

**Minutes of the Regular Governing Board Meeting
Amphitheater Public Schools
Tuesday, October 5, 2021**

A Regular public meeting of the Governing Board of Amphitheater Public Schools was held Tuesday, October 5, 2021, beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the Wetmore Center, 701 W. Wetmore Road, Tucson, AZ 85705 in the Leadership and Professional Development Center. This meeting was held under COVID-19 pandemic related conditions.

Governing Board Members Present

Ms. Susan Zibrat, President
Ms. Deanna M. Day, M.Ed., Vice President
Dr. Scott K. Baker, Member
Ms. Vicki Cox Golder, Member
Mr. Matthew A. Kopec, Member

Superintendent's Cabinet Members Present

Mr. Todd A. Jaeger, J.D., Superintendent
Ms. Tassi Call, Associate Superintendent for Elementary Education
Mr. Matthew Munger, Associate Superintendent for Secondary Education
Ms. Michelle H. Tong, J. D., Associate to the Superintendent and Legal Counsel
Mr. Scott Little, Chief Financial Officer
Ms. Kristin McGraw, Director of Student Services
Dr. Shannon McKinney, Director of Curriculum and Assessment
Mr. Richard C. La Nasa, Executive Manager of Operational Support
Ms. Michelle Valenzuela, Director of Communications
Ms. Julie Valenzuela, Director of 21st Century Education

1. CALL TO ORDER AND SIGNING OF THE VISITOR'S REGISTER

President Zibrat called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and invited members of the audience to sign the visitor's register.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Superintendent Jaeger announced the students leading the Pledge of Allegiance were from Amphitheater High School, and he asked Principal A.J. Malis to introduce the students. Mr. Malis invited Mi, Yousef, Kamila, Lizeth, and Layla to come forward, he and spoke about their scholarship, leadership, service, and character as officers of the Amphitheater Chapter of the National Honor Society. Mr. Malis also thanked their advisor, Mr. Ellis Harper, for his contributions. The students then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Zibrat gave the students the opportunity to address the Board or introduce any family members who came with them.

Yousef thanked the Governing Board for their service.

On behalf of the Governing Board, the students were presented with a certificate of commendation. A group picture with the students, Mr. Malis, Mr. Ellis, the Governing Board, and Superintendent Jaeger was taken to mark the occasion.

3. ANNOUNCEMENT OF DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT SPECIAL GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

President Zibrat announced that the next Special Governing Board meeting would be held on Tuesday, October 26, 2021 at 5:30 p.m., at the Wetmore Center, 701 W. Wetmore Road, Tucson

4. RECOGNITION OF STUDENT ART

Andrea Leitner, Visual Arts Teacher at Amphitheater High School, explained that the artwork featured consisted of past and current student work ranging from 9th to 12th grade. She gave an overview of the state standards that are covered in art classes and how students learn everyday life skills in her classes in addition to the principles of art. Ms. Leitner spoke about student agency in creating the artwork and their freedom to choose their subject matters and mediums. She concluded that students are encouraged to have fun and to try new things.

Ms. Leitner was presented with a certificate of commendation. A group picture with Ms. Leitner, Mr. Malis, the Governing Board, and Superintendent Jaeger was taken to mark the occasion.

5. RECOGNITIONS

A. Recognition of the 2020-2021 American Heart Association Kids Heart Challenge Participants

President Zibrat asked Superintendent Jaeger to introduce this recognition.

Superintendent Jaeger explained that since 1989, the Kids Heart Challenge has been an enduring tradition in the District. Over \$640,000.00 has been raised to date. He is proud of the District's participation, and felt it is a reflection of our community, and the understanding of the importance of community service.

He introduced Andrea Mitchell, Youth Market Director of Southern Arizona for the American Heart Association and invited her to talk about the 2020-2021 fundraising efforts.

Ms. Mitchell said she works with over 145 schools and really enjoys the relationship with the schools in our District. Even though there were many challenges last year, she was impressed that Amphitheater Schools still participated. She reported that with the free materials provided by the American Heart Association, students at seven District schools learned how to keep their hearts healthy. The schools that participated were Harelson Elementary School, Coronado K-8 School, Innovation Academy, Lulu Walker Elementary School, Holaway Elementary School, Rio Vista Elementary School, and Cross Middle School. They raised a combined total of \$20,391.00. This year, the program will expand to include District middle and high schools. Ms. Mitchell said the funds raised help to fund research at the University of Arizona. She thanked the District, Superintendent Jaeger and the Governing Board for their continued support.

President Zibrat thanked her for the presentation.

