

DRAFT Minutes

AMPHITHEATER PUBLIC SCHOOLS Tucson, Arizona

MINUTES OF REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

Place, Date and Time of Meeting

Wetmore Center, 701 West Wetmore Road, February 8, 2011, 7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present

Mr. Jeff Grant, President
Mrs. Diana Boros, Vice President
Dr. Linda Loomis, Member
Mrs. Susan Zibrat, Member

Board Member Absent

Dr. Kent Paul Barrabee, Member

Central Administrators Present

Dr. Vicki McLeod Balentine, Superintendent
Todd A. Jaeger, J.D., Associate to Superintendent and General Counsel
Mr. Patrick Nelson, Associate Superintendent
Mr. Scott Little, Chief Financial Officer

OPENING OF MEETING

Call to Order and Signing of Visitors' Register

Mr. Grant called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked members of the audience to sign the visitors' register. Procedures for addressing the Board were described.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Adrian Hannah, Principal, Wilson K-8 School, introduced the following students, who were present and led the Pledge of Allegiance: Rachel Kester, Angelica Tadeo, Joshua Baca, Zachry Wakefield, Zach Hoeflicker, Brett Goldsmith, and Nathan Overton. Each student was presented with a Certificate of Commendation.

Announcement of Date and Place of Next Special Governing Board Meeting

Mr. Grant announced the next special meeting of the Governing Board:
Tuesday, February 22, 2011, 6:00 p.m., Wetmore Center, 701 W. Wetmore Road.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from the public.

1. INFORMATION AND RECOGNITION(S)

A. Status of Bond Projects

Mr. Louth, Bonds Project Manager, was introduced to present this month's (PowerPoint) status update on the current Bond-funded Projects (as provided with Board book materials). Mr. Louth noted that the reporting format is listed within the five categories, as identified by the Blue Ribbon Committee, as areas of need.) *[A Bond-election initiative to fund capital improvement projects was voter-passed on November 6, 2007; this is the monthly update, which began at the 12/11/07 Governing Board meeting].*

I. HEALTH, SAFETY, AND SECURITY

A. Facility Support Services Center (FSS): *Construction is 82% complete. Exterior concrete and paving, interior shops finish mechanical connections, and interior office finishes are in process. The new FSS project was scheduled so FSS could be relocated and the existing FSS facility could be re-purposed for the Transportation Department. Procurement of design services for the current FSS building re-purposing to Transportation offices is underway. This project is ahead of schedule and on budget.*

B. El Hogar / Land Lab: The security fence around El Hogar is complete.

II. INSTRUCTIONAL SPACE / PORTABLE REPLACEMENT

A. Coronado K-8 Classroom, Kitchen, and Fine Arts Addition / Remodel: Construction is 89% complete. Fine arts and classroom building are complete and in use. New kitchen is complete and in use. The new campus fire alarm is complete and in use. Phase 3 construction – the remodel of the existing kitchen and the small gym restrooms is in process. The old kitchen has been demolished and is now framed. Underground mechanicals are being installed. Portables will be removed during summer break 2011. This project is currently on schedule and on budget.

B. Rillito Center Addition: Construction is 35% complete. All exterior CMU walls are complete and steel roof joists and roof decking are being installed. The Bonds Department is working with Amphi Technology Department to coordinate the re-cabling of the existing campus during bond related construction. This project baseline schedule has been reworked to allow for the three month delay that resulted from the relocation of the TEP mainline that runs through the Rillito Center Campus. Projected completion of the entire project is September 2011 which actually only reflects a 30 day delay. This project is on budget.

C. CDO Theater Updates: Construction is complete. This project was completed ahead of schedule and on budget.

D. Nash Elementary Classroom Addition: Plan review is complete for the Nash addition and a GMP (Guaranteed Maximum Price) is on tonight's consent agenda for governing board approval.

E. Walker Elementary Classroom Addition: Plan review is complete for the Walker addition and a GMP is being prepared for governing board consideration at a future board meeting.

III. New classrooms/Increased capacity; IV. Technology infrastructure updates; and, V. Transportation: No new activity to report at this time.

