

**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, June 10, 2025 - 6:30 PM, Doors Opened at 6:00 PM**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

**NOTICE OF MEETING**

On June 2, 2025, the 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](http://www.cfsd16.org)).

**ATTENDANCE**

**Board Members Present:**

Amy Krauss, President  
Eileen Jackson, Vice President  
Jacquelyn Davoli, Member  
Tom Logue, Member  
Gina Mehmert, Member

**District Administration:**

Denise Bartlett, Superintendent  
Mindy Westover, Associate  
Superintendent  
Sheryl Castro, Executive Director of  
Curriculum and Assessment  
Travis Kolter, Director of Community  
Schools  
Lynn Pence, Director of Education  
Technology  
Lisa Taetle, Director of Finance

**District Personnel:**

Amie Sams, Administrative  
Assistant

**Visitors Present:**

Amanda Klein, Reagan Prefling, Laura Thompson

Joining Online:

Approximately 12 visitors attended the regular meeting through the YouTube live link.

1. **OPENING – 4:30 PM**

1.1. **Call to Order**

President Amy Krauss called to order the governing board meeting at 4:30 p.m.

2. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

2.1. **Executive Session, personnel, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A)(1) - Discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, demotion, dismissal, salaries, disciplining or resignation of a public officer, appointee or employee of any public body - Annual Performance Review of Superintendent.**

Upon a motion by Jacquelyn Davoli and a second by Eileen Jackson, the governing board moved into executive session for discussion of personnel, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A)(1) at 4:31 p.m.

Jacquelyn Davoli – Yea; Eileen Jackson – Yea; Amy Krauss – Yea; Tom Logue – Yea; Gina Mehmert – Yea; Motion carried 5-0.

3. **OPENING (CONTINUED) – 6:30 PM**

3.1. Welcome

President Krauss welcomed the public.

3.2. Pledge of Allegiance

President Krauss led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3.3. Rules of Order for Governing Board Meetings

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

3.4. Outstanding Achievements

Superintendent Denise Bartlett shared the following outstanding achievements of CFSD students and staff:

CFHS Track & Field Athletes Shine at State Championships

Congratulations to our Catalina Foothills High School track and field athletes for their strong performances at the 2025 Arizona Open State Track & Field Championships held May 16–17 at Mesa Community College!

We are proud to celebrate:

- Katherine McNulty – Open State Champion in both the 1600m and 3200m  
Her double win places her among the elite distance runners in the state—way to go, Katie!
- Aliyah Akinbile – 4th place in the 300m Hurdles and 7th place in the 100m Hurdles  
Aliyah competed with heart and grit in two of the state’s most competitive hurdle events.

We’re incredibly proud of these athletes coached by Blake Hinson and his staff, for their leadership and dedication throughout the season. Congratulations to all who competed—you’ve made CFHS proud.

CFHS HOSA Students Shine at National Anatomage Tournament

We’re proud to celebrate five Catalina Foothills High School HOSA – Future Health Professionals members who represented CFSD at the National Anatomage Tournament this past weekend in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Congratulations to Ella Hennings, Zoya Zar, Milaia Hart, Alexa Fischer, and Nathan Wu on qualifying and competing at this national event. This event brings together the top 5% of high school anatomy students from across the country. These Falcons earned their spot at nationals through exceptional performance in regional and virtual qualifiers.

A special congratulations to Alexa Fischer, who took first place in the suture competition.

We are proud of these future health leaders for representing CFSD nationally.

CFSD Robotics Teams Compete at Western Edge FIRST LEGO League Open

Two robotics teams from Catalina Foothills School District—Partners for Life and Reef Rangers—were selected to compete at the Western Edge FIRST LEGO League Open, an international tournament hosted in Long Beach, California. The event brought together 90 top teams from around the world for two days of STEM-focused competition and teamwork.

Partners for Life Team Members:

Brenden Sult (Orange Grove), Ethan Luo, Graham Martin (Sunrise Drive), Kason Strunk (Ventana Vista), Lucas Byrne (Sunrise Drive), Noah Chavez (Orange Grove), and Sebastian Bonomolo.

Reef Rangers Team Members:

Andrew Trombetta, Damon Hayden, Emily Fink, Gigi Trombetta, Lily Ruiz, Mikey Stefano, and Sophia Barrios (all Orange Grove); Isadora Friedman (Sunrise Drive); and Lucas Rodriguez (Esperero Canyon).

Both teams were led by CFSD coach Charlotte Ackerman, who emphasizes a student-driven approach that builds confidence and problem-solving skills. This approach was on full display during the “On the Spot” challenge, where students programmed new missions without coach assistance. Volunteer coach Nancy Hsiao assisted the teams.

