

DRAFT

**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, June 29, 2015 at 4:30 PM.

Board Members Present

Deanna M. Day, President
Jo Grant, Vice President
Dr. Kent Paul Barrabee, Member
Julie Cozad, Member
Scott A. Leska, Member

Central Administrators Present

Patrick Nelson, Superintendent

OPENING OF MEETING

Call to Order and Signing of Visitors' Register

Ms. Day called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM and asked members of the audience to sign the visitors' register. There was no one from the public in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Nelson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcement of Date and Place of Next Special Governing Board Meeting

Ms. Day announced the next Regular meeting of the Governing Board: Tuesday, July 7, 2015 at 6:00 PM, Wetmore Center, 701 W. Wetmore Road.

PUBLIC COMMENT¹

Ms. Day asked if there was any public comment. There was no public comment.

The Retreat Study Session was held in the Governing Board Room.

1. STUDY SESSION

A. Governing Board Retreat - Discussion and Study of General Issues Affecting the District through Fiscal Year 2017-2018 to include:

1. Board and Superintendent Goals and Expectations
2. Core Values and Beliefs
3. Student Achievement and Engagement Strategies
4. Construction and Facilities including:
 - a. Status of Bond-Funded Properties Improvements
 - b. Proposed Property Improvements
 - c. Property Development
5. Human Resources including:
 - a. Evaluation System Development

- b. Anticipated Staffing Needs
 - c. Technology Implementation and Issues
 - d. Facilities
6. Policy, Procedure and Practice including:
- a. Communication Protocols
 - b. Grading and Assessment
 - c. Curriculum, Pedagogy and Programs
 - d. Community Engagement and Communication Efforts
7. Budget Development Issues including:
- a. Affordable Care Act
 - b. Meet and Confer Process
 - c. The State Budget
 - d. Budget History
 - e. Federal Funding
 - f. Bonds and Override in General
 - g. Enrollment

Board Book Information: This Governing Board Retreat will be held to provide a forum for discussion of issues affecting the District and other topics of importance to the District. This discussion will be general in nature and no action will be taken during this meeting.

Ms. Day reviewed the agenda for the Retreat. The Governing Board discussed a wide variety of topics related to the district through the 2017-2018 school year.

Discussion ensued regarding student achievement and various data regarding content areas. Mr. Nelson provided information regarding efforts for this coming year on writing and the writing process for several schools. Additional improvement goals in the academic area will result from study of the data when the data book is completed in the next several weeks.

Curriculum and pedagogy discussion ensued and within the context of writing. Discussion was held regarding teaching of cursive writing and its value in terms of written communication. Some discussion focused on grading practices and the importance of consistency.

The topic of marketing and communication protocols was discussed with various thoughts and ideas to increase the enrollment of Amphi. Mr. Nelson provided a handout with information regarding population statistics, birth rates, population changes, student enrollment in Pima County schools and the potential impact of legislation and charter school enrollment. Policy IKF was briefly discussed within the context of student enrollment, as was the impact of all day vs. half day kindergarten enrollment. As part of communication protocols, discussion ensued regarding the board and the importance of their role in both internal and external communication. Several ideas will be implemented for this coming school year. Within the context of board goals, marketing was discussed. All board members contributed their thoughts regarding effective marketing techniques and strategies, and ideas to put the Amphi “brand” to a wider audience. Ideas included various types of handouts or brochures, announcements on open houses, flexibility at the site level, reaching out more effectively to K-8 charter schools, and potential partnerships with the University of Arizona on interns. In addition, as part of the discussion, thoughts were shared on the high school start times as a potential impact.

Another concern discussed was teacher retention and the difficulty of hiring qualified teachers. As part of the discussion within board goals, differentiated professional development and the use of “early release” days at the schools was shared. Ideas for use of the “early release” days included CRISS training, and better articulation between middle schools and high schools. In addition, the importance of AVID was discussed and the need to have wider usage of this program for student success. The role of counselors was discussed in terms of job description, role, and support for students. It was mentioned by Mr. Nelson that AHS will be participating in a grant from the Metropolitan Education Center for the Regional College Access Center. This provides a person from the U of A to help and support students in terms of college knowledge and access to higher education. Greater attention to scholarships for these students was emphasized also.

In terms of board goals, discussion was held regarding a long range plan, perhaps different than the Continuous Improvement Plan that is now being used.

No decisions were made as per the purpose of a Retreat.

BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS


There were no Board Member requests.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Barrabee moved to adjourn the meeting, Ms. Grant seconded and the motion passed 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:02 PM.



Respectfully submitted,
Karen S. Gardiner

Deanna M. Day, President

Date

Approved: TBD