



Special Board Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, July 22, 2026 | 6:00 PM | District Office Board Room, 8176 N. Westover, Joseph City, AZ 86032

Items on the special meeting agenda may be discussed in executive session related to employment matters, for the purpose of obtaining legal advice thereon or other matters pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A). The Governing Board may change the order of agenda items, pursuant to Governing Board Policy BEDB. The meeting room will be open to the public fifteen minutes prior to the beginning of the meeting.

1. OPENING ITEMS

- 1.A. Call to Order
- 1.B. Roll Call
- 1.C. Pledge of Allegiance
- 1.D. Invocation
- 1.E. Adoption of Agenda

2. ACTION ITEMS

2.A. Personnel Requests (*)

Name	Assignment	Action
Beatty, Kristen	HS Volleyball Asst. Coach II	Renewal
Case, Greg	Instructional Aide	Resignation
Cox, Wyatt	JH Football Coach	Renewal
Miller, Charlsye	HS Volleyball Head Coach	Renewal
Mosier, Jori	Drama Teacher	Appointment
Richards, Jaylene	Instructional Aide	Appointment

2.B. ESA Fees

JOSEPH CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2

Informational Fact Sheet: ESA Student Fees Around Arizona

Prepared for the Governing Board, Special Meeting of July 22, 2026. Informational only, no action required.

The legal landscape in brief

Homeschool students: A.R.S. 15-802.01 requires districts to let homeschooled children who live in the attendance area try out for interscholastic activities in the same manner as enrolled pupils, including the same fees. Districts have no discretion to charge homeschoolers more.

ESA students: there is no corresponding statute for Empowerment Scholarship Account students. Each district sets its own policy and fees for ESA course enrollment and activity participation, which is why practice varies widely across the state. Legislation to standardize ESA access has been introduced but has not passed.

AIA eligibility: under current AIA rules, ESA students educated at home may be eligible to participate in athletics if they meet all AIA eligibility requirements. ESA students enrolled at another school are not eligible.

What ESA families receive from the state

A typical regular education ESA award is roughly 90 percent of state per pupil funding, commonly in the \$7,000 to \$7,500 range per year, deposited quarterly to a ClassWallet account. ESA funds may be spent on courses and services purchased from public school districts, which is what our proposed fee schedule enables.

What other districts charge for activities

District	Activity / sport fee	Notes
Dysart Unified (Surprise)	\$150 per activity	Caps of \$300 per student and \$600 per family. Homeschool students pay the same as enrolled students under A.R.S. 15-802.01.
Yuma Union HSD	\$650 per sport for ESA students	Board approved. Reported at more than 10 times what enrolled students pay. The high end of the state.
Joseph City USD (proposed)	\$500 per sport or club, \$250 if enrolled in 2 or more classes	Sits between the Dysart and Yuma models, with a discount that rewards course enrollment.

Published per class course fees for ESA students are less common statewide because many districts have simply not adopted a schedule. Districts that do sell individual courses to non enrolled students commonly price them in the several hundred dollars to roughly \$1,500 per course range depending on subject and delivery. Our proposed \$1,000 per class is inside that range and represents about one seventh of a typical annual ESA award.

How the Joseph City proposal reads against this backdrop

The proposed schedule welcomes ESA families rather than pricing them out, keeps our activity fee well under the highest fees in the state, and uses the two class discount to encourage deeper enrollment that brings revenue and connection to our schools. Homeschooled students who are not on an ESA continue to pay the same activity fees as enrolled students, as state law requires.

Sources: A.R.S. 15-802.01; AIA Article 15 Student Eligibility Rules; ADE ESA Parent Handbook 2025-26; reporting by the Daily Independent on district ESA activity fees (Dysart, Yuma Union), 2025.

