



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

DATE OF MEETING: **April 12, 2022**

TITLE: **Resolution Recognizing the Special Contributions of Educational Support Personnel**

BACKGROUND:

Amphitheater Public Schools employs dedicated public servants who want to work in a profession focused on the betterment of children and investing in the future. When students attended remotely due to COVID-19 last year, employees in all classifications said their jobs were not as fulfilling without children on campus. This year, school personnel expressed great joy to have full campuses again. The District also implemented a new program this year to permit non-teaching staff to spend one hour a month at a school to read to a class or observe student presentations after department employees said they missed being around students as well.

Suffice it to say, there are wonderful employees throughout the District who refer to their jobs as “vocations” rather than “work”. They have been loyal to the Amphitheater students and community all year, despite high COVID-19 community transmission, a national worker shortage, and recruitment incentives offered by the private industry. Every employee in this District provided a valuable service this year to help maintain District operations and provide a safe, clean, and calm place for students to learn.

Each year, the District recognizes employees through resolutions with a goal of thanking every employee for their commitment and efforts during the year. The recognition for teachers and professional staff occurs in May to align with National Teacher Week. The District also sets aside a special day in April to recognize Educational Support Personnel, also known as “Support Staff”, because they serve in so many crucial roles throughout the District. All support staff play instrumental roles in creating safe, clean, and welcoming school environments that meet student, parent and community needs. In fact, there are so many support staff classifications that it is impossible to identify every one of them, but generally they include, but certainly are not limited to bus drivers and other transportation employees, clerical office personnel, custodians, food service personnel, groundkeepers, health office personnel, preventative maintenance and trade professionals, and technology and computer network personnel.

While one day a year of recognition does not approach the level of appreciation due to these dedicated staff members, the Governing Board has for several years set aside a day to highlight the contributions of our support staff. The attached resolution has been prepared for the purpose of setting **April 27, 2022** as the date this year for the contributions of Educational Support Personnel to be recognized.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Administration recommends the Board’s adoption and dissemination of the attached form of resolution.

INITIATED BY:

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

Date: April 4, 2022

Todd A. Jaeger, J.D., Superintendent

**A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF
AMPHITHEATER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10
OF PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA,
RECOGNIZING THE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS
OF EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL**

WHEREAS, the Amphitheater Unified School District (“the District”) exists for the purpose of providing a free public education to Arizona children;

WHEREAS, the Governing Board is charged with the supervision and governance of the District, including the authority to employ persons necessary to carry out the functions of the District;

WHEREAS, the provision of education to District students requires the efforts of many staff, including educational support personnel (“Support Staff”), sometimes also known as Classified Staff;

WHEREAS, the import and value of the efforts and contributions made by Support Staff to the high quality of services provided to students in the Amphitheater District cannot be overstated;

WHEREAS, those efforts and contributions are made evident every day in every school and facility throughout the District, with just some examples being the substitute coordinator who worked overtime to ensure that classes were covered during the Omicron transmission, the payroll staff who worked over winter break for the second retention stipend to be distributed on time, the facilities staff who worked long hours to repair and clean campuses after storms for school to start on time, and the school support staff members who assisted students to adjust to school after having being home during the pandemic.

WHEREAS, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many members of our support staff have stepped up to not only fulfill their usual duties in the District but, in some cases, to perform new roles, including filling in for co-workers out due to COVID-19, providing the additional reporting and testing services the county health department required of schools this year, and helping students and staff navigate new protocols and systems;

WHEREAS, District support employees have always been the backbone for schools and departments, the importance of these loyal, committed staff members has become all the more evident in the past year;

WHEREAS, these employees have exhibited flexibility, courage, resilience and loyalty throughout the pandemic;

WHEREAS, the date of April 27, 2022 has been set aside nationally to recognize administrative assistants, one part of the District’s Support Staff;

WHEREAS, the Governing Board sincerely believes that the appreciation of all Support Staff -- indeed all school district staff -- should be ongoing and not limited to one day per year, but yet also recognizes the value that highlighting a particular date for recognition can provide in garnering and focusing public attention on the efforts of educational personnel; and

WHEREAS, the focus and attention of the public can perhaps best be maximized by coordination of and combination of District recognition activities for all Support Staff with those occurring nationally for administrative assistants;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Amphitheater Unified School District Governing Board that the District hereby recognizes the special everyday contributions of every Support employee of the District and sets apart Wednesday, April 27, 2022 as “Educational Support Staff Appreciation Day” in the District.

The Governing Board invites other school district governing boards to join them in this celebration of the special contributions of school district support staff.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Board this 12th day of April, 2022.

Governing Board Members:

Vicki Cox Golder
President

Deanna M. Day, M.Ed.
Vice-President

Scott K. Baker, Ph.D.

Matthew A. Kopec

Susan Zibrat