Superintendent Jaeger expressed his appreciation of Ms. Mitchell and the American Heart Association (AHA). He explained a law was passed in Arizona that required all graduating seniors to be trained in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). There was no funding provided for the training, but fortunately the AHA was able to provide training and supplies.

Certificates of commendation were distributed to participating schools. A group picture with Ms. Mitchell, the Governing Board, and Superintendent Jaeger was taken to mark the occasion.

B. Presentation of Distinguished Service Awards

President Zibrat asked Superintendent Jaeger to present the awards.

Superintendent Jaeger said he was excited to introduce two incredible employees. He explained that Distinguished Service Awards are given monthly throughout the school year to recognize employees' initiative, collaboration, loyalty, and contribution to the Amphitheater School District.

He asked Rio Vista Elementary School principal, Ms. Dianna Kuhn, to introduce the Distinguished Service Award recipient for the month of October: Certificated staff to teacher and academic interventionist Ms. Shelby Davis.

Superintendent Jaeger read the Distinguished Service Award nomination form submitted by Ms. Kuhn, highlighting Ms. Davis' many accomplishments and her dedication to her students. A video presentation was shown honoring Ms. Davis for the work she has done in the District.

On behalf of the Board, President Zibrat congratulated Ms. Davis and asked if she would like to say anything or introduce anyone.

Ms. Davis said she was surprised to receive the DSA award and thought the award was given to people that are with the District for a long time. She introduced her husband, teachers and other staff from Rio Vista that came to support her.

Superintendent Jaeger invited Tom Gill, Director of Facilities, to introduce the October support staff Distinguished Service Award recipient. Mr. Gill introduced Mr. Richard Perez, Lead Roving Groundskeeper. Superintendent Jaeger read the nomination form submitted by Mr. Gill. Mr. Perez's hard work and dedication to his job and the District for seventeen years was evident as was explained in the nomination form. A video presentation was shown honoring Mr. Perez for the work he has done in the District.

On behalf of the Board, President Zibrat asked Mr. Perez if he would like to introduce anyone or say anything. He introduced his wife Yolanda.

Ms. Davis and Mr. Perez received a certificate of recognition from the Governing Board, a Distinguished Service Award and a gift card donated by the Amphi Foundation. A group picture of Ms. Davis and Mr. Perez, the Governing Board, and Superintendent Jaeger was taken to mark the occasion.

Also, in their honor as Distinguished Service Award recipients, a plaque with their name is on display in the Leadership and Professional Development Center.

C. Recognition of National Merit Scholarship Commended Students and Semifinalists

President Zibrat asked Superintendent Jaeger to introduce this recognition.

Superintendent Jaeger noted how very honored we are to recognize students that qualified for this distinguished scholarship program, and asked Mr. Munger to present this information.

Mr. Munger was pleased to recognize the students that have received this scholarship award. He explained students qualify to become semifinalists based on their scores on the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®). Nationally, this group of approximately 16,000 semifinalists represent less than one percent of all U.S. high school seniors. The bright and talented students have a chance to compete for nearly \$31 million in scholarship money for college. To be considered, students and their schools must submit a detailed scholarship application providing information about their academic achievements, community projects, leadership experience, employment, and honors they have received.

He announced that students from all three high schools have qualified and asked Mr. A. J. Malis, principal at Amphitheater High School to introduce the student from Amphi. Mr.

Malis said Nikolas P. Stuetze was a National Merit Scholarship Commended Student recipient. He spoke about his many academic accomplishments and his involvement in community service. Nikolas plans to major in Computer Science at Pima Community College or at Grand Canyon University.

Mr. Munger invited Ms. Tara Bulleigh, Canyon del Oro High School principal, to introduce Canyon del Oro High School National Merit Scholarship Commended Students.

She said some students were not able to attend tonight due to other commitments, but they wanted to express their appreciation to the Governing Board. Those students are: Colin R. Brown, Harrison C. Byrnes, Luke O. Ferre, Alex Z. Liang and Josephine A. Neumann.

Ms. Bulleigh said she was honored to announce Tiffany N. Luu for her academic, athletic and musical accomplishments, as well as her involvement in school and community activities. Tiffany plans to major in biochemistry, and attend a university with a strong pre-medical program.

Ms. Bulleigh also announced Alexander Imrich. She talked about his many academic achievements and his participation in Boy Scouts, and National Youth Leadership training. He is a captain of the shooting team. After graduation he plans on enlisting in the Air Force ROTC, and then attend college to receive an Aeromechanical Master's degree.