Mr. Louth introduced Mr. Mark Bollard of Swaim and Associates LTD Architects, who was present to provide an overview of the proposed projects at both Nash and Walker Elementary schools. Proposed improvements are of a similar scope at both schools; ten-classroom, 2-story building additions to replace old, existing portables; upgrades of all existing student restrooms; and, fire alarm upgrades. Mr. Bollard showed renderings of both campuses via the use of a computer-aided design (CAD) program. He noted that the focus at both sites has been: Incorporating features that will ensure the privacy of neighbors, etc.; the use of good quality materials to ensure serviceability; lighting and energy efficiency; safety and technology features; effective mechanical systems; and, to correct current drainage issues at Nash, plus a fire lane included at the Walker site.

B. Review of 2010-2011 Budget Development; Projections and Site Staffing and Non-Staffing Allocations

Board Book information: *Each year, the District prepares a projection of the number of students, by grade, attending each of the District's schools. The projection is based upon current student cohort information combined with other demographic information, such as expected property development in neighborhoods served by individual schools. These projections are used to establish site staffing allocations for the next fiscal year. Enrollment projections and staffing allocations are then used in calculating the non-staffing allocations for each school.*

The method of calculating student enrollment projections was revised one year ago, following the District's commission of a comprehensive growth study. The data and predictions of the growth study, fairly accurate last year, provide a more reliable model for pinpointing changes in enrollment. The model does not serve as the only source of guidance, however. Each site principal also reviews their school's enrollment projection and provides feedback.

The Board will find a list of schools, together with their projected enrollment for next year, attached. District-wide numbers are also provided. For the purpose of this initial discussion, the Administration is also attaching a sample staffing and non-staffing allocations (one each) for a high school, middle school and elementary school, so that the Board can review these illustrations of the allocation process.

Dr. Balentine stated that this is the time of year when school districts begin the annual process of projecting student enrollment for the up-coming year. She noted that the trend of decreased enrollment is again

anticipated due to an on-going economic downturn and the hard-hit construction industry and the associated lost jobs.

Mr. Jaeger was invited to provide an overview of the budget/staffing development process – to include enrollment projections and samples of staffing and non-staffing formulae used at each of the elementary, middle, and high school levels. A chart was displayed showing projected enrollment at each school by grade level. The chart also included Amphi's "capacity" numbers; for all classrooms and common facilities (i.e. cafeteria, etc). These numbers reflect a maximum capacity per square foot, but does not reflect capacity based upon current class-size protocols that the District currently uses. He described the various factors used in calculating school allocations. He noted that the District has been victim to lost capital outlay and building renewal funding totaling millions of dollars as the state has been short-funding or no-funding for the past several years. He noted that in addition to Maintenance and Operations (M & O) funding, a portion of (voter approved) Override dollars funds additional staffing/support in the areas of Art, Music, and Physical Education (PE).

Mr. Jaeger responded to board member questions, noting that the District's "capacity" criteria are different from the capacity formula used by the School Facilities Board (SFB), noting too that spatial expectations differ between the District and the SFB in terms of available building space that are conducive to classroom use (closet, hallway, etc.).

Dr. Balentine added that the formula used for allocating custodial needs is based on the facility/campus square footage; this changed several years ago to correspond with industry standards. Additionally, administration and staff proceed cautiously in the initial phase of projecting staffing needs, and only increase those allocations once confirmation via documentation is received thereby protecting the District from over-obligating funds.

C. Recognition of Coronado K-8 Arizona Junior High Basketball, Division B, Small Schools, State Champions, 2011

Mrs. Monica Nelson, Principal from Coronado, invited Kevin Berger, basketball Coach to introduce the Division B State Champions student athletes: Isaak Matzdorff, John Cherrington, Jared Pastor, Alec McCall, Cole Boyd, Brendan Stucki, Daniel McLaughlin, Tyler Perleberg, Cole Hunter, Matt Gardener, Kenyon Kautz; and, Assistant Coaches Mike Pastor, Chris Boyd, and Rob Retherford.

