

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, December 6, 2011, 6:00 p.m.

Board Members Present

Mr. Jeff Grant, President
Mrs. Diana Boros, Vice President
Dr. Kent Paul Barrabee, Member
Dr. Linda Loomis, Member
Mrs. Susan Zibrat, 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 – 6:00 P.M.

Mr. Grant called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

1. Executive Session

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

1. Determination of Whether to Hold an Expulsion Hearing and Designate a Hearing Officer to Hear Evidence, Prepare a Record and Bring a Recommendation to the Board, Pursuant to A.R.S. §15-843(F)(2), Regarding: a. Student # 30006747 b. Student # 30010494 c. Student # 30039213 d. Student # 30034913 e. Student # 30011122 f. Student # 30038720 g. Student # 30011100 h. Student # 30013714 i. Student # 30012466 j. Student # 30006008 k. Student # 30022177 l. Student # 30019839 m. Student # 30022752 n. Student # 30005700 o. Student # 30014456 p. Student # 30036366 q. Student # 30006955.
2. Consideration and Decision Upon Expulsion Hearing Officer's Recommendation, Pursuant to A.R.S. §15-843(F)(2), Regarding: a. Student # 11203533 b. Student # 11005749 c. Student # 30006737
3. Consideration and Determination of Appeal of Long-term Suspension Hearing Officer's Decision, Pursuant to A.R.S. §15-843(A), Regarding: None at this time.
4. Consideration and Determination of Appeal of Long-term Suspension Hearing Officer's Decision, Pursuant to A.R.S. §15-843(A); Determination of Whether to Hold an Expulsion Hearing and Designate a Hearing Officer to Hear Evidence, Prepare a Record and Bring a Recommendation to the Board, Pursuant to A.R.S. §15-843(F)(2), Regarding: a. Student #30040878 b. Student #30020991 c. Student #30000476

A motion was made by Dr. Loomis that the Board recess into Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. §15-843(F)(2) and A.R.S. §15-843(A), as presented. Mrs. Boros seconded the motion and it passed unanimously, 5-0. Mr. Grant called a recess at 6:03 p.m. for the purpose of holding Executive Session for student disciplinary action.

CONTINUATION OF OPEN MEETING

(Approximately 7:00 p.m.)

Call to Order and Signing of Visitors' Register

Following Executive Session, Mrs. Boros reconvened the open meeting at 7:56 p.m. She announced that the Governing Board would return to Executive Session following the conclusion of the Regular meeting to accommodate outstanding executive session items. She also noted that Mr. Grant had excused himself from the meeting following Executive Session due to illness.

On behalf of the Board and Administration, Mrs. Boros expressed regret for any inconvenience caused by the unexpected delay in the executive session and thanked the students, parents, and staff still in attendance for their patience.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Boros invited members of the audience to sign the visitors' register and described procedures for addressing the Board.

There were no comments from the public.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Linda Haller, Principal from Rillito School, introduced the following students, who were present and led the Pledge of Allegiance: Jonathan Terek, Christian Ornelas, Ana Belinda Velazco, and Blaze Green. Each student was presented with a Certificate of Commendation.

Dr. Barrabee acknowledged the Art Display in the Board Room. He commended Prince Elementary School students and art teacher, Melanie Lewis, for their contributions.

Announcement of Date and Place of Next Special Governing Board Meeting

Mrs. Boros announced the next regular meeting of the Governing Board: Tuesday, January 10, 2012, 7:00 p.m., Wetmore Center, 701 W. Wetmore Road.

2. 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. CDO Tennis Court Replacement: Construction is 30% complete. New post tensioned concrete courts are poured and cured. Fence and landscape work is ongoing. This project is on schedule and on budget.

B. Transportation Offices: Construction is 5% complete. Demolition is complete. Technology and phone distribution work for reroute to the maintenance garage and existing transportation offices has started. Interior framing and exterior siding work is also in process. Transportation project is on schedule and on budget.

II. INSTRUCTIONAL SPACE / PORTABLE REPLACEMENT

A. Rillito Center Addition: Construction is 99% complete. The new classroom building and playgrounds are complete and are in use. Final landscaping, fencing, and punch list corrections are in process. Interior paint and floor coverings in the existing classrooms will be updated with project contingency funds and this work has started.

B. Nash Elementary Classroom Addition: Construction is 84% complete. The new two story classroom building work is continuing. Millwork and flooring installation are in process. The building will be occupied over winter break and classes will start in the new building for spring semester. Nash is on schedule and under budget.

