

Governing Board Meeting 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, March 9, 2010, 6:00 p.m.

Board Members Present

Mr. Jeff Grant, President
Ms. Diana Boros, Vice President
Dr. Kent Paul Barrabee, Member
Mrs. Patricia Clymer, Member
Dr. Linda Loomis, 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

1. OPENING OF MEETING

Call to Order

Mr. Grant called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

1. Discussion and Consultation with Representatives of the Governing Board Regarding Meeting and Conferring (Negotiations) with Employee Organizations, Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(5), Pertaining (to) Compensation and Benefits for Certificated, Professional Non-Teaching, Classified and Administrative Employees for the 2010-2011 Contract Year.

A motion was made by Mrs. Clymer that the Board recess into Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(5). Dr. Loomis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously, 5-0. Mr. Grant called a recess at 6:02 p.m. for the purpose of holding Executive Session.

B. Motion to Close Executive Session and Reconvene Open Meeting

Upon return to the Governing Board Room, Mr. Grant announced that the Board would not be closing Executive Session at this time but returning to the Regular Meeting; the Board will resume Executive Session following the conclusion of regular business (Item 8). The time was 7:11 p.m.

3. CONTINUATION OF OPEN MEETING – Approximately 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order and Signing of Visitors' Register

Mr. Grant called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m. and invited members of the audience to sign the visitors' register. Procedures for addressing the Board were described.

Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Marcia Volpe, Principal from Canyon del Oro High School, invited Sergeant Major Billy Seamans, from the JROTC program, to introduce the following Color Guard students: Reed Talbot, Ryan Ahlersmeyer, Drew McWilliams, and Lance Morales. They led the Pledge of Allegiance and were presented with certificates of commendation.

Dr. Barrabee acknowledged the Art Display in the Board Room. He commended the students and teachers, Diane Ronning and Traci Kelly, from Coronado K-8 School for their contributions.

Announcement of Date and Place of Next Special Governing Board Meeting

Mr. Grant announced the next special meeting of the Governing Board: Tuesday, March 30, 2010, 6:00 p.m., Wetmore Center, 701 W. Wetmore Road.

PUBLIC COMMENT¹

Mr. Buzz Splittgerber, Coach for Canyon del Oro's girl's soccer team, addressed the Governing Board; he recommends using artificial turf when the bond-funded project to replace CDO's football field begins. He provided written reports to Board Members and Dr. Balentine, and had product samples available for viewing.

Mr. Grant noted that the Board is precluded from commenting as this topic was not agendized.

4. INFORMATION² AND RECOGNITION(S)

A. 2009-2010 Budget Development – Review of Capital Needs

Board Book information: *On June 23, 2009, the Governing Board reviewed an updated 5 Year Capital Plan that showed the impact of a proposed \$2,000,000 per year Capital Override. This plan also assumed full funding of the Soft Capital formula for the 2009-2010 Fiscal Year.*

Enclosed is a revised Capital Plan that has been updated to show the Soft Capital reduction for the current year and the continued non-funding of the Building Renewal Formula and increased list of backlogged maintenance. Cumulatively, the district has been shorted over \$13,000,000 in funding of the Building Renewal formula since 1998. This plan assumes no funding of the Soft Capital formula for the 2010-2011.

Dr. Balentine stated that the Capital Plan is reviewed annually. Mr. Little was invited to provide an overview of the Capital Plan – Five Year Summary. The Plan encompasses changes due to revisions necessary as a result of the failed Override initiative (November 2009), as well as, a loss of funding to Soft Capital allocations imposed by legislative budget reductions. He noted that Soft Capital funding has a potential of \$3.4 million but was cut approximately \$2.4 million. Currently, unfunded capital needs over a five year period exceeds a \$32,000,000. The Plan also details the perpetual under/non- funding of the Building Renewal program and the resulting backlog of maintenance projects district-wide. (Exhibit 6)

Mr. Little responded to a question by Dr. Barrabee; he estimates that since 1998 the District has been cumulatively short-funded more than \$13 million in Building Renewal funding.

B. 2010-2011 Budget Development – Enrollment Projections, Site Staffing and Non-Staffing Allocations; Expenditure Reductions

Board Book information: *Basic elements of the district budget, which the Governing Board considers and studies at this same time each year include staffing and non-staffing allocations for our schools. With approximately 86% of the District's entire maintenance and operations budget spent on the employment of staff required to implement programs and services, employee expenses are the single greatest component of the budget.*

Both staff and non-staff resources are allocated to school sites based primarily upon enrollment. Other factors such as number of teachers or school size (square footage) are also utilized. The District has long-established formulas for these allocations that ensure consistency and fairness across all schools.

