

**Minutes of the Regular Governing Board Meeting
Amphitheater Public Schools
Tuesday, April 9, 2024**

A Regular public meeting of the Governing Board of Amphitheater Public Schools was held on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, 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 Present

Ms. Susan Zibrat, Vice President
Ms. Vicki Cox Golder, Member
Ms. Deanna M. Day, M. Ed., Member
Mr. Matthew A. Kopec, Member

Governing Board Member Absent

Dr. Scott K. Baker, President

Superintendent's Cabinet Members Present

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. Julie Valenzuela, Director of 21st Century Education
Ms. Michelle Valenzuela, Director of Communications

1. CALL TO ORDER AND SIGNING OF THE VISITOR'S REGISTER

Vice President Zibrat 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

Superintendent Jaeger invited Andrew Szczpaniak, Principal of Donaldson Elementary School to present the students to lead the pledge of allegiance. He introduced Student Council members Adlee, Faith, Aston, Nicolette, Brynn, Jordyn, Vincent and Devon Busby, Student Council sponsor. The students then led the pledge of allegiance.

On behalf of the Governing Board, Mr. Kopec gave the students certificates of recognition. To mark the occasion, a picture was taken of the students, Mr. Szczpaniak, Ms. Busby, the Governing Board and Superintendent Jaeger.

3. RECOGNITION OF STUDENT ART

Superintendent Jaeger asked Mr. Szczpaniak to introduce the Donaldson Elementary School art teacher. Mr. Szczpaniak introduced Jennifer Iadevaia to talk about the art on display. Ms. Iadevaia thanked the Governing Board for the opportunity to share their artwork. She said the art represents what the students have learned about artists, the seven elements of art and principles of design. The display showcased Mondrian inspired artwork with primary colors and lines, winter landscapes, mixed colors that showed shading, and 3-D works of art made with paper mâché and recycled materials.

On behalf of the Governing Board, Mr. Kopec gave Ms. Iadevaia a certificate of recognition.

To mark the occasion, a picture was taken with Ms. Iadevaia, the Governing Board and Superintendent Jaeger.

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

Vice President Zibrat announced that the next Special Governing Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 23, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. at the Wetmore Center, 701 W. Wetmore Road, Tucson AZ, 85705, in the Leadership and Professional Development Center.

5. RECOGNITIONS

A. Recognition of 2024 Odyssey of the Mind World Teams

For a complete list of teams that qualified for the Odyssey of the Mind World Finals, see Exhibit 1.

Superintendent Jaeger said that Amphi has a long history of participation in Odyssey of the Mind (OM) competitions. Recently, the District hosted the state tournament, and 12 Amphitheater District teams qualified for the World Finals competition to be held May 20-May 24, 2024 in Ames, Iowa.

He asked Ms. Day to present the awards and noted that she is the statewide director of the Odyssey of the Mind program.

Ms. Day expressed her appreciation to the Governing Board members and Superintendent Jaeger for being judges. She also thanked the many volunteers that made the program a success, and Scott Little, Chief Financial Officer, for subsidizing the teams attending the World Finals.

Ms. Day shared a PowerPoint slide with a statement she felt sums up OM: “Months of practice, hours of prop building...eight minutes to show the world!”. She then showed a slide of the “Portrait of a Graduate” characteristics.

President Day called each Odyssey of the Mind team to the front of the room to be recognized. She also asked each team to talk about the “Portrait of a Graduate” characteristics that they used for their projects and give an example of how that characteristic was evidenced.

On behalf of the Governing Board, Ms. Cox Golder presented each team member and coach with a certificate of recognition.

To mark the occasion, a photo was taken of each team with their coaches, the Governing Board, and Superintendent Jaeger. Principals Stephanie Hillig (Copper Creek Elementary School), Michael McConnell (Innovation Academy), and Bethany Papajohn (Painted Sky Elementary School) were also included with their team pictures.

B. Recognition of Ironwood Ridge High School Superintendent's Student Advisory Council

Superintendent Jaeger explained that he meets regularly with the advisory students during the year. He said they are a valuable resource to him and appreciated their input about their school and the District on behalf of themselves, and their peers. He noted they are earnest about representing their community. He invited Principal Dr. Oranté Jenkins and Ms. Alissa McGowan, IRHS Student Government Advisor, to introduce the members of the council who were able to attend.

Dr. Jenkins thanked the Governing Board for the recognition of the hardworking students that represent what it is to be a “Nighthawk”. He asked Ms. McGowan to introduce the students.

