

DRAFT Minutes

AMPHITHEATER PUBLIC SCHOOLS Tucson, Arizona

MINUTES OF SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

Place, Date and Time of Meeting

Wetmore Center, 701 West Wetmore Road, August 2, 2010, 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

OPENING OF MEETING

Call to Order and Signing of Visitors' Register

Mr. Grant called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and invited members of the audience to sign the visitors' register.

Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Balentine led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcement of Date and Place of Next Regular Governing Board Meeting:

Mr. Grant announced the next regular meeting of the Governing Board: Tuesday, August 9, 2011, 7:00 p.m., Wetmore Center, 701 W. Wetmore Road.

PUBLIC COMMENT¹

There were no comments from the public.

1. CONSENT AGENDA³

Mr. Grant asked if there were Board member requests to have items addressed separately; Dr. Barrabee asked to have Item A be heard separately. (See detail for Item A below.) A motion was made by Mr. Grant to approve consent agenda items B and C, as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Boros and it passed unanimously, 5-0. Appointment of personnel is effective, provided all district, state, and federal requirements are met.

A. Approval of Project EXCELL! Phase V Implementation

Board Book information: *The administration recommends approval of Project EXCELL!, Phase V. The Implementation Manual for Phase V is attached for Governing Board review. The Project EXCELL! Design Review team, made up of principals and teachers recommended minor adjustments to program requirements to better align with District and school goals and to minimize documentation requirements for participants. The Implementation Manual reflects these adjustments. [Board Book holders were provided with a copy of Implementation Manual for Phase V.]*

Dr. Barrabee asked to have this item heard separately in order to acknowledge the inclusion of verbiage on the Ratings and Narrative page (p. 68) that encourages students to ask questions.

Dr. Barrabee moved to approve the implementation of "Project EXCELL! Phase V," as presented in the *Implementation Manual for Phase V*. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Boros and it passed unanimously, 5-0.

B. Approval of Project EXCELL! Payout Corrections

Board Book information: *The following Project EXCELL! participants are due corrections on the July 2011 payout:*

<i>Julie Anderson</i>	<i>\$ 2,263.89</i>
<i>Sarah Andricopoulos</i>	<i>\$ 421.48</i>
<i>Kris Bailey</i>	<i>\$ 256.25</i>
<i>Sandra Bigelow</i>	<i>\$ 8.33</i>
<i>Pamela Gautier</i>	<i>\$1,666.67</i>
<i>Judy Ruiz</i>	<i>\$ 16.02</i>

The Governing Board approved adjustments for the July, 2011, Project EXCELL! award-recipients, as recommended by administration: Julie Anderson - \$2,263.89; Sarah Andricopoulos - \$421.48; Kris Bailey - \$ 256.25; Sandra Bigelow - \$8.33; Pamela Gautier - \$1,666.67; and Judy Ruiz - \$16.02.

C. Approval of New Course

Board Book information: *We have had an unexpected number of new 9th graders at IRHS. Because of the need to allow them to have electives, we are proposing a new course, Musical Theater. This class has been approved previously for Middle School but not High School. This item is presented for the Governing Board's approval.*

The Governing Board approved a new elective course offering, *Musical Theater*, for high school-level students.

2. STUDY⁴

A. Establishment of Parameters for Retreat Discussions – Board President Reviews Agenda

Board Book information: *The Governing Board's annual retreat meeting is very limited in nature. This year, it includes an executive session discussion with the Superintendent and Board input into the ASBA delegate assembly process. Mr. Grant, President of the Governing Board, will lead discussion about the parameters for this limited agenda. This item is presented for discussion at this time only. No action is recommended or permitted at this time.*

Mr. Grant stated that the retreat agenda is short and straight forward; there were no requests.

B. Discussion of Arizona School Boards Association Positions and Activities and Governing Board Input

Board Book information: *The District and the Governing Board are members of the Arizona School Boards Association. More than 240 school districts across the State of Arizona participate in the same organization. ASBA provides the following statements regarding its vision, mission and governance:*

Our Vision

Quality leadership and advocacy for children in public schools.

Our Mission

Promoting community volunteer governance of public education and continuous improvement of student success by providing leadership and assistance to public school governing boards.

Governance & Organization

ASBA is a non-partisan, non-profit organization governed by its members through direct action and an elected Board of Directors. At the annual Delegate Assembly, held in June, all board members have a voice in setting the policies and direction of the association. The Board of Directors is composed of elected officers and 17 County Directors – one for each county in Arizona, with two for Pima and Maricopa Counties due to their higher populations. Officers are elected to one-year terms by the full membership at the ASBA Annual Meeting. County Directors are elected to two-year terms at the County Workshops. All must be current school board members.

(Source: <http://www.azsba.org/static/index.cfm?action=group&contentID=16>). A copy of the organization's bylaws is also available through their website at: <http://www.azsba.org/docs/ASBABylaws9-09.pdf>.