To facilitate initial discussion for development of next year's budget, this item traditionally includes enrollment projections for each school, as well as sample allocations for a school from each school level – elementary, middle and high. These items are again attached.

Board members will note that the draft enrollment projections (still under review and subject to adjustment) which are attached reflect a decrease in enrollment of approximately 700 students. This is due in large part to the anticipated loss of all-day Kindergarten; Kindergarten students only count as a 0.5 full time student in a half-day scenario.

All sample allocations reflect current formulas and levels.

The State Budget Crisis

The proverbial elephant in the room as allocations and enrollment are studied this year is the status of the state budget and the implications it holds for public schools and Amphitheater specifically.

The budget cuts already made to and proposed for our state's public education system by the Arizona Legislature have had and will continue to have a substantially negative impact upon district programs, services, and the students they serve.

As Governing Board members will recall, the Board approved necessary budget reductions totaling \$1,595,056 for the current fiscal year due to budget reductions imposed by the legislature for this year. Approximately half of this amount came from reductions to central administration and functions, affecting all levels of the administration, including the Board's senior staff members who volunteered for five-day unpaid furloughs.

Apart from state-imposed budgetary reductions, the District also had to reduce staffing and non-staffing allocations for this year due to declining enrollment – a reality predicted by the 2007 Applied Economics Growth Study commissioned by the Board. While these reductions were not required due to legislative mandates, their combined impact with those of legislative origin dramatically affected operations of the District.

Thus, it is nothing short of alarming to consider the scale of public school reductions now proposed by the Governor and the legislature for next fiscal year. At the Governing Board's regular meeting last month, the Administration reviewed the separate proposals which Governor Brewer and the Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) have proposed for next year's K-12 budget and the substantial agreement between those two proposals.

There are now indications that a special session is close at hand and that the purpose of the special session will be to resolve the state budget for next year. The available information suggests that there is already agreement to pass two alternative budgets – one which assumes passage of the one cent sales tax increase and one which assumes failure of the sales tax measure (Prop 100). It is also very clear at this point that the first budget option will involve the commonalities between the Governor and JLBC proposals as previously reviewed:

Governor's Proposal	Impact on Amphitheater
■ Suspend extra funding for excess utilities costs	■ No impact. Amphi has been without this extra funding for five years, unlike many other districts in the state.
■ Reduce funding for textbooks, computers and equipment for students by \$180,000,000.	■ \$3,360,000 funding loss; A second year of no new materials and equipment for students.
■ Eliminate state level education grants	■ \$942,000 funding loss; loss of programs like gifted education summer school, tutoring and preschool.
■ Eliminate all-day Kindergarten	■ \$2,638,158 funding decrease; loss of this very valuable service for our newest students and their families.
■ No building renewal funding.	■ \$5,712,373 funding loss for next year, but bringing total loss in four years to more than \$16,000,000.
■ Delay deposit of state funds to school district bank accounts	■ Amphi must borrow funds and pay interest.

What

is – again, without

any doubt – alarming about the common features between the proposals made by the Governor and

legislature to date is the reality that they will result in at least \$6,580,158 in funding losses for Amphitheater next year.

Understanding a Bitter Reality

What does it mean for a school district with a budget in excess of \$100 million to lose \$6,580,158 in one budget year? The perspective of some may be that it is a simple and straightforward loss of approximately 6.1% in some "across the board" fashion. The little understood reality for school districts, however, is that district budgets are composed of many specifically allocated fund types that can only be used for certain purposes. Loss of those specific funds, in turn, often means loss of the programs they alone support.

Because many of the Governor and JLBC proposed reductions are program specific (affecting certain aspects of our district services), it can be difficult to put them into perspective and scale and understand their real magnitude. To provide examples which only serve to establish scale and perspective, \$6,580,158 in lost District funding could be considered equivalent to:

- 165 full time employees with compensation of \$40,000 per year; or
- Approximately 4.6% of the district's entire payroll in the current fiscal year; or
- Turning off all the lights, heating and air conditioning in all District facilities... for a year and a half.

