

**Minutes of the Special Governing Board Meeting
Amphitheater Public Schools
Tuesday, September 27, 2022**

A Special public meeting of the Governing Board of Amphitheater Public Schools was held on Tuesday, September 27, 2022, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the Wetmore Center, 701 W. Wetmore Road, Tucson, AZ 85705 in the Leadership and Professional Development Center.

Governing Board Members Present

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

Governing Board Member Absent

Ms. Susan Zibrat, 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. Elizabeth Jacome, Director of Curriculum and Assessment
Ms. Kristin McGraw, Director of Student Services
Mr. Richard C. La Nasa, Executive Manager of Operational Support
Ms. Michelle Valenzuela, Director of Communications

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

President Cox Golder called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm and invited members of the audience to sign the guest register.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Cox Golder asked Vice President Day to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ANNOUNCEMENT OF DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT REGULAR GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

President Cox Golder announced that the next Regular Governing Board Meeting would be held on Tuesday, October 4, 2022 at 6:00 p.m., at the Wetmore Center, 701 W. Wetmore Road, Tucson AZ 85705 in the Leadership & Professional Development Center.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

President Cox Golder read the Call to the Audience procedures.

Caden Dawes is a student at Canyon del Oro High School. He discussed the District's 24/7 policy pertaining to athletes and use of drugs, tobacco and alcohol. He described how it has affected him personally. He shared that he has been playing football since he was eight years old and that he has a pending athletic college scholarship. He shared his feelings about his situation – which he feels embarrassment over – and said that he worries about the mental health impacts of an athletic suspension and its impact on the team. He also shared his remorse about disappointing his loved ones, coaches, and team.

Scott Beck is a community member who shared his experience as a high school athlete who was caught drinking at a party. He said that the situation was handled differently at that time, and he was given a

citation, but was not removed from his athletic team. Mr. Beck shared that this was a powerful learning experience for him and that the District should allow students to complete a diversion program and community service instead of complete removal from their sport for substance use.

Shane Sholl is a volunteer coach, substitute teacher and parent who feels the District needs to review and revise its 24/7 zero-tolerance policy regarding substance use for athletes. He stated a revised approach would help educate students and encourage their growth. Mr. Sholl spoke about the time and effort athletes pour into their sport, the importance of the bond amongst team members, and the values athletics instills in young people. He questioned the message this policy sends to students regarding being able to make mistakes and the ability to learn and grow from them. He also shared his experience in seeing positive outcomes from people being given a second chance.

Fred Narcaroti is the president of the CDO Football Booster Club and a parent. He shared that his family has had great experiences in the Amphitheater District particularly in extracurricular activities. He shared how his daughters have made mistakes in the past but were given grace and the opportunity for redemption. Mr. Narcaroti stated he feels punitive policies are not effective and are proven more detrimental in the long term, particularly a no tolerance policy that offers no corrective action. He spoke about how a student's removal from a team affects many beyond just the student and he asked the Board to consider a progressive policy that allows the opportunity for redemption in line with other school districts in the surrounding area.

Kayden Luke is a student at Canyon del Oro High School who spoke about making mistakes as a young person and learning from them. He expressed opinions about teenagers' mental health and how it suffers because of expectations of perfect behavior. Mr. Luke shared that he has been playing football since he was a child, and it has always been his dream to play Division I football. He stated that he has worked hard for years to achieve this goal and feels the consequence of removal from the team is unreasonable. Mr. Luke said college opportunities would be lost from not playing this year's football season. He expressed how this decision affects his entire team and that he has a goal of rebuilding trust with his teammates.

Dustin Peace is the Canyon del Oro High School Football Coach and he shared that he is advocating for the seven students in his program who were recently affected by the 24/7 Zero Tolerance policy. He spoke about previous students who were in trouble, and he fears the path these students may now be on without their athletic program. Coach Peace spoke about his personal failure in not advocating for the revision of the 24/7 policy until now. He went on to speak about the family atmosphere of the team, a supportive community, and the importance of his relationship with his players. Coach Peace shared documents with the Governing Board which included a letter he wrote, letters from the students, and the policies of other school districts in the area in handling substance use in athletes.