ASBA offers a variety of services and programs to its members, including but not limited to: leadership development, board member training, policy development and services, and legislative services (lobbying). Each year, ASBA holds delegate/member assemblies for the purpose of soliciting input from the membership concerning ASBA's organizational policies and activities. As the Board will recall, one important aspect of this each year is the request for feedback and input into ASBA's legislative/lobbying agenda.

Dr. Barrabee, Member of the Board, has recently served as the Governing Board's delegate to the ASBA's delegate assembly for the development of the organization's legislative agenda for the coming legislative session(s). This item will permit Dr. Barrabee to brief the other Board Members on his recent experience at the ASBA delegate assembly and allow for Governing Board discussion and input regarding issues raised at the assembly. This will inform and guide future participation in ASBA and its events.

This item is presented for study and discussion at this time only. No action is recommended or permitted at this time.

Dr. Barrabee stated that he wanted to take this opportunity to express his concerns, and the depth thereof, regarding the ASBA Legislative Agenda under review at the recent (June 25, 2011) ASBA Delegate Assembly. He provided examples of the concerns he addressed at the meeting and the amendments he proposed that were defeated. These concerns stem from his belief that ASBA is surrendering to recent legislative actions that fail to support the Arizona Constitution in support of the public school system, as mandated. In addition, Dr. Barrabee questions the direction of ASBA's *Vision, Mission, and Goals* as they relate to Amphitheater Public Schools.

Dr. Barrabee asked for feedback from Board members and to engage them in a discussion. He provided data, excerpts from Arizona Constitution, Article 11, Sections 1, 2, 8, and 10 <http://www.azleg.gov/Constitution.asp?Article=11> as they relate to the ASBA Policy Statements presented at the Assembly.

Considerable discussion ensued. Dr. Barrabee proposed some level of action, perhaps the preparation of a resolution that underscores the disparity between Amphitheater Public Schools beliefs about the significance of taking an oath in support of the (state) Constitution and recognizing that honoring that oath is inconsistent with the decisions of the Delegate Assembly of the ASBA as evidenced by their recent actions and decisions. Additionally, advise ASBA that the Amphitheater Governing Board maintains its membership in the ASBA, regretfully under protest.

One reason for membership may be that ASBA provides the District with policy implementation and the streamlining of that process. Mrs. Boros provided some insight into the stance shared by some of the other delegates in attendance. Mrs. Boros believes that ASBA is concerned about their diminished influence and is therefore proceeding with more caution in controversial topics. She supports drafting a letter to ASBA informing them of Amphi's position and recommends including Dr. Barrabee's handout. ASBA must take the initiative and incorporate original, stronger language in support of the Constitution in support of Education. At a recent meeting, a senior senator commented that she has never seen the delegation from southern Arizona so splintered; in prior times legislators worked together to ensure that all needs were met from the area – but now, we are divided ideologically.

In order to shed light on these issues, Dr. Loomis recommends having this addressed at the Pima County School Board/Superintendent's Collaborative meeting scheduled in October; this would provide an opportunity to educate colleagues and might encourage dialogue among a wider audience.

Mr. Grant supports Mrs. Boros' comments and rationale about ASBA's ineffectual nature.

Dr. Barrabee shared a copy of the taxpayer protection pledge accompanied by the list of representatives that signed it. Dr. Barrabee noted that this formal type of declaration of oath-taking is in complete conflict with the oath taken to support of the constitution.

Dr. Balentine will draft a letter to ASBA for review and will request having this topic agendized at the October Collaborative meeting.

Board members thanked Dr. Barrabee for his caring efforts and taking the time to create the handout.

3. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Motion to Recess Open Meeting and Hold an Executive Session for Discussion of Employment and Evaluation of the Superintendent, Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(a)(1)

Board Book information: *The Governing Board may wish to recess the open meeting and convene in Executive Session to discuss the employment of the Superintendent and conduct an evaluation. Discussion which occurs during executive session, like the discussion of all personnel matters, is confidential according to law. The administration recommends the Board convene an executive session for purpose of discussing this matter.*

A motion was made by Mrs. Boros that the Board recess into Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(a)(1), as presented. Mrs. Zibrat seconded the motion; and it passed unanimously, 5-0. Mr. Grant called a recess at 6:35 p.m. for the purpose of holding Executive Session.

B. Motion to Close Executive Session and Reconvene Open Meeting

Upon return to the Board Room, Dr. Loomis moved to reconvene the meeting into open session. Mrs. Boros seconded the motion and it passed unanimously, 5-0. The time was 7:42 p.m. Mr. Grant declared the meeting in open session.

BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Written requests (Friday memos) were requested as follows:

- District policy related to teacher/classroom selection – Dr. Barrabee
- AIMS testing analyses – Dr. Loomis
- Summer School updates – Mrs. Boros

PUBLIC COMMENT¹

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Zibrat moved to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Boros seconded the motion and it passed unanimously, 5-0. Mr. Grant declared the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret Harris

Mr. Jeff Grant, President

Date

Approved: TBD