

**MINGUS UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT #4**  
**1801 East Fir, Cottonwood, AZ 86326**

**GOVERNING BOARD**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**ZOOM**

Thursday, July 30, 2020 6:00 PM

**Governing Board:**

Carol Anne Teague  
Lori Drake  
Anthony Lozano  
Chip Currie  
Greg Roeller

**Also Present:**

Mike Westcott, Superintendent  
Lynn Leonard, Business Manager  
Genie Gee, Principal

**OPENING**

**Call to Order**

Board President Carol Anne Teague called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

**Roll Call**

Board President Carol Anne Teague, Vice President Lori Drake, Board Member Anthony Lozano, Board Member Chip Currie and Board Member Greg Roeller are present.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The pledge was led by Jon Hecht

**Moment of Silence**

A moment of silence was observed.

**Adoption of Agenda**

**Motion** was made by Board President Carol Anne Teague to adopt the agenda as presented with the exception of moving Item 3.1 Consolidation Pamphlet to the end of the action items. Second was made by Vice President Lori Drake. **Roll Call Vote:**

Board President Carol Anne Teague- Aye  
Vice President Lori Drake- Aye  
Board Member Greg Roeller- Aye  
Board Member Anthony Lozano- Aye  
Board Member Chip Currie- Aye

**Motion** passed.

**ACTION ITEMS – CONSENT** *Specific information on routine vouchers and personnel will be available at the District Office 24 hours prior to Board Meetings. Please see Governing Board Secretary during regular office hours. (All items listed hereunder are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Board member so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be discussed separately.)*

**PERSONNEL:**

- **Certified Staff**  
Resignation- Teacher- Alejandro Marin  
New Hire- Teacher- Daniel Aldana
- **Classified Staff**  
New Hire- Counseling Intern- Kelly Miglin  
New Hire- Special Education Classroom Aide- Carmen Fimbres

**DONATIONS:**

\$1,000 donation from State Farm-Jennifer Griffin Insurance Agency.

Board President Carol Anne Teague pulled Item 2.1.1 Resignation of Alejandro Marin and Item 2.2 Donations for further discussion. **Motion** was made by Vice President Lori Drake to approve the Consent Agenda without Items 2.1.1 Resignation of Alejandro Marin and 2.2.1 Donations. Second was made by Board Member Anthony Lozano. **Roll Call Vote:**

Board President Carol Anne Teague- Aye  
Vice President Lori Drake- Aye  
Board Member Greg Roeller- Aye  
Board Member Anthony Lozano- Aye  
Board Member Chip Currie- Aye  
**Motion** passed.

Board President Carol Anne Teague explained that she pulled the resignation of Teacher Alejandro Marin because Board policy said he should be fined for breaking his contract. She feels he shouldn't be fined due to COVID. Superintendent Mike Westcott explained that policy allows for the Board to waive the fee and no additional fees were assessed to the District for him. **Motion** was made by Vice President Lori Drake that during COVID we do not charge the contract termination fee. Second was made by Board Member Chip Currie. **Roll Call Vote:**

Board President Carol Anne Teague- Aye  
Vice President Lori Drake- Aye  
Board Member Greg Roeller- Aye  
Board Member Anthony Lozano- Aye  
Board Member Chip Currie- Aye  
**Motion** passed.

Board President Carol Anne Teague acknowledged and expressed her gratitude for the \$1,000 donation from Jennifer Griffin of State Farm Insurance Agency. **Motion** was made by Board Member Anthony Lozano to accept the \$1,000 donation from Jennifer Griffin of State Farm Insurance Agency. Second was made by Board Member Greg Roeller. **Roll Call Vote:**

Board President Carol Anne Teague- Aye  
Vice President Lori Drake- Aye  
Board Member Greg Roeller- Aye  
Board Member Anthony Lozano- Aye  
Board Member Chip Currie- Aye  
**Motion** passed.