The event also celebrated student leadership beyond the competition. Henry Bonomolo, class of 2024 was promoted to Head Referee, and rising senior Christian Pierson volunteered as a mentor. These students are a reflection of CFSD’s strong culture of student mentorship. Congratulations to all!

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Two individuals addressed the governing board to express support for recent legislation to support a district wide cell phone policy and shared case studies of schools who have implemented a bell-to-bell ban: Reagan Prefling and Laura Thompson

5. **CONSENT AGENDA**

Upon a motion by Jacquelyn Davoli and a second by Tom Logue, the governing board approved the following items on the consent agenda: 5.1 the governing board May 27, 2025, regular meeting minutes, as presented; 5.2 the expense voucher memorandum, as presented; 5.3 the field trip request memorandum, as presented; 5.4 the fundraising request memorandum, as presented; 5.5 the personnel memorandum, as presented; 5.6 the acceptance, with gratitude, of the gifts and donations memorandum, as presented; 5.7 the addendum to the intergovernmental agreement between Pima Count Joint Technical Education District and Catalina Foothills Unified School District No. 16 for 2025-2026, as presented; 5.8 the award to Concord General Contracting for the replacement of the artificial playground turf at Valley View Early Learning Center in the amount of \$103,635.00, as presented; and 5.9 the award to Concord General Contracting for the repair and resurfacing of the basketball and tennis court at Sunrise Drive Elementary School in the amount of \$106,996.00, as presented.

Jacquelyn Davoli – Yea; Eileen Jackson – Yea; Amy Krauss – Yea; Tom Logue – Yea; Gina Mehmert – Yea; Motion carried 5-0.

5.1. Approval of May 27, 2025, Regular Governing Board Meeting Minutes Memorandum

On the consent agenda, the governing board approved the regular governing board meeting minutes for May 27, 2025, as presented.

5.2. Approval of Expense Voucher Memorandum

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

<b>Expense Voucher</b>		<b>Amount</b>
25153	\$	345,679.44
25154		1,532,000.26
25155		2,215.49
25156		256,076.11
25157		80,941.20
25158		4,849.98
25159		163,077.25
25160		463,138.36

5.3. Approval of the Field Trip Request Memorandum

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

<b>ORGANIZATION</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>LEARNING NEXUS</b>	<b>WHERE</b>	<b>DATE(S)</b>	<b>*FEE</b>
Catalina Foothills High School (CFHS) Choir	Fall Choir Retreat	Students will understand expectations of the program, demonstrate musicianship and rehearsal skills, and learn to know their classmates.	Prescott, AZ	09/05/2025 to 09/07/2025	\$320.00
CFHS Computer Science Club Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Career and Technical	Officer Leadership Camp	Students will learn how to effectively run CTSO meetings while networking with other students.	Williams, AZ	09/22/2025 to 09/24/2025	\$0.00

Student Organization (CTSO)					
CFHS Computer Science Club (FBLA CTSO)	Visit to ASU Computer Science Department	Students will gain knowledge of computer science college opportunities and participate in a project that reflects work done in college.	Tempe, AZ	October 2025 (Date TBD)	\$0.00
CFHS Computer Science Club (FBLA CTSO)	FBLA Regional Leadership Conference	Students will make initial presentations in competitive event in preparation for state, while demonstrating ability to solve real problems and present solutions.	Thatcher, AZ	January 2026 (Date TBD)	\$0.00
OGMS 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Choir	Arizona Diamondbacks "Choir Night" Performance of the National Anthem	Students will learn the service version (SATB) of the National Anthem and perform in an authentic setting.	Phoenix, AZ	09/20/2025	\$75.00

5.4. 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
<b>Catalina Foothills High School (CFHS)</b>						
Link Crew	Students to sell water before and during graduation.	To raise funds for Link Crew t-shirts and freshman supplies.	On campus	05/20/2026	\$700.00	\$700.00
Band Boosters	Gaslight Theatre, Roadhouse Cinema, Tucson Symphony, Fox Theater fundraisers	To raise funds for marching supplies, instruments, staff, and music.	Off campus - monthly	07/01/2025 to 06/30/2026	\$3,000.00 per event	\$1,000.00 per event
Band Boosters	Program sponsor advertising	To raise funds for marching supplies, instruments, staff, and music.	On/Off campus/ online	07/01/2025 to 06/30/2026	\$3,500.00	\$3,000.00
Band Boosters	Photo purchases of student activities and events	To raise funds for marching supplies, instruments, staff, and music.	Off campus/ online	07/01/2025 to 06/30/2026	Donation from purchases	\$500.00
Band Boosters	Restaurant fundraisers	To raise funds for marching supplies, instruments, staff, and music.	Off campus – monthly	07/01/2025 to 06/30/2026	Percentage donation	\$2,000.00
Band Boosters	Jim Click raffle ticket sales	To raise funds for marching supplies, instruments,	On/Off campus/ online	07/01/2025 to 06/30/2026	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00