Thomas Martinez is a parent speaking on behalf of his student and the other athletes affected by the 24/7 Zero Tolerance policy. He said that his family's experience at CDO has been very positive and shared his gratitude to the staff and faculty of the school. Mr. Martinez spoke about the deficits of a zero-tolerance policy and how it doesn't promote learning and growth in children. He expressed his desire for the District to reevaluate this policy and replace it with a progressive policy that would utilize collaboration between the District, parents, and coaches.

Shannon Dinning is a parent and a licensed professional counselor specializing in trauma in adolescents and adults. She believes the 24/7 Zero Tolerance policy is very outdated and is concerned about the negative impact it has on youth. Ms. Dinning stated that research shows that suspensions or removal from a team or activity does little to reduce future misbehavior, nor does it result in improved academic achievement, mental health, or behavior. She went on to speak about the importance of athletics and teams in a student's life and how they are often a coping mechanism for students dealing with other negative issues in their lives. Ms. Dinning urged the Governing Board to revise this policy.

Anne Natele is an Amphi parent and she shared a quote on behalf of Dr. Robert Booth who is a retired Flagstaff Public School administrator and Assistant Dean from Northern Arizona University: *“Through my experience as a public school administrator for twenty-five years and the Assistant Chair of Education Leadership Department for six years at Northern Arizona University, I believe that as parents, educators we cannot significantly change student behavior. We can, however, provide students with guidance, support, positive rewards, or negative consequences that foster a positive change in behavior. The individual must decide for themselves to make a meaningful change in their personal behavior. When we deny the students the opportunity, a second chance to redeem themselves, to show remorse, model character traits that we value, we in essence close the door on the students to demonstrate the changed behavior. Closing that door may have the opposite result we were hoping to witness from students in the present and future. In baseball, there’s a reason why you get three strikes before you’re out. Imagine how frustrating it would be if with your first strike, you were out. -Dr. Robert Booth”*

Ms. Tong reminded the audience that according to the guidelines for Arizona open meeting laws, Governing Board members are not permitted to respond to public comments, or address an item that is not on the agenda.

Superintendent Jaeger noted for the record that the District will be reviewing the 24/7 policy matter in greater depth in the future.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

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 Cox Golder asked if anyone would like to remove any items for further discussion. There were none.

President Cox Golder asked for a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items A-R. Vice President Day moved for Consent Agenda Items A- R. be approved as presented. Mr. Kopec seconded the motion. Voice vote in favor – 4. President Cox Golder, Vice President Day, Dr. Baker and Mr. Kopec. Opposed – 0. Consent Agenda Items A-R. passed.

A. Approval of Appointment of Non-Administrative Personnel

Non-administrative personnel appointments were approved as listed in Exhibit 1.

B. Approval of Personnel Changes

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

C. Approval of Leave(s) of Absence

Leave(s) of absence were approved as listed in Exhibit 3.

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

Separations and terminations were approved as listed in Exhibit 4.

E. Approval of Stipend for Coaching Volunteers

Stipend for Coaching Volunteers were approved as listed in Exhibit 5.

F. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

The Governing Board approved minutes for the meetings held on August 9, 2022, August 23, 2022 and September 13, 2022 as submitted in Exhibits 6-8.

G. Approval of Vouchers Totaling and Not Exceeding Approximately \$5,558,900.80

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 9.