Mr. Munger invited Mr. Brent Spencer, Ironwood Ridge High School principal, to introduce the National Merit Scholarship students. He said National Merit Scholarship semifinalist Skylar G. Korn could not attend, but she appreciated the opportunity to be recognized. He introduced Olivia J. Spencer and shared her multiple academic and athletic accomplishments. He spoke about her community involvement and said she will be attending the University of Arizona in the fall.

Mr. Spencer recognized Samuel Y. Bai as a National Merit Scholarship Commended student. He talked about his academic and athletic achievements and his involvement in club swimming. He has been offered the Wildcat Award of Excellence from the University of Arizona.

Mr. Munger thanked the principals for presenting their students to be recognized.

President Zibrat asked the students if they would like to introduce anyone. Nikolas Stueuze said he appreciated the recognition and introduced his parents.

On behalf of the Governing Board, the students were presented with a certificate of recognition. To mark the occasion, a group picture with each student, their principal, the Governing Board, and Superintendent Jaeger was taken.

D. Recognition of 2021 District Legendary Teacher Award Recipient

President Zibrat asked Superintendent Jaeger to introduce this recognition.

Superintendent Jaeger asked Mr. Munger to present the award.

Mr. Munger explained on September 23, 2021, Amphitheater Public Schools celebrated Legendary Teacher Day, a day set aside to recognize and honor special teachers who make a difference in the lives of our students. Ms. Leslie Christian, a seventh-grade Language Arts teacher at Wilson K-8 School is the recipient of this year's Legendary Teacher award. The student who nominated Ms. Christian, Madeline Robinson, is currently a student at Ironwood Ridge High School. Mr. Munger asked Ms. Christine Sullivan, principal at Wilson K-8 to make the introductions. Ms. Sullivan introduced Ms. Christian and Madeline. She invited Madeline to read her nomination.

"Mrs. Christian was one of the best teachers I had for many reasons. We all thoroughly enjoyed her class: Seventh grade, fourth hour English. I remember her smile when we greeted each other

when I'd walk into class. Mrs. Christian wanted to help us be organized and independent. For example, on Mondays she would have us write down our homework for the week, and when we walked into class every day, get the day's materials. She wanted us to be prepared for things and do what we needed to do to perform our best in class.

"Mrs. Christian also wanted to do the things that we were interested in; if we were reading a book as a class, she would ask how we wanted the activities to work to make sure that the topic was still interesting for us. She had us do projects that were fun and educational; we got to be creative while still doing things that were connected to what we were learning.

"Mrs. Christian taught us real-world situations and problems. We learned about global warming, climate change and what single-use plastics are doing to the environment. She explained how that affected us, and how we could prevent their impact. Not only does she care about her students, but she cares about their futures, our futures, and all the generations to come. She understood that we were not only children, but students, people, with growing, learning minds and treated us as such. Mrs. Christian understood what each of us was capable of in and outside of school, and she believed in every one of us.

"She knew what we could do and handle and what we could not. She would change her plans to what was best for us and what would help us learn the most in the short time we had with her. If something was too much for us, or it wasn't working out, she would find another way. Mrs. Christian's class made me enjoy English and it made me excited to attend school. It was a wonderful experience that I didn't know I would have that year. I am incredibly thankful that it happened."

Ms. Christian said she was extremely honored to receive this award. She said as a teacher, she knew she needed to teach the concepts. Madeline's letter showed that the student and teacher connection had been made. Ms. Christian wanted her students to be critical thinkers, respectful individuals, and to let them know they have a place in the world.

She thanked Madeline, her grandmother, father, husband and sons for their love and support. Ms. Christian said that she thought that all teachers should have the title of "Legendary Teacher". President Zibrat agreed.

On behalf of the Governing Board, Ms. Cox Golder presented Ms. Christian with a certificate of recognition. To mark the occasion, a group picture was taken with Ms. Christian, Ms. Sullivan, the Governing Board, and Superintendent Jaeger.

President Zibrat called a seven minute break.

President Zibrat asked the Governing Board members if they were in agreement to move Public Comment to be the next item on the agenda. There were no objections. (See Public Comment below).

6. INFORMATION²

A. Superintendent's Report; Update on Pandemic Conditions and Operations

For the Superintendent's Report PowerPoint Presentation see Exhibit 1.

President Zibrat asked Superintendent Jaeger to give his report.

Superintendent Jaeger began his report by sharing pictures highlighting some of the activities and events that have happened over the past few weeks in the District.

The mountain bike team at Canyon del Oro High School (CDO) won their division a couple of weeks ago, and as of last week was ranked first out of 29 teams.

Rio Vista Elementary School students were shown how a hover board works, which was a great lesson of engineering and motorization. He said it was a thrill for everyone who rode it, including himself.