Ms. McGowan said the students continuously strive to serve the school with their leadership, service, kindness and compassion. She asked the IRHS Advisory members present to join her and commented that many of the students on the Advisory Council are also involved with afterschool activities and were unable to attend the meeting this evening. Ms. McGowan explained that all of the students on the Advisory Council also serve as officers of the

Ironwood Ridge Student Government. She introduced each of the students, as a PowerPoint presentation was shown with each of the students' names and picture.

The students were given the opportunity to make comments about their experience on the advisory council.

On behalf of the Governing Board, Mr. Kopec presented each of the students with a certificate of recognition and a picture was taken with the students, Ms. McGowan, Dr. Jenkins, the Governing Board and Superintendent Jaeger.

C. Presentation of Distinguished Service Awards

Vice President Zibrat asked Superintendent Jaeger to introduce the awards.

Superintendent Jaeger stated that each month during the school year, a certificated and a support staff member are recognized with a Distinguished Service Award.

Superintendent Jaeger asked Rob Wolf, Assistant Director of Student Services, Wendy Biallas Odell, Interim Principal, Rillito Center and Classified Distinguished Service Award recipient, Mariana Munoz, Teaching Assistant, at the Rillito Center to come forward.

Mr. Wolf spoke about Ms. Munoz's work at Rillito Center. He said she has been at Rillito Center for 17 years and has literally been in every classroom and worked with every age level. She is dedicated to working with each student regardless of their challenging behaviors.

A video presentation was shown honoring Ms. Munoz for the work she has done in the District.

Ms. Zibrat asked Ms. Munoz if she would like to share anything. Ms. Munoz expressed her appreciation of her family and co-workers for their support. Additionally, she commented that as a longtime employee, the acknowledgement brings joy to her heart.

Ms. Zibrat presented Ms. Munoz with a certificate of recognition from the Governing Board, a Distinguished Service Award and a gift card donated by the Amphi Foundation.

Superintendent Jaeger explained the Principal from Keeling Elementary School, was not able to attend the meeting, and he asked Ms. Call to come forward to recognize the Certified Distinguished Service Award recipient, Beth Brungardt, Special Education ED-P Teacher.

Ms. Call read Ms. Brungardt's nomination, which highlighted her many teaching positions and leadership roles. The nomination concluded with, "She is most certainly the Pride of Amphi!"

A video presentation was shown honoring Ms. Brungardt for the work she has done in the District.

Ms. Zibrat asked Ms. Brungardt if she would like to share anything. She said she greatly appreciates her job, her family and her colleagues from Keeling Elementary School for their support.

Ms. Zibrat presented Ms. Brungardt with a certificate of recognition from the Governing Board, a Distinguished Service Award and a gift card donated by the Amphi Foundation.

A picture was taken with Ms. Brungardt, Ms. Munoz, Mr. Wolf, Ms. Biallas Odell, Ms. Call, the Governing Board, and Superintendent Jaeger to mark the occasion.

Superintendent Jaeger suggested that in order to recognize the new administrative appointments, the Consent Agenda be addressed at this time.

(See below Item 8. Consent Agenda for motions and details.)

6. INFORMATION

A. Superintendent's Report

For the Superintendent's Report PowerPoint see Exhibit 2.

Superintendent Jaeger began his report by sharing photo highlights of recent events in the District.

He reported that students from around the District were able to observe and experience the recent solar eclipse with the help of some super stylish eclipse glasses. It was a rare and wonderful learning opportunity for the students!

Superintendent Jaeger said that the Culinary Arts students at Ironwood Ridge High School had the opportunity to learn about making sushi from a couple of local expert chefs. The chefs have been visiting the culinary classes for more than 10 years and have helped generations of students learn how to create these dishes step-by-step.

He commented that to prepare students for state-mandated testing, some schools held special activities over the past couple of weeks. The Walker Elementary School Wolves had a pump-up assembly to answer questions and wish third- and fifth-graders good luck on their tests.

Superintendent Jaeger shared that on April 1st, at Innovation Academy there were foot inspections for third-graders. The students removed their shoes and socks and cleaned one foot for measurement and inspection. Students learned two things. First, to study whether there is a direct correlation between foot size and student achievement. Second, and perhaps most importantly, it was April Fool's Day!

