GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA ITEM
AMPHITHEATER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10

DATE OF MEETING: November 17, 2026

TITLE: Recognition and Appreciation of Outgoing Governing Board Member Matthew A. Kopec and Reception

BACKGROUND:

Governing Board Member Matthew A. Kopec's eight years of distinguished service on the Amphitheater Unified School District No. 10 Governing Board conclude on **December 31, 2026**. First taking office in January 2019 following his election in November 2018, Mr. Kopec has provided steady, principled leadership through significant eras of challenge, growth, and community transformation.

During Mr. Kopec's eight-year tenure, the District achieved extraordinary milestones and statewide and national recognitions:

- **Unprecedented Academic Achievement:** Under board governance prioritizing classroom investment, the District expanded from just two state "A"-rated schools in 2017 to an all-time high of eleven "A"-rated campuses, maintaining a district-wide standard where no campus received a "D" or "F" rating.
- **Excellence in Gifted & STEM Education:** Amphi earned the prestigious statewide **"Copper Apple" Award** from the Arizona Department of Education for systemic excellence and innovative evaluation in gifted education, as well as multiple **STEM School of Excellence** designations.
- **Statewide School Distinctions:** Campuses across the District repeatedly attained the Arizona Educational Foundation's coveted **A+ School of Excellence** award, alongside multiple state and international championship appearances and/wins in **Odyssey of the Mind**, academic decathlons, and AIA athletics.
- **Commitment to Early Childhood and Staff Support:** Through careful fiscal oversight and stewardship of voter-approved overrides, the District safeguarded reduced K–3 class sizes, expanded free full-day kindergarten across all elementary campuses, and prioritized competitive wage increases and retention stipends for certified and classified staff.
- **Modernized Facilities and Safe Environments:** Mr. Kopec supported the responsible deployment of capital bond projects, school safety infrastructure updates, and high-quality 21st-century learning spaces across every neighborhood served by the District.

This agenda item provides the Governing Board, administration, staff, students, and community the opportunity to formally honor and commend Mr. Kopec for eight years of dedicated public service, thoughtful advocacy, and lasting contributions to Amphitheater Public Schools.

Mr. Kopec is unable to attend the Governing Board's meeting in December 2026, at which time the other outgoing Board Member, Ms. Susan Zibrat, will be recognized.

RECOMMENDATION:

This is presented for the Board's information and recognition.

INITIATED BY:

Date: October 23, 2026

Todd A. Jaeger, J.D., Superintendent