

Minutes of the ASBA County Workshop

Prescott Unified School District Governing Board

Governing Board members of Prescott Unified School District attended the ASBA County Workshop on September 30, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. at Del Rio Elementary School, 1036 North Road 1 West, Chino Valley, Arizona.

Board Members Present:

Dee Navarro
Joan Fleming
Steve Campbell
Tina Seeley

Board Members Absent:

Andy Newton

Others Present:

Kevin Kapp, Superintendent
Andrea Mayer, Adm. Asst. to the Governing Board

An Early Bird Session regarding “Well Written Agendas for Focused Board Meetings” was offered for attendees. Board members from PUSD did not attend this session.

At 6:00 p.m. Mr. Travis Bard, Chino Valley Unified School District’s Governing Board President, welcomed everyone in attendance.

Yavapai County Director, Karen McClelland, introduced Representative Lucy Mason. Representative Mason discussed a drastic bill that she will be introducing to eliminate the Department of Education. She noted that the bill would keep the State Superintendent, but would eliminate from 350-500 employees of the Department of Education. She stated that the Superintendent’s office could be moved and that something else could be done with the property and the money saved could be sent to the school districts. She encouraged anyone interested in this bill to contact her. She also encouraged the attendees to stay tuned to renewable energy and felt that we were missing the boat with our natural resources.

Dinner was served and Mr. Panfilo Contreras, ASBA Executive Director, gave updates regarding the ASBA audit, the Annual Conference December 9-10, 2009, the ASBA core beliefs, the Arizona Schools Make a Difference campaign and legal issues. He noted that ASBA was monitoring the budget process and that the Proposition 301 formula is safe for now. He added that a lot of laws have been passed that will impact policies and that districts will be receiving 18 different policy changes as a result of this legislative session and that districts need to review their policy implementation procedures.

Karen McClelland then introduced Representative Andy Tobin who thanked everyone for sending in suggestions and ideas regarding the state budget and how it impacts school districts. He discussed the deficit, how there is no agreement on funding the agencies, how the Governor believes that for education is not sustainable, that the economic forecast is looking better and that the state should be seeing some new jobs by the end of spring.

Bob Rice, the ASBA President from Chandler, introduced the other ASBA officers and discussed the value of ASBA services within the state.

Karen McClelland then announced the recipients of ASBA awards regarding boardsmanship.

Brandy Cox, Yavapai County Teacher of the Year, gave a speech regarding her philosophy on reading.

Tim Carter, Yavapai County Superintendent of Schools, read a letter from Senator Steve Pierce, who was unable to attend. He also stressed the importance for districts to be involved with the upcoming advocacy training opportunities.

Janice Palmer, ASBA Director of Governmental Relations, reviewed “Big Issues” such as the national and state budgets, economic recovery, cuts for the current year, the federal stimulus money, Race to the Top grants, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, other federal stimulus funds, the teacher incentive fund, and National Standards.

Chris Thomas, ASBA Director of Legal Services, discussed STO Tax Credits being under scrutiny for poor accountability.

Karen McClelland, the County Director, gave closing comments.

The workshop adjourned at 8:08 p.m.