He talked about the state Odyssey of the Mind Tournament on March 30th hosted by Canyon del Oro High School. The competition included teams from all over Arizona. There were 12 qualifying teams from Amphitheater, and they are headed to Ames, Iowa in May to compete at the World Finals. He thanked the Canyon del Oro High School administration for hosting the competition and all of the volunteers who made the event possible.

Superintendent Jaeger reported that Amphitheater schools had 94 winners in the annual regional Southern Arizona Research, Science and Engineering Foundation (SARSEF) science fair competition. In addition to the projects that were recognized, Keeling Elementary School was named the "Top Elementary School". Teachers and staff also earned awards:

- **SARSEF Champion Educator of Science and Engineering:**
Kimberly Smith, Holaway Elementary School
Pam Vandivort for her work with Keeling Elementary School
- **Education Advocate of Science and Engineering:**
Lindsay Wong, Harelson Elementary School
Michaela Rodrigues, Innovation Academy
- **Alex and Laura Schauss Teacher Award:**
Rachelle Ferris, Innovation Academy

He also congratulated Innovation Academy student Alexander Means, who took third place in the Arizona Science and Engineering Fair.

Superintendent Jaeger said that Amphi Governing Board members, staff and students from schools in Oro Valley participated in a parade to celebrate the "50th Anniversary of the Town of Oro Valley". The parade began at Ironwood Ridge High School and finished at the Town Hall. He commented that it was a fun event for all and gave a special "shout out" to Bethany Papajohn, Principal of Painted Sky Elementary School for driving the school bus.

He thanked the Amphi Foundation and all the community and business members who attended the annual Amphi Gala. The event featured many students, including Canyon del Oro High School and Prince Elementary School scholars (pictured), as well as additional students displaying their work and activities during the student showcase portion of the evening. He explained that the Foundation offers invaluable support and resources to District students, staff members, and the community. He expressed his gratitude for the dedication of the Foundation board members and volunteers.

Superintendent Jaeger noted that the District is in the final month of the yearlong initiative that has focused on each of the characteristics of the “Portrait of a Graduate”. For April, we are highlighting “Communication” throughout our schools and the District community.

He talked about the annual Student Art Show at Tucson Mall. He said the show runs April 10-24, 2024 and features artwork created by District students from Kindergarten through High School. The event is a wonderful showcase of the students artwork and the District’s commitment to learning about art and importance of creative thinking.

B. Status of Construction Projects

For the Status of Construction Project attachments see Exhibit 3.

Vice President Zibrat asked Superintendent Jaeger to introduce this item.

Superintendent Jaeger said that Mr. La Nasa will give an update on District construction projects that utilize bonds and other funding sources. He asked Mr. LaNasa to present the report.

Mr. LaNasa spoke about the projects currently under construction with School Facility Division Building Renewal Grants (BRG), Bond, Adjacent Ways and ESSER funding.

Amphitheater High School (AHS) Bond projects include backup generators for MDF rooms and campus clock replacements. Improvements are being made to the performing arts center access controls and 300/400 wing security fencing. Upgrades to central plant 1 and 2 controls and storm water drainage will be made this summer. Bottle filler installation and Campus to Clothing Bank access controls have been completed. Building Renewal Grant (BRG) projects include the central plant (CP) #2 and #3 hot water lines and CP # 3 chiller replacement. Additional projects include phase I east campus and phase II west campus roof replacements. Buildings 800 and south gym Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) conversion, and replacement of the 200 wing electric feeder and 800 building water line. The CP #3 cooling tower replacement has been completed.

Canyon del Oro High School (CDO) Bond projects include the central plant triple duty valve, campus access controls, campus HVAC control upgrades, south gym floor resurfacing and East parking lot light poles electric feeder. Installation of bottle fillers has been completed. BRG projects include fire alarm replacement, phase I west campus and phase II east campus weatherization and the north gym evaporative cooler to air conditioning conversion (summer project).

Ironwood Ridge High School (IRHS) Bond projects include central plant control upgrades and food service kitchen flooring (summer projects). Building D access control installation has been completed. BRG projects include the weatherization of the academic buildings.

Amphitheater Middle School (AMS) BRG projects include the library roof leak repairs and the library roof replacement.

Copper Creek Elementary School Bond projects include the completion of the central plant cooling tower and pump upgrades.

Coronado K-8 School Bond projects include exterior painting (summer project). The installation of bottle fillers has been completed.

Cross Middle School Bond projects include the completion of the installation of bottle fillers. BRG projects include the campus weatherization.