C. Walker Elementary Classroom Addition: Construction is 92% complete. The new two story building is complete. The building will be occupied over winter break and classes will start in the new building for spring semester. The portables will be removed and the playground expanded after the new year. Walker is ahead of schedule and on budget.

D. Amphitheater Middle School Addition / Remodel: Programming is continuing with the AMS staff, Architects, General Contractor, and the Bond Dept.

E. Canyon Del Oro High School Addition / Remodel: Programming is continuing with the CDO staff, Architects, General Contractor, and the Bond Dept.

F. Copper Creek Classroom Renovation / IT Re-cabling: A vendor recommendation is on tonight's consent agenda for Governing Board approval. If approved, work will start immediately on this project.

III. NEW CLASSROOMS/INCREASED CAPACITY; IV. TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES; and
V. TRANSPORTATION: No new activity to report at this time.

B. Recognition of Sun City Astronomy Club

Board Book information: *The Sun City Astronomy Club organized tax credit contributions that led to the purchase of one telescope per 5th grade student at Coronado K-8. Ms. Cathy Crockett, Assistant Principal of Coronado K-8 School, will be present to introduce several members of the organization.*

Ms. Cathy Crockett, Assistant Principal at Coronado K-8 School, introduced four members of the Sun City Astronomy Club: Dave Thompson, Bob Cratty, Harland Goertz, and Lauren Strassburg. Students partner with Club members in order to enhance their math and science skills through participation in the Project ASTRO program, which is co-sponsored with Kitt Peak.

The Governing Board expressed their appreciation to the Club's members and presented the membership a Certificate of Commendation.

C. Recognition of Dr. Dale P. Woolridge

Board book information: *Dr. Woolridge, during the current school year, has provided sports physicals to student athletes who did not have primary care physicians. His services were provided at a much reduced cost and, in some cases, pro bono. His generosity has allowed more than 50 students to participate who may not have otherwise been able to participate. He looks forward to continuing to provide these services to our district schools prior to athletic participation.*

Mr. Joe Paddock, Director of the District's Interscholastic Activities, described the significant contributions provided by Dr. Woolridge to student athletes.

The Governing Board expressed their appreciation to Dr. Woolridge and a Certificate of Commendation was given to Mr. Paddock, asking that it be forwarded to Dr. Woolridge.

D. Annual Review of Community Extension Programs – George Rushing, Director

Board book information: *Dr. George A. Rushing II, Executive Director of Community Extension Programs (CEP), will be present to provide an update on current program offerings, services, and activities*

Mrs. Boros announced that this item was postponed.

E. Recognition of Doctorate Degree Recipient/National Board Certification recipients

Board Book information: *Thomas Eric Collins - Director of State and Federal Intervention Programs received his Doctorate in Education from the University of Arizona and Juma A. Massinga-Sanders from Ironwood Ridge High School received her Doctorate of Philosophy from Capella University.*

The Governing Board congratulated both Drs. Collins and Massinga-Sanders and presented each with a Certificate of Commendation.

F. Recognition of Rodel Finalists

Board Book information: *Each year, the Rodel Foundation of Arizona selects outstanding teachers based on their record of outstanding student achievement and excellent instruction to Arizona's students. The teachers can be nominated in various ways and include an application process, a review of their teaching expertise, a site visit to their classroom, and an interview. This year the Amphitheater School District has*

three Finalists, Donna McEnery, a 3rd grade teacher from Rio Vista, Betty Kaye Atwell, a Kindergarten teacher from Keeling, and Kris Holt, a 3rd grade teacher from Prince. Last week Kris Holt was named a Rodel Exemplary Teacher Award!

The Governing Board congratulated Mrs. McEnery, Mrs. Atwell, and Mrs. Holt and presented them with certificates of commendation.

G. Recognition of Rio Vista, Harelson and Holaway

Board Book information: *The Arizona Business and Education Coalition (ABEC) recently launched a new school recognition program that identifies schools that are successful in raising expectations and preparing students for college and career readiness. The process used to identify these schools involves the use of AIMS aggregate scores for each subject and grade level and then these scores are correlated with target benchmarks for college and career readiness based on national ACT scores. The correlation is backward mapped to 3rd grade. Using this data, each school is measured on both growth of student achievement and the absolute level of achievement of students. We have three schools that were recognized at the November 29th ABEC meeting: Rio Vista, Harelson and Holaway. We are very proud of these schools for this accomplishment.*

Dr. Balentine provided an overview of the program and described criterion. She introduced the three principals in attendance representing their schools: Mr. Andrew Heinemann, Harelson Elementary School, Mrs. Dianna Kuhn, Rio Vista Elementary School, and Mr. Ernest Galaz, Holaway Elementary School.