At Ironwood Ridge High School, Barbie and Ken dolls did some bungee jumping last week. The adventurous dolls helped students learn about correlation and linear equations in their AP Statistics class.

Life Beyond Books was held at Cross Middle School. It is a program developed by the Amphi Foundation to bring career professionals to schools to provide eighth-graders with hands-on opportunities to learn about a variety of careers, including law enforcement, culinary arts, HVAC, plumbing and more. Coronado K-8 also held Life Beyond Books last month, and the other middle schools will host the program next semester.

Ivanna Vilorio Enciso led a team to build a Ga-Ga Ball pit designed so that everyone, including people in wheelchairs, can participate in Ga-Ga ball games. She is one of the first female Eagle Scouts in Pima County and is a student at Coronado K-8. Ivanna decided to do her Eagle Scout project at Painted Sky Elementary School, where her brother is a student.

He announced that Rachelle Ferris, a third grade teacher at Innovation Academy, has been recognized as the "Elementary School Teacher of the Year for 2021" from the Arizona Science Teachers Association. He said last year Innovation Academy also had a teacher win this statewide award and this a huge honor for the school and the District.

The annual Amphi Foundation Bowl-A-Thon fundraiser was held last week. He explained it is always a great event for our District staff to show their spirit and participate in this important fundraiser for the Foundation. He thanked the Foundation and the main sponsors of the event: Core Construction, Tucson Subaru, Pueblo Mechanical, Chasse Building Team, Sunland Asphalt, and Midstate Energy for hosting it after last year's COVID-19 cancellation.

Superintendent Jaeger reviewed COVID-19 data. He said the first case of COVID-19 in the United States was in January 2020. Since that date, COVID-19 has infected over 40,000,000 in the U.S. and over 700,000 Americans have died from it. In recent weeks, over 1,500 Americans have died every day. In Arizona, there have been 1.1 million cases, with 136,704 cases in Pima County and 14,853 cases among Amphi residents. Statewide deaths are 20,211; 2,664 people have died in Pima County and 380 Amphi residents have died. He reported on vaccinations in Arizona. The statewide rate is 57.6%, in Pima County 54.2% and 70.03% of Amphi residents have been vaccinated at least one time.

Superintendent Jaeger updated the Board on current Pima County COVID-19 public health metrics. He said the percent positivity rate has improved and is now in the yellow category. The case numbers have shown a steady downward trend and there are 163 cases per 100,000 individuals. He stated the test positivity rate has fluctuated, but is also trending downward. Currently, with the combined data, Pima County is still in a high transmission level, although percent positivity is considered in the moderate transmission category.

Superintendent Jaeger spoke about health care system metrics. He said it is important to monitor hospital bed capacity because it affects our community. Currently, there are 20 empty intensive care beds in Pima County, and 120 beds are available in the emergency departments.

He said in the District, cumulatively there have been 298 cases reported since the school year began. Since masks were reinstated there has been a downward trend. He reported there has been a spike in cases at two schools in particular in the last few days, possibly

connected to a well-attended football game. Superintendent Jaeger referenced the District COVID-19 dashboard which showed four active staff cases and 40 active cases among students. He said the dashboard also shows the active cases at each school.

Superintendent Jaeger talked about the Pima County Health Department vaccination clinics the District has hosted over the last few months. He reported on the numbers of vaccines given, saying it was a benefit to the community to be able to offer the clinics.

He offered to answer any questions.

President Zibrat thanked him for his report and asked if any Governing Board members had any questions.

There were none.

B. Annual Review of Bond and Capital Projects pursuant to A.R.S. 15-491(K)

For detailed information on the Annual Review of Bond and Capital Projects pursuant to A.R.S. 15-491(K) see Exhibit 2.

President Zibrat asked Superintendent Jaeger to introduce this item.

Superintendent Jaeger explained annually the District is required to summarize capital improvement projects to account for local and state funds. He asked Mr. La Nasa to update the Governing Board on Bond and Capital projects throughout the District.

Mr. La Nasa said the review encompasses projects being funded with monies from the following sources: Adjacent Ways, Building Renewal Grants, and Bond proceeds.

Adjacent Ways Projects total of \$1,035

Canyon del Oro High School (CDO) Adjacent ways project included paving the fire lane.

Building Renewal Grants from the Arizona School Facilities Board (SFB) total of \$5,243,092

Amphitheater High School (AHS) SFB projects included the structural assessment of the 300 wing. Repairs were made to the main gym bleachers, and the was roof replaced. Classroom 413 HVAC and building H hot water was replaced. Repairs were made to central plant 1 controls and chilled water. Also, the cooling tower was replaced, and a hot water leak was assessed and repaired. Additionally, central plant 2 hot water was repaired and central plant 5 boiler was replaced.