Donaldson Elementary School Bond projects include pods B and C HVAC replacement. Sidewalk and crosswalk improvements have been completed. BRG projects include building A and MPR roof leak repairs.

Harelson Elementary School Bond projects include the exterior courtyard painting (summer project). The installation of bottle fillers has been completed. BRG projects include the campus roof assessment.

Innovation Academy Bond and BRG projects include the replacement of the central plant chiller.

La Cima Middle School Bond projects include upgrades to the central plant controls. ESSER projects include the central plant chiller replacement (summer project). BRG projects include the campus roof leak repair, replacement and weatherization.

Land Lab Bond projects include the completion of building D restroom HVAC improvements. BRG projects include the fire alarm replacement assessment.

Nash Elementary School Bond projects include the completion of the replacement of playground equipment. BRG projects include the campus roof assessment. Administrative, kitchen and MPR roof leak repairs have been completed.

Painted Sky Elementary School Adjacent Ways Projects include the East fire lane replacement. BRG projects include campus roof replacement, weatherization assessment and replacement of the fire alarm and boiler # 2.

Prince Elementary School Bond projects include building C ductwork, flooring and lighting. BRG projects include the campus roof replacement, weatherization and the CP cooling tower construction (summer project).

Rio Vista Elementary School Bond projects include the completion of the playground improvements. BRG projects include the chiller compressor replacement. The fire alarm cable replacement has been completed.

Wilson K-8 School Bond projects include security fence improvements and classroom carpet replacement. The speed bump replacements have been completed. BRG projects include the MPR stage HVAC and roof replacement, hot water line replacement and campus weatherization.

Wetmore District Office ESSER projects include the HVAC replacement.

Purchasing/Warehouse ESSER projects include the HVAC replacement.

Mr. La Nasa talked about the replacement of the fire alarm system at Painted Sky Elementary School. He explained that Amphi was the first District in the state to receive funding for a fire alarm system that was failing and needed to be upgraded but was still functioning.

Referring to the fire alarm system project, Superintendent Jaegar noted the significance of receiving the BRG funding. The project required replacement but would have used bond money instead. The cost for the project was approximately \$625,000. Another project at Wilson K-8 School cost approximately \$1,500,000. He complimented Mr. La Nasa for obtaining the funds from the BRG for those projects and saving the bond money for other expenses.

Mr. La Nasa said that since his last report, the School Facilities Division (SFD) Building Renewal Grant (BRG) year to date award received for SY 2023-2024 by the District is \$4,572,489. He noted the SFD BRG funds are almost depleted and did not expect much additional funding this school year. However, they will still continue to submit requests that may be filled next school year.

He offered to answer any questions. There were none.

Vice President Zibrat thanked him for the report.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments.

8. 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](#)

Superintendent Jaeger requested Item 8. A. Approval of Appointment of Administrative Personnel be held for separate consideration and recommended that the remaining Agenda items be approved as presented.

Ms. Cox Golder moved for Consent Agenda Items 8. B. -L. be approved as presented. Mr. Kopec seconded the motion. Voice vote in favor – 4. Vice President Zibrat, Ms. Cox Golder, Ms. Day, and Mr. Kopec. Opposed – 0. Consent Agenda Items 8. B.-L. passed.

Superintendent Jaeger recommended Willow Schroeder for the position of Assistant Director of Student Services for FY 2024-2025. He spoke about Ms. Schroeder's educational background and prior work experience.

Superintendent Jaeger recommended Leighann Reynolds for the position of Principal of Walker Elementary School for FY 2024-2025. He said that Ms. Reynolds is currently an Assistant Principal at Amphitheater High School. He spoke about her prior administrative experience with the District and her educational background.

Ms. Day moved that Item 8. A. be approved as presented. Ms. Cox Golder seconded the motion. Voice vote in favor 4. Vice President Zibrat, Ms. Cox Golder, Ms. Day, and Mr. Kopec. Opposed – 0. Motion passed.

To mark the occasion, a picture was taken with Ms. Schroeder and Ms. Reynolds.

Superintendent Jaeger then invited everyone to a reception to welcome the administrators.

Vice President Zibrat called for a break at 7:15 pm.

The meeting resumed at 7:25 p.m.

A. Approval of Appointment of Administrative Personnel

Administrative personnel appointments were approved as listed in Exhibit 4.

B. Approval of Appointment of Non-Administrative Personnel

Non-administrative personnel appointments were approved as listed in Exhibit 5.

C. Approval of Personnel Changes

Certified and classified personnel changes were approved as listed in Exhibit 6.

D. Approval of Leave(s) of Absence

Approval of Leave(s) of Absence were approved as listed in Exhibit 7.

E. Approval of Separation(s) and Termination(s)

Separations and terminations were approved as listed in Exhibit 8.

F. Approval of Stipend for Coaching Volunteers

Stipend for Coaching Volunteers were approved as listed in Exhibit 9.

G. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

The Governing Board approved minutes from the March 5, 2024 and the March 26, 2024 meetings as submitted in Exhibit 10.

H. Approval of Vouchers Totaling and Not Exceeding Approximately \$3,074,979.94

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
1247	\$245,534.09	1248	\$647,637.58	1250	\$332,985.20
1251	\$165,206.68	1252	\$970,998.37	1253	\$187,514.51
1254	\$20,897.75	1255	\$63,921.78	1256	\$14,603.63
1257	\$60,091.76	1258	\$182,536.04	1259	\$7,031.39
1261	\$111,374.99	1262	\$64,646.17		

I. Acceptance of Gifts

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

J. Approval of Disposal of Surplus Property via PublicSurplus.com

The Governing Board approved Disposal of Surplus Property via PublicSurplus.com

K. Revisions to Governing Board Polices GCCA (Professional Staff Sick Leave) and GCCD (Professional Staff Military/Legal Leave)

The Governing Board approved Revisions to Governing Board Polices GCCA (Professional Staff Sick Leave) and GCCD (Professional Staff Military/Legal Leave) as submitted in Exhibit 13.

L. Approval of Out of State Travel

The Governing Board approved requests for out of state travel as listed in Exhibit 14.

9. STUDY

A. Study of Proposed 2024-2025 Code of Conduct

For the Proposed 2024-2025 Code of Conduct attachments see Exhibit 15.

Superintendent Jaeger stated this is the time of year that we prepare for the upcoming school year. Ms. Call and Mr. Munger will be presenting a proposed Code of Conduct.

Ms. Call recapped that every year the Code of Conduct is reviewed. She explained that to be effective, a Code of Conduct must explain expectations for behavior so that all members of the school community can fully understand them; it must also provide fair and consistent guidelines for consequences to be applied when behavioral incidents do occur to help ensure schools are safe places for students, staff, and the public. As part of the review process, input is received from the Associate Superintendents, Principals, Assistant Principals, Superintendent’s Advisory Councils, and District administrators and staff who work with student discipline.

Mr. Munger shared a PowerPoint presentation of the proposed changes. He explained that they wanted the Code of Conduct to be a user friendly resource. He stated that if there are violations that involve law enforcement it is noted. Mr. Munger said updates clarified dress code violations versus student ID violations. He talked about the changes made to technology violations. These changes updated some of the terminology to make it more relevant to today.

Mr. Munger explained that hyperlinks are imbedded in the proposed Code of Conduct that will allow parents and students access to resources, information or statutes. Additionally, these forms will be fillable and accessible via a QR code. The forms can then be completed and submitted digitally.

He offered to answer any questions. There were no questions.

Ms. Day commented that the ability to have a hyperlink was a positive change.

Vice President Zibrat thanked them for the report.

10. ACTION

A. Resolution Recognizing the Special Contributions of Educational Support Personnel

For the Resolution Recognizing the Special Contributions of Educational Support see Exhibit 16.

Superintendent Jaeger explained that each year the District sets aside a day to recognize educational support personnel. He recommended that the resolution be read, and then adopted so that educational support staff can be honored on Wednesday, April 24, 2024.

Ms. Day read the resolution.

Ms. Day moved to adopt the Resolution Recognizing the Special Contributions of Educational Support Personnel.

Ms. Cox Golder seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Voice vote in favor-4. Vice President Zibrat, Ms. Cox Golder, Ms. Day, and Mr. Kopec. Opposed – 0. Item 10. A. passed.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments.

12. BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no requests.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Day moved to adjourn. Ms. Cox Golder seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Voice vote in favor-4. Vice President Zibrat, Ms. Cox Golder, Ms. Day, and Mr. Kopec. Opposed – 0. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.


Minutes respectfully submitted for Governing Board Approval

*Jennifer Anderson, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent & Governing Board
Gretchen Hahn, Governing Board Office Secretary*

May 1, 2024

Date

Susan Zibrat, Governing Board Vice President

May 7, 2024

Date