Additionally, Mrs. Nelson noted that Coronado K-8 School had been named the recipient of the Conference Sportsmanship Award for 2010-2011.

The Governing Board congratulated the Coronado K-8 students and coaches on their achievement, and presented each with a Certificate of Commendation.

D. Recognition of National Board Certification (NBCT) / Master Teacher Recipients for 2010

National Board Certified Teachers are nationally recognized as being among the best teachers in the profession. The following new NBCTs were introduced: Elizabeth Iverson, Language Arts Teacher and Mary Kittredge, Math Teacher, both from Cross Middle School; and, Gayle Kirkendall, 2nd Grade Teacher, Rio Vista Elementary School.

Additionally, the Arizona K-12 Center recently recognized the following Amphitheater teacher for achieving Arizona Master Teacher status: Cris Cisco, 4th Grade Teacher, Walker Elementary School.

The Governing Board congratulated each teacher on their achievements and presented them with a Certificate of Commendation.

E. New Administrator Leadership Academy

Board Book information: *At the beginning of the 2005-2006 school year we began a Leadership Academy for new and aspiring administrators. This was initiated, in part, to assist new administrators into the procedures, policies, and culture of the district.*

The Governing Board recognized for the following individuals for having completed the District's New Administrator Leadership Academy in the 2010-2011 school year: Tanya Wall, Debbie Garcia, Alva Johnson, Josh Bayne, Terri Amonson, and Robert Hehli.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Grant asked if there were Board member requests to have items addressed separately; there were none. A motion was made by Mrs. Boros to approve the Consent Agenda, items A-O. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Zibrat, and it passed unanimously, 4-0. Appointment of personnel is effective, provided all district, state, and federal requirements are met.

A. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the January 25, 2011, Regular and Executive Session Governing Board meetings were approved, as submitted.

B. Approval of Appointment of Personnel

Certified and classified personnel were appointed, as listed in Exhibit 1.

C. Approval of Personnel Changes

Certified and classified personnel were appointed, as listed in Exhibit 2.

D. Approval of Leave(s) of Absence

Leave of Absence requests were approved for certified and classified personnel, as listed in Exhibit 3.

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

Certified and classified personnel separations were approved, as listed in Exhibit 4.

F. Approval of Vouchers Totaling and Not Exceeding Approximately \$2,100,377.95 (Final Total)

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

Vo. 175	\$248,838.38	Vo. 176	\$ 20,824.72	Vo. 177	\$ 71,782.57
Vo. 178	\$726,310.46	Vo. 179	\$120,042.93	Vo. 180	\$912,578.89

G. Acceptance of Gifts

Donations were accepted by the Governing Board as listed in Exhibit 5.

H. Approval of Parent Support Organization(s) for 2010-2011

The Governing Board approved the following Parent Support Organization from Holaway Elementary School pursuant to District Policy KBE-R: *Holaway Elementary PTO*.

I. Receipt of Monthly Status Report for the Fiscal Year 2010-2011

A summary of comparative totals as of January 2011 is as follows:

Budget Capacity	\$89,563,501.00	Expenditures & Encumbrances	\$89,563,501.00
Totals' Comparisons:			
Expenditures as of 1/31/10	\$49,720,717.59	M & O Budget Capacity for 2009-2010	\$90,463,293.00
Expenditures as of 1/31/11	\$41,615,366.95	M & O Budget Capacity for 2010-2011	\$89,563,501.00

Bond Balance Outstanding: \$59,870,000.00

Tax Rates: Primary – 3.1469; Secondary – 1.4643

J. Receipt of November 2010 Report on School Auxiliary and Club Balances

Board Book information: *Arizona Revised Statutes §15-1121 and 15-1125 provide for the operation of Student Activity and Auxiliary Operations funds, respectively. The Uniform System of Financial Records for Arizona School Districts (USFR) outlines procedures to be followed by school districts in the disbursements of monies from either of these funds. One requirement for the operational compliance is to provide a report to the Governing Board summarizing the transactions for the month.*

The Governing Board received the Monthly Report on School Auxiliary and Club Balances for month-end November 2010, as submitted (Exhibit 6, pp. 1-8).