The Governing Board expressed appreciation to the principals and their staff for their collaborative achievements.

H. Recognition of Amphitheater High School Student Advisory Council

Due to the lateness of the hour, this item was postponed and re-scheduled to a future meeting.

I. Recognition of Canyon del Oro High School Boys Golf, Division II State Champions

The following Canyon del Oro High School student athletes were recognized for being the Division II State Champions. Team: Logan France, David "DJ" Niichel, Jaime Waltmire, Jack Otis, Christopher Meyers; and, Jaime Waltmire as Individual Boys Golf Division II State Champion, Coach: John Farbarik, Assistant Coaches: Bill Dickerson, Robert Esquibel, Susan Meyers, and David Morrissey.

The Governing Board congratulated each of the student athletes and coaches, and presented them with certificates of commendation.

J. Recognition of Canyon del Oro High School Girls Swim, Division I State Champion and Runner Up

Student athlete Maggie McCord from Canyon del Oro High School was recognized for being the Division I State Champion in the Individual 50 Freestyle and State Runner Up in the Individual 100 Freestyle and Coach Chad Reister.

The Governing Board congratulated Maggie and Coach Reister and presented the principal with certificates of commendation.

K. Recognition of Canyon del Oro High School Boys Cross Country, Division II State Champions

The following Canyon del Oro High School students were recognized for being the Division II State Champions. Team: Lucas Rischar, Jacob Rischar, August Bruno, Jacob Bruno, Jordan Hellebyuck, Michael James, Andrew Garcia, and Jon Lander; and, Coach Richard Glider.

The Governing Board congratulated each of the student athletes and coach, and presented them with certificates of commendation.

L. Recognition of Ironwood Ridge High School Girls Swim, 5A - Division I State Champion

Student athlete Sara Borendame from Ironwood Ridge High School was recognized for being the 5A - Division I State Champion in the 100 Yard Breaststroke and Coach Amy Mayhew.

The Governing Board congratulated Sara and Coach Mayhew and presented them with certificates of commendation.

M. Recognition of Ironwood Ridge High School Boys Cross Country, 5A - Division II State Runners Up

The following Ironwood Ridge High School student athletes were recognized for being the 5A - Division II State Runners Up: Team: John Winfield, David Olson, David Fernandez, Collin Coulter, Cal Skilsky, Brandon McKay, Sean Orth; and, Coach Gary Forrest.

The Governing Board congratulated each of the student athletes and coach, and presented them with certificates of commendation.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Mrs. Boros 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-R. The motion was seconded by Dr. Barrabee, 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 November 15, 2011, Regular Governing Board meeting 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 \$1,911,394.14

Board book information: *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. 344	\$129,528.99	Vo. 345	\$ 83,785.07	Vo. 346	\$171,608.59
Vo. 347	\$125,435.01	Vo. 348	\$238,967.89	Vo. 349	\$115,106.87
Vo. 350	\$129,553.65	Vo. 351	\$164,653.98	Vo. 352	\$752,754.09

G. Acceptance of Gifts

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

H. Receipt of Monthly Status Report for the Fiscal Year 2011-2012

A summary of comparative totals as of November, 2011 is as follows:

Budget Capacity	\$81,808,474.00	Expenditures & Encumbrances...	\$81,808,474.00
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Totals' Comparisons:

Expenditures as of 11/30/10	\$29,561,193.74	M & O Budget Capacity for 2010-2011	\$83,466,796.00
Expenditures as of 11/30/11	\$28,872,783.75	M & O Budget Capacity for 2011-2012	

\$81,808,474.00

Bond Balance Outstanding: \$95,635,000.000

Tax Rates: Primary – 3.6518; Secondary – 1.3993

I. Receipt of October 2011 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 October 2011, as submitted (Exhibit 6, pp. 1-8).

J. Approval of Parent Support Organization(s) for 2011-2012

The Governing Board approved the following Parent Support Organization pursuant to District Policy KBE-R from: IRHS Boys Basketball Booster, La Cima Music Boosters Club, and IRHS Project Graduation.