		staff, and music.				
Band Boosters	Home parties - i.e. Pampered Chef in parent homes	To raise funds for marching supplies, instruments, staff, and music.	Off campus/online	07/01/2025 to 06/30/2026	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
Band Boosters	Grocery certificates	To raise funds for marching supplies, instruments, staff, and music.	Off campus/online	07/01/2025 to 06/30/2026	\$2,000.00	\$600.00
Band Boosters	Band Booster attire and marching accessories	To raise funds for marching supplies, instruments, staff, and music.	On/Off campus/online	07/01/2025 to 06/30/2026	\$14,000.00	\$4,000.00
Band Boosters	Tax credit campaign	To raise funds for marching supplies, instruments, staff, and music.	Off campus	10/2025 to 01/2026	\$25,000.00	\$24,500.00
Band Boosters	Arizona Gives Day	To raise funds for marching supplies, instruments, staff, and music.	Off campus/online	04/01/2026	\$22,000.00	\$20,500.00
Band Boosters	Direct donation request at concerts	To raise funds for marching supplies, instruments, staff, and music.	On campus – CFHS Music Hall	07/01/2025 to 06/30/2026	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Band Boosters	Butterbraid sales	To raise funds for marching supplies, instruments, staff, and music.	Off campus/online	10/02/2025 to 10/28/2025	\$17,000.00	\$5,000.00
Band Boosters	Popcorn sales	To raise funds for marching supplies, instruments, staff, and music.	Off campus/online	08/25/2025 to 08/29/2025	\$5,000.00	\$2,500.00
<b>Esperero Canyon Middle School (ECMS)</b>						
Family Faculty Organization (FFO)	Direct donation request	To raise funds for general and elective grants, classroom supplies, and school improvements.	On/Off campus/online	07/01/2025 to 06/30/2026	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
FFO	Direct donation request for 8 <sup>th</sup> grade promotion	To raise funds for food, catering, DJ,	On/Off campus/online	07/01/2025 to 06/30/2026	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00

		decorations, chair rental, and snacks for 8 <sup>th</sup> grade promotion.				
FFO	Basha's Community Support Card	To raise funds for principal's discrepancy fund.	Off campus	07/01/2025 to 06/30/2026	\$50.00	\$50.00
FFO	Fry's Community Rewards Program	To raise funds for National Junior Honor Society and student council.	Off campus	07/01/2025 to 06/30/2026	\$100.00	\$100.00
FFO	Box Tops for Education	To raise funds for bus driver appreciation event.	Off campus/ online	07/01/2025 to 06/30/2026	\$50.00	\$50.00
FFO	Big Brother Big Sister of Southern Arizona clothing donation drive	To raise funds for New Teacher Orientation t-shirts, Teacher of the Year event, and professional development.	On campus	07/01/2025 to 06/30/2026	\$500.00	\$500.00
FFO	Dine outs at various restaurants	To raise funds for teacher/staff meals and appreciation.	Off campus	07/01/2025 to 06/30/2026	\$750.00	\$750.00
FFO	EduKits sales	To raise funds for technology TTM/Gizmo.	On/Off campus/ online	06/11/2025 to 04/30/2026	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
FFO	Spirit wear and merchandise sales	To raise funds for FFO expenses: Zoom etc.	On/Off campus/ online	07/01/2025 to 06/30/2026	\$200.00	\$200.00
FFO	Silent Disco (10/17/2025)	To raise funds for general grants, classroom fund, and school improvement fund.	Off campus/ online	08/04/2025 to 10/31/2025	\$25,000.00	\$20,000.00
FFO	Book fair	To raise funds for school library books and classroom books.	On/Off campus/ online	07/01/2025 to 06/30/2026	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
FFO	Merchandise sales for band	To raise funds for band student achievement awards and supplies (reeds, valve oil, replacement parts, etc.).	Off campus/ online	07/01/2025 to 06/30/2026	\$1,750.00	\$1,750.00

FFO	Merchandise sales for choir	To raise funds for piano accompanist and replacement uniforms.	Off campus/online	07/01/2025 to 06/30/2026	\$500.00	\$500.00
<b>Ventana Vista Elementary School (VVES)</b>						
FFO	Spirit wear sales	To raise funds for staff appreciation, field trips, teacher stipends and grants.	Off campus/online	07/01/2025 to 06/30/2026	\$2,000.00	\$1,600.00
FFO	Parking space raffle	To raise funds for staff appreciation, field trips, teacher stipends and grants.	On campus	08/18/2025 to 08/20/2025	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
FFO	Direct donation campaign "Bobcat Bucks"	To raise funds for staff appreciation, field trips, teacher stipends and grants.	On/Off campus/online	07/01/2025 to 06/30/2026	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
FFO	Scholastic Book Fair	To raise funds for teachers' classroom supplies.	On campus	08/01/2025	\$3,000.00 <i>(in Scholastic dollars)</i>	\$3,000.00 <i>(in Scholastic dollars)</i>
FFO	Dine outs at various restaurants	To raise funds for staff appreciation, field trips, teacher stipends and grants.	Off campus	08/04/2025 to 05/20/2026 <i>(1 per month)</i>	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00