Amphitheater Middle School (AMS) SFB projects include the replacement of the HVAC in classroom 810.

Canyon del Oro High School (CDO) SFB projects included building T HVAC controls repair and the varsity locker room HVAC replacement. The central plant pump was repaired and the north gym evaporative cooler was replaced. Additionally, phase I and phase II roof replacement was completed.

Copper Creek Elementary School SFB projects included the Multipurpose Room (MPR) roof assessment and the central plant controls were repaired.

Coronado K-8 School SFB projects include replacement of the MPR roof.

Cross Middle School SFB projects included the campus roof design, and replacement of the MPR HVAC.

Donaldson Elementary School SFB projects included the replacement of the music room HVAC and the MPR boiler.

Harelson Elementary School SFB projects included the Funhouse weatherization assessment and roof replacement.

Holaway Elementary School SFB projects include HVAC controls repair.

Ironwood Ridge High School (IRHS) SFB projects included the fine arts and gym weatherization assessment and design. The fine arts and central plant HVAC controls and the central plant pump were repaired. Also completed was the roof restoration.

La Cima Middle School SFB projects include repairs to the library HVAC.

Mesa Verde Elementary School SFB projects include the campus roof design.

Painted Sky Elementary School SFB projects include the completion of the roof replacement.

Rillito Center SFB projects included a weatherization assessment and roof replacement.

Wilson K-8 School SFB projects include the replacement of the chiller compressor.

Walker Elementary School Bond SFB projects include the HVAC replacement in classrooms 5, 14 and 15.

Facilities Renewal Bond Projects total of \$ 6,841,937

Amphitheater High School (AHS) Bond projects included the 500 wing installation of washer and dryer services, parking lot improvements, and central plant 1 cooling tower upgrades. Designs for cafeteria improvements and pre-school classrooms were completed.

Canyon del Oro High School (CDO) Bond projects included the replacement of the woodshop evaporative cooler, main electrical switchgear, and north campus waterline. Improvements were made to the T building HVAC. Additionally, nurse office modifications were made and HVAC was installed in the snack bar. Also completed were electric service upgrades, and the design for the dance hall HVAC, east parking lot replacement and locker room improvements.

Ironwood Ridge High School (IRHS) Bond projects include science lab classroom improvements.

Amphitheater Middle School (AMS) Bond projects included Maker Space and room 804 renovations.

Copper Creek Elementary School Bond projects included modifications to the special needs restroom and the installation of washer and dryer services.

Coronado K-8 School Bond projects included upgrades to the campus access control and classroom electrical panels. The north campus security fence painting was completed. Additionally, building A HVAC, elementary classroom air conditioners, and exterior light fixtures were replaced.

Donaldson Elementary School Bond projects included building E lighting upgrades, interior painting and the replacement of the HVAC and controllers.

Harelson Elementary School Bond projects included modifications to the nurses' office, Funhouse HVAC improvements and Maker Space renovations.

Holaway Elementary School Bond projects included modifications to the nurses' office, building A HVAC replacement, Maker Space renovation, and the installation of washer and dryer services. The westside security fence was painted and the eastside campus security fence was installed.

Innovation Academy Bond projects included improvements to the eastside campus drainage and the installation of washer and dryer services.

Keeling Elementary School Bond projects included modifications to the nurses' office, campus access control upgrades and the installation of washer and dryer services. Building G HVAC was replaced.

La Cima Middle School Bond projects include 300 wing hallway carpet replacement and the installation of washer and dryer services.

Land Lab Bond projects included building A carpet replacement, and the installation of a new exterior sink. Exterior painting was completed.

Mesa Verde Elementary School Bond projects included the MPR air conditioner replacement, modifications to the nurses' office, and the installation of washer and dryer services. Additionally, the campus security fence was painted.

Nash Elementary School Bond projects included building D HVAC design and the IDF AC replacement.

Painted Sky Elementary School Bond projects include replacing the central plant chiller.

Prince Elementary School Bond projects include Maker Space renovations.

Rillito Center Bond projects include the replacement of the campus clock.

Rio Vista Elementary School Bond projects included whole campus access control upgrades and the installation of washer and dryer services.

Walker Elementary School Bond projects included the replacement of the interior hallway carpet and the computer room HVAC.

Wilson K-8 Bond projects included modifications to the nurses' office, carpet replacement in two classrooms, and the replacement of the fire alarm system.

Transportation Department Bond purchases include the acquisition of seven buses.

Technology Department Bond expenditures include the purchase of computers, devices, cabling and infrastructure.