K. Approval of Project EXCELL! Incentive Pay for Participating School Administrators and Teachers in Qualifying Schools

Board book information: *The pay out for the first award period in the 2011-2012 school year for Project EXCELL! Phase V is prepared for approval. Participants submitted documentation for Professional Development, Leadership, and Student Achievement. Names of participants and award amounts are attached.*

The Governing Board approved the Project EXCELL! Incentive Pay for participating administrators and teachers, as described. (Exhibit 7, pp. 1-9)

L. Approval of Proposed Revisions to Governing Board Policy IKE Regarding the Promotion and Retention of Students

Board book information: *At the November Governing Board meeting, the Administration presented the work of the Promotion-Retention Committee regarding changes in policy IKE and supporting regulations and exhibits. These changes cleaned up outdated language, supported more effective timelines for interventions, and provided clearer procedures for the retention process*

The Governing Board approved revisions to Governing Board Policy IKE regarding Promotion and Retention of students, as submitted.

M. Approval of Out of State Travel

Out of state travel was approved for students and staff (source of funding indicated): from Ironwood Ridge HS to take 47 students from the Culinary Arts, Technical Theatre/International Thespian Society to a Walt Disney Youth Education Series in Anaheim CA, February 23-24, 2012 (tax credits and club funds); from Amphitheater HS to take 22 Link Crew students to a Leadership Conference at Sea World in San Diego, CA, February 23-27, 2012 (club funds); from Ironwood Ridge HS to take 7 students from the Newspaper Club to JEA National Spring Convention in Seattle, WA, April 12-15, 2012 (club funds); from Wilson K-8 to take 80 students from Wilson Middle School Choir to participate in a National Choral Competition in Anaheim, CA, March 29-31, 2012 (auxiliary, tax credits, club funds).

Out of state travel was approved for staff (source of funding indicated): from District Offices/Administration for 4 employees to attend the 21st Century Knowledge and Skills: The New High School Curriculum and the Future of Assessment in Los Angeles, CA on January 11-13, 2012 (reimbursement from outside sources).

N. Approval of Textbook for Adoption

The Governing Board approved the following textbook(s) that have been on display to the public for 60 days in accordance with Section 15-721 of the Arizona Revised Statutes:

TEXTBOOK: Statistical Reasoning in Sports; Publisher: W. H. Freeman
Author: Josh Tabor and Christine Franklin

O. Review and Approval of Supplemental Materials

The Governing Board approved the list of supplemental materials that have been purchased for use in district schools in the first semester of the school year. (Exhibit 8, pp. 1-2)

P. Award of Contract for Conference Services Based on Responses to Request for Proposal (RFP) 11-0016

Board Book information: *Request for Proposal (RFP) 11-0016 for Conference Services for the Teaching & Learning in the 21st Century 2013 Conference was mailed to five conference service providers in the Tucson metropolitan area. All five vendors were also contacted by phone confirming they had received the Amphitheater request for proposal.*

The bid text required the successful vendor to provide breakout rooms, large meeting rooms for 300 attendees, dining facilities, and audio/visual support in addition to six lodging rooms for guest speakers. One response from the Hilton El Conquistador was received.

Vendors are reluctant to commit large conference facilities without booking a corresponding number of lodgings room. Chris Potter from the Student Services Office reviewed the Hilton response and found the price charged for the rooms and services provided comparable to the rates charged when this service was last bid in 2008.

The Governing Board approved the award of contract for conference services to the *Hilton El Conquistador* based upon responses to RFP 11-0016, as described.

Q. Award of Contracts for Occupational Therapists Services Based on Responses to Request for Proposal (RFP) 11-0024

Board Book information: *Request for Proposal (RFP) 11-0024 was mailed to forty vendors providing Occupational Therapist Services. The scope of work requires candidates to meet the following requirements:*

Current Certification as Registered Occupational Therapist Licensed in Arizona

A minimum of 1 year of experience in a school setting including previous experience with syndromes, i.e. students with Autism and/or severe and profound disabilities

Ability to work during the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year ensuring continuity for students receiving services

Occupational Therapist services to include pre-K through high school, multiple schools, and caseload of approximately 60 students

Eight responses were received. Vendors were asked to provide resumes of candidates who could meet the above requirements, their K-12 experience, licensing, certifications, education, and availability. Vendors were also asked to provide information regarding their firm, references, insurance information, and their cost of service.

The Governing Board approved the awards of contract for occupational therapists services to *Sunbelt Staffing, CompHealth, Supplemental Health Care, Staffing Options & Solutions, Invo Healthcare Associates, and Escalada-Westland Occupational Therapy* based upon their responses to RFP 11-0024, as described.