Voucher #	Amount	Voucher #	Amount	Voucher #	Amount
1070	\$219,548.85	1071	\$11,856.64	1072	\$92,682.50
1073	\$1,525.58	1074	\$119,992.56	1076	\$73,884.77
1077	\$2,043.85	1078	\$2,754,571.06	1079	\$265,023.58
1080	\$937,083.84	1081	\$221,912.35	1082	\$178,959.49
1083	\$555,222.03	1084	\$72,325.72	1085	\$378.38
1090	\$22,173.88	1091	\$29,715.72		

H. Acceptance of Gifts

Gifts were accepted by the Governing Board as submitted in Exhibit 10.

I. Approval of Parent Support Organization(s) - 2022-2023

The Governing Board approved Cross Middle School Parent Teacher, CDO Project Graduation, IRHS Wrestling Booster Club, IRHS Girls Basketball Booster, IRHS Cheerleading Boosters Club, CDO International Baccalaureate Org, IRHS Boys Basketball Boosters, and CDO Odyssey of the Mind for the 2022-2023 school year as submitted in Exhibit 11.

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

The Governing Board approved Disposal of Surplus Property via PublicSurplus.com.

K. Approval of Fee Waivers for Facility Rentals 2022-2023 School Year

The Governing Board approved Fee Waivers for Facility Rentals 2022-2023 school year as submitted in Exhibit 12.

L. Approval of Revision to the 2022-2023 Governing Board Meeting Schedule

The Governing Board approved Revision to the 2022-2023 Governing Board Meeting Schedule as submitted in Exhibit 13.

M. Designation of Student Suspension and Expulsion Hearing Officers to Hear Evidence, Prepare a Record and Bring Recommendations to the Board, Pursuant to A.R.S. §15-843(F)(2)

The Governing Board approved Designation of Student Suspension and Expulsion Hearing Officers to Hear Evidence, Prepare a Record and Bring Recommendations to the Board, Pursuant to A.R.S. §15-843(F)(2).

N. Approval of Revisions to the Following Policy Documents:

Policy DIA (Accounting System), Policy EE (Transportation Services), Policy EEAEA (Bus Driver Requirements, Training, and Responsibilities), Policy GBGCB (Staff Health and Safety), Policy IHA (Basic Instructional Program), Policy IHAMB (Family Life Education), Policy IJL (Library Materials Selection and Adoption), Policy IJNC (Resource Centers/Media Centers/School Libraries) and IJNC-E, Policy IKF (Graduation Requirements), Policy IMB (Teaching about Controversial/Sensitive Issues), Policy IMD (School Ceremonies and Observances), Policy JF (Student Admissions), Policy JICFA (Hazing), Policy JJIB (Interscholastic Sports), Policy JLCB (Immunizations of Students), Policy JLCC (Communicable Infectious Diseases), Policy JLDA (School Counselors and Psychologists), Policy JRR (Student Surveys), Policy KB (Parental Involvement in Education) and KB-EB, Policy KI (Visitors to School)

The Governing Board approved the Revisions to the Following Policy Documents: Policy DIA (Accounting System), Policy EE (Transportation Services), Policy EEAEA (Bus Driver Requirements,

Training, and Responsibilities), Policy GBGCB (Staff Health and Safety), Policy IHA (Basic Instructional Program), Policy IHAMB (Family Life Education), Policy IJL (Library Materials Selection and Adoption), Policy IJNC (Resource Centers/Media Centers/School Libraries) and IJNC-E, Policy IKF (Graduation Requirements), Policy IMB (Teaching about Controversial/Sensitive Issues), Policy IMD (School Ceremonies and Observances), Policy JF (Student Admissions), Policy JICFA (Hazing), Policy JJIB (Interscholastic Sports), Policy JLCB (Immunizations of Students), Policy JLCC (Communicable Infectious Diseases), Policy JLDA (School Counselors and Psychologists), Policy JRR (Student Surveys), Policy KB (Parental Involvement in Education) and KB-EB, Policy KI (Visitors to School) as submitted in Exhibits 13-34.