#### **ACTION ITEMS - DISTRICT BUSINESS**

**Sole Source Vendor- Discussion and possible approval of Kajeet Inc., as a sole source vendor. (Staff Resource: Mike Westcott)** Superintendent Mike Westcott reviewed the information for Kajeet Inc. This vendor will be able to supply the Smart Bus WIFI which is a mobile unit you can place on a bus/vehicle and park in a location to produce a WIFI signal. There was only one other vendor that could put in a bid but they couldn't match the price or equipment. We will be able to cover the cost based on FFMA Technology Grant we received. He explained that based on Board policy and regulation the Board must acknowledge Kajeet as a sole source vendor. **Motion** was made by Board Member Greg Roeller to approve Kajeet Inc, as a sole source vendor. Second was made by Board Member Chip Currie. **Roll Call Vote:**

Board President Carol Anne Teague- Aye  
Vice President Lori Drake- Aye  
Board Member Greg Roeller- Aye  
Board Member Anthony Lozano- Aye  
Board Member Chip Currie- Aye  
**Motion** passed.

**Compliance Board Resolution- Discussion and possible approval of a Governing Board Resolution to ensure compliance with Executive Order 2020-51, Orders 1-7. (Staff Resource: Mike Westcott)** Superintendent Mike

Westcott reviewed executive order, guidance and resolution. **Motion** made by Board President Carol Anne Teague to approve a resolution to ensure compliance with Executive Order 2020-51, Order 1-7. Second was made by Board Member Chip Currie. **Roll Call Vote:**

Board President Carol Anne Teague- Aye

Vice President Lori Drake- Aye

Board Member Greg Roeller- Aye

Board Member Anthony Lozano- Aye

Board Member Chip Currie- Aye

**Motion** passed.

*Meeting paused for technical difficulties 6:31pm*

*Meeting resumed 6:33pm*

**Signature Authorization- Discussion and possible approval of a Governing Board Resolution to approve signers of legal documents with Yavapai County and its departments. (Staff Resource: Mike Westcott)** Superintendent Mike

Westcott reviewed the resolution and suggests adding Business Director Lynn Leonard as an approved signer. **Motion**

made by Board President Carol Anne Teague to approve the resolution to approve signers of legal documents with

Yavapai County and its departments. Second was made by Vice President Lori Drake. **Roll Call Vote:**

Board President Carol Anne Teague- Aye

Vice President Lori Drake- Aye

Board Member Greg Roeller- Aye

Board Member Anthony Lozano- Aye

Board Member Chip Currie- Aye

**Motion** passed.

**Banking Changes- Request for approval to transfer banking services from Wells Fargo to National Bank of Arizona. (Staff Resource: Lynn Leonard)** Business Director Lynn Leonard explained that because of the difficulties

communicating with Wells Fargo, we would like to change banking services. It has become very cumbersome getting

tasks done. National Bank of Arizona is a local bank and will give us personalized service. This switch will actually save

us money. **Motion** made by Vice President Lori Drake to approve a request to transfer banking services from Wells Fargo

to National Bank of Arizona. Second was made by Board Member Anthony Lozano. **Roll Call Vote:**

Board President Carol Anne Teague- Aye

Vice President Lori Drake- Aye

Board Member Greg Roeller- Aye

Board Member Anthony Lozano- Aye

Board Member Chip Currie- Aye

**Motion** passed.

**Consolidation Election Pamphlet- Discussion and possible approval of a Governing Board Resolution outlining**

**comments. (Staff Resource: Mike Westcott)** Superintendent Mike Westcott expressed his gratitude to Mr. Carter's

office for allowing us to do this review. *See attached list of suggested edits to the pamphlet and Board Resolution.* The

Board had a chance to review the pro/con statements that were listed in the pamphlet and have decided not to alter those.

**Motion** was made by Board President Carol Anne Teague to approve a Board resolution outlining the comments that we

have made regarding the Consolidation Information Pamphlet. Second was made by Board Member Chip Currie. **Roll**

**Call Vote:**

Board President Carol Anne Teague- Aye

Vice President Lori Drake- Aye

Board Member Greg Roeller- Aye

Board Member Anthony Lozano- Aye

Board Member Chip Currie- Aye

**Motion** passed.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Board Member Chip Currie gave a shout out to Bill Helm for the nice article on Mingus volunteers.  
Board Member Anthony Lozano thanked the Board for holding this meeting and thought it went well.

**REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- N/A

**ADJOURNMENT 8:30pm**

**Motion** was made by Vice President Lori Drake to adjourn the meeting. Second was made by Board President Carol Anne Teague. **Roll Call Vote:**

Board President Carol Anne Teague- Aye

Vice President Lori Drake- Aye

Board Member Greg Roeller- Aye

Board Member Anthony Lozano- Aye

Board Member Chip Currie- Aye

**Motion** passed.

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Board President, Carol Anne Teague

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Vice President, Lori Drake

## Mingus Union High School Governing Board

July 30, 2020

Resolution and Comments related to the DRAFT Informational Pamphlet – Consolidation Plan between Mingus Union High School District No. 4 and Cottonwood-Oak Creek District No. 6.