5.5. Approval of the Personnel Memorandum

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

ADMINISTRATIVE	CERTIFIED STAFF	CLASSIFIED STAFF	COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Hire</li> <li>• Resignation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Hires</li> <li>• Rehire</li> <li>• Status Changes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Hires</li> <li>• Retire/Rehire</li> <li>• Corrections</li> <li>• Resignation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Hire</li> <li>• Rehire</li> <li>• Correction</li> </ul>

5.6. 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
5/20/2025	Special Needs Solution	Canyon View Elementary School	Therapy Equipment Donation	\$0.00
5/28/2025	Esperero Canyon Middle School FFO	Esperero Canyon Middle School	Field Trip	\$524.20
6/2/2025	Prudential Matching Gift	Canyon View Elementary School	Instruction	\$680.75
6/2/2025	Bob Bayze	Canyon View Elementary School	Instruction	\$700.00

6/2/2025	Gergely Kota	Catalina Foothills High School	Instruction	\$10.00
6/2/2025	Microsoft Matching Gift	Catalina Foothills High School	Instruction	\$10.00
6/2/2025	Gergely Kota	Catalina Foothills High School	Instruction	\$10.00
6/2/2025	Microsoft Matching Gift	Catalina Foothills High School	Instruction	\$10.00
6/2/2025	Gergely Kota	Catalina Foothills High School	Science Olympiad	\$10.00
6/2/2025	Microsoft Matching Gift	Catalina Foothills High School	Science Olympiad	\$10.00
6/2/2025	Gergely Kota	Catalina Foothills High School	Science Olympiad	\$10.00
6/2/2025	Microsoft Matching Gift	Catalina Foothills High School	Science Olympiad	\$10.00
			TOTAL	\$1,984.95

5.7. Approval of Addendum to the Intergovernmental Agreement Between Pima County Joint Technical Education District and Catalina Foothills School District No. 16

On the consent agenda, the governing board approved the addendum to the intergovernmental agreement between Pima County Joint Technical Education District and Catalina Foothills School District No. 16 for 2025-2026, as presented.

5.8. Approval of Award to Concord General Contracting for the Replacement of the Artificial Playground Turf at Vallen View Early Learning Center

On the consent agenda, the governing board approved the award to Concord General Contracting for the replacement of the artificial playground turf at Valley View Early Learning Center in the amount of \$103,635.00, as presented.

5.9. Approval of Award to Concord General Contracting for the Repair and Resurfacing of the Basketball and Tennis Court at Sunrise Drive Elementary School

On the consent agenda, the governing board approved the award to Concord General Contracting for the repair and resurfacing of the basketball and tennis court at Sunrise Drive Elementary School in the amount of \$106,996.00, as presented.

6. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

6.1. Approval of Revisions to the Facility Rental Rate Schedule per Policy KF, *Community Use of School Facilities* (second reading)

Since the governing board's initial review of revisions to the proposed facility rental rate schedule on May 27, Director of Community Schools Travis Kolter researched and compared rental rates of fields and indoor spaces at local parks and other Tucson area school districts, and he proposed no additional changes to the 2025-2026 facility rental rate schedule. Due to a utility rate increase experienced by the district over the past year, Mr. Kolter proposed a 7% increase to the facility rental rate schedule for the 2025-2026 school year. Additionally, the Facility Rental Application Fee and Change Fee, unchanged for over 15 years, will increase from \$15 to \$25 each to better cover administrative costs. The rental agreement form provided to outside user groups includes language to allow the district to recover any additional utility charges that might be initiated by utility providers during the 2025-2026 school year. The current \$1 million dollar liability and \$1 million dollar property damage insurance certificate will continue to be required of all renters.

Board members thanked Mr. Kolter for providing additional information about the revenue each school generated in the civics fund. They appreciated the helpful context, which clarified the fairness of the proposed rates and addressed questions about the potential for additional funding.

Upon a motion by Tom Logue, and a second by Gina Mehmert, the governing board approved the revisions to the 2025-2026 facility rental rate schedule per Policy KF *Community Use of School Facilities*, as presented.

Jacquelyn Davoli – Yea; Eileen Jackson – Yea; Amy Krauss – Yea; Tom Logue – Yea; Gina Mehmert – Yea; Motion carried 5-0.