K. Approval of Out of State Travel

Out of state travel was approved for students and staff (source of funding indicated): from CDO that participate in the local JROTC program at Flowing Wells School District to go to the Air Rifle National Championships in Anniston, Alabama, March 26-30, 2011 (no cost); and from Canyon del Oro High School to take 42 students from CDO Odyssey Club to the Odyssey of the Mind World Finals at the University of Maryland, May 26-31, 2011 (student activity funds, tax credit donations, and upcoming school fundraising events).

Out of state travel was approved for staff (source of funding indicated): from Canyon del Oro High School to attend the International Baccalaureate Training in Minneapolis, Minnesota, April 28-May 1, 2011 (federal funds designated for staff development); from Canyon del Oro High School to attend the International Baccalaureate Training in Montezuma, New Mexico, June 13-17, 2011 (federal funds designated for staff development); from Canyon del Oro High School to attend the International Baccalaureate Training in Montezuma, New Mexico, June 20-24, 2011 (federal funds designated for staff development); from Canyon del Oro High School to attend the International Baccalaureate Training in Lake Tahoe, California, June 25-28, 2011 (federal funds designated for staff development); from Canyon del Oro High School to attend the International Baccalaureate Training in Montezuma, New Mexico, June 27-July 1, 2011 (federal funds designated for staff development); from Canyon del Oro High School to attend the International Baccalaureate Training in New York City, New York, July 5-9, 2011 (federal funds designated for staff development); from Canyon del Oro High School to attend the International Baccalaureate Training in Montezuma, New Mexico, July 11-15, 2011 (federal funds designated for staff development); from Canyon del Oro High School to attend the International Baccalaureate Training in Montezuma, New Mexico, July 18-27, 2011 (federal funds designated for staff development); from Amphitheater High School to attend the National Council Teachers of Mathematics Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana, April 13-16, 2011 (federal funds designated for staff development); from Wilson K-8 School to attend the Treatment and Education of Autistic and other related Communication Handicapped Children (TEACCH) Advanced Topics Seminar in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, April 4-7, 2011 (federal funds designated for staff development); from Canyon del Oro High School to attend the Counselor Visit to Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, March 10-12, 2011 (no cost); from Ironwood Ridge High School to attend the Learning & the Brain Conference – “iGeneration: How the Digital Age is Altering Student Brains, Learning & Teaching” in San Francisco, California, February 16-20, 2011 (federal funds designated for staff development); and from the Governing Board, District Office, and AmphiEA to attend the Conference on Advancing Student Achievement through Labor-Management Collaboration in Denver, Colorado, February 15-16, 2011 (federal funds designated for staff development and site maintenance and operations funds).

The Governing Board approved the request for a change of chaperones for travel previously approved at the January 11, 2011 Board meeting for staff from Harelson Elementary School, to take 68 sixth-grade students on a class trip to San Diego, California, February 21-23, 2011.

L. Approval of Grant(s)

The Governing Board approved two \$700 grants from the “Target Field Trips” program (1) to Niki Tilicki, Wilson K-8 School, for 4th grade Language Arts students to travel to the University of Arizona to participate in the *Reading with U of A Baseball Team* program; and, (2) to Shawn Benjamin, Canyon del Oro High School, to travel to the County Medical Examiner’s Office to become educated about crime scene analytical methods.

M. Approval of Project EXCELL! Payout Corrections

Board Book information: *The review process for the December 2010 Project EXCELL! payout is complete. The following participants will receive additional award payments based upon the results of the review:*

Deborah Mounts: \$ 833.33; Katherine Floyd: \$ 416.66; Karla LeVeque: \$624.99; Jennifer Queriuga-Swingle: \$1,000.00; Debra Romancho: \$ 416.66; Carol Tracy: \$ 416.66; Jamie Kasen: \$ 416.66; and, Debra VanSice: \$ 500.00.

The Governing Board approved Project EXCELL! payments to participants as submitted, which are based upon results of the review process completed in December, 2010.