Mr. La Nasa summarized the report saying that for school year 2020/2021 approximately \$12,086,064 was spent utilizing funding from Adjacent Ways, Building Renewal Grant Expenditures and Bond Expenditures.

He offered to answer any questions.

President Zibrat thanked him for his report and asked Governing Board members if they had any comments or questions.

Mr. Kopec also thanked Mr. La Nasa and his team for their hard work, and said the report showed there was a lot done this year.

C. Introduction of the Meet and Confer Teams for the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year, Addressing Working Condition Policies and Compensation Terms for Certificated, Support and Professional/Non-Teaching Employee Groups

President Zibrat asked Superintendent Jaeger to introduce this item. Superintendent Jaeger invited Ms. Tong to explain the District Meet and Confer process and introduce the teams for this school year.

Ms. Tong explained that each year a committee comprised of administration and employees meets to discuss working conditions, policies related to employees, and compensation. The employee groups represent certificated employees and support staff. Meetings begin in October and conclude in January to discuss policy concerns, come to a consensus, survey all

District employees, and finally bring recommendations to the Board. The same process starts again in January with the focus on compensation, concluding in April.

Ms. Tong went on to say that the administrators involved are appointed by the Superintendent and represent the interests of the District. The employees involved are selected by the Amphitheater Education Association (AEA) and represent the interests of all employees except administrators.

This year's Professional Staff team is comprised of Amanda Hay, fifth grade teacher from Prince Elementary; Michelle Bulischem, Special Education Resource Teacher from Coronado K-8; and Patricia Hebert, mathematics teacher at Canyon del Oro High school. The District administrators who have been selected by the Superintendent to meet and confer with that group are Matthew Munger, Associate Superintendent for Secondary Education; Michelle Tong, Associate to the Superintendent and General Counsel; and Chris Trimble, Walker Elementary School Principal.

The Support Staff team who has been designated by the AEA is Jimmy Harper, campus monitor at Amphitheater High School; Victor Ortiz, Refrigeration Mechanic III, Facilities Department; and Robert Wacker, Journeyman Electrician, Facilities Department and also the AEA Classified Vice-President. The District Support Staff Team is comprised of Richard La Nasa, Executive Manager of Operational Support; J.J. Letts, Donaldson Elementary School Principal; and Angela Wichers, Amphitheater Middle School Principal.

Facilitators lead the groups through the process and are designated by the Superintendent and AEA President. They do not have a final vote on consensus but are important to the process. This year's facilitators are Tassi Call, Superintendent for Elementary Education and Brianne Ronnie, fifth grade teacher at Painted Sky Elementary School leading the Professional Team. Lisa Millerd, Amphitheater High School English teacher and AEA President and Chris Gutierrez, Cross Middle School Principal are the facilitators for the Support Staff Team.

Prior to the work beginning in October, all involved in the Meet and Confer process will undergo training provided by the Federal Conciliation Service and conduct surveys of staff members to determine interests and concerns. Ms. Tong stated that AEA may conduct their own surveys and it is the goal of the Superintendent to also survey Advisory groups.

Ms. Tong concluded by stating that there was a broad variety of people coming to the table for the process this year and the Board will be updated as the process progresses.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT¹

President Zibrat read the Call to Audience Procedures.

Lorella Ritzel is an Amphi parent and employee. She stated that she is bothered by the lack of collaboration in making the decisions regarding mask mandates and urged the Board to ask parents and employees for feedback on this issue. Ms. Ritzel expressed her concern regarding the long-term effects of mask wearing and fear of a vaccine mandate being issued as well. She concluded by expressing her support for the freedom of choice and said that there are many others who feel the same way.

Arron Bemis is an Amphi parent and started by saying that masks are not required in other local school districts and their positive case counts are still low. She felt parents' choices are not being respected in Amphi like they are elsewhere. Ms. Bemis went on to share that children aren't required to wear masks in any other setting in Arizona besides schools and as a whole, they are the least affected by the virus. She expressed a concern about bullying in schools because of masking.

Lisa Millerd is a 9th grade teacher at Amphi High and AEA president. She shared that all of the employees in the District make it possible for children to be provided with quality educational opportunities. Ms. Millerd also stressed the importance of support from families and the community to make the system function even better. She urged everyone to focus on the best interests of students and when there is collaboration, students thrive.

Danielle McKinney is an Amphi parent and asked the Board to consider letting parents choose whether to mask their children or not. She feels that children have been through so much and that masking is taking away from students' most important years of learning and fun. Ms. McKinney expressed that children shouldn't have to learn that those they trust and look up to lied to them. She urged everyone to wear their mask for one whole day to understand what a child at school feels like.