As devastating as the presumably settled cuts of \$6.5 million for Amphi are, there remains the considerable possibility that more cuts will be required unless the state receives new revenues. The Governor has announced that an additional 20% decrease in funding to K-12 education in Arizona will be required if Proposition 100 (the \$00.01 sales tax rate increase) is not approved by Arizona voters in June. The alternative budget to be adopted through the anticipated special session will apparently reflect that. An additional loss of 20% is approximately \$15.347 million for Amphi. Using the same examples as before, that's akin to:

- 384 full time employees with compensation of \$40,000 per year; or
- Approximately 20% of the district's base payroll in the current fiscal year; or
- Unplugging everything in the District and turning off the water for several years to come.

Dealing with Our Reality

These dire budget conditions compel consideration of very difficult issues. And, frankly, the enormity of the numbers involved quickly demonstrates that these are not cuts that can be achieved through implementation of commonly proposed efficiencies alone (like modifications in electricity use, reductions in supplies, decreases in field trips or travel, or reduced copying expenses).

Another frequently proposed "efficiency" for reducing school district budgets is administrative reductions. In Amphitheater's case, however, great effort has already been made over the last several years to reduce administrative costs – even before this financial crisis. As a result of this effort, according to the Auditor General's figures, Amphitheater's administrative costs were only 7.9% of the total budget in 2008 -- which is 14% below the state average and 27% below the 2006 national average. Notably, these low administrative cost figures preceded the additional administrative reductions made for this fiscal year.

While a combination of various and further "efficiencies" might well help establish a small portion of the \$6.5 million in reductions likely required for next year, the scale of the proposed cuts necessitates development of an approach which enables broader and more substantial savings potential. The level of reductions required, in short, will inevitably and dramatically impact our staff in some measure.

The input of staff on these issues, therefore, is essential, and the Administration will be soliciting stakeholder input through a process to be facilitated at each work site over the next few weeks.

This initial discussion of this item and the issues it presents will be followed by further study and/or action items in April and, perhaps, May. In April, the Administration will present the results of input solicited from District stakeholders.

In the interim, the tentative and as yet uncertain nature of the final state budget will require a great deal of tolerance for ambiguity, will necessitate planning for multiple possibilities, and will call upon our solidarity and common commitment to serving the community.

Dr. Balentine stated that this is the time of year when school districts begin the annual process of projecting staffing and non-staffing allocations for the following school year. With the current budget crisis facing the state, school districts are facing the arduous task of that planning; for Amphi, this means developing a District plan with a reduction in costs ranging between \$6.5 million to \$15.5 million – dependent on final funding. That difference will be determined by the voters' response to the statewide special election scheduled for May 18, 2010, which has a ballot question of whether to impose a temporary increase of one-percent to the sales tax. [The increase will be effective from June 1, 2010, through May 31, 2013; two-thirds of the revenue derived from the increase will be dedicated to public education – primary and secondary; and, one-third to be dedicated to health-and-human services and public-safety purposes.]

Mr. Jaeger was invited to review the board book materials provided, outlining the budget development process – enrollment projections, site staffing and non-staffing allocations; and, related expenditure reductions. It is almost certain that legislative cuts will result in alarming reductions, minimally \$6.5 million. School district budgets are driven by the number of students (enrollment). Funding of the all-day kindergarten program is just one program that is expected to be eliminated (return to ½ day) impacting the enrollment factor. Given the need to evaluate the severity of budget reductions for 2010-2011, Mr. Jaeger reviewed a PowerPoint presentation, which cited costs for consideration to those extremes:

- employing 165 people at \$40K/annually; or
- 4.6% employee pay district-wide; or
- turning off all utilities for 1 ½ years

Mr. Jaeger's presentation also displayed several charts exhibiting the budget development process used in reaching a total net allocation through the use of enrollment projections – noting that some reductions in enrollment are expected for 2010-2011. A decline at the elementary level of approximately 800 students is primarily attributable to the elimination of all-day kindergarten. Not much change is expected in the middle and high school enrollments. Additional charts (Exhibit 7, pp. 1-7) included examples of allocation models for elementary and secondary levels. Enrollment and school formulas are used in ascertaining budgets for staffing, supplies, and capital outlay/soft capital (student use: textbooks, computers, furniture, student equipment, i.e. lab; athletic and band equipment, and library books).

C. Resolution Recognizing the Special Contributions of Educational Support Personnel

Board Book information: *It takes many employees of every job description to make a school district run and provide a quality education to students. Each year, national activities focus recognition upon the invaluable efforts of teachers and school secretaries. There are a great many other positions that do not enjoy their own day of special recognition.*

The District's Educational Support Personnel, also known as "Classified Staff" serve in many crucial roles throughout the district, including but certainly not limited to: bus drivers and monitors, carpenters, groundskeepers, clerical personnel, food service personnel, and custodians. Day in and day out, they ensure that schools are safe, clean, welcoming and nurturing to students. They help create a positive atmosphere that is essential to student learning.

