



**GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA ITEM
AMPHITHEATER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10**

DATE OF MEETING: **August 8, 2017**

TITLE: Designation of Student Suspension Hearing Officers and Student Expulsion Hearing Officers to Hear Evidence, Prepare a Record and Bring Recommendations to the Board, Pursuant to A.R.S. §15-843(F)(2).

BACKGROUND:

The Governing Board has the authority under ARS § 15-843(f) to appoint hearing officers to hear long-term suspension and/or expulsion hearings for students of Amphitheater Public Schools. When authorized by the Board, hearing officers may hold a hearing, prepare records and issue written recommendations to the District for a proposed long-term suspension or to the Governing Board for a proposed student expulsion. Only the Governing Board is permitted by law to actually take action which expels a student.

It is appropriate for a relatively small number of administrators to preside over long-term suspension and expulsion hearings. This allows for consistency in action and enables most timely direction to hearing officers from the Board. On September 24, 2002, the Governing Board appointed a list of administrators qualified to preside over long-term suspension and expulsion hearings. From that list, only Superintendent Todd Jaeger, J.D., and Chief Academic Officer Michael Bejarano remain employed with the District.

Mr. Jaeger can no longer serve as a hearing officer since he currently serves as the Superintendent for Amphitheater Public Schools. Therefore, it is important that the Governing Board designate a new list of potential administrators to serve as student suspension hearing officers and student expulsion hearing officers.

In addition to Mr. Bejarano (who is already appointed), the Administrators qualified by education, training and experience, and recommended by the Superintendent to serve as Hearing Officers are:

Dr. Roseanne Lopez, Chief Academic Officer, Elementary
Anna Maiden, Equal Opportunity Office Specialist
Kristin McGraw, Executive Director of Student Services
Michelle Tong, Associate to the Superintendent and General Counsel

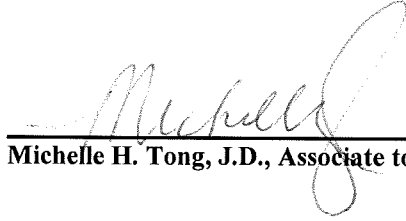
Ms. Tong will preside at most student expulsion hearings and Ms. Maiden will preside at most long-term suspension hearings. However, there will be occasional conflicts of interest or times where additional hearing officers may be required. This appointment will allow for these occasions.

All new hearing officers will receive training and information regarding the District's policies and procedures for long-term suspension and expulsion hearings prior to assignment of their first hearing. General Counsel Michelle Tong will be responsible to ensure that this training occurs.

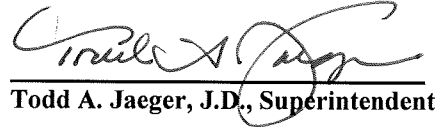
RECOMMENDATION:

The Administration recommends the Board appoint the individuals listed above as long-term suspension and expulsion Hearing Officers.

INITIATED BY:



Michelle H. Tong, J.D., Associate to the Superintendent and General Counsel Date: August 3, 2017



Todd A. Jaeger, J.D., Superintendent