her the opportunity to be both a mother and a professional.

Ms. Zibrat presented Ms. Stern with a certificate of recognition from the Governing Board, a Distinguished Service Award and a gift card donated by the Amphi Foundation.

Superintendent Jaeger asked Mr. David Humphreys, Principal of La Cima Middle School, to introduce the classified recipient. Mr. Humphreys introduced Ms. Yvonne Sanchez, Custodian from La Cima. He shared that Ms. Sanchez has had various roles in the District for twenty-seven years and praised her dedication, hard work, and heart. Mr. Humphreys stated that Ms. Sanchez helps keep the campus safe, clean, and beautiful for all who walk through the doors.

A video presentation highlighted Ms. Sanchez's contributions to the District.

Ms. Zibrat asked Ms. Sanchez if she would like to share anything. Ms. Sanchez thanked her children and Mr. Humphreys and shared that she loves working at La Cima.

Ms. Zibrat presented Ms. Sanchez with a certificate of recognition from the Governing Board, a Distinguished Service Award and a gift card donated by the Amphi Foundation.

A photo was taken with the Governing Board, Superintendent Jaeger, Mr. Warrick, Ms. Stern, Mr. Humphreys, and Ms. Sanchez to mark the occasion.

8. INFORMATION

A. Superintendent's Report

For the Superintendent's Report PowerPoint see Exhibit 1.

Superintendent Jaeger began his report highlighted demonstrations of Portrait of a Graduate attributes happening throughout the District:

- Citizenship was on display at Prince Elementary as the Tucson Fire and Police Departments visited preschoolers and their families
- Painted Sky fifth graders demonstrated scholarship during a special presentation from the Daughters of the American Revolution about the U.S. Constitution
- Innovation Academy hosted their annual STEM Night with hands-on activities that encourage critical thinking
- Students across the District celebrated AVID Impact Day by sharing how AVID has helped them grow and achieve
- Thank you to the over 100 volunteers from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints by completing a Day of Service beautifying seven of our campuses
- Open Enrollment for the 2027-2028 school year has begun

Superintendent Jaeger explained that the remainder of his report involved Proposition 320, a November ballot measure and his comments would be informational only. He noted that state law prohibits him from advising people to vote either way on the proposition, but he wished to highlight some of the factual information and the effects it would have on the District. He also reminded the Board Members of Open Meeting Law restriction of their commenting on his report.

Superintendent Jaeger began with an overview of Prop 320 which requires public school districts with more than 7,500 students or those located in Maricopa, Pima, or Pinal Counties to spend at least 60% of their operational budgets on direct instructional expenses as defined by the Auditor General. He went on to talk about the districts affected, implementation, and enforcement if the proposition passes.

Superintendent Jaeger gave examples of what costs are currently considered a "direct instructional expenses". He went on to give examples of non-instructional expenses which include librarians, counselors, bus drivers, administration, plant operations, and district level employees such as human resources and finance.

Superintendent Jaeger shared spending figures from 2024-2025 with 66.5% of the operational budget devoted to classroom spending and about 50% of that in direct instruction. He noted that while many essential student and school services count as "classroom spending" they do not meet the definition of "instructional". Superintendent Jaeger concluded by stating that the District would have to cut approximately \$14,950,000 in spending elsewhere to move to instruction if Proposition 320 passes.

B. Annual Review of Bond and Capital Projects Pursuant to A.R.S. 15-491(K)

For the Annual Review of Bond and Capital Projects PowerPoint see Exhibit 2.

Superintendent Jaeger explained that school districts across the state of Arizona vie for the \$200 million bond funding that the state awards for school facility maintenance and improvement projects. He noted that Mr. La Nasa and his team are aggressive in pursuing that funding and the burden those funds lessen for our taxpayers. He asked Mr. La Nasa to deliver his report.

Mr. La Nasa said the review encompasses projects being funded with monies from the following sources: Adjacent Ways, Building Renewal Grants, and District bond projects.

Adjacent Ways Project Expenditures total of \$ 616,114

Holaway Elementary- bus and fire lane restoration

Prince Elementary- fire lane paving

Rio Vista Elementary-bus and fire lane paving

Wilson K-8- bus and fire lane paving

Ironwood Ridge High School- fire lane restoration

Amphitheater High School-fire lane paving and sidewalk replacement

Canyon del Oro High School- fire lane construction

Building Renewal Grant Expenditures total of \$7,635,614

Amphitheater High School (AHS) projects included Small Gym HVAC conversion, Main Gym elevator restoration, roof repairs, electrical transformer replacement, and Auto Shop classroom HVAC conversion.