While one annual day of recognition can certainly not approach the level of appreciation due these dedicated staff members, setting aside a day to highlight their contributions and perhaps bring some well deserved attention to the ongoing work of our support staff. Thus, our Governing Board, for several years now, has recognized educational support personnel on a dedicated day each year.

A resolution has been prepared for the purpose of setting April 21, 2010 as the date this year when the contributions of Educational Support Personnel are specially recognized. The resolution expands on the discussion above.

Dr. Balentine reviewed the item's information and read the prepared Resolution into record.

A motion was made by Dr. Barrabee to approve the Resolution recognizing the special contributions of educational support personnel. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Clymer and passed unanimously, 5-0. (Exhibit 8, pp. 1-2)

D. Resolution Recognizing the Special Contributions of Teachers and Other Professional Personnel

Board Book information: *The contributions made by Educational Support Personnel. In doing so, the Board noted that the contributions of teachers are also formally recognized once a year on a national basis. This year, National PTA Teacher Appreciation Week will be May 3-7, 2010, with National Teacher Day being observed on May 4, 2010.*

National Teacher Appreciation Week has been so designated by the National PTA in cooperation with the NEA. Observance has been celebrated by schools across the country in one form or another, since 1944. The National Education Association has also declared that the Tuesday of Appreciation Week be observed as "National Teacher Day."

There is no federal recognition. Congress has only twice declared a National Teacher's Day – in 1953, at the behest of Eleanor Roosevelt and in 1980 after much lobbying by the NEA. Both Congressional declarations were for those years only. The contributions of teachers, of course, can be seen – and should be celebrated – day in, day out, year in, year out, regardless of Congress' action or inaction on the subject.

A resolution has been prepared to not only recognize the contributions of teachers generally, but also those of Amphitheater teachers specifically, and to call for a federal recognition. This form of resolution also recognizes the many professional employees who may not fit into the traditional notion of "teacher" but who are also deserving of recognition for the instructional and related services they provide to students as well.

Dr. Balentine explained that this item is being presented earlier than in most years as she anticipates the next several meetings to focus on serious budget related issues. Mr. Jaeger was then invited to read the Resolution into record.

A motion was made by Dr. Barrabee to approve the Resolution recognizing the special contributions of educational support personnel. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Clymer. Mrs. Boros noted her appreciation; the motion passed unanimously, 5-0. (Exhibit 9, pp. 1-2).

E. Recognition of (AIA) 4A Division I Soccer State Champions – CDO

Dr. Balentine invited Mr. David Thatcher, Assistant Principal from Canyon del Oro High School, to introduce head coach Josh Marshall, who introduced the following student athletes: Alexander Abbey, Raymond Alvarado, Joseph Cadden, Adrian Contreras, Kyle Cornell, Caleb Cristia, Ben Don, Robert Drier, Aaron Elledge, Dante Medina, Jose Migueles, Stefan Nieth Brown, Luke Parish, Garth Price, Travis Stratton, Connor Wharton, Josh King, and Alex Mayer, Donny Toia, who was also named Arizona Player of the Year by the AZ Daily Star and the AZ Republic; Assistant Coaches: Cole Honer and Ricardo Camacho; Volunteer Coaches: Nicholas Marshall and Mike Valacich.

The Governing Board recognized the Canyon del Oro High School student athletes and coach for winning the 4A, Division I, Boys Soccer State Champions' title for 2009-2010; each was presented with a Certificate of Commendation.

F. Recognition of (AIA) 5A Division II Wrestling State Champions and Runners-Up – IRHS

Dr. Balentine invited Mr. Leonard Suarez, Assistant Principal from Ironwood Ridge High School, to introduce Coach Tim Berrier, who introduced the student/athletes and assistant coaches: Evan Anway, Adam Bingham, Nathan Boggs, Connor Buette, Kevin Carlson, Trevor Cherryholmes, Josh Dybis, Jake Dybis, Matt Filbert, Nathan Grimes, Ian Justesen, Payton Navarrete, Cameron Nelson, Phil Nicley, Robert Ramirez, Tate Sandifer, Scott Simmons, Luke Smith, Troy Taylor, Jacob Viesselman, Braden Whitaker. Also noted were the following students recognized for additional personal accomplishments within their

weight classifications: Trevor Willson - 1st in State, Scott Filber - 1st in State, Kyle Webb - 1st in State, Luke McClure - 1st in State, and David Wilson – 2nd in State; and Assistant Coaches: Jeff Hannan, Anthony Leon, and Paul Vasquez.