O. Approval of School Facilities Oversight Board (SFOB) Grant for Amphitheater High School Central Plant 2 Chilled/Hot Water Line Replacement Design

The Governing Board approved the School Facilities Oversight Board (SFOB) Grant for Amphitheater High School Central Plant 2 Chilled/Hot Water Line Replacement Design as submitted in Exhibit 35.

P. Approval of School Facilities Oversight Board (SFOB) Grant for Amphitheater High School Science Wing Floor Repairs

The Governing Board approved the School Facilities Oversight Board (SFOB) Grant for Amphitheater High School Science Wing Floor Repairs as submitted in Exhibit 36.

Q. Approval of School Facilities Oversight Board (SFOB) Grant for La Cima Middle School Campus Buildings Weatherization Assessment

The Governing Board approved the School Facilities Oversight Board (SFOB) Grant for La Cima Middle School Campus Buildings Weatherization Assessment as submitted in Exhibit 37.

R. Approval of School Facilities Oversight Board (SFOB) Grant for Painted Sky Elementary School Fire Alarm Replacement Design

The Governing Board approved the School Facilities Oversight Board (SFOB) Grant for Painted Sky Elementary School Fire Alarm Replacement Design as submitted in Exhibit 38.

6. STUDY

A. Presentation on Literacy in the Amphitheater School District

For the Presentation on Literacy in the Amphitheater School District see Exhibit 39.

Superintendent Jaeger asked Ms. Call and Mr. Munger to provide a presentation to the Governing Board regarding the District's literacy programs, efforts and outcomes.

Ms. Call introduced the presentation by explaining it would highlight K-12 core and supplemental programs, literacy support through Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 instruction, the science of reading, and the District assessment and data work. She said the HMH Core ELA curriculum was adopted in 2021 and is used in all classes, grades K-12. In K-1 classrooms, a supplemental curriculum from Wilson Reading is also used. That program, called Foundations, is a systematic program that builds critical foundational skills; it also serves as a preventative program combat reading and spelling struggles. This program was implemented, in part, to address the last two years of interrupted learning.

She spoke about the English Language Arts (ELA) framework which includes whole and small group targeted reading instruction. Ms. Call reported the special education classrooms are using the same curriculum. She said over the summer, there was professional development offered to train staff members about the curriculum, and a self-paced training will also be available in the future.

Mr. Munger talked about the District-wide positive impact of all K-12 classes using the HMH curriculum, versus the variety of programs used in the past. He spoke about the three-year process to develop the secondary scope and sequence guide to ensure alignment in all grades at every school. He reviewed the purpose of utilizing the common formative assessments.

Mr. Munger described the Realizing Excellence through Academic and Creative Help (REACH) program, and plans for expansion in the future. He noted that to support all students, Tier 3 instruction is also aligned with the HMH resources. Mr. Munger talked about professional learning opportunities, including the SEI District course, quarterly department leader collaboration, and District Wednesdays.

Ms. Jacome spoke about the district-wide shift to an increased focus on the science of reading. She explained the many components of skilled reading comprehension, which requires word recognition and language/listening comprehension. She talked about the three-tiered approach to language basics and explained how each tier is applied at different grade levels.

Ms. Jacome shared a video with teacher testimonials regarding the science of reading. Teachers in the video spoke about understanding how students learn, which has required changing their approach and techniques to teaching. The video highlighted students in the classroom during a reading lesson.

Ms. Jacome noted the importance of continuing the momentum through professional development. She outlined the professional development that has been offered, and shared upcoming opportunities available, including virtual trainings.

She talked about the importance of District's dyslexia training designees (DTD). She explained that each school has a DTD, and their role is to build awareness of supporting students that display characteristics of dyslexia. Additionally, they participate in their own professional development, provide resources for students, and lead trainings at their schools. Ms. Jacome spoke about additional dyslexia professional learning offered by the Arizona Department of Education, called LETRS that teaches the science of reading in a virtual format.

