

DRAFT

**CATALINA FOOTHILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT
Tucson, Arizona**

DRAFT

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD
Carole Siegler Boardroom at Valley View Early Learning Center
3435 E. Sunrise Drive - Tucson, Arizona
Regular Meeting: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 - 6:30 PM, Doors Opened at 6 PM**

Regular Meeting Minutes

NOTICE OF MEETING

On October 14, 2024, announcement of the meeting was posted at Catalina Foothills High School, Esperero Canyon Middle School, Orange Grove Middle School, Ventana Vista Elementary School, Canyon View Elementary School, Manzanita Elementary School, Sunrise Drive Elementary School, Valley View Early Learning Center, and on the Catalina Foothills School District (CFSD) website (www.cfsd16.org).

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present:

Eileen Jackson, President
Amy Krauss, Vice President
Gina Mehmert, Member (remote)
Carole Siegler, Member

Board Members Absent:

Doug Hadley, Member

District Administration:

Denise Bartlett, Superintendent
Mindy Westover, Associate Superintendent
Sheryl Castro, Executive Director of
Curriculum and Assessment

District Personnel:

Ryan Koch, Systems
Engineer
Amie Sams, Administrative
Assistant

Visitors Present:

Jacquelyn Davoli, Kira Ogela, Nick Rehm, and Jill Tronziger

Joining Online:

Approximately 5 visitors attended the meeting through the YouTube live link.

1. OPENING

1.1. Call to Order and Welcome

President Eileen Jackson called to order the governing board meeting at 6:30 p.m.

1.2. Pledge of Allegiance

President Jackson led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3. Rules of Order for Governing Board Meetings

President Jackson read the Rules of Order for governing board meetings.

1.4. Outstanding Achievements

Superintendent Denise Bartlett shared the following outstanding student and staff achievements with the governing board.

CFHS, ECMS, and OGMS Choir

On the evening of Saturday, September 28, approximately 100 choir students from Catalina Foothills High School, Esperero Canyon Middle School, and Orange Grove Middle School were honored to perform the National Anthem at the Arizona Diamondbacks game to an audience of 41,192 fans. This remarkable

achievement was made possible by the efforts of our choir directors, Jeffrey Evans, Julia Higgins, and Rachel Antista, who helped guide and prepare the students for this special opportunity at Chase Field. We are incredibly proud of our students for their hard work and professionalism as they represented CFSD with excellence.

CFHS AP School Honor Roll and AP Access Award

Catalina Foothills High School has earned a place on the College Board's Advanced Placement School Honor Roll for the 2023-24 school year! The AP School Honor Roll recognizes schools that have done outstanding work to welcome more students into AP courses and support them on the path to college success. Our high school is being further recognized with the AP Access Award, which honors schools that encourage more low-income and underrepresented minority students to take AP courses. The percentage of students in at least one of these categories who took at least one AP Exam before graduation is proportional to or above our school's student population, demonstrating our commitment to equitable access to advanced coursework. We know it takes a considerable schoolwide effort—dedication from teachers, counselors, administrators, students, and parents—to make AP access a priority. Please join us in celebrating this accomplishment!

CFHS Falcon Marching Band

The Catalina Foothills High School Falcon Marching Band delivered an outstanding performance at the 2024 Arizona Regional Championship held at the J. Lawrence Walkup Skydome in Flagstaff, AZ, on October 5, 2024. Our talented musicians earned second place overall in the highly competitive finals, with an impressive score of 79.450. In addition, they received two prestigious awards in the Class AAA category:

- Outstanding Music Performance
- Outstanding General Effect

These accomplishments reflect our students' and band directors' hard work, dedication, and artistry. We are incredibly proud of the recognition they have earned. Congratulations to Ms. Renee Shane-Boyd, Mr. Ian Marcusiu, Dr. Tina Walton, our dedicated band parent volunteers, and our outstanding student musicians.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Vice President Amy Krauss highlighted consent agenda item 3.5 the field trip request memorandum and 3.8 the gifts and donation memorandum. She noted Catalina Foothills High School (CFHS) courses and programs augment classroom learning by providing students opportunities to explore future vocational fields and thanked the CFSD Foundation, Family Faculty Organizations (FFOs), and CFSD families for their generous support of our students and staff. Items 3.10 the Construction Administration and Commissioning Services for the School Facilities Division chiller 3 replacement project at CFHS and 3.11 the School Facilities Division award for the Building B sewer system repairs at CFHS were also highlighted. Board members thanked the Director of Facilities and district administration for their dedication to saving district capital expenses by applying for grants and thanked the CFSD community for their continued support by passing bonds.