The Governing Board recognized the Ironwood Ridge High School student athletes and coaches for achieving Runners-Up (team) at the 2009-2010 5A Division II Wrestling State Championships and the special personal achievements as noted.

G. Recognition of (AIA) 4A Division II Basketball State Runners Up - AHS

Dr. Balentine invited Mr. Armando Soto, Assistant Principal from Amphitheater High School, to introduce head coach Ben Hurley, who introduced the following student athletes: Malcom Millner, Domineik Banks, Bakeer Fella, Fred Simms, Zach Roth, Tony Lillard, Lester Medford, Hank Elder, Ryan Farhat, Gaven DeFilippo, Tim Derksen, Clarence Williams, Charles Benson, Eric Schwab, and Ben Silvertooth; Assistant Coaches: Pat Derksen, Marty Roth, and Sohaib Fella.

The Governing Board recognized the Amphitheater High School student athletes and coaches for achieving Runners-Up (team) at the 2009-2010 4A Division II Basketball State Championships.

5. CONSENT AGENDA³

Mr. Grant asked if there were Board member requests to have any items addressed separately. Mrs. Boros requested so for items M and Q. (See detail on these items below.)

A motion was made by Dr. Loomis to approve consent agenda Items A – L, N – P, and R – T. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Clymer and passed unanimously, 5-0. Appointment of personnel is effective, provided all district, state, and federal requirements are met.

A. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the February 23, 2010 Special Governing Board and Executive Session meetings were approved.

B. Appointment of Personnel

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

C. Personnel Changes

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

D. Leave(s) of Absence

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

E. 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 \$1,411,310.11 (Final Total)

The following vouchers were approved as presented and payment authorized:

Vo. 880	\$ 965,426.37	Vo. 881	\$ 223,440.83	Vo. 882	\$
119,058.70					
Vo. 883	\$ 93,987.87	Vo. 884	\$ 9,396.34		

G. Monthly Status Report for the Fiscal Year 2009-2010

A summary of comparative totals as of February 2009 is as follows:

Budget Capacity	\$94,168,976.00	Expenditures & Encumbrances	\$94,168,976.00
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Totals' Comparisons:

Expenditures as of 2/28/09	\$58,776,025.58	M & O Budget Capacity for 2008-09.....	\$96,073,175.00
Expenditures as of 2/28/10	\$56,846,085.74	M & O Budget Capacity for 2009-10.....	\$94,168,976.00

Bond Balance Outstanding: \$46,705,000.00

Tax Rates: Primary – 3.1469; Secondary – 1.5143

H. Receipt of December 2009 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 December 31, 2009, as submitted (Exhibit 10, pp. 1-8).

I. Annual Notice Pursuant to Business Loan Agreement Between Pima County and Bank of America Relating to a Line of Credit for the Benefit of the District

Board Book information: *On April 25, 2006, the District executed a Line of Credit Agreement with Bank America and Pima County. That agreement requires that we annually estimate our potential borrowing needs. The enclosed letter notifies Bank of America that we anticipate our borrowing to be below \$10,000,000.*

The District has not utilized the line of credit but keeps the agreement in place to cover any unanticipated short term cash flow deficiencies that might occur.

The Governing Board approved the annual notice for a business loan agreement between Pima County and Bank of America on behalf of the District, as described. (Exhibit 11)

J. Approval of Disposal of Surplus Property via PublicSurplus.Com

A listing of surplus vehicles and property submitted for public auction: Vehicles -1994 Bus, Blue Bird (Vin#: BABMC7 AORF060393), 1991 Bus, Blue Bird (Vin#: BABMC7 A3MF044861), 1991 Bus, Blue Bird (Vin#: BABMC7A7MF044863); 1985 Van, Chevrolet (Vin#: 2GCEG25H6F4161993); surplus equipment as listed in the Board item include obsolete computers, keyboards, monitors, audio visual equipment, and assorted items.

The Governing Board approved the disposal of surplus vehicles and property via online auction

K. Approval to Recycle Surplus Computer Hardware

The Governing approved the disposal and recycling of surplus computers through E-Waste Harvesters.