Ms. Jacome introduced Jason Weaver, District Program Evaluation and Data Analyst to present additional information. Mr. Weaver explained state assessments are taken in the spring, and the results are released publicly in the fall. He spoke about District benchmark and state assessments that are used for various grade levels, and the history of the different assessments that have been used in Arizona. He talked about the "cut scores" that are used to determine student proficiency levels. Mr. Weaver shared the merits of each assessment and explained how the test results are used to improve student learning opportunities.

Mr. Weaver shared information about the spring 2022 English Language Arts (ELA) state achievement data. Amphitheater performed above the state averages in ELA, and with one exception, performed at or above all other comparable neighboring districts. He shared additional achievement data; proficiency in English Language Arts grew 5% in Amphitheater, compared to 3% for the rest of Arizona. He reported that American College Testing (ACT) scores reflected that overall proficient and highly proficient student scores were higher than the scores of state and neighboring districts. Mr. Weaver talked about spring 2022 English Language Arts Benchmark Achievement Data: NWEA MAP. The data showed the proficiency by grade level and an overall District score.

Mr. Munger stated that administration was proud of the work that has been done in the District with the literacy framework and the ELA curriculum. Ms. Call then spoke about the upcoming elementary scope and sequence plan to be created for ELA. She noted they will receive input from teachers at each grade level, and the plan will ensure an equitable education experience across the District. Mr. Munger said at the secondary level, they will meet with department leaders from every school and grade level, as well as science, math, and social studies, to begin the development of the scope and sequence guide.

Ms. Call spoke about the elementary report card standards. She stated that the administration wants to ensure what is being taught aligns with the state standards, and to also ensure that parents have a better understanding of where their students are academically.

They offered to answer any questions.

Vice President Day thanked them for the report and said she will be interested in follow-up information. She asked about the dyslexia committee and the current members. Ms. Call asked Jennifer Campbell to speak about the dyslexia action committee. Ms. Campbell stated the committee members include herself, Heidi Radtke, Shelby Davis, Lisa DaDeppo, Leah Noreng, Joanne Carlson, and Trina Kay Post.

Vice President Day asked Ms. Campbell to summarize what their goal is for this year. Ms. Campbell responded they plan to establish a trained dyslexia designee at each school. She said the state requires a designee for all elementary schools, but the District has gone above the requirement to have a designee at all grade levels, K-12.

Ms. Jacome commented that there has been an increased interest in the LETRS professional development offered, and felt it was due to the efforts of the dyslexia committee.

Vice President Day requested that the reading score data for the REACH students be presented. Mr. Weaver stated that some of the data has been obtained and they will be able to have that information in the future.

President Cox Golder thanked them for their report.

7. ACTION

A. Approval of Resolution Regarding Aggregate Expenditure Limit

Superintendent Jaeger asked Ms. Tong to read the resolution for the record. Ms. Tong read the resolution.

Vice President Day made a motion adopt the resolution. Mr. Kopec seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Voice vote in favor - 4: President Cox Golder, Vice President Day, Dr. Baker and Mr. Kopec. Opposed - 0. The Governing Board approved Resolution Regarding Aggregate Expenditure Limit as submitted in Exhibit 40.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

Tim Scott is a community member who shared that he is the husband of an administrator from San Manuel High School and has seen high profile incidents such as the one currently occurring at CDO. He spoke about the supportive nature of the CDO community of students, parents, and coaches. Mr. Scott commended the parents for coming forward to support their children and advocate for a change to the 24/7 policy, while also offering solutions.

9. BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

President Cox Golder, Vice President Day, Dr. Baker, and Mr. Kopec requested a study of the 24/7 policy for student athletes.

10. ADJOURNMENT

President Cox Golder asked for a motion to adjourn. Vice President Day made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Kopec seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Voice vote in favor- 4: President Cox Golder, Vice President Day, Dr. Baker and Mr. Kopec. Opposed - 0. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 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

October 24, 2022

Date

October 25, 2022

Vicki Cox Golder, Governing Board President