



**GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA ITEM
AMPHITHEATER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10**

DATE OF MEETING: **January 12, 2021**

TITLE: **Nomination and Election of Governing Board President and Vice President**

BACKGROUND:

Arizona Revised Statute (“A.R.S.”) § 15-321 requires each school district governing board to hold an organizational meeting between January 1 and January 15 each year. Specifically, A.R.S. § 15-321(B) mandates that “the governing board shall elect from among the membership of the board a president” at that organizational meeting. The President presides over all meetings of the Amphitheater Governing Board, in accordance with Arizona law and District policies, and performs a number of other key duties on behalf of the Board.

In addition, A.R.S. § 15-321(D) requires school district governing boards to “prescribe rules for its own government.” The Governing Board of Amphitheater Public Schools has established the Amphitheater Policy Manual for this purpose. Policy BDA, entitled “Board Organizational Meeting” identifies the following specific procedures to be followed at the Board’s organizational meeting:

“The meeting shall be called to order by the President of the Board for the preceding year. If that person is not a member of the Board, a temporary president shall be elected and the meeting shall be called to order by the temporary president. The person calling the meeting to order shall preside until a successor is chosen.

The new President of the Board shall take office upon election. The Board shall then elect a Vice President. The Vice President shall take the place of the President in case of a temporary absence”.

This agenda item is provided to permit the Governing Board to satisfy the requirements of A.R.S. § 15-321 and Board Policy BDA by electing a President and Vice President from its members. The current President takes all nominations for the office of President first. Once the office of President is determined, the selected candidate should assume responsibility for chairing the remainder of the meeting and proceed with the election for Vice President.

Under Roberts Rules of Order, candidates can be identified through an “open nomination” process during which the Board President calls for nominations from the floor. Alternatively, Board members may move the nomination of a candidate, but this option requires both a second and a passing vote in order for the nominee to be placed on the slate of candidates.

Nominees may decline their nomination before voting occurs. When it appears that no further nominations are forthcoming, the President may close the floor to further nominations, or it may be closed upon a passing motion to do the same.

Once nominations are completed, Roberts Rules of Order identifies multiple options for conducting the election of officers. The most practicable options applicable to the election of Governing Board officers are described below. All votes must be public for compliance with the Arizona Open Meeting Laws. Any one of the alternative methods below may be used – determined either by the current Vice President or by motion (the latter

of which controls in the event of conflict). If a voting method is selected, the Vice President should explain how the matter will proceed prior to the vote being taken. Below is an explanation on Robert's Rules of Order for each available option for voting:

Acclamation. If there is only one nominee for an office, the chair of the meeting can simply declare the individual is elected, rather than taking a vote.

Voice or Other Voting. Absent election by acclamation, a vote of the Board on nominees is required by voice or roll call. Votes should occur in the order that candidates are nominated. Roberts provides that, unless a method of voting is selected upon motion, the chair will decide the method based upon the nature of the election, closeness of the expected vote, and the size of the group.

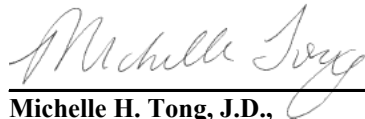
The chair announces the result of a vote formally, for the record. Until that announcement, Roberts permits any Board member to change their vote.

In the event of a tie between nominees, the chair may call for a new vote to determine the tie.

RECOMMENDATION:

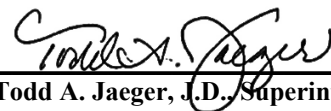
The Administration recommends that the Board nominate and elect both a President and a Vice President, through the manner determined by the current President or the Board by motion.

INITIATED BY:



Michelle H. Tong, J.D.,
Associate to the Superintendent and General Counsel

Date: January 4, 2021



Todd A. Jaeger, J.D., Superintendent