Amphitheater Middle School (AMS) project included fire alarm replacement.

Canyon del Oro High School (CDO) projects included fire alarm replacement, Drafting classroom HVAC replacement, Auto Shop classroom HVAC conversion, and domestic water line replacement.

Innovation Academy project included chiller replacement.

Ironwood Ridge High School (IRHS) project included cooling tower replacement.

La Cima Middle School projects included MPR roof replacement and building weatherization.

Nash Elementary School project included roof repairs.

Painted Sky Elementary School projects included roof repairs and boiler replacements.

Rio Vista Elementary School projects included chiller replacement and flashing repairs.

Wilson K-8 School project included MPR roof replacement.

Mr. La Nasa shared a slide that showed the Building Renewal Grant (BRG) Expenditures that have been spent over the last seven years. He noted that last year's funding amount was the highest amount received (over \$7.6 million) and the combined seven-year total is approximately \$41.1 million. Superintendent Jaeger noted how significant it is that there is \$200 million available for the entire state and Amphitheater obtained 3.6% of those funds last year.

Facilities Renewal Bond Project Expenditures totaling \$1,903,058

Amphitheater High School (AHS) bond projects included Fine Arts classrooms renovations, PAC lighting design, parking lot reconstruction, outdoor basketball court restoration, Main Gym floor restoration, exterior door replacement, RTU structural evaluation, Main Gym elevator restoration, Main Gym floor water damage repairs, and CP 2 hot water expansion tank replacement.

Amphitheater Middle School (AMS) Bond project included security fencing.

Canyon del Oro High School (CDO) Bond projects included Fine Arts theater lighting design, South Gym floor restoration, Auto Shop renovations, RTU structural evaluation, T & M Building central plant replacement design, K building boiler replacement design, G building electric service panel replacements, central plant sump pump replacements, RTU structural evaluation, and Auto Shop classroom HVAC conversion.

Copper Creek Elementary School Bond project included sump pump replacement.

Coronado K-8 School Bond projects included Gym electrical and lighting upgrades.

Cross Middle School Bond projects included library renovations, classroom sink replacements, classroom LED lighting, MPR collapsible wall repairs, and sidewalk replacement.

Donaldson Elementary School Bond project included well restoration.

Harelson Elementary School Bond projects included parking lot pole replacements.

Holaway Elementary School Bond projects included parking lot restorations.

Innovation Academy Bond project included chiller replacement.

Ironwood Ridge High School (IRHS) Bond projects included baseball field batters eye replacement, Fine Art theater lighting design, parking lot restoration, Gym bleacher equipment replacement, Gym

basketball hoop restoration, Gym lighting upgrades, Fine Arts theater lighting replacement, and CP pump VFD control upgrades.

La Cima Middle School Bond projects included roof replacement and roof repairs.

Keeling Elementary Bond projects included fire sprinkler addition.

Painted Sky Elementary School Bond projects included carpet replacement.

Prince Elementary School Bond projects included parking lot restoration.

Rio Vista Elementary School Bond projects included chiller replacement structural analysis.

Walker Elementary School Bond projects included Administration building HVAC replacement and Access controls.

Wilson K-8 School Bond projects include sump pump replacements.

Graphics and Printing Bond projects include HVAC controls.

Bond Expenditures – Transportation total of \$393,096

Transportation Department Bond purchases included 3- 925 buses.

Bond Expenditures – Technology \$27,583

Technology Department Bond purchases included computers, technology equipment, cabling, and infrastructure.

Mr. La Nasa shared a graph of 2025-2026 school year bond expenditures which totaled \$2,323,737 and a summary of 2025-2026 expenditures which totaled \$10,154,786 (Adjacent Ways, Building Renewal Grants, and Bond projects).

Mr. La Nasa offered to answer any questions from the Governing Board. Ms. Cox Golder asked about remaining funds. Mr. Little explained that the prior bond has been completely spent and the latest bonds were issued in June of this year totaling \$18.9 million. Ms. Cox Golder asked about the time limit to spend that money. Mr. Little stated it was seven years to settle and 10 years to spend.

C. Introduction of the Meet and Confer Teams for Certificated, Support and Professional/Non-Teaching Employee Groups

Superintendent Jaeger explained that this year's Meet and Confer process is just beginning and he asked Ms. Call to recognize this year's team members.