6.2. Approval of Revisions to Policy IKF, *Graduation Requirements* (second reading)

Executive Director of Curriculum and Assessment Sheryl Castro presented revisions to the graduation requirements policy to ensure alignment with the high school course guide. Updates provided a clarified definition of “*enrolled full-time*” for all high school grade levels. Statutory language for Holocaust and genocide education, now requiring instruction in two separate class periods between grades 7–12, and the inclusion of geography taught in grades 9-12 was revised. Language was added to specify that, with the approval of the high school principal, Pima JTED courses offered only during the student’s school day may be considered part of the required course load, as Pima JTED is regarded as an extension of the high school campus. Additional changes included the removal of phased-in social studies requirements (2022–2025), updated headings and language on civics testing, and the reference to “*parents*” updated to “*parents/legal guardians*” under the special education section.

Ms. Castro reviewed additional revisions proposed by board members including language “*at the discretion of the school or district*”, for seventh or eighth grade students to take the civics test. In the first sentence of the first paragraph under the *Transfer Students* section, the phrase “*from their state of origin*” and the word “*Arizona*” were added to clarify that students coming from other states are exempt from competency testing requirements if they have passed a statewide assessment test on state adopted standards from their state of origin that are substantially equivalent to the Arizona State Board of Education adopted Academic Standards. A reference to Social Studies requirements for transferring juniors or seniors during the 2023-2024 school year will be removed, and the specific Catalina Foothills High School course descriptions “*AP Psychology (1 credit) or Perspectives on Modern History (.5 credit) and American Law & Justice (.5 credit)*” will be included under sections B and C which applies to pathways for transferring juniors or seniors to meet the four (4) credit Social Studies graduation requirement.

Board members raised clarity issues about the language presented in sections B and C related to how transfer students meet the four-credit Social Studies graduation requirement and suggested a separate title with capitalization for the section similar to the *Transfer Students* section. Discussion confirmed that high school counseling staff understood the tiered approach although the language remained complex to the board members. Ms. Castro will review the section with the high school counseling staff again for further simplification.

A board member additionally requested a capitalization correction on page five in the third paragraph of the policy to reflect the proper noun “*Department of Education*”.

Due to the new revisions presented, the governing board postponed a vote on Policy IKF, *Graduation Requirements*, in order to review its additional changes during a third reading on June 24.

6.3. Approval of Academic Standards for K-12 World Languages (second reading)

Ms. Castro presented no changes to the academic standards for K-12 World Languages since the governing board’s review on May 27. The refreshed K–12 World Languages Academic Standards outline the knowledge and skills students are expected to acquire through the study of Mandarin Chinese and/or Spanish in CFSD. Aligned with the Arizona World and Native Languages Standards, the refreshed standards emphasize performance-based, proficiency-oriented instruction and assessment with a strong focus on real-world communication, what learners can do with language in authentic contexts, and cultural competence. By organizing expectations around the interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational modes of communication, the standards aim to develop students as culturally aware communicators who are prepared to engage respectfully and effectively in diverse local and global communities.

Ms. Castro shared that a teacher emphasized the importance of students leaving language classes not only with language skills but also with a lasting ability to understand diverse perspectives and view themselves and others as cultural beings shaped by various environments, including schools and classrooms. This reflection was meaningful to the World Languages teaching team and highlighted the broader value of language learning beyond fluency. Board members expressed appreciation for the additional information provided in support of

the policy and to the World Languages team and Ms. Castro for their thoughtful work and dedication in developing the refreshed K-12 World Languages academic standards.

Upon a motion by Gina Mehmert, and a second by Jacquelyn Davoli, the governing board approved the academic standards for K-12 World Languages for implementation in the 2025-2026 school year, as presented.

Jacquelyn Davoli – Yea; Eileen Jackson – Yea; Amy Krauss – Yea; Tom Logue – Yea; Gina Mehmert – Yea; Motion carried 5-0.

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

7.1. **Approval of Classified Wages**

Associate Superintendent Mindy Westover presented the proposed 2025-2026 classified wage schedule. The schedule was revised to eliminate the first step of the 2024-2025 classified wage schedule and to extend the end of the schedule by one step. A recommended one horizontal step movement for all classified employees results in a 2% increase to wages and an increased cost to the maintenance and operations budget of \$119,505. The new starting minimum wage is \$15.78 per hour. A recommended 2% increase for all classified exempt employees results in an increased cost of \$18,281. The proposed increase will not impact any student program or staffing formula.

Board members asked clarifying questions regarding starting hourly wages for classroom educational assistants (\$15.78 per hour) and special education assistants (\$19.23 per hour), and how the proposed wages compare to the state's minimum wage (\$14.70 per hour). There was discussion on the progress made over the past five years, with a noted 32% overall increase to classified compensation, and there was a request for future benchmarking against other school districts. It was also highlighted that competitive starting wages also applied to the extended day program staff, including high school student workers.