William Vega is an Amphi parent and expressed that he has never been a political person but remarked that all of the information he has received regarding masks and potentially vaccine mandates is concerning. He likened it to child abuse and felt lawsuits were imminent. Mr. Vega shared that masks are disgusting and studies show dangerous bacteria growth in them. He expressed surprise that more people weren't present to share their views on these matters, but he would learn more and be back for a future meeting.

Charles Lathrem is an Amphi parent and shared statistics regarding positivity rates in mask mandated versus non-mandated communities. He stated that locally, surrounding districts without a mask mandate have a lower positivity rate currently than Amphi. Mr. Lathrem went on to discuss the role of the Governing Board as elected representatives and their responsibility to identify community attitudes and opinions. He concluded with urging the Board to engage the community in the decision-making process regarding masks and put mask wearing on the next meeting agenda.

Chad Carter referenced Common Sense Media and their framework for digital citizenship. He also discussed restorative justice as it relates to student discipline. Mr. Carter spoke about restorative justice being implemented in Parkland, Florida and the tragedies at Marjorie Stoneman High School. He also referenced a study by the Rand Corporation which looked at schools with restorative practices in place and the effects on negative behavior and the achievement gap.

Deborah Stone is an Amphi parent who shared that her daughter, an 8th grader at Cross Middle School, complains almost daily about headaches. She requested that parents be given the choice for their children to wear masks or not to school. Ms. Stone's daughter was present and affirmed that she does get frequent headaches, doesn't like having to go to the nurse's office daily for them, and feels breathing is difficult with a mask. Ms. Stone concluded with a statement that if a vaccine mandate is in the future for students "we will fight you every step of the way".

Mona Gibson commented that she wanted to advocate for frustrated teachers and parents in regard to the mask mandate. She also referenced the financial report, line 31 (Study/Action item 9 A. Approval of 2020-2021 Annual Financial Report) wanting clarification on the reduction of funds spent on instructional costs and where they were moved to. She also noted that more funds were attributed to teacher salaries but she was concerned about poor student reading levels. Ms. Gibson urged the District to spend fewer resources on masks and capital improvements and focus on improving instruction.

8. CONSENT AGENDA³

Details of agenda items, supporting documents, and presentations are available in the electronic Board Book by clicking on the hyperlink below.

[Amphitheater Public Schools Public View - BoardBook Premier](#)

President Zibrat asked if there were any Items that should be pulled for further discussion. There were none. Ms. Cox Golder moved for Consent Agenda Items A. – H. be approved as presented. Mr. Kopec seconded the motion. Voice vote in favor – 5. President Zibrat, Vice President Day, Dr. Baker, Ms. Cox Golder, Mr. Kopec. Opposed – 0. Consent Agenda Items A. – H. passed.

A. Approval of Appointment of Non-Administrative Personnel

Non-administrative personnel appointments were approved as listed in Exhibit 3.

B. Approval of Personnel Changes

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

C. Approval of Leave(s) of Absence

Leave(s) of absence were approved as listed in Exhibit 5.

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

Separations and terminations were approved as listed in Exhibit 6.

E. Approval of Vouchers Totaling and Not Exceeding Approximately \$1,441,596.73

A copy of vouchers for goods and services received by the Amphitheater Public Schools and recommended for payment has been provided to the Governing Board. The following vouchers were approved as presented and payment authorized as submitted in Exhibit 7.

Voucher #	Amount	Voucher #	Amount	Voucher #	Amount
1077	73,121.07	1078	\$104,409.18	1079	\$769.70
1080	\$75,000.74	1081	\$72,232.08	1082	\$1,039,518.46
1083	\$76,545.50				

F. Acceptance of Gifts

Gifts were accepted by the Governing Board as listed in Exhibit 8.

G. Approval of Parent Support Organization(s) - 2021-2022

The Governing Board approved Amphi Middle School PTO, Amphitheater HS Parent Association and IRHS Girls Basketball Boosters as submitted in Exhibit 9.

H. Approval of Out of State Travel

The Governing Board approved the out of state travel requests as submitted in Exhibit 10.

9. STUDY/ACTION

A. Approval of 2020-2021 Annual Financial Report

For detailed information on the 2020-2021 Annual Financial Report see Exhibit 11.

Superintendent Jaeger invited Mr. Little to present the 2020-2021 Annual Financial Report (AFR) to the Board.