L. Acceptance of Gifts

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

M. Award of Contract for Professional Development Services Based Upon Responses to Request for Proposal 09-0048

Board Book information: *Request for Proposal (RFP) 09-0048 requested responses from interested vendors to provide professional development training to one hundred & twenty Amphitheater educators in Collaborative Learning. Training is to include problem solving, planning, verbal & non-verbal skills development and confidence building to handle difficult topics. The Training is being paid by Federal Title II funds. The District has scheduled six days during the 2010-11 school year for Collaborative Learning Training. Five vendors identified as providing the services required were mailed the request for proposal. One response was received from Mr. Bruce Wellman at Miravia, LLC. Please see the attached vendor evaluation.*

The Administration recommends the Governing Board make the determination that the award is reasonable and fair and that other vendors had a reasonable opportunity to respond. In addition, the Administration recommends the Governing Board award a contract to Mr. Bruce Wellman at Miravia, LLC pursuant to the terms their proposal.

Dr. Balentine responded to an inquiry by Mrs. Boros about the limited number of vendor responses.

A motion was made by Mrs. Boros to award the contract for professional development services to *Mr. Bruce Wellman at Miravia, L.L.C.* based upon the response(s) received to RFP 09-0048. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Clymer and passed unanimously, 5-0.

N. Award of Contract for Canyon del Oro High School Preschool Kitchen Upgrade Based on Responses to Request for Bid 09-0049

Board Book information: *A notification of Request for Bid (RFB) 09-0049 for Construction Services, a kitchen upgrade Building R Canyon del Oro High School, was posted to the District's Website. Contractors registered with the Purchasing Department were notified via email of the posting. Shirley's Plan Service was provided a copy of all bid documents. Five contractors responded. Section R7-2-1031 of the Arizona Administrative Code requires the contract shall be awarded to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder whose bid conforms in all material respects to the requirements and evaluation criteria set forth in the invitation for bids. Section 014200 of the bid text defines industry standards in effect to include standards and regulations of State Governmental Agencies. One of the five responding contractor's license is for residential structures, not applicable to the scope of work required. The bid text also required envelopes containing bids to be identified as Canyon del Oro High School Culinary Arts Renovation, Request for Bid 09-0049 due Wednesday February 24, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. local time. A second contractor sent their bid response via United Parcel Service with no referenced bid information on the UPS envelope. The envelope was not opened prior to the public bid opening. Two contractor's bid responses were deemed non-responsive based on the above information. [Board Book holders were provided with the administration's vendor evaluation.]*

The Governing Board approved the award of contract for Construction Services for the Canyon del Oro High School - Building R, Kitchen Upgrade to *4L Construction* based upon their response to RFB 09-0049.

O. Award of Contracts for Nursing Services Based Upon Responses to Request for Bid 09-0050

Board Book information: *Request for Bid (RFB) 09-0050 for Nursing Services for Special Needs Students was mailed to seven vendors; 4 vendors responded. One bid arrived late, received after the time and date scheduled for the bid opening. The remaining three vendors were eligible for an award of contract.*

The District currently requires nursing services for Special Needs Students. These services require knowledge and training in ventilators, suctioning, etc. or other specialty training required to meet the specific needs of a student's condition. [Board Book holders were provided with the administration's vendor evaluation.]

The Governing Board approved the award(s) of contract for nursing services to *Nurse Finders, Maxim, and Favorite* based upon the responses received to RFB 09-0050.

P. Adoption of Governing Board Meeting Schedule for 2010-2011 Fiscal Year; Discussion Regarding Location(s) of Board Meetings for 2010-2011 Fiscal Year

Board Book information: *Traditionally, the Board has had a regular meeting on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month, unless the date fell on a holiday. The Board may meet, however, on such days at it determines in its discretion, so long as it meets the minimum requirement of having one regular meeting per month during the regular school year. A.R.S. §15-321(D). The proposed schedule follows that traditional schedule with exceptions where meetings would conflict with District-wide vacation breaks and other calendar conflicts.*

The Board may also designate the location of its regular and special meetings. State law does provide, however, that regular meetings are to be held "at the most convenient public facility in the school district." A.R.S. § 15-322(C).

Generally, the Board reserves information, study and action items for its regular business meetings, held on the first Tuesday of the month. The second meeting of each month is reserved for consent items and executive session business.

Proposed Meeting Date Schedule:

Regular Board meetings: Thursday, *July 1, 2010 (NOTE, special day); August 10, 2010, September 7, 2010, October 5, 2010, *November 16, 2010, *December 7, 2010, January 11, 2011, February 8, 2011, March 8, 2011, April 12, 2011, *May 10, 2011, and June 21, 2011 (NOTE 2nd meeting of the month).