N. Approval of Textbook for Display

The Board voted to place the following textbook on display for a period of 60 days, as of February 8, 2011, in accordance with A.R.S. §15-721:

Textbook: The Practice of Statistics, 4th Edition; Publisher: W. H. Freeman; Author: Starnes, Yates, and Moore. (no cost at this time).

O. Approval of Bond-Related Projects:

1. Approval of a Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) for Nash Elementary for:
 - New classrooms to replace aging portables
 - Modernize and add restrooms to ensure ADA and code compliance
 - Campus security fencing
 - Site drainage Improvements

The Governing Board approved the award of a guaranteed maximum (GMP) price of \$2,809,017.00 from *CORE Construction* to complete work at Nash Elementary School, including: new classrooms to replace aging portables, modernization and addition of restrooms to ensure ADA and code compliance, campus security fencing, and site drainage improvements.

3. ACTION

A. Approval of Proposed Governing Board Policy GCQA and District Regulation GCQA-R Regarding Professional Staff Reduction in Force

Board Book information: *In November 2009, the Arizona Legislature passed House Bill 2011 which changed many long-standing provisions of Arizona law concerning the employment rights of teachers traditionally arising out of seniority, as well as due process protections for teachers, and teacher association privileges. Subsequent to that bill's passage, the Meet and Confer teams began discussions about development of new policy and regulation which would comply with the requirements of the law. Work on the policy continued until May 2010 but was unresolved at that time, necessitating the Governing Board's repeal of then-existing Policy GCQA to ensure that the District did not begin a new fiscal year with policy terms prohibited by law.*

Among other things, the changes made by HB 2011 include prohibition of school district policies that give employment retention priority to teachers based on tenure or seniority in situations where the workforce must be reduced. Also prohibited by the changes in law were policies that gave preferred rights of rehire (recall) in order of seniority to teachers who are laid off or reduced in force. The now-repealed Policy GCQA contained these types of provisions. Litigation challenging the validity of HB 2011 on procedural grounds ultimately failed. In addition, HB 2227 was passed by the Legislature last session in order to rectify the procedural challenges. Thus, the law is now settled.

Since September of this fiscal year, the Meet and Confer teams have been meeting to develop a recommendation to the Governing Board for new policies which will comply with HB 2011 and/or HB 2227. The teams have met on many occasions at this point – for many hours. The result of their meetings is a new policy, regulation and implementing exhibit form. The concept behind the new policy and regulation is that multiple measures will be used to determine those personnel who must be reduced in force, in the event a "RIF" must occur. The criteria used are those identified by teachers in the joint survey which the Meet and Confer teams conducted late last fall. All those criteria identified by more than half the teachers with strong agreement are included.

Another important aspect of the new RIF procedure created by the recommended policy documents which are attached is the opportunity each teacher has to provide their own data upon which RIF decisions will be made. This ensures transparency in the process, a key consideration for both teams – and the direction of the Governing Board.

As this item was prepared, the Association was in the process of ratification (an approval process for its members). Consequently, the final proposed policy and regulation will be provided to the Board via addendum in advance of the Board's meeting. This item is presented to permit the Board to study and discuss the proposed Policy GCQA and its accompanying regulation and exhibit, which the administration recommends approval of at this time.

Dr. Balentine stated that District and AmphiEA representatives have been working in partnership to develop a new Reduction in Force (RIF) policy after changes in state law (November 2009) negated existing District policy(ies) giving employment-retention priority to teachers based on tenure or seniority, and due-process rights.

Mr. Jaeger was invited to provide an overview on the proposed policy information. He reviewed background information. Last year, due to the substantial K-12 budget cuts and the limitations imposed resulting from (2009) legislative changes, the District's RIF process affected a significant number of positions/individuals (reductions had to be made within certain departments as opposed to 'simple' seniority status). The Meet and Confer teams returned in the fall – early September 2010, to address the necessary policy changes. He noted that input was solicited from teachers district-wide, almost 800 teachers participated. The draft policy developed through Meet and Confer being presented have three key factors: 1) limited focus approach, with the philosophy that a RIF should impact as few people as possible; 2) transparency in the policy and process; and, 3) programmatic focus so that the emphasis throughout the process is in consideration and protection of the programmatic input to students.