Upon a motion by Eileen Jackson, and a second by Jacquelyn Davoli, the governing board approved the proposed 2025-2026 classified wage schedule, as presented.

Jacquelyn Davoli – Yea; Eileen Jackson – Yea; Amy Krauss – Yea; Tom Logue – Yea; Gina Mehmert – Yea; Motion carried 5-0.

Upon a motion by Jacquelyn Davoli, and a second by Tom Logue, the governing board approved the one horizontal step movement for all classified employees on the proposed 2025-2026 classified wage schedule, as presented.

Jacquelyn Davoli – Yea; Eileen Jackson – Yea; Amy Krauss – Yea; Tom Logue – Yea; Gina Mehmert – Yea; Motion carried 5-0.

Upon a motion by Tom Logue, and a second by Eileen Jackson, the governing board approved a 2% increase for classified exempt employees for the 2025-2026 school year, as presented.

Jacquelyn Davoli – Yea; Eileen Jackson – Yea; Amy Krauss – Yea; Tom Logue – Yea; Gina Mehmert – Yea; Motion carried 5-0.

7.2. **Approval of Classified Notices of Appointment**

Ms. Westover presented the list of classified staff to be offered a Notice of Appointment for the 2025-2026 school year, along with a sample of the Notice of Appointment.

A board member asked whether the names listed on the classified employee notices of appointment reflected new or returning staff. District administration responded that the list primarily included returning employees, and any new hires would appear separately on a regular personnel memo.

Upon a motion by Gina Mehmert, and a second by Tom Logue, the governing board approved the classified notices of appointment for the 2025-2026 school year and directed that they be issued as presented to the members listed.

Jacquelyn Davoli – Yea; Eileen Jackson – Yea; Amy Krauss – Yea; Tom Logue – Yea; Gina Mehmert – Yea;  
Motion carried 5-0.

7.3. Consideration of Revisions to Policy JLF, *Reporting Child Abuse / Child Protection* (first reading)

Associate Superintendent Westover shared proposed revisions to Policy JLF, *Reporting Child Abuse / Child Protection* to align the policy with Arizona State Senate Bill 1437, which updated A.R.S. 13-3620 and A.R.S. 15-514 on mandatory reporting obligations. Key updates include an expanded definition of school personnel to include substitute teachers and governing board members as mandatory reporters. Reports made to School Resource Officers (SROs) or School Safety Officers no longer satisfy mandatory reporting obligations unless law enforcement is notified. SROs must now immediately report information to law enforcement. New guidance allows SROs to accept voluntary student victim reports and ask limited follow-up questions per county protocols. To provide clarity, a section was added to include the definitions of School Safety Officer, School Resource Officer, and Peace Officer. The revisions align district policy with the updated statute and clarify procedures and the responsibility of school personnel when handling suspected abuse or reportable offenses.

Board members asked about attending upcoming mandatory reporting training and the format for the training. District administration confirmed that annually, live training is provided to teachers and staff, with new teachers receiving instruction from legal counsel and principals conducting ongoing training with returning staff. Upcoming mandatory reporting training information will be provided to board members.

A board member asked if the agency that provides substitute teachers for the district is responsible for ensuring substitute teachers receive mandatory reporting training. The practice of requiring substitute agencies to certify mandatory reporting training is already in place, but the policy now clarifies this inclusion of a substitute's responsibility to report.

Board members inquired whether mandatory reporting obligations apply outside the school setting and noted an exception for attorney-client privilege. District administration clarified that while the obligation depends on the context, it is safest to make a report when acting in the capacity of a board member, with attorney-client communications remaining exempt as confirmed by statute.

Board members asked about the proper process for making a mandatory report and how district leadership is informed. Ms. Westover explained that reports must be made directly to law enforcement by calling 911 or the non-emergency line, and Ms. Westover and Dr. Bartlett confirmed that employees are also required to provide written notification to their principal by the next workday, which is then forwarded to the superintendent for review.

A board member expressed concern that policy language should be clarified to include "*governing board members*" since they are not technically employees. The term "*personnel*" is defined broadly at the top of the policy to include governing board members, addressing this concern.

Board members suggested that information in the policy related to internal district reporting might be better placed in its own section or clearly separated from the "*Failure to Report*" section to improve clarity. Ms. Westover agreed to review the placement and organization of this section within the policy before the next reading.

District administration noted that while the law related to mandatory reporting obligations takes effect 90 days after the legislative session, early adoption is important for staff training before the new school year.

The board will review the policy again on June 24 at the next regular governing board meeting.

7.4. Consideration of Revisions to Policy JR and Regulation JR-R *Student Records* (first reading)

Executive Director of Curriculum and Assessment Sheryl Castro presented proposed revisions to Policy JR and Regulation JR-R, *Student Records*, to ensure compliance with recent changes to state law under House Bill

2514, which amends A.R.S. 15-102 and A.R.S. 15-142 regarding parental involvement and student directory information. Updates to Policy JR clarify that schools must notify parents/legal guardians or eligible students about the types of directory information collected, their right to opt out, and the timeframe to submit such requests. The policy also specifies that a student's address, phone number, or email may not be disclosed to military recruiters without written consent or unless the parent/legal guardian or eligible student has not opted out of disclosure. The definition of "*eligible student*" has also been updated. Revisions to Regulation JR-R include clarification of the eligible student definition and updates to the transcript release form, allowing students to indicate whether their transcript may be shared with postsecondary institutions, the state militia, or the U.S. armed services.

Board members asked clarifying questions regarding the implementation of the policy changes. A board member inquired whether the changes reflected a shift from an "opt-out" to an "opt-in" system for directory information. Ms. Castro clarified that the "opt-in" requirement applies specifically to the disclosure of student address, telephone number, and email address to official military recruiting representatives as outlined in A.R.S. 15-142. Other directory information remains subject to the existing "opt-out" process.

Board members asked how the district would collect "opt-in" consent from families who had already completed online registration prior to the policy change. Ms. Castro indicated that the district is currently developing a process to obtain this consent, which may include follow-up notifications to families. In response to a question about whether the online registration system could require this consent selection before submission, Ms. Castro noted that this functionality is under consideration, but if not implemented, the default would be that no opt-in has been provided.

A suggestion was made to clarify the reference to A.R.S. 15-142 in the policy by adding a brief description such as "*pertaining to military recruiting*" to reduce confusion for readers. Ms. Castro agreed and indicated this clarification could be added either within the body of the policy or in the legal references section.

Board members also noted that the regulation uses the term "*governing board shall provide*" in reference to the transcript release form. Ms. Castro acknowledged this and confirmed that the language would be revised to read "*the district shall provide*" to reflect actual practice. Additionally, board members requested that terminology throughout the policy and regulation be reviewed for consistency, ensuring "*parent/legal guardian*" is used uniformly and that singular/plural forms are applied correctly. Ms. Castro confirmed these edits would be made.

Superintendent Bartlett acknowledged that while the revised law will not take effect until 90 days after the legislative session adjourns, the district is acting proactively to ensure compliance by the start of the new school year.

The policy and regulation will return to the governing board agenda for a second reading on June 24.

7.5. Review of the Fiscal Year 2026 Maintenance and Operations (M&O) Straw Budget and Approval of the Fiscal Year 2026 Proposed Budget (State Forms)

Director of Finance Lisa Taetle reviewed the fiscal year (FY) 2026 maintenance and operations (M&O) straw budget and its transfer onto the state-approved forms. Due to difficulty following the printed budget forms as organized by the state, board members requested clarification, and President Krauss recommended a five-minute recess to allow Ms. Taetle time to adjust the presentation format.

President Krauss recessed the meeting at 7:59 p.m.

President Krauss commenced the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

Ms. Taetle continued the review of the proposed FY 2026 expenditure budget which included the incorporation of a 2% inflationary adjustment based on current state guidance due to the Arizona State Legislature not yet approving the state's final 2026 budget. The Arizona Auditor General has released preliminary expenditure budget forms, and a formal revision of CFSD's FY 2026 budget will take place in August once the state budget is finalized. Changes to the 2026 Classroom Site Fund (CSF) reflected actual expenditures for FY 2025

performance pay and related benefits. These previously reported amounts have been reclassified—an \$88,475 reduction was shown in the FY 2025 deletions column, and the same amount was added to the FY 2026 additions column, indicating funds available for performance pay in the next fiscal year.

Ms. Taetle reviewed the transfer of the proposed FY26 expenditure budget to the state-issued budget forms, incorporating key assumptions such as the 2% inflationary increase and an estimated Average Daily Membership (ADM) of 4,574. The base support amount for FY 2026 is \$5,113.26, and the District Additional Assistance (DAA) decreased slightly to \$2.86 million due to lower ADM. The total M&O budget limit is \$42.1 million, a decrease of about \$642,000 from FY 2025, while the Unrestricted Capital Fund has increased to \$10 million. Salaries and benefits were increased by 2% for all staff groups. The Classroom Site Fund increased to \$842 per weighted student count, and a new line was added to reflect FY26 contingency funds and the 2026 CSF District Straw Budget. The budget included a 3% contractual rate increase for the district's transportation provider, and a 2% salary increase for the bus mechanics and the facilities manager who are employed by the district. Total Federal Projects decreased by approximately \$680,000 due to pending grant allocations and the expended carryforward funds from the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part B grant. Of the \$2.86 million in DAA funding, \$1.45 million is being transferred to M&O, with the balance supporting capital needs. The M&O override is budgeted at \$4.67 million.

A board member reiterated ongoing concern that the state's outdated transportation funding formula continues to fall significantly short of actual costs, requiring the district to subsidize over \$1 million from its maintenance and operations budget—funds that could otherwise support teachers.

Board members asked clarifying questions regarding the proposed FY26 expenditure budget, including inquiries about projected Average Daily Membership (ADM) estimates, carryforward amounts in the Classroom Site Fund and capital overrides, the timing of federal project grant allocations, and the handling of construction project funds. Clarification was also provided on calculation pages related to carryforward balances and projected expenditures. No objections or requested changes were raised, and board members acknowledged this review as a continuation of prior budget discussions.

A board member shared their approach to reviewing the state budget forms by using the straw budget as a guide, noting that the simpler expenditure straw budget helps clarify the more complex state budget forms, particularly highlighting page seven of eight on the state budget forms, where the total general budget limit closely matches the total in the straw budget, allowing for reconciliation of the two documents and ensuring consistency.

Board members thanked Ms. Taetle for patiently reviewing the highlighted changes page by page and requested future budget presentations include page numbering outside of the page numbers pre-printed on the state provided forms.

The expenditure budget, once approved, will remain unchanged prior to its final adoption at the next meeting before the end of the fiscal year on June 30.

Upon a motion by Gina Mehmert, and a second by Tom Logue, the governing board approved the fiscal year 2026 proposed expenditure budget, as presented.

Jacquelyn Davoli – Yea; Eileen Jackson – Yea; Amy Krauss – Yea; Tom Logue – Yea; Gina Mehmert – Yea; Motion carried 5-0.

#### 7.6. Approval of Superintendent's Performance Pay

President Amy Krauss provided background information on the superintendent's performance pay process. In compliance with A.R.S. 15-341(A)(40), which ensures that the contract for the superintendent is structured in a manner in which up to 20% of the total annual salary is classified as performance pay.

This is the culmination of the board's formalized review of the superintendent's performance during prior executive sessions held mid-year in December and end-of-the-year in May. The board recommended that Superintendent Denise Bartlett receive 100% of the performance bonus.

Board members expressed sincere appreciation to Superintendent Bartlett for exceeding the high expectations set for her first year, noting her leadership, vision, and commitment to student success and community engagement. Specific praise was given for the successful implementation of the college counseling program, the thoughtful handling of listen and learn sessions, and her visible presence on campus, such as riding the school bus to connect with students and staff. Additionally, board members commended her swift and decisive response to a security incident at Orange Grove Middle School, turning it into a district-wide safety improvement. Board members highlighted her transparent communication, accessibility, strategic thinking, and collaborative leadership, affirming their strong support for her performance pay determination.

Upon a motion by Gina Mehmert, and a second by Eileen Jackson, the governing board approved the 2024-2025 performance pay for the superintendent in the amount of \$5,000.00, as presented.

Jacquelyn Davoli – Yea; Eileen Jackson – Yea; Amy Krauss – Yea; Tom Logue – Yea; Gina Mehmert – Yea; Motion carried 5-0.

Superintendent Bartlett expressed heartfelt gratitude for the board’s recognition, humbly emphasizing that the successes acknowledged were the result of a collective team effort. She credited her leadership team, administrators, and teachers for their dedication to realizing the district’s vision and goals, reaffirming their shared commitment to continue this important work.

8. **DISCUSSION / REPORTS**

8.1. **Arizona Legislative / Governmental Activity**

Board members discussed a delay in state funding to public and charter schools, with districts receiving only 60% of their expected payments due to a federal funding hold. Ongoing discussions at the state level include the aggregate expenditure limit and budget approvals. Thanks to prudent financial planning and community support, the district remains in a stable financial position to manage the funding shortfall without disruption.

9. **AGENDA PLANNING**

There were no requests for future agenda considerations.

10. **EXECUTIVE SESSION (CONTINUED)**

- 10.1. Executive Session, personnel, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A)(1) - Discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, demotion, dismissal, salaries, disciplining or resignation of a public officer, appointee or employee of any public body - Annual Performance Review of Superintendent.

The governing board did not continue into executive session.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a motion by Jacquelyn Davoli, and a second by Gina Mehmert, the governing board adjourned the meeting at 8:5 p.m.

Jacquelyn Davoli – Yea; Eileen Jackson – Yea; Amy Krauss – Yea; Tom Logue – Yea; Gina Mehmert – Yea; Motion carried 5-0.