Upon a motion by Amy Krauss and a second by Carole Siegler, the governing board approved the following items on the consent agenda: 3.1 the governing board October 1, 2024, regular meeting minutes, as presented; 3.2 the governing board October 1, 2024, executive meeting minutes, as presented; 3.3 the governing board October 4, 2024, special meeting minutes, as presented; 3.4 the expense voucher memorandum, as presented; 3.5 the field trip request memorandum, as presented; 3.6 the fundraising request memorandum, as presented; 3.7 the personnel memorandum, as presented; 3.8 the acceptance, with gratitude, of the gifts and donations memorandum, as presented; 3.9 the approval of the renewal of the intergovernmental agreement with the State of Arizona, as presented; 3.10 the approval of the Construction Administration and Commissioning Services for the School Facilities Division chiller 3 replacement project at Catalina Foothills High School in the amount of \$14,565.00, as presented; and 3.11 the approval of the School Facilities Division award to Midstate Mechanical and Kelly Wright & Associates for Building B sewer system repairs at Catalina Foothills High School in the amount of \$175,518.00, as presented.

Eileen Jackson – Yea; Amy Krauss – Yea; Gina Mehmert – Yea; Carole Siegler – Yea; Motion carried 4-0.

3.1. Approval of October 1, 2024, Regular Governing Board Meeting Minutes Memorandum

On the consent agenda, the governing board approved the regular governing board meeting minutes for October 1, 2024, as presented.

3.2. Approval of October 1, 2024, Executive Session Governing Board Meeting Minutes Memorandum

On the consent agenda, the governing board approved the executive session governing board meeting minutes for October 1, 2024, as presented.

3.3. Approval of October 4, 2024, Special Governing Board Meeting Minutes Memorandum

On the consent agenda, the governing board approved the special governing board meeting minutes for October 4, 2024, as presented.

3.4. Approval of Expense Voucher Memorandum

On the consent agenda, the governing board approved the following expense vouchers:

Expense Voucher		Amount
25036	\$	1,691,510.61
25037		96,314.13
25038		2,848.49
25039		237,760.23
25040		140,879.32
25041		171,289.91
25042		263,145.59
25043		1,552,234.09
25044		23,594.75
25045		102,609.33
25046		41,411.20

3.5. Approval of the Field Trip Request Memorandum

On the consent agenda, the governing board approved the field trip request memorandum, as presented.

ORGANIZATION	ACTIVITY	LEARNING NEXUS	WHERE	DATE(S)	*FEE
Catalina Foothills High School (CFHS) HOSA Future Health Professionals	1. 2024 Fall Leadership Conference	Students will attend sessions to explore careers in the medical field, learn of college and medical program opportunities, and receive information regarding competitive events in preparation for the Spring state leadership conference.	Phoenix, AZ	11/05/2024	\$0.00
CFHS Early Childhood Education (ECE) Period 1 and 2	2. Arizona State University (ASU) Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College (MLFTC) Fall Bootcamp	ECE students will tour ASU and will receive a 3-hour training in reading and math instruction to provide future tutoring in math and reading for children from birth to 8 years old. Students will demonstrate skills by implementing strategies learned while visiting Valley View ELC and Manzanita ES.	Tempe, AZ	11/15/2024	\$0.00
CFHS Choir	3. Nashville Tennessee Heritage Music Festival	Students will collaborate with others, performing music at a high level, and experience city culture.	Nashville, TN	03/20/2025 to 03/23/2025	\$1,200.00
CFHS Orchestra	4. Seattle Symphony and Clinic with University of Washington Faculty	Students will observe a professional, world-renowned symphony performance, clinic with college faculty, and participate in a	Seattle, WA	04/24/2025 to 04/27/2025	\$1,200.00