Mr. Jaeger presented an overview of the guidelines for implementation; [<https://v3.boardbook.org/Public/PublicItemDownload.aspx?smk=3602>] he noted that the draft information proposes that a RIF should only occur in the programmatic areas and at those sites where it is required, so as not to cross school staffing lines, etc. He reviewed the associated Regulation and RIF profile form, which uses very specific criteria (8), and, the Recall procedures

Mr. Jaeger recognized the committees' representatives: from AmphiEA: John Fife, President, Chris Ackerly, William Thierry, Robert Wacker, Mike Robinette, Kat Pivonka, Kevin O'Driscoll, and Dolly Pivonka and representing the Governing Board: Monica Nelson, Patricia Harris, Andrew Heinemann, Jon Lansa, Tom Gill, Todd Jaeger, Patrick Nelson, and Roseanne Lopez.

Mrs. Boros expressed appreciation to the membership for their dedicated efforts and cooperation.

John Fife, President, AmphiEA addressed the Governing Board. He stated that the teams persevered and surveyed staff; he presented the proposed policy information to the Association's executive board just last week; they unanimously voted to forward the draft policy information to its membership for ratification. The ratification meetings were held the following Friday and Monday; the membership voted 94% to adopt the policy. Therefore on behalf of the membership of the AmphiEA, Mr. Fife recommends adoption of Policy GCQA, and related GCQA-R – expressing hopes that it never *has* to be used.

Mr. Grant, on behalf of the Governing Board, agreed with John Fife's sentiment – hoping that this process does not need to be used.

A motion was made by Dr. Loomis to proposed Governing Board Policy GCQA and Regulation GCQA-R regarding professional staff reduction in force (RIF). The motion was seconded by Mrs. Boros, and it passed unanimously, 4-0 (Exhibits: 7a, pp. 1-2; 7b, pp. 1-5; and 7c, pp. 1-2.)

[<https://v3.boardbook.org/Public/PublicAgenda.aspx?ak=1000433&mk=50013067>]

4. **STUDY**

A. Study of Proposed Revisions to Policy DJE Regarding Bidding/Purchasing Procedures

Board Book information: *Governing Board Policy DJE Regarding Bidding/Purchasing Procedures is presented for revision to reflect the new statutory increase in the sealed bid threshold from approximately \$32,000 to a flat rate of \$50,000. The legislature recently passed HB2725 regarding additional procurements that do not require bidding by school districts. Revisions to the attached Policy and its accompanying Regulation reflect that new language. Changes in state statute made recently by the Legislature clarify that certain procurements are not subject to normal procurement procedures, namely, placement of special education students in a program required by the student's IEP. In addition, although the exemption of intergovernmental agreements and contracts between school districts as well as between school districts and other governing bodies is already provided in regulation DJE-R, it is recommended that the exemptions also be acknowledged in Board policy. Also, the authority given for*

school districts to engage in online bidding by A.R.S. 41-2671 through 2673 is added to the document model to formalize that the Governing Board sanctions that authority.

Dr. Balentine stated that as a result of statutory changes, plus the increased quote threshold to \$50,000., staff is submitting these proposed revisions for consideration. Staff is available to answer questions and also to receive input or verbiage changes. Mr. Grant recommended changes to verbiage on page 108 related to confidentiality.

The item will be returned at a future Board meeting for further review and approval.