Ms. Call explained that the next Amphi Education Association (AEA) President is Zane Miller and because it is conference week, he was unable to attend the meeting this evening, and Rebecca Green is staying on as the AEA Vice President. Last year's entire professional team agreed to return, but she and Ms. Green had to collaborate to find some non-AEA support staff team members to participate in this year's process. Ms. Call shared the teams as follows:

The AEA and Employee Meet and Confer Teams

AEA and Employee Professional Staff Team

Colin Cordell, Fifth Grade Teacher, Innovation Academy

Rebecca Green, Literacy Intervention and AVID Teacher, Coronado K-8, AEA Certified Vice-President

Brie Ronnie, Fifth Grade Teacher, Painted Sky Elementary

AEA and Employee Support Staff Team

Alicia Born, Special Education Instructional Assistant, Rio Vista Elementary

Melissa Miller, Administrative Assistant, Prince Elementary

Robert Wacker, Journeyman Electrician

AEA and Employee Facilitator for both teams: Zane Miller, Math and Engineering Teacher, Ironwood High School

The District Meet and Confer Teams

The Superintendent has selected the following representatives for the District team:

District Professional Staff Team

Matthew Munger, Associate Superintendent for Secondary Education

Chris Trimble, Wilson K-8 School Principal

Angela Wichers, Amphitheater Middle School Principal

Facilitator: Tassi Call, Associate Superintendent for Elementary Education

District Support Staff Team

John Hastings, Director of Human Resources

Richard La Nasa, Executive Manager of Operational Support

J.J. Letts, Coronado K-8 School Principal

Facilitator: Chris Gutierrez, Cross Middle School Principal

Ms. Call spoke about the positive relationships that have existed between the teams over the last five years, and that the facilitators have done a good job supporting one another and sharing the work load. She went on to say the employee survey has concluded and that she and Ms. Green are gathering the data to present to the leads after break to create the book of business. She offered to answer any questions. There were none.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

10. CONSENT AGENDA

Details of agenda items, supporting documents, and presentations are available in the electronic Board Book by clicking on the hyperlink below.

[*Amphitheater Public Schools Public View - BoardBook Premier*](#)

President Cox Golder asked if any items needed to be removed for further discussion or comment. There were none.

Dr. Gemma moved for Consent Agenda Items 10. A.– K. be approved as presented. Ms. Zibrat seconded the motion. Voice vote in favor – 4. President Cox Golder, Ms. Day, Dr. Gemma and Ms. Zibrat. Opposed – 0. Consent Agenda Items 10. A.– K. passed.

A. Approval of the Appointment of Non-Administrative Personnel

The Governing Board approved the Appointment of Non-Administrative Personnel as submitted in Exhibit 3.

B. Approval of Personnel Changes

The Governing Board approved Personnel Changes as submitted in Exhibit 4.

C. Approval of Leave(s) of Absence

The Governing Board approved Leave(s) of Absence as submitted in Exhibit 5.

D. Approval of Separation(s) and Termination(s)

The Governing Board approved Separation(s) and Termination(s) as submitted in Exhibit 6.

E. Approval of Stipend for Coaching Volunteers

The Governing Board approved Stipend for Coaching Volunteers as submitted in Exhibit 7.

F. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

The Governing Board approved minutes from the September 22, 2026 Governing Board meeting as submitted in Exhibit 8.

G. Approval of Vouchers Totaling and Not Exceeding Approximately \$2,509,579.39

A copy of vouchers for goods and services received by the Amphitheater Public Schools and recommended for payment has been provided to the Governing Board. The following vouchers were approved as presented and payment authorized as submitted in Exhibit 9.

Voucher #	Amount	Voucher #	Amount	Voucher #	Amount
1060	\$171,618.37	1061	\$119,244.99	1062	\$489,323.24
1063	\$201,243.00	1064	\$3,218.45	1065	\$40,184.25
1067	\$9,114.85	1066	\$28,777.46	1068	\$633,546.96
1069	\$21,465.31	1070	\$22,164.57	1071	\$157,946.15
1072	\$558,984.20	1073	\$49,135.99	1074	\$3,611.60

H. Acceptance of Gifts

The Governing Board approved Acceptance of Gifts as submitted in Exhibit 10.

I. Receipt of August 2026 Report on School Auxiliary and Club Balances

The Governing Board approved Receipt of August 2026 Report on School Auxiliary and Club Balances as submitted in Exhibit 11.

