

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE GOVERNING BOARD
SCOTTSDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 48**

January 14, 2014

A Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of the Scottsdale Unified School District, #48, Maricopa County, was called to order at 5:05 PM, at the Scottsdale Unified School District Education Center Board Room, 3811 North 44th Street, Phoenix, Arizona.

Board Members in attendance were Bonnie Sneed, President; Denny Brown, Vice President; George Jackson; Pam Kirby; and Barbara Perleberg. Superintendent David J. Peterson was also present. A quorum was present