Mr. Little started by sharing that in his 34 years of experience in school district finance, this was his most challenging year. He explained the differences in what was budgeted versus what materialized and that the 1700 ADM student decline created difficulties. He noted that trying to compare the numbers in this AFR to past years is going to be

challenging because so many expenses were moved out of the Maintenance and Operations Fund to the Federal COVID Relief fund. Mr. Little stated the Auditor General Dollars in the Classroom report that comes out in February will give a better idea of what happened in our District and others.

Mr. Little went on to note that the Maintenance and Operations budget came in about \$1 million less than anticipated when the final revision was completed in May. One factor that influenced this was that the students who operated solely online did not generate enough time, which therefore affected revenue. Savings occurred in instructional salaries because substitute teachers weren't being hired and there were significant vacancies that couldn't be filled. He noted that the biggest savings occurred in transportation and during the period of closures, transportation employees worked as custodians or on-site supervision. Mr. Little shared that there was a decline in classroom site funds related to the decline in enrollment.

Referring to the AFR itself (*Exhibit 11*), Mr. Little pointed out the revenues on the first page. He noted that several programs had declines because they weren't able to operate. Special Education Department expenses did not change much in order to stay in federal compliance. Mr. Little addressed the question made during the public comment portion of the meeting questioning the funding devoted to K-3 reading. He stated that that budget is set by the state based on an enrollment formula so the decline in enrollment resulted in less funds on that expenditure line. Mr. Little went on to highlight classroom site funds, performance pay and Proposition 301 funds. He stated that the capital funds highlighted in the report cannot be moved to other purposes within the budget. Mr. Little made note of the 70-page report on Desegregation funds and how they are used site by site. He concluded, noting that Food Services received significant funding from the federal government which kept the programs running throughout the pandemic.

Mr. Little offered to answer any questions.

Mr. Kopec asked if any funding had been received related to masking. Mr. Little stated that the school district has received federal COVID-19 relief funds and a detailed report related to these funds will be shared at the next Governing Board meeting, however none of those funds are tied to masking students or staff.

Ms. Cox Golder asked if the relief funds were ESSER money. Mr. Little clarified that the federal money is referred to as ESSER funds or CARES money. He also commented that there are several funds at the county and state level that contribute to COVID-19 relief.

President Zibrat asked for a motion to approve the 2020-2021 Annual Financial Report. Ms. Cox Golder made a motion approve the report. Mr. Kopec seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Voice vote in favor - 5: President Zibrat, Vice President Day, Dr. Baker, Ms. Cox Golder and Mr. Kopec. Opposed - 0. The Governing Board approved the 2020-2021 Annual Financial Report as presented.

B. Study, Discussion and Vote on Recommended Revisions to the Arizona School Boards Association Bylaws

For detailed information on recommended revisions to the Arizona School Boards Association Bylaws see Exhibit 12.

Superintendent Jaeger explained that Board members who attended the Arizona School Board Association Law Conference would be familiar with this item, but asked Ms. Tong to review the item and recommendations.

Ms. Tong started by stating that all school districts in Arizona belong to the Arizona School Board Association (ASBA). The organization's bylaws are ASBA's main governing

document. Member boards must vote on any changes to the bylaws. She went on to explain that currently, there is one seat on the ASBA Board of Directors designated for a representative of the Arizona Hispanic Native American Indian Caucus (HNAIC). This seat alternates every two years between the Hispanic representation and the Native American representation. By contrast, the Black Alliance has a permanent seat on the ASBA Board of Directors. Ms. Tong stated that the proposed change in bylaws would split the Indian and Hispanic Caucus and add another seat to the Board of Directors so that each group could have representation at all times.

Ms. Tong said that the Board is able to vote electronically, and the vote is not due until December 13, 2021, so they can choose to wait and study the item further or move forward with a vote this evening. Ms. Tong concluded that it is the Administration's recommendation that this vote does occur, but it is the Board's decision.

Vice President Day made a motion approve the recommended revisions to the Arizona School Boards Association Bylaws. Ms. Cox Golder seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Voice vote in favor - 5: President Zibrat, Vice President Day, Dr. Baker, Ms. Cox Golder and Mr. Kopec. Opposed - 0. The Governing Board approved the Recommended Revisions to the Arizona School Boards Association Bylaws.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT¹


There were none.

11. BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were none.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Vice President Day moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Cox Golder seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Voice vote in favor - 5: President Zibrat, Vice President Day, Dr. Baker, Ms. Cox Golder, and Mr. Kopec. Opposed - 0. The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.


Minutes respectfully submitted for Governing Board Approval
Jennifer Anderson, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent & Governing Board
Gretchen Hahn, Secretary III, Governing Board Office

November 8, 2021
Date

Susan Zibrat, Governing Board President

November 9, 2021
Date