		rehearsal exchange with other high school orchestra programs.			
CFHS Grades 11 and 12 Astronomy Students	5. Falcon-7 Recovery Mission	Students will use teamwork, map reading, and navigation with GPS to search and recover the Falcon-7 space probe.	75-mile radius of Tucson, AZ	02/18/2025	\$0.00
CFHS Falcon Steel	6. AMEA Conference Performance	Students will perform for music educators from across the state and collaborate with other steel group ensembles.	Mesa, AZ	01/31/2025 to 02/01/2025	\$200.00
CFHS Falcon Steel	7. Phoenix College Pan Rising Steel Drum Festival	Students will perform for and listen to other AZ steel drum bands.	Phoenix, AZ	04/03/2025	\$0.00
CFHS Pioneer Robotics Club	8. FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) Diamondback Qualifying Tournament	Students will test and refine their engineering and programming skills and develop solutions in alliance game play.	Tucson, AZ	12/14/2024	\$0.00
CFHS Pioneer Robotics Club	9. Palo Verde FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) Qualifier Tournament	Students will test and refine their engineering and programming skills while collaborating with their team to problem solve and make decisions on-the-spot.	Goodyear, AZ	01/25/2025	\$0.00
CFHS Pioneer Robotics Club	10. FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) Copper Qualifying Tournament	Students will test and refine their engineering and programming solutions in alliance game play and presentation to a panel of judges.	Queen Creek, AZ	02/08/2025	\$0.00
CFHS Pioneer Robotics Club	11. AZ State FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) Competition	Students will learn skills needed to compete at a higher level by working as alliance partners and by challenging the best teams in the region.	Prescott, AZ	02/21/2025 to 02/23/2025	\$200.00 to \$400.00

3.6. Approval of the Fundraising Request Memorandum

On the consent agenda, the governing board approved the fundraising request memorandum, as presented.

NAME	ACTIVITY	PURPOSE	LOCATION	DATE(S)	GROSS REVENUES	NET INCOME
Catalina Foothills High School (CFHS)						
CFHS Girls Soccer Booster Club	Online fundraising campaign run by boosters	To raise funds for Senior night, end-of-season banquet, photography, winter tournament expenses, and team dinners.	Online	11/15/2024 to 12/06/2024	\$10,000.00	\$9,000.00
CFHS Pomline Booster Club	Jim Click Raffle	To raise funds to support the pomline and coaches in performances, competitions, school events, and other opportunities including clothing, choreography, transportation, and instructors.	Off campus	10/23/2024 to 12/06/2024	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00

3.7. Approval of the Personnel Memorandum

On the consent agenda, the governing board approved the personnel, as presented.

CERTIFIED STAFF	CLASSIFIED STAFF	COMMUNITY SCHOOLS	COACH	VOLUNTEER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Hire • Correction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Hires • Rehire • Status Change • Resignation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Hires • Rehire • Status Change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rehires 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom

3.8. Approval of Gifts and Donation Memorandum

On the consent agenda, the governing board accepted, with gratitude, the following gifts, and donations:

DATE	DONOR	SCHOOL	PURPOSE/ITEM	AMOUNT
9/20/2024	Manzanita FFO	Manzanita Elementary School	Field Trip	\$131.12
10/1/2024	CFSD Foundation	Murphey Administration Center	Food Donation	\$5,000.00
10/1/2024	Flavia Shelley	Canyon View Elementary School	Instruction	\$25.00
10/1/2024	Raytheon Matching	Canyon View Elementary School	Instruction	\$25.00
10/1/2024	Nancy Jiang	Sunrise Drive Elementary School	Instruction	\$500.00
10/1/2024	Raytheon Matching	Sunrise Drive Elementary School	Instruction	\$500.00
10/1/2024	Mary Baker	Manzanita Elementary School	Instruction	\$200.00
10/1/2024	American Express Company	Manzanita Elementary School	Instruction	\$188.40
10/1/2024	Flavia Shelley	Canyon View Elementary School	Instruction	\$25.00
10/1/2024	Raytheon Matching	Canyon View Elementary School	Instruction	\$25.00
10/1/2024	Gergely Kota	Murphey Administration Center	Executive Administration	\$20.00
10/1/2024	Microsoft Matching	Murphey Administration Center	Executive Administration	\$20.00
10/3/2024	Tiffany Truax	Orange Grove Middle School	Instruction	\$12.00
10/3/2024	Canyon View FFO	Canyon View Elementary School	Field Trip	\$333.40
10/3/2024	Canyon View FFO	Canyon View Elementary School	Field Trip	\$392.30
10/3/2024	Canyon View FFO	Canyon View Elementary School	Field Trip	\$511.53
10/4/2024	Manzanita FFO	Manzanita Elementary School	Field Trip	\$666.80
			TOTAL	\$8,575.55

3.9. Approval of Renewal of Intergovernmental Agreement with the State of Arizona

On the consent agenda, the governing board approved the renewal of intergovernmental agreement with the State of Arizona, as presented.

3.10. Approval of Construction Administration and Commissioning Services for the School Facilities Division (SFD) Chiller 3 Replacement at Catalina Foothills High School

On the consent agenda, the governing board approved the Construction Administration and Commissioning Services for the School Facilities Division (SFD) chiller 3 replacement at Catalina Foothills High School in the amount of \$14,565.00, as presented.

3.11. Approval of SFD Award to Midstate Mechanical and Kelly Wright & Associates for Building B Sewer System Repairs at Catalina Foothills High School

On the consent agenda, the governing board approved the SFD award to Midstate Mechanical and Kelly Wright & Associates for building B sewer system repairs at Catalina Foothills High School in the amount of \$175,518.00, as presented.

4. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

4.1. **Approval of Award of the Crisis Alert System to Centegix**

Superintendent Bartlett provided requested information related to the financial viability, new contract terms, and legal review of contract language for Centegix to the governing board since the board's prior review on October 4, 2024. The Centegix Safety Platform is the foundation for a layered safety plan, empowering all employees with the fastest response to medical emergencies, student altercations, unauthorized visitors, and suspicious activity. Centegix submitted a 1GPA proposal for contract services, equipment, and materials in the amount of \$484,000.00 and for tax in the amount of approximately \$35,670.00, totaling \$519,670.00. The district negotiated a five-year equal payment plan with the first year's payment to include the installation and set-up, along with the annual subscription fee. The remaining balance would be spread over the next four years of the contract. District administration met with the Chief Financial Officer of Centegix, and contract language was reviewed by the legal team at the Arizona School Risk Retention Trust, Inc., (the Trust). Work will begin in November of 2024 with full implementation expected within three months. The project will be funded partially through bond funds and the remainder from District Additional Assistance. Staff will be required to wear the badge and district human resources policy will be amended to include the new requirement.

Board members thanked the district for their swift action to provide an additional security measure to empower staff and for the hard work involved to negotiate a contract with Centegix that is favorable to the district.

Upon a motion by Gina Mehmert and a second by Carole Siegler, the governing board approved the award of the crisis alert system to Centegix in the amount of \$519,670.00, as presented.

Eileen Jackson – Yea; Amy Krauss – Yea; Gina Mehmert – Yea; Carole Siegler – Yea; Motion carried 4-0.

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

5.1. **Approval of the 2025-2026 School Year Calendar**

Associate Superintendent Mindy Westover presented for final approval the 2025-2026 school year calendar which was preliminarily approved by the governing board in January 2024. Ms. Westover stated the calendar represents the best balance of calendar preferences and alternatives. 2025-2026 calendar highlights include: new teachers report on Wednesday, July 23, and returning teachers on Tuesday, July 29; the first day of school is Monday, August 4; during the first week of school, elementary schools observe an early release and middle school a late start; the high school starts at 8:35 a.m. and observes a regular day rotating schedule; the last day of school (Wednesday, May 20) is a half day for students and a full day for staff; Fall break is October 6 – 10; K-12 parent/teacher conferences are October 21, 22, and 23, and PreK on September 22 - October 3, and April 20 - May 1 by appointment; Tuesday, November 11 is a student holiday to observe Veteran's Day; the high school observes a short week schedule during the week of Thanksgiving and first semester exams; Winter break includes three weekends; the semesters are evenly divided (90/90 days); and the last contract day for teachers (Thursday, May 21) is a full day.