B. Periodic Legislative Review

Board Book information: *This Item is presented to permit the Governing Board to review and discuss the status of education-related legislation which has been proposed in the first session of the 50th Arizona legislature this year.*

On October 5, 2010, the Governing Board approved the following District Legislative Priorities for the 2011 Legislative Session(s):

- 1. Increase Funding for K-12 Education*
- 2. Provide Adequate Support for Special Education*
- 3. Eliminate All Student Tuition Organization Tax Credits*
- 4. Eliminate the Extracurricular Tax Credit Program*
- 5. Expand Career Ladder Funding*
- 6. Maintain Desegregation Funding*
- 7. Provide Adequate Funding to Serve English Language Learners*
- 8. Establish a Reliable and Adequate Source of Funding for the School Facilities Board*
- 9. Provide User-friendly and Practical Reporting Requirements and Provide Funding Support for the Same*
- 10. Protect and Support Education Due Process Rights.*

Governor Brewer has announced the development of a new education plan with the following goals to be achieved by 2020:

- Increasing our high school graduation rate from 75% to 93%*
- Increasing the percentage of 3rd graders meeting state reading standards from 69% to 94%*
- Increasing the percentage of 8th graders achieving at or above basic on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) from 67% to 85%*
- Doubling the number of college students who receive a four-year degree*

In early legislative developments, on January 18, 2011, a Joint Senate and House Committee on Appropriations met to hear the Governor's Fiscal Year 2011 and Fiscal Year 2012 budget. Included for K-12 Education:

- Fiscal Year 2011*
- \$245 million formulaic rollover (this will bring us to 25% of the yearly education formula funding being rolled over)*
- \$101 million state general fund cut, with the intention of \$101 million of federal EduJobs funding would backfill this*
- Fiscal Year 2012*
- \$49.1 million for an estimated 1% growth*
- \$3.8 million for the 2% inflation factor applied on to the transportation formula – not to the entire formula as required by Prop. 301*
- \$8.6 million additional with the restoration of the small school adjustment*
- \$66.5 million cut to CORL and charter additional assistance (~\$62 per student)*
- \$11.6 million cut to Arizona Online Instruction*
- \$5.6 million cut in year one of the Career Ladder 5-year phase-down*
- \$70.5 million decrease in Additional State Aid savings (property tax shift)*
- Institute per-pupil SAIS fee, unspecified, no more than 0.4% of state support. (Proposed mechanism to fund the implementation of the SAIS redesign commissioned by last year's bill.)*
- Institute one additional K-12 Rollover of \$245.3M, brings total to \$1.2B.*
- Continue no new school construction and the suspension of the building renewal formula -- \$10 million building renewal grant fund continues*

- *First Things First Rollover Loan – the state will borrow the FTF balance of \$330 million on June 30 and pay it back the next day, July 1. Once implemented, this will continue each fiscal year until budget revenues allow it to pay it back.*

Mr. Jaeger was invited to review a sampling of education-related house and senate bills, as well as, SR 1006, a resolution recognizing Christina Taylor Green, Mesa Verde student, and the tragic circumstances of her passing on January 8, 2011 [<https://v3.boardbook.org/Public/PublicItemDownload.aspx?ik=30944909>]

Mrs. Boros expressed concerns about the serious ramifications facing school districts and the reductions to educational funding resulting from proposed legislation. She inquired about how to most effectively communicate and influence the legislative leadership in support of public education. The current trend is destructive; she cited one example: the (proposed) legislative mandates on performance pay.

Mr. Jaeger stated that in recent years, the District has had community, teacher, and staff representatives address and seek out legislators to voice support and provide direction on behalf public education only to have that input ignored resulting in the passage of opposing legislation. The current legislative representatives do not appear to be responsive to pleas by educators.

Mrs. Boros inquired about the possibility of preparing a letter from the Governing Board emphasizing the priorities and focus on public education for students.

Dr. Balentine stated that perhaps developing relationships or making direct contact with local representatives by one or two-Board Member teams may be successful in influencing legislative perspectives. Dr. Balentine encourages input and communication from constituents.

Mr. Grant expressed concerns about some of the irresponsible proposed legislation; he noted the HB 2222, which would allow unlimited tax credits and how that might simply deplete the general fund.

BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Dr. Loomis requested an update on elementary report cards (rubric/letter grades). Mrs. Boros asked to have the sampling include a “John Doe” student and grades.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Boros that the Board Meeting be adjourned; Mrs. Zibrat seconded the motion; and it passed unanimously, 4-0. Mr. Grant declared the meeting was adjourned; the time was 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret Harris

Mr. Jeff Grant, President

Date

Approved: TBD