



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

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**DATE OF MEETING:**        **January 14, 2020**

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

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**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) provides that school district governing boards must prescribe rules for their own governance. Amphitheater’s Governing Board Policy BDA, one of the Governing Board rules of governance, also requires the election of a Board Vice President, who presides over all meetings of the Board at which the President is not present.

The purpose of this agenda item is to permit the Governing Board to satisfy the requirements of A.R.S. § 15-321 and Board Policy BDA, and to elect a President and Vice President from among its members. The nomination of candidates for these two offices, under Roberts Rules of Order, may be done by “open nomination.” The President initiates this method by simply calling for nominations from the floor. The current President takes all nominations for the office of President first. Board members may, alternatively, move the nomination of a candidate, requiring a second and a passing vote for the nominee to be placed on the slate of candidates. This, of course, adds an additional step to the election process and is not recommended for small bodies like the Board.

Nominees may decline their nomination prior to any vote. 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.

The office of President should be determined first, with the selected candidate assuming responsibility for chairing the remainder of the meeting (including election of the new Vice President) immediately.

Following the nomination process, there are several options for conducting the election of officers under Roberts Rules. The most practicable options applicable to the election of Governing Board officers are described below. It should be noted that secret balloting, which is permitted by Roberts Rules, is not permitted by the Arizona Open Meeting Law. 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.

**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. 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.


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**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.

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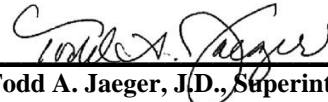
**INITIATED BY:**

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

**Date: January 6, 2020**

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**Todd A. Jaeger, J.D., Superintendent**