



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

DATE OF MEETING: **October 7, 2014**

TITLE: **Study of Proposed Revisions to Governing Board Policies and Regulations BDB (Board Officers), BED (Executive Sessions/Open Meetings), BEDBA (Agenda Preparation and Dissemination); G DFA (Support Staff Qualifications and Requirements); IKE, and IKE-RB (Promotion and Retention of Students); IJJ, and IJJ-RB (Textbook Adoption); JFAB (Tuition/Admission of Nonresident Students), and KF, and KF-R (Community Use of School Facilities).**

BACKGROUND:

The periodic revision of state and federal law often necessitates the corresponding revision of Governing Board policies. This item is presented to permit the Board to review proposed revisions to the following Policies:

BDB (Board Officers). This policy addition, recommended by the Arizona School Boards Association, clarifies that Governing Board President, on behalf of the Governing Board, is to consult with the Superintendent and approve the items to be placed on the agenda for each meeting.

BEC (Executive Sessions/Open Meetings). Clarifies that an Executive Session may be held without entering into open session if the meeting has been properly voted on, noticed, and the applicable statutes have been identified in a public meeting held prior to the executive session.

BEDBA (Agenda Preparation and Dissemination). As with BDB above, this presented revision is recommended by the Arizona School Boards Association and specifically allows the Superintendent to place items on the agenda with the approval of the Governing Board President, on behalf of the Governing Board.

G DFA (Support Staff Qualifications and Requirements). Senate Bill 1391 of the Fifty-First Legislature, Second Regular Session, included a number of provisions related to fingerprint checks and fingerprint clearance cards that affect this policy and have been incorporated into the attached revision.

IJJ (Textbook/Supplementary Materials Selection and Adoption). Following the recent textbook adoption process for the District, and after hearing concerns from various constituents, Governing Board members requested that the Superintendent present recommendations for revision of both Governing Board policy and District regulations pertaining to the textbook selection process. In this set of proposed policy documents, presented revisions would amplify former language pertaining to constituent input into textbook selection processes to be more specific. The proposal includes an enhanced function and charge for textbook adoption committees, as well as a requirement for inclusion of parents and/or community members on such committees. Moreover, as was the case in the most recent adoption process, opportunity for comment by all constituents is required by the regulation, but new provisions are recommended to facilitate that input through publication of notice and solicitation of input on school websites and in a newspaper of general circulation.

IKE (Promotion and Retention of Students), and Regulation IKE-RB). House Bill 2501 added language to A.R.S. 15-701, (Common school; promotion; requirements; certificate; supervision of eighth grads by superintendent of high school districts; high school admissions; academic credit), which expressly states that, "A school district may conduct a ceremony to honor pupils who have been promoted from the eighth (8th)

grade”. Obviously, the District has long held such ceremonies, but the permissive language added to statute has now been added to policy IKE.

In addition, House Bill 2637 modified language in A.R.S. 15-701 to disallow the “move on when reading” and retention mandates for the third grade if data regarding a pupil’s performance on the Arizona Instrument to Measure Standards, or its successor test, is not available before the start of the following academic year. Intervention and remedial strategies are now required for these students if the third grade assessment data subsequently demonstrates that the pupil’s reading ability falls far below the third grade level or the equivalent. Applicable language has been added to the Superintendent’s regulation, IKE-RB.

Other, outdated policy language has been deleted from IKE-RB as it is no longer necessary.

JFAB (Tuition/Admission of Nonresident Students). New language provides clarification regarding the prohibition of receiving state funding for any student who is not a resident of the state, in accordance with state law.


KF (Community Use of School Facilities) and Regulation KF-R. Senate Bill 1336 added a section pertaining to immunity from civil liability for the School District and its employees, including the Governing Board, Superintendent or chief administrative officer, with respect to all decisions made and actions taken to allow the lease or use of school property. While such immunity is a matter of law as a result, the policy incorporates such provisions to help ensure public awareness of the same.

Upon approval of any or all of the items noted above, certain policies’ legal and cross references will also be updated. For example, as noted above, Senate Bill 1391, Fifty-First Legislature, Second Regular Session, included a number of provisions related to fingerprint checks and fingerprint clearance cards. Legal and/or cross references will need to be added to policies GCF, GCFC, GDG, and LDA. As such references to not constitute changes to the policy language, those changes are not included here.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is presented for the Board’s study at this time. The proposed policies and exhibits will be brought back at a later date for the Board’s approval.

INITIATED BY:



Todd A. Jaeger, Associate to the Superintendent

Date: October 1, 2014



Patrick Nelson, Superintendent