ESA & Homeschool Athletic Fees, Board Decision Sheet

Joseph City USD • Proposed fee: \$500 per sport • July 22, 2026

1. What each sport actually costs us

From the JH/HS Athletic Department, 2025-26. Cost includes coaches, labor, supplies, meals, and lodging. Athlete counts are estimates (rosters no longer accessible). The last column shows what the District would still pay per ESA athlete even after collecting the proposed \$500 fee.

Sport (2025-26)	Total cost	Athletes	Cost per athlete	District subsidy at \$500 fee
Wrestling	\$18,776	14	\$1,341	\$841
Football	\$18,589	20	\$929	\$429
Softball	\$15,956	18	\$886	\$386
Cross Country	\$6,853	9	\$761	\$261
Track	\$13,298	18	\$739	\$239
Baseball	\$14,765	20	\$738	\$238
Basketball, Girls	\$14,698	20	\$735	\$235
Basketball, Boys	\$14,263	20	\$713	\$213
Volleyball	\$15,273	28	\$545	\$45
Cheer	\$6,922	14	\$494	-\$6
Department total / average	\$139,393	181	\$770 avg	\$270 avg

2. The headline for the board

Our average cost is about \$770 per athlete per sport. At a \$500 fee, the District still subsidizes roughly \$270 of every ESA athlete's participation, and more than that in most sports. In 9 of our 10 sports the \$500 fee is below what the sport costs us per athlete. Only cheer roughly breaks even. In other words, \$500 does not turn a profit on ESA athletes. It recovers about two thirds of our cost while enrolled, tax-paying families cover the rest for their own children.

3. How \$500 compares to other Arizona districts

District	ESA / non enrolled fee per sport	Note
Payson USD	\$800 first sport	No family cap
Yuma Union HSD	\$650	Board approved
JOSEPH CITY (proposed)	\$500	Below our own average cost of \$770
Fountain Hills USD	Not permitted	Banned ESA participation, 2024
Typical AZ fee, ENROLLED students	\$45 to \$200	Enrolled families also pay taxes

4. Talking points

\$500 is measured: below Payson (\$800) and Yuma (\$650), and below our own average per-athlete cost of \$770.

Unlike Fountain Hills, we are welcoming ESA and homeschool families, not banning them. Every one is a potential future enrollment.

Enrolled students' families support athletics through taxes and the state funding the District receives for them. ESA families bring no per-pupil funding, so a participation fee simply shares the cost we would otherwise carry alone.

Levers the board can add without changing the number: a family cap so no household pays for more than two sports, a multi-sport discount, a hardship waiver, and an annual review once real participation numbers exist.

Legal anchor: A.R.S. 15-802.01 gives homeschool students the right to participate in their resident district. It does not bar reasonable fees, and districts across Arizona charge them. The fee schedule is set by Board action.

2.C. FFA Travel Request

Our FFA is requesting to attend an FFA leadership conference campout. The conference is August 7-9 (we will only be attending Aug 7-8). There are five White Mountain schools signed up for the event. It is free for us to attend. The conference is for our FFA students in leadership positions (less than 8 students). We have a male and a female chaperone lined out to attend if approved. The camp is set up to have girls on one side of the campground, boys on the other, with leaders in the middle.

3. EXECUTIVE SESSION (*)

For any agenda item indicated with an asterisk (*), the Board may vote to convene in Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03 (A) (1) for personnel matters when notified; (2) discussion or consideration of records exempt by law from public inspection; (3) for consultation with attorney; (4) for consultation with attorney when in pending or contemplated litigation. Discussion or consideration of personnel matters may include employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, demotion, dismissal, salaries, disciplining or resignation of a public officer, appointee or employee.

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

The Governing Board will not vote on Discussion Items and any action taken as a result of this discussion will be limited to directing staff to study the matter or scheduling the matter for a future agenda.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

5.A. Upcoming Meetings and Events Calendar

- Wednesday, July 29, 2025 - Staff Welcome; 9:00 am B.G. Bennett Auditorium
- Next Regular Board Meeting - August 11, 2026; 6:00 p.m.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Call to adjourn the meeting