A board member inquired about the student absenteeism rate during parent teacher conference week in October versus prior school years without a full week for Fall Break. District administration will provide an update to the governing board.

Upon a motion by Carole Siegler and a second by Gina Mehmert, the governing board approved the 2025-2026 school year calendar, as presented.

Eileen Jackson – Yea; Amy Krauss – Yea; Gina Mehmert – Yea; Carole Siegler – Yea; Motion carried 4-0.

5.2. **Initial Review of the 2026-2027 School Year Calendar**

Associate Superintendent Westover presented the preliminary 2026-2027 school calendar. The draft is similar to the 2025-2026 calendar: new teachers report on July 29 and returning teachers on August 4; the first day of school is August 10; Fall Break is October 12 – 16; K-12 parent-teacher conferences are October 27, 28, and 29, and PreK parent-teacher conferences are September 28 – October 9 and April 19 – April 30 by appointment only; Wednesday, November 11 is a student holiday to observe Veteran's Day; Winter Break includes three

weekends; the semesters are unevenly divided 85/95 days; the last day of school is Wednesday, May 26; and the last contract day for teachers is Thursday, May 27.

A board member inquired whether the 85/95 semester split affects high school one semester courses. There are enough instructional minutes in the eighty-five days to meet the state's instructional minute requirement.

A board member asked how the dates for Spring Break are determined. The decision is made due to state testing. In the past, Spring Break was during the first week of April. Administrators found this caused a hindrance to elementary students taking the state writing test on a specific date set by the Arizona Department of Education. Administration discussed moving Spring Break to an earlier week in March similar to other Tucson area school districts and decided not to move due to a longer period without a school break for students and staff.

A second reading of the 2026-2027 calendar is on the agenda for the November 4, 2024, regular governing board meeting.

6. **DISCUSSION / REPORTS**

6.1. **Annual Bond and Capital Override Report**

Superintendent Bartlett updated the governing board and the community about the progress of capital improvements financed through bonds authorized by voters in November 2022 for \$38.5 million. In April 2023, the first issuance of bonds was sold for \$14,956,400. The district expended \$1,260,632 in fiscal year 2023 for design services for the high school strings program addition and design services for security upgrades to all school campuses. In fiscal year 2024, the district expended \$9,998,443.39 for construction/contraction of the high school strings program addition, the security upgrades on all school campuses, and the purchase of new school buses. The balance as of July 1, 2024, was \$3,697,324.61.

Dr. Bartlett also updated the governing board on the annual \$2,000,000 District Additional Assistance override for technology equipment and software, teaching and learning resources, and infrastructure in effect through fiscal year 2029-2030.

Detailed information about expenditures from the [Bond and Capital Override Report](#) was made available to the CFSD community as part of the governing board meeting agenda on the CFSD website.

Board members emphasized the importance of the support provided by CFSD constituents who approve bonds and overrides, ensuring the success of our schools. Board members thanked the superintendent and CFSD staff for transparent and sound stewardship of the funds entrusted to the district by the CFSD community. Superintendent Bartlett shared that a second issuance of bonds is projected for April 2024.

6.2. **Arizona Legislative / Governmental Activity**

There was no discussion.

7. **FUTURE AGENDA CONSIDERATIONS**

There were no requests for future agenda considerations.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a motion by Amy Krauss, and a second by Carole Siegler, the governing board adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

Eileen Jackson – Yea; Amy Krauss – Yea; Gina Mehmert – Yea; Carole Siegler – Yea; Motion carried 4-0.