The Governing Board of the Mingus Union High School District No. 4 greatly appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on the contents of the *DRAFT Informational Pamphlet – Consolidation Plan between Mingus Union High School District No. 4 and Cottonwood-Oak Creek District No. 6.*, and trusts that our input will be considered for addition to the pamphlet.

### 1. County Superintendent's letter, page 2

- **RECOMMENDATION #1:** In the first two bullet points, the board recommends that “no longer exist” be emphasized with capital letters, underlining, etc. In bullet point #4, the Board believes that CJESD should not be described as “unchanged” by consolidation, but instead could be described as Mr. Carter has done previously with the Consolidation Communication group. This could include a statement regarding loss of the union of which CJ is an equal part, budget and tax implications, and decisions about educating their high school students. It is the belief of the MUHSD Governing Board that the only precise way to describe CJESD as “unchanged” is to do so if consolidation does NOT occur.
- **RECOMMENDATION #2:** The MUHS Governing Board believes that an additional bullet point or added statement regarding CJESD's elimination from the new district would provide added insight into the election impacts.
- **RECOMMENDATION #3:** The Governing Board also believes it may add clarity if an addition to the letter describing the requirement of the three equal districts, voting separately, to terminate the current union, is provided.

### 2. Consolidation election impact on school district boundaries, page 5

- Under “The District boundaries as they will exist if the consolidation question is approved by voters is as follows”:
- **RECOMMENDATION #4:** with respect to bullet points 1 and 2, the board recommends that “no longer exist” be emphasized with capital letters, underlining, etc.
- **RECOMMENDATION #5:** The Governing Board recommends this addition to bullet point 4; though the CJESD district boundary is unchanged, with consolidation it would no longer be within the terminated MUHSD district boundary, nor would it lie within the new K-12 district boundary.
- In the following statement, under “Additional Consolidation Plan Information that applies on or after June 30, 2021”, bullet point 7:  
*“Clarkdale-Jerome will remain unchanged as a separate and distinct elementary school district and its governing board shall determine how the education of its students is provided, which includes determining how its high school students will be educated”.*

- **RECOMMENDATION #6:** please consider additions to bullet point 7 similar to those in **RECOMMENDATION #1** with respect to how CJESD will change. We believe any description of the Clarkdale-Jerome district as “unchanged” is only accurate if consolidation does NOT occur. CJESD’s “separate and distinct” status will change as it would be reclassified from its current union district affiliation to a type 03 designation, which is a common school district that is not within a high school district and that does not offer instruction in the pupil’s grade.

3. Consolidation election Impact on governance, page 6

- The Board strongly agrees with this statement from the introduction: “This is extremely important because it impacts the options that citizens have to voice their will to local elected officials, in this case to School District Governing Boards, who in turn are vested with the power to control the direction and activities of the district”.
- **RECOMMENDATION #7:** Beneath the heading; “The District’s governance as they will exist if consolidation is successful”: The Governing Board would suggest underlining, using bold text, or in some other fashion highlighting the following statement with the addition in bold;
  - i. “Unfortunately, since three of the **current and duly elected** Mingus Union High School Board Members will not reside in the district boundaries of the new Unified School District after June 30, 2021, three vacancies will exist due to Title 16 statutory residency requirements. In this situation, the County School Superintendent will make three appointments from within the new Unified School District boundaries to fill those seats”.
- **RECOMMENDATION #8:** The Board would like the following addendum to the statement near the bottom of page 6; “Clarkdale-Jerome Elementary School District Governing Board No. 3 will remain in effect as it is now”;
  - i. **ADDENDUM:** With respect to governance within its union affiliation, Consolidation removes the option that Clarkdale-Jerome citizens have to voice their will to a new unified district’s Governing Board.
- **NOTE:** THERE IS A TYPOGRAPHICAL ERROR AT THE BOTTOM OF PAGE 6, WHERE CJESD IS LISTED AS NO. 2 INSTEAD OF 3.