Executive Session; August 24, 2010, September 21, 2010, October 26, 2010, January 25, 2011, February 22, 2011, March 29, 2011, April 26, 2011, and June 7, 2011 (NOTE 1st meeting of the month).

*Indicates months when there is only one Board Meeting scheduled: July, November, December, and May.

The Governing Board approved the Governing Board Meeting Schedule for the 2010-2011 fiscal year, as submitted.

Q. Approval of Out of State Travel

Out of state travel was requested for students and staff (source of funding indicated): from Ironwood Ridge High School to take 26 students to San Diego, California, May 20-23, 2010 (tax credit and student activity funds); from Ironwood Ridge High School to take 16 students to Ithaca, New York, April 14-18, 2010 (tax credit, gifts and donations, and student activity funds); from Amphitheater High School to take 40 students to Anaheim, California, April 8-11, 2010 (tax credit and student activity funds); from the JROTC program at Flowing Wells School District to take 3 students to Fort Benning, Georgia, Anniston, Alabama, and Abilene, Texas, March 18-29, 2010 (tax credit donations); (inadvertently, travel was not approved by the Board prior to the event) MAJ Bob De Witt from the JROTC program at Flowing Wells School District to take 2 students to Port Clinton, Ohio, February 17-21, 2010 (no costs) and, the Governing Board approved the change in chaperones listed for a travel request from Ironwood Ridge High School to New York, New York, March 15-18, 2010 that been previously approved at the October 6, 2009 Board meeting (tax credits and student activity funds).

Out of state travel was approved for staff (source of funding indicated): from Canyon del Oro High School to attend the Rocky Mountain Athletic Trainers' Association Inc. Annual Clinical Symposium in Denver, Colorado, April 8-11, 2010 (no costs).

Dr. Balentine responded to an inquiry by Mrs. Boros about the JROTC program travel request.

A motion was made by Mrs. Boros to approve out of state travel for students and staff, as requested. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Clymer and passed unanimously, 5-0.

R. Review and Approval of Grants

The Governing Board approved the \$800.00 Target Field Trip Grant received for Stacie Devaney from Donaldson Elementary School to be used for transportation costs to take second grader to see live musical theater at Pima Community College.

S. Approval of Essential Recruitment Stipend – Special Education

Board Book information: *Beginning in May of 2004, we have recommended an Essential Recruitment Stipend for those positions for which we have had great difficulty in hiring qualified candidates. This stipend, as it has been applied to other hard to fill vacancies, has assisted us in recruiting those qualified candidates. Beginning this year, we began offering our own services for Hearing Impaired and Visually Impaired students rather than paying for services from an external agency. As part of that program, we are recommending an essential recruitment stipend be applied to these individuals.*

The Governing Board approved the essential recruitment stipend for qualified and certified Hearing-Impaired and Visually-Impaired Special Education teachers in the amount of \$4,000. beginning with the 2009-2010 school year.

T. Request to Move from Pre to Post Phase-Out Retirement Early

The Governing Board approved the following staff member written requests to move from pre-to post-retirement effective May 21, 2010, as indicated:

Mr. Wesley Weeks, who was approved for Option A of the District's phase-out early retirement program starting with the 2007-2008 school year; Ms. Geraldine Herrera, who was approved for Option A of the District's phase-out early retirement program starting with the 2008-2009 school year; Ms. Mary Swiderski, who was approved for Option A on the District's phase-out early retirement program starting with the 2006-2007 school year.

The Governing Board approved the Ms. Christine Roussard's written request to rescind her previously approved request to move to post phase out retirement; she would like to complete her fifth year as an Amphi employee.

6. STUDY ITEMS⁴

A. Review of District Calendar for School Year 2011-2012

Board Book information: *The District's school year calendar must meet specific requirements under Arizona law for the number of instructional days; state law mandates that public schools must have a minimum of "180 instructional days". Since the 180 day requirement went into effect, however, Arizona law has also provided permission for districts to meet the 180 day standard through an equivalent number of instructional minutes over fewer days. For several years, the Amphitheater District utilized the equivalent instructional minutes' option, resulting in slightly shorter school year calendars of 178 school days.*

The draft calendar which is attached reflects a calendar of 178 days. Current budget discussions at the state capitol suggest the number of school days could vary, however. One of the budget reduction options under consideration by the legislature is a five-day reduction in mandatory school days (180 to 175). This would, of course, impact the calendar for next school year (2010-2011) as well as the calendar currently under study (2011-2012). It would be premature, however, to prepare a calendar for either year at this time, based upon the speculative nature of the final legislative outcome. Thus, future revision of these calendars may be required.