J. Approval of Procedure 3-106.C Federal Grants and Other Funding Sources-School Safety Program Grant

The Governing Board approved Procedure 3-106.C Federal Grants and Other Funding Sources-School Safety Program Grant as submitted in Exhibit 12.

K. Approval of Out of State Travel

The Governing Board approved Out of State Travel as submitted in Exhibit 13.

President Cox Golder called for a seven-minute break. The meeting resumed at 7:43pm.

11. STUDY/ACTION

A. Approval of the 2025-2026 Annual Financial Report

For the 2025-2026 Annual Financial Report, see Exhibit 14.

Mr. Little explained that in previous years, the Annual Financial Report (AFR) was prepared using Excel Spreadsheets that the state provided, but this year the state is using an automated system where the data is loaded into a website that produces the forms. He noted that they have been doing a lot of debugging of the system, but there are inaccuracies in the report that are still being worked on by the state. Mr. Little stated that they will bring back a corrected AFR at the November meeting.

Mr. Little pointed out expenditures in the report that would count as instructional versus non-instructional to illustrate the implications Proposition 320 would have on the budget. He also noted that when calculating the 60% in Prop 320 they are looking at other funding sources such as federal and state grants, gifts and donations, and all other operational funds that go on within the District. He went on to explain that declining enrolment means declining revenues which requires the District to continually lower expenses.

Mr. Little spoke about the importance of lowering school plant costs with the future sale of surplus properties. He also noted that state and federal grants are listed on page seven of the report. Because these grants operate on a reimbursement basis, the District has to maintain cash balances to keep the grants operational until they are reimbursed. He asked the Board to approve the AFR this evening in order to meet the statutory deadline of adopting it by October 15th, but noted an updated AFR would be brought back for approval in November.

President Cox Golder asked about the current student enrollment compared to last year. Mr. Little stated there is currently a decline of 490 students, but the calculations are based on Average Daily Membership.

Ms. Day moved to approve the 2025-2026 Annual Financial Report. Dr. Gemma seconded the motion. Voice vote in favor- 4. Yes- President Cox Golder, Ms. Day, Dr. Gemma, Ms. Zibrat. Opposed- 0. Study/Action item 11.A. passed.

B. Approval of Policy Revisions to Comply with Changes to the Uniform System of Financial Records (USFR) as Initiated by the Auditor General's Office

For the Policy Revisions to Comply with Changes to the Uniform System of Financial Records (USFR) as Initiated by the Auditor General's Office, see Exhibit 15.

Superintendent Jaeger explained that, like previous revisions recently presented, these policy revisions are straightforward and necessitated by changes and clarifications directed by the Auditor General's Office. He encouraged approval so the District can maintain compliance.

Ms. Day moved to approve Policy Revisions to Comply with Changes to the Uniform System of Financial Records (USFR) as Initiated by the Auditor General's Office. Dr. Gemma seconded the motion. Voice vote in favor- 4. President Cox Golder, Ms. Day, Dr. Gemma, and Ms. Zibrat. Opposed- 0. Study/Action item 11.B. passed.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Motion to Recess Open Meeting and Hold an Executive Session for

A. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431(A)(1)-Discussion and Consideration of the Process, Parameters, and Timeline for the Superintendent Search, Term of Employment to Begin July 1, 2027

Ms. Day moved that the Board go into an Executive Session to address the matters identified in item 13 of the Board's agenda and pursuant to the legal authorities listed on the agenda under item 13. Ms. Zibrat seconded the motion. Voice vote in favor- 4. President Cox Golder, Ms. Day, Dr. Gemma, and Ms. Zibrat. Opposed – 0

President Cox Golder declared they were in Executive Session at 7:59pm.

11. RECONVENE PUBLIC MEETING

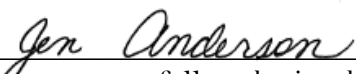
The meeting reconvened at 9:23pm.

12. BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE BOARD ITEMS

Dr. Gemma asked for information on federal scholarship vouchers and Ms. Day asked for a Dyslexia presentation.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Day moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Zibrat seconded the motion. Voice vote in favor -4. President Cox Golder, Ms. Day, Dr. Gemma, and Ms. Zibrat. Opposed -0. The meeting adjourned at 9:25pm.



Minutes respectfully submitted for Governing Board Approval
Jen Anderson, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent & Governing Board

October 15, 2026

Date

Vicki Cox Golder, Governing Board President

October 20, 2026

Date