

**Minutes of the Regular Governing Board Meeting  
Amphitheater Public Schools  
Tuesday, August 8, 2023**

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A Regular public meeting of the Governing Board of Amphitheater Public Schools was held on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the Wetmore Center, 701 W. Wetmore Road, Tucson, AZ 85705 in the Leadership and Professional Development Center.

**Governing Board Members**

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

**Superintendent's Cabinet Members**

Mr. Todd A. Jaeger, J.D., Superintendent  
Ms. Tassi Call, Associate Superintendent for Elementary Education  
Mr. Matthew Munger, Associate Superintendent for Secondary Education  
Mr. Scott Little, Chief Financial Officer  
Mr. John Hastings, Director of Human Resources  
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 Day called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and invited members of the audience to sign the guest register.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Day asked Mr. Little to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. ANNOUNCEMENT OF DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT SPECIAL GOVERNING BOARD MEETING**

President Day announced that the next Special Governing Board Meeting would be held on Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 5:30 p.m., at the Wetmore Center, 701 W. Wetmore Road, Tucson AZ 85705 in the Leadership and Professional Development Center.

**4. INFORMATION<sup>2</sup>**

**A. Superintendent's Report**

*For the Superintendent's Report PowerPoint Presentation see Exhibit 1.*

Superintendent Jaeger talked about the first days of the new school year. He said that he and Ms. Zibrat visited all 22 schools in two days. He commented that, overall, there were very few glitches or problems. Superintendent Jaeger stated that enrollment currently is at approximately 12,000 students. He reported that the schools are positive, child-centered spaces, and District staff warmly welcomed the students and one another. He noted that there were some isolated air conditioning issues that were fixed quickly. Superintendent Jaeger shared that the new Student Information System (Infinite Campus) roll out has been fairly successful. He said there were some challenges, but the staff throughout the District have done a great job, and he thanked everyone involved.

Superintendent Jaeger shared pictures of the first day of school. He mentioned that it was very exciting to see all the students, especially the new classes of preschool students.

Superintendent Jaeger said that KVOA-4 News partnered with the District again this year to collect items for the Annual School Supply Drive. He expressed his appreciation to all who donated, to the

station, as well as Amphi Middle School for hosting. He noted that the District was fortunate to have participation from community members, businesses and organizations including the Amphi Foundation, Literacy Connects, Tucson Appliance, Tucson Subaru and One-Hour Heating and Cooling.

Superintendent Jaeger spoke about the 2023 Arizona Legislature that adjourned on July 31, 2023. He said that in his last report, he reviewed the number of bills that were passed and/or vetoed, and in an upcoming report, he will detail those bills which did pass and will affect the District. He explained that state law mandates a 90-day “wait period” before the passed bills take effect.

Superintendent Jaeger reported that in July, State Superintendent Tom Horne threatened to withhold funding from schools using the 50-50 dual language model for English Language Learners (ELL) students. He explained that the model is one of four strategies approved by the AZSBOE for ELL students. With this format students are taught in English for half of the school day and in their native language for the other half. Currently, 110 schools in 26 school districts across Arizona (none in Amphi) use the 50-50 model.

He said that in response to State Superintendent Horne’s announcement, several Democratic legislators requested the State Attorney General opinion to draft an opinion as to his ability to withhold critical funds. Attorney General Kris Mayes issued an opinion last week, which states State Superintendent Horne lacks the legal authority to withhold state dollars or make any decisions about the model’s validity. She stated that Horne’s role is limited to monitoring and referring school districts and charter schools to the Board, and that no state law gives him the authority to take action against schools or decide the fate of certain programs.

Superintendent Jaeger gave an update on school vouchers. He explained that vouchers are used to “reimburse” parents for tuition or education costs for private and home schooling, at Arizona taxpayers expense. He said that recently Governor Hobbs reported that the total cost of vouchers may hit \$943.8 million this school year, which is \$319 million more than the approved funding allows for. He noted that the 2022 law allowed more than 40,000 parents (who were already using their own funds to send their children to private schools or teach their children at home) to obtain vouchers at an average new cost of \$7,223 per student. He commented that vouchers pay out up to \$800 more for students in private school (without special needs) than the state pays for a student in a public school.

Superintendent Jaeger talked about the teacher vacancies. He said compared to other school districts Amphi was relatively fortunate to start the school year with just 12 vacancies. In January 2023, there were approximately 2,890 teacher vacancies statewide. He felt that one of the reasons for the many vacancies was due to Arizona’s poor education funding and resulting low pay for teachers. Superintendent Jaeger noted that elementary school teachers in Arizona earned an average of \$50,134 in 2022, and the national average is \$55,335.00.