Because the District's calendar does not have "extra" school days built into it, any emergency closure of schools due to weather or other factors must be addressed by ensuring the requisite instructional minute requirements are still met. The District and the Amphitheater Education Association (on behalf of District employees) have agreed that if any schools are closed as a result of any emergency, certificated staff at those schools will have an equivalent number of student reporting days added to their work calendar without additional compensation -- generally by turning the planning days at the end of each semester into student reporting days. As long as the state permits the district to use equivalent instructional minutes rather than 180 days, the district's school calendars will be constructed in this same manner.

Dr. Balentine stated that the District strives to consistently have two years of the District's school year calendar information available to its parents. The calendar for 2011-2012 is presented to the Board for review and discussion. The same model has been followed for several years. There may become a need in the future to return for further evaluation. Additionally, Administration is inviting feedback from Association representatives prior to scheduling the return of this item requesting approval.

B. Legislative Review

Board Book information: *While a chief focus of this year's legislative session is obviously the daunting state budget deficit, a number of education bills have also surfaced. Committee reviews are well underway, and some full votes have even occurred. This item will permit the Governing board to review and discuss the status of education-related legislation.*

Mr. Jaeger highlighted several of the items found within the proposed education-related legislation summary (provided to Board book holders). These current legislative items can be found on the Amphi website at: <http://www.amphi.com/departments/legal/legisbudginfo/legislation.html>

Dr. Barrabee expressed distress about the proposed expanded list of school tax credit uses for charter/privater schools and the legislative influence in further benefiting more affluent schools/districts.

Mrs. Clymer raised a concern about a contradiction in theory between the recent Career Ladder ruling citing inequity and the recently proposed expansion of school tax credits. Mr. Jaeger agreed that there are several arguments to support this; however, not specifically with tax credits as they are considered locally-funded tax streams.

7. INFORMATION²

A. Review of Federal Relations Network (FRN) Conference Attendance – Dr. Kent Barrabee

Dr. Barrabee was invited to serve as the Federal Relations Network (FRN) delegate by the Board of Directors from the Arizona School Boards Association (ASBA). In February, serving in this capacity as Delegate, representing Congressional District 7 of Arizona, Dr. Barrabee again attended the annual FRN Conference sponsored by the National School Boards Association (NSBA) in Washington, D.C.

The conference is an annual meeting that offers school board members information and resources about public education advocacy, including the opportunity for introductions to senators and representatives serving on Capitol Hill.

Dr. Barrabee reported that he was in Washington at the time when the proposed education budget was made available. Mr. Arne Duncan, U.S. Secretary of Education, served as keynote speaker at the conference. He shared some of Mr. Duncan's positions, including his belief that the system should "reward success and raise standards," and supports local control of curriculum. He referenced comments made by another attendee, Senator Susan Collins, Maine, whose comments support IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) funding by the government.

Dr. Barrabee expressed appreciation for the opportunity given to attend this conference.

Mrs. Clymer thanked Dr. Barrabee for attending the conference and representing Amphi at that conference.

8. BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mrs. Boros requested an update about TEMS (Tyler Education Management Solution), specifically related to the viewing screen with the Grade Book component.

Dr. Barrabee commended staff for the improvements and the updates being made to the District's website; he noted that the legislative and budget information/links are of relevance and of great service to the community.

Legislation: <http://www.amphi.com/departments/legal/legisbudginfo/legislation.html>

Budget: <http://www.amphi.com/departments/legal/legisbudginfo/budget.html>

Mr. Grant requested a progress report on the District's Bond programs at a future meeting.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT¹

There were no comments from the public

2. A. EXECUTIVE SESSION - Continuation

Mr. Grant announced a recess from the Open session at 9:10 p.m. for the purpose of returning to Executive Session. [Executive Session was initiated at 6:00 p.m. and suspended/recessed in order to resume the Open meeting for regular business.]

B. Motion to Close Executive Session and Reconvene Open Meeting

Upon return to the Board Room, Mr. Grant declared the meeting in open session at 9:32 p.m.

10. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Dr. Loomis, seconded by Mrs. Clymer and passed unanimously, 5-0, that the meeting be adjourned. The time was 9:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret Harris

Mr. Jeff Grant, President

Date