4. K-12 School District Budget, Finance and Tax information, pages 7-10

- **RECOMMENDATION #9:** The MUHS Governing Board would suggest a statement on page 7 or 8 which describes a decrease in bonding capacity for a new district with smaller boundaries and a lower total assessed valuation. In addition, we believe voters should be informed that future bonds and overrides would generate a larger tax burden in a smaller, less populous district.
- **RECOMMENDATION #10:** The Board would recommend a description of other revenue streams, such as the Classroom Site Fund, which depend on ADM and would decrease with the loss of Clarkdale-Jerome students if consolidation were to occur. A new K-12 district would operate with a smaller ADM whether CJ students attended or not.

- **RECOMMENDATION #11:** The Board would suggest that pages 7 or 8 contain a description of the increase in the primary tax levy of \$1,045,136 in the C-J district, largely to fund tuition.

- For example:

- CJESD District Type 03 Tuition Out Charge = \$1,244,250.00
    - Total State Equalization assistance = \$287,305.34
    - Addition to the Qualifying Primary Tax levy = \$956,944.66
      - This addition will contribute to more than a doubling of the current final-primary tax levy for C-J voters if unification occurs. (From \$955,000 to \$2,000,136)

- **RECOMMENDATION #12:** The Board would recommend clarity with respect to the Proposed FY21 Budget Figures and suggests the following for inclusion in the pamphlet, pages 7 or 8 ;

- For COCSD: GBL (\$13,542,876) + UCO (248,627) = \$13,791,503
  - For MUHSD: GBL (\$9,302,321) + UCO (\$599,474) = \$9,901,795
  - Combined and current: COCSD + MUHSD GBL + UCO = \$23,693,298
  - New K-12 unified GBL (\$22,258,644) + UCO = \$23,465,308
  - FY21 budget for current separate districts is \$227,990 greater than the proposed consolidated K-12 district budget. In effect, the two separate districts (MUHSD and COCSD), have \$227,000 more budget capacity than the estimate for the new unified district.

- The next recommendation (#13 below) is related to the reference on page 8 to the C-J tax tables on page 10:

- **PAGE 8 - "TAX RATE INFORMATION",** sub-heading; *"If the consolidation of Mingus Union and Cottonwood-Oak Creek is approved (including, but not limited to)"*

- **Bullet Point #4:** *"Clarkdale-Jerome Elementary School District No. 3 Governing Board will have multiple options to provide for the education of its high school students. In estimating the tax rates, an assumption was made that Clarkdale-Jerome would pay tuition to another public school district. This estimated amount for tuition is included in the tax rate calculations in the table on page 10 of this Informational Pamphlet".*

- **RECOMMENDATION #13:** We believe it is not evident how high school tuition is included in the tax rate calculations on page 10, as stated above. Could a separate column or row be added to the table for the sake of clarity?

- For example, the estimated primary property taxes in Scenario #1 Increase from \$274 (current) to \$573 (with consolidation) due to the costs of tuition, which C-J taxpayers currently do not fund.

**5. Ballot Information, pages 11-17**

- On both the Mingus Union High School District No. 4 AND Cottonwood-Oak Creek Elementary School District No. 6 sample ballots, pages 12 and 14:
  - Bullet point two under a "YES" vote states; *"Clarkdale-Jerome Elementary School District No. 3 will continue operations, which include a determination with how its high school students are educated"*
- **RECOMMENDATION #14:** Please consider the addition of language which states CJESD will not "continue", but will be reclassified a type 03 district, which is a common school district outside the boundaries of a high school district and that does not offer instruction in the pupil's grade (9-12). This reclassification will require the Clarkdale-Jerome district to fund tuition in order to send their grade 9-12 students to high school in a new unified district, something not currently required.

**6. MUHSD, COCSO, VACTE and CJESD district current and proposed boundary maps and descriptions, pages 29-51**

- Clarkdale-Jerome Boundary, page 31; statement at the top of page; *"The Clarkdale-Jerome Boundary will remain unchanged even if consolidation is approved"*.
- **RECOMMENDATION #15:** The Board sincerely asks for the following addition to the statement above; *"but will no longer be included within the terminated MUHSD district boundary, nor would it lie within the new K-12 district boundary."*



This Resolution was adopted at a properly noticed meeting of the Governing Board on July 30, 2020. The Governing Board hereby authorizes the Governing Board President to sign this Resolution on behalf of the Governing Board.

MINGUS UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 04

By:  \_\_\_\_\_ 07/31, 2020

Governing Board President