R. Approval of Bond Related Projects:

1. Award of Contract for Construction Copper Creek Computer Labs & Information Technology to Support 21st Century Learning Based on Response to Request for Bid (RFB) 11-0004

Board book information: *Request for Bid (RFB) 11-0004 for construction at Copper Creek Elementary School included the following infrastructure upgrades: New computer labs, HVAC return air systems, Classroom renovation to include replacement of moveable walls with new hard walls, New main & intermediate distribution frame rooms, Upgraded electrical service and cabling to support 21st Century Learning.*

The bid was posted at the Print Room and Shirley's Plan Service. General Contractors registered with the Purchasing Department were notified of the posting. Nine General Contractors responded. Please see below the priced responses less tax.

	UNITED BUILDERS	LLOYD	BAKER MORRISSEY	DL WITHERS	BUILDING EXCELLENCE	CORE	CONCORD	KAPPCON
Bid Amount	\$1,068,627.00	\$1,248,684.00	\$1,045,751.00	\$885,698.00	\$1,007,051.00	\$1,050,526.00	\$1,118,890.00	\$1,088,174.00

The Governing Board approved the award of contract for Bond-funded construction services at Copper Creek Elementary School computer labs to *D. L. Withers* based upon their response to RFB 11-0004, as described.

4. STUDY/ACTION

A. Adoption of the FY 2011-2012 Expenditure Budget Revision 1

Board Book information: *The State of Arizona requires governing boards to revise the operating budget for the school year to reflect actual carry forwards and interest earnings.*

The Maintenance and Operations fund was adjusted to reflect the actual carry forwards and adjust student counts to reflect actual numbers. The carry forward amounts and interest earnings for the Unrestricted Capital and Soft Capital Funds were estimated for the Budget Adoption in July. These budgets have been revised to actual numbers.

Recently the Arizona Department of Education recalculated the enrollment numbers for school districts for the enrollment of our students in charter school programs over the summer. This recalculation lowered our student counts for funding purposes.

In addition, the Arizona Department of Education has not finalized the legislative budget cuts to Unrestricted and Soft Capital. The Soft Capital and Unrestricted Capital budgets will need to be revised by May 2012 to reflect the actual legislative budget cuts.

Dr. Balentine stated that this is the second of three (expected) budget revisions to be presented for approval.

Mr. Little was invited to highlight the changes being submitted for approval. State law requires that districts revise their budget for adjustments by December 15th (as described above). The carry forwards and interest earnings' numbers from the prior year are not known until October. These funds affect mathematical formulas; estimates were used in the originally-approved July (2011) budget submission. The budget revision approval must be done in order to preserve any possible budget capacity.

Mr. Little responded to board member questions. He explained the funding structure for District students taking on-line classes during the summer through other providers (charter or public school); to the degree in which the provider has sufficient hours to count towards the fractional membership of that child or per intergovernmental agreements in place. He further explained that the state does fund students attending a JTED (Joint Technological Education District) class differently (higher), the state will fund as much as 1½ ADM membership. A certain amount of concurrent enrollment is anticipated when budgets are prepared (prior to summer school) that typically results in lost funding.

A motion was made by Dr. Loomis to approve the Adoption of the FY 2011-2012 Expenditure Budget Revision 1. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Boros and it passed unanimously, 4-0.

5. STUDY

A. Study of "Move on When Ready" Diploma at AHS starting 2012-13

Board book information: *The National Center on Education and the Economy (NCEE), in collaboration with the Center for the Future of Arizona (CFA), is instrumental in an effort to implement the "Move On When Ready" initiative as part of the "Excellence for All," a national effort led by NCEE. CFA was selected by the State Board of Education to lead the initiative in Arizona for schools wishing to offer the Grand Canyon High School Diploma and the related instructional systems that comprise "Move on When Ready."*

Beginning this fall, participating students (primarily incoming freshmen) at 14 Arizona schools will take a series of core classes and curriculum-based examinations from one of two world-class instructional systems, Cambridge International Examinations and ACT Quality Core. All participating students will receive the same high-quality curriculum and support; the teachers will receive resources and support, including syllabi, and training in the new curricula.

After their 10th grade year, students who have met all course requirements and have passed the associated board exam may pursue several educational options. These include staying in high school and pursuing a traditional diploma, completing college prep courses (AP courses, IB courses, Cambridge International Upper Division, ACT Quality Core), focusing on JTED and CTE specific classes and internships, or graduating early with a Grand Canyon Diploma and enrolling full-time in community college. Students who do not initially pass the board exams can continue to prepare for taking the exam in their 11th or 12th grade year.

Amphitheater High School (AHS) is interested in pursuing the Cambridge International Assessment Program beginning with the 2012-2013 school year.

Dr. Balentine stated that discussions have taken place for approximately a year about this concept and the potential for piloting this program to establish a new type of diploma known as the Grand Canyon diploma; legislation supporting this passed last year. Program information will be provided tonight as part of the review process with hopes of having this piloted at AHS beginning with the Fall 2012 semester. Administration will potentially submit for approval at a Governing Board meeting next month (January 2012).

Dr. Balentine invited Mr. Jon Lansa, Principal at Amphitheater High School and Ms. Amanda Burke, Director of Education Strategy and Innovation at the Center for the Future of Arizona, to provide a program overview.

Mr. Lansa provided a PowerPoint presentation about the Move On When Ready (MOWR) initiative. The MOWR legislation (HB 2731) began in April 2010. The Grand Canyon Diploma requirements were established by the (AZ) State Board of Education in January 2011. A trailer bill, SB 1451, followed in April 2011. The MOWR concept provides a competency-based diploma which is tied to minimum college and career readiness; is outcome-based; adaptive to individual student interests; and, is a system aligned to national and international benchmarked standards. The Grand Canyon Diploma requirements include successfully passing all prescribed Board Exams for specific core subject areas and then affords qualified students options, to include: community college, college preparatory courses/advanced placement, CTE/JTED coursework or internships, or to continue with their high school programs of study. Students may earn their Grand Canyon Diploma beginning after their sophomore year so their options begin in their junior or senior years.

Through extensive research, the AHS MOWR Team has determined that their choice for the Board Examination System (BES) is Cambridge International; the other option was ACT QualityCore. Key Outcomes are listed as: increased rigor for all students; alignment to international standards and common core subjects; increased opportunities; and, the ability to offer an academically competitive and relevant school environment.

Mr. Lansa outlined the anticipated timelines for professional development and implementation plans to accomplish the program's implementation with incoming 9th graders in the Fall 2012 school year – beginning with data collection from feeder-pattern middle schools; communication for incoming 9th graders and their families; on-going curriculum design and staff development; and, on-going school design. Mr. Lansa noted that AHS would be the only high school in Tucson offering this program in the Fall.

Mr. Lansa responded to Board member questions. Program implementation will provide this opportunity to incoming 9th graders. [Note: Following the open meeting, clarification was provided: to a strand of in-coming 9th graders.] The team has spoken with other participating school districts. In addition to textbooks, additional resources will be sought such as: web-based support; Cambridge is an established program. Some costs can be funded by Title I. i.e. professional development. Plans are to address funding issues that arise in the junior and senior level. The middle school curriculum from Cambridge can provide assistance to in-coming students needing interventions.

Ms. Burke was invited to shed additional information. She stated that her company is under a no-fee contract with the State Board of Education to manage and oversee Move on When Ready for the next five years. To

facilitate the process, a learning collaborative has been developed comprised of all participating schools in the state. These schools discuss and meet regularly sharing experiences, successes, and failures. Additional key points are early curriculum planning, communication with colleagues; regarding funding, many school districts are utilizing Title I and Title 2a funding.

Mrs. Boros requested that copies of the presentation be forwarded to Board Members for further review. In addition, she posed questions and stated that responses could be provided in written format and supplied with the presentation.

B. Review of Policies Contained in Board Policy Classifications K (Community Relations and L (Education Agency Relations)

Mrs. Boros inquired about postponing the second review of this item to a future meeting; there were no objections to this request. The review of policies in classifications K & L will be re-scheduled for a future meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Due to the lateness of the evening and the fact that the Board was moving back into Executive Session, Mrs. Boros invited anyone wishing to address the Board to do so at this time.

There were no public comments.

Reconvening of Executive Session

A motion was made by Mrs. Boros that the Board recess the regular meeting and return into Executive Session as stated earlier. Dr. Loomis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously, 4-0. The time was 9:48 p.m.

Upon return to the Board Room, it was moved and seconded to reconvene the meeting into open session, the motion passed unanimously, 4-0. Mrs. Boros declared the meeting into open session. The time was approximately 10:05 p.m.

BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no new Board Member requests.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded that the Board Meeting be adjourned, the motion passed unanimously, 4-0. Mrs. Boros declared the meeting was adjourned. The time was approximately 10:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret Harris

Mr. Jeff Grant, President

Date

Approved: TBD