

GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA ITEM AMPHITHEATER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10

DATE OF MEETING:

August 22, 2017

TITLE:

Nomination and Election of Governing Board President and, if needed,

Vice-President

BACKGROUND: Arizona Revised Statute §15-321 requires the Governing Board to elect a President from the membership of the Board. This same statute also mandates that the Board prescribe rules for its own governance.

Governing Board Policy BDB, one of the Governing Board's rules of governance, specifies that the Vice President of the Board shall serve as acting President in the absence of a President. Following the resignation of President Jo Grant from the Board effective August 9, 2017, Vice President Deanna Day serves as acting President until the Board elects a new officer from the current Board membership to serve as President for the duration of Ms. Grant's term which will expire on December 31, 2018.

Governing Board Policy BDA requires the Board to elect a new officer to fill the vacancy in the office of President permanently for the unexpired term of office. The President of the Board presides over all meetings of the Board, in accordance with Arizona law and District policies, and performs a number of other key duties on behalf of the Board.

The nomination of candidates for the position of President, under Roberts Rules of Order, may be done by "open nomination." The acting President or acting chair initiates this method by calling for nominations for the position of President from the floor. 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 no further nominations are forthcoming, the acting President may close the floor to further nominations, or it may be closed upon a passing motion to do the same.

Following the nomination process, there are several ways of conducting the election of officers under Roberts Rules. Those that are the most practicable and applicable to the election of Governing Board officers are described below. Secret balloting, which is normally permitted by Roberts Rules, is not permitted for this Board by virtue of the Arizona Open Meeting Law requirements. Any one of the alternative methods below may be used – determined either by the acting President or by motion (the latter of which controls in the event of conflict). If a voting method is selected, the acting President should explain how the matter will proceed prior to the vote being taken.

<u>Acclamation</u>: 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.

<u>Voice or Other Voting</u>: Absent election by acclamation, a vote of the Board on nominees is required by voice, roll call, show of hands or rising (where Board members stand). Roberts Rules provides that, unless a method

of voting is selected upon motion, the acting President will decide the method based upon the nature of the election, closeness of the expected vote, and the size of the group.

The acting President announces the result of a vote formally for the record. Until that announcement, Roberts Rules 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.

In the event that the acting President becomes President through this vote, then the Governing Board must also vote to fill the position of Board Vice President since Policy BDA requires the election of a Board Vice President to preside over all meetings of the Board at which the President is not present.

RECOMMENDATION: The administration recommends that the Board nominate and elect a President and, if needed, Vice-President, through the manner determined by the acting President or the Board by motion.

INITIATED BY:

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

Date: August 18, 2017

Todd A. Jaeger, J.D. Superintendent