Superintendent Jaeger spoke about \$3,000,000 of one-time funding approved by the Legislature. He said the money will be distributed on the basis of school district enrollment, and unfortunately, it will not be calculated by the state until the school year is over. He stated the District will have discussions in the future on how to use the funds. This will include input from constituents through the meet and confer process, and then a final determination by the Governing Board.

President Day thanked him for the report.

## **B. Status of Construction Projects**

*For the Status of Construction Projects Report see Exhibit 2.*

President Day introduced the item and Superintendent Jaeger asked Mr. LaNasa to present the report.

Mr. La Nasa said that summer break was a very busy time and many projects were completed. He was pleased to report that a Building Renewal Grant (BRG) for approximately \$430,000.00 was approved for the ongoing weatherization project at Ironwood Ridge High School.

Mr. La Nasa then reviewed recent and upcoming construction projects in the District.

**Amphitheater High School** (AHS) Bond projects include backup generators for MDF rooms, improvements to main entrance security and access controls, east and south campus security fencing upgrades and H1 classroom renovations. The student and east parking lot improvements and building D handicap access have been completed. Adjacent Ways completed projects include renovations to the student parking lot fire lane and the main entrance and southwest campus fire lane paving. CP #3 water treatment equipment repair has been completed. Building Renewal Grant (BRG) projects include the CP #2 and #3 hot water lines replacement and phase I east campus and phase II west campus roof replacements. Additional projects include the 300 wing structural repairs and buildings 800, DN and south gym Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) conversion.

**Canyon del Oro High School** (CDO) Bond projects include improvements to building BN HVAC controls. Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) projects include building BN HVAC and central plant controls improvements. BRG projects include phase I west campus and phase II east campus weatherization assessment, and the north gym evaporative cooler to air conditioning conversion for fall of 2023.

**Ironwood Ridge High School** (IRHS) Bond projects include CP plant control valve replacements, kitchen improvements and main gym floor re-finish. The irrigation well design and main gym and auditorium painting have been completed. Adjacent Ways projects completed during summer break include the front and central plant fire lane pavement R & R. BRG projects include classroom A105 carpet replacement, weatherization of the academic buildings and the completion of mold remediation and restoration.

**Amphitheater Middle School** (AMS) Bond projects include the completion of the front parking lot improvements. Adjacent Ways completed project includes fire lane improvements. ESSER projects include building 300 HVAC improvements during fall break.

**Copper Creek Elementary School** Bond projects include the central plant cooling tower and pump upgrades design. BRG projects include the MPR roof replacement.

**Coronado K-8 School** Bond projects include the completion of flooring and exterior site improvements. The boys and girls locker room HVAC improvements will be done during fall 2023 break.

**Cross Middle School**. BRG projects include the campus weatherization assessment.

**Harelson Elementary School** BRG projects include the campus roof assessment.

**Holaway Elementary School** Bond projects include front office and campus access control improvements. The administration office access control improvements have been completed.

**Keeling Elementary School** Bond projects include the completed installation of campus HVAC controls.

**Land Lab** Bond projects include building D restroom HVAC improvements.

**La Cima Middle School** Bond projects include security fence improvements. The front parking lot and student drop off improvements have been completed. ESSER projects include the central plant chiller replacement in 2024. BRG projects include the campus roof assessment and campus weatherization design.

**Mesa Verde Elementary School** BRG projects include the east and west classrooms, administration and MPR campus roof replacements.

**Nash Elementary School** Bond projects include the kitchen HVAC replacement. ESSER projects include building I HVAC improvements (fall 2023). BRG projects include the campus roof assessment. The CP water treatment equipment repair has been completed.

**Painted Sky Elementary School** BRG projects include the fire alarm and boiler # 2 replacement.

**Prince Elementary School** Bond projects include building C ductwork, flooring and lighting. BRG projects include the campus roof replacement, weatherization assessment and west wing HVAC coil replacement. The CP water treatment equipment repair has been completed.

**Rillito Center** Bond projects include the completed installation of the administration office and campus access controls. BRG projects include the swimming pool HVAC repair.

**Rio Vista Elementary School** Bond projects include building C second floor access controls improvements. The clocks and PA system upgrades have been completed.

**Walker Elementary School** Bond projects include the completion of building F classroom improvements. BRG projects include the completed repair of the CP water treatment equipment.

**Wilson K-8 School** Bond projects include interior improvements to north MPR and hallway lighting, and HVAC improvements to the south MPR and locker room. BRG projects include the MPR stage HVAC and roof replacement, and the campus weatherization assessment. The campus building hot water line replacement has been completed.

Mr. La Nasa then offered to answer any questions. There were none.

President Day thanked him for his report.

### **C. Presentation on the Effective Teaching Conference 2023**

*For the PowerPoint presentation on the Effective Teaching Conference 2023 see Exhibit 3.*

Superintendent Jager invited Ms. Call and Mr. Munger to talk about the conference.

Ms. Call said the conference was held at Canyon del Oro High School this year, there were 90 participants, including some retired teachers that were returning to Amphi. Ms. Call stated that it is important that all new teachers hear the same message regarding expectations, and they learned about “The Amphi Way”. Topics focused on curriculum, equity, scope and sequence, and assessments. She talked about additional sessions including Supporting Twice Exceptional Learners, Personalized Learning, Integrated English Language Development, Teaching with Technology, Meeting the Needs of All Learners and Positive Behavior Supports for all Learners.

Ms. Call thanked CDO High School for hosting, John Hastings and the Human Resources and Benefits teams, Elizabeth Jacome, CIISS Team, CIPS Team, and Coordinators. She also expressed her appreciation to Imagine Learning/Edgenuity, Amphi Foundation, Amphi Education Association and Jim Click Automotive Team for sponsoring the breakfasts and lunches.

Mr. Munger gave an outline of the opening sessions and said that the purpose of the conference is to support the incoming teachers. He talked about the ongoing mentoring support the District has in place, and explained that the new teachers receive encouragement from the Curriculum Intervention and Instructional Support Specialists (CIISS) team members. They work with new teachers on a weekly basis. The new teachers receive at least two student centered coaching cycles, which include a focus on learning targets, a co-planning session, and a co-teaching session. In addition, teacher goals and outcomes are documented through a coaching log. Mr. Munger noted that this year, each campus has a CIISS on site, and he thanked the Governing Board for supporting the addition of new staff members.

Mr. Munger spoke about the Building Outstanding Organized Successful Teachers (BOOST) conference. He explained that this conference is for teachers new to the profession. It included two full days of training with focus areas including classroom management, relationship building, planning, and how to develop engagement strategies. He noted that ongoing support for this year will include two new teacher induction meetings scheduled for 9/27/23 and 1/31/24.

There were no questions. President Day thanked them for the report.

### **5. PUBLIC COMMENT**

*President Day read the Call to Audience Procedures.*

Elizabeth Moll said she is member of the Pima County Republican Executive Board. She spoke about Public Law 108447, which designates September 17th as Constitution Day in Arizona. Ms. Moll stated it was her intent to communicate with all Pima County School Districts and encourage them to hold an educational program about the United States Constitution. In addition, she asked that the objectives to be accomplished are communicated to parents at every grade level.

**6. 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 Day asked if any items needed to be removed for comment or discussion. There were none.*

*President Day asked for a motion. Vice President Cox Golder moved for Consent Agenda Items 6. A.-L. be approved as presented. Mr. Kopec seconded the motion. Roll call vote in favor – 5. President Day, Vice President Cox Golder, Dr. Baker, Mr. Kopec and Ms. Zibrat. Opposed – 0.*

**A. Approval of Appointment of Non-Administrative Personnel**

*Non-administrative personnel appointments were approved as listed in Exhibit 4.*

**B. Approval of Personnel Changes**

*Certified and classified personnel changes were approved as listed in Exhibit 5.*

**C. Approval of Leave(s) of Absence**

*Leave(s) of absence were approved as listed in Exhibit 6.*

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

*Separations and terminations were approved as listed in Exhibit 7.*

**E. Approval of Stipend for Coaching Volunteers**

*Stipend for Coaching Volunteers were approved as listed in Exhibit 8.*

**F. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)**

*The Governing Board approved minutes from the July 11, 2023 and July 25, 2023 meetings as submitted in Exhibits 9-10.*

**G. Approval of Vouchers Totaling and Not Exceeding Approximately \$2,520,155.41**

*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 11.*

Voucher #	Amount	Voucher #	Amount	Voucher #	Amount
1446	\$60,539.15	1447	\$68,283.10	1010	\$874,002.26
1011	\$180,557.94	1448	\$4,381.54	1449	\$7,021.28
1450	\$317,503.50	1451	\$539.67	1452	\$106,114.34
1012	\$602,976.92	1013	\$164,964.81	1014	\$29,484.57
1015	\$98,259.70	1016	\$2,024.00	1017	\$3,502.63

**H. Acceptance of Gifts**

*Gifts were accepted by the Governing Board as submitted in Exhibit 12.*

**I. Approval of Parent Support Organization(s) - 2023-2024**

*The Governing Board approved IRHS Music Association, CDO Parent Organization and Amphi Panther Pride Booster Club for the 2023-2024 school year as submitted in Exhibit 13.*

**J. Approval of Site Fund-Raising Activities**

*The Governing Board approved Site Fund-Raising Activities.*

**K. Approval of Supplemental Texts and Materials**

*The Governing Board approved Supplemental Texts and Materials as submitted in Exhibit 14.*

## **L. Approval of Out of State Travel**

*The Governing Board approved requests for out of state travel as listed in Exhibit 15.*

## **7. STUDY**

### **A. Presentation on K-12 Core Content and Program Curriculum Work**

*For the complete presentation of the K-12 Core Content and Program Curriculum see Exhibit 16.*

Superintendent Jaeger recapped that at recent Governing Board meetings, there have been two programmatic curriculum reviews presented as a study session. He asked Ms. Jacome to come forward and begin the presentation.

Ms. Jacome said that tonight's presentation would cover K-12 Social Studies Curriculum. In addition, information about the English Language Development Program was to be given by Shannon Langley, English Language District Coordinator.

Ms. Jacome shared a slide of the Amphi Career and College Ready (CCR) Framework. She said it aligns with the Portrait of a Graduate, and the graphic provides a visual connection between what is expected of District educators in response to what the students' needs are. She spoke about a guaranteed and viable curriculum, which includes rigorous academic preparedness, students' awareness of the opportunities that lead to college and career readiness, and fosters student agency.

She gave a timeline of the current History curriculum adoption for K-12 students. The current curriculum was adopted in 2017, and a new curriculum adoption process is scheduled for Spring 2024. Ms. Jacome said the 3rd and 4th grade social studies curriculum committee took a deep dive into the standards. She reported that four units were created, scope and sequence was completed, a resource bank was developed and the results were shared during this summer's professional development.

Ms. Jacome talked about the secondary social studies curriculum committee. She said the department heads worked to create proficiency scales, a scope and sequence and resources and framework for each course. A new curriculum for Tier 1 instruction will also be adopted in the Spring of 2024. It will be aligned to Amphitheater Governing Board policies and the adoption committee will include stakeholders from all schools. The recommendations will be vetted to verify alignment to Arizona History and Social Sciences Standards before being presented to the Governing Board for approval.

She offered to answer any questions. There were none.

Ms. Jacome introduced Ms. Langley to present her report.

Ms. Langley stated that English Language Development (ELD) program was revised for school year 2020-2021. She explained the new program has four non-negotiable principles: asset-based behaviors and expectations, integrated instruction in disciplinary content, targeted and explicit language instruction and assessment, monitoring and feedback. In addition, a 2-hour structured English immersion (SEI) model, a pull-out SEI model and new English Language Proficiency (ELP) Standards were also adopted. Ms. Langley said a new Arizona English Language Learner Assessment (AZELLA) test is also being used to determine proficiency. Students also take a fall placement assessment and a spring reassessment. She talked about other curriculum resources that are available to support the targeted and integrated ELD teachers.

Ms. Langley spoke about Integrated ELD Math for K-5 students. She shared that this summer, she has been working with Rose Hooten, EL/Special Education Specialist and Polly Kimminau, District Math Coordinator. They have worked to align the ELP standards to the math content standards, identify language functions to gain content, grammar and form. She said there are resources in place for the teachers and they will continue to revise the content standards as needed.

She noted that any public-school teachers that teach targeted or integrated minutes of the SEI models are required to have an SEI Endorsement. In the fall of 2022, a total of 154 teachers throughout the District lacked the endorsement. To address this need, an SEI training course was developed and Ms.

Langley received approval from the state to teach the course to District staff. At this time, 35 teachers have completed the SEI endorsement.

There were no questions.

President Day thanked her for offering the course in house.

Superintendent Jaeger thanked them for the presentation and said there will be additional program studies in the future.

**8. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no comments..

**9. BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no requests.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

*President Day moved to adjourn. Vice President Cox Golder seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call vote in favor – 5. President Day, Vice President Cox Golder, Dr. Baker, Mr. Kopec and Ms. Zibrat. Opposed – 0.*

*The meeting adjourned at 7:07 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*

September 11, 2023

Date

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*Deanna M. Day M. Ed, Governing Board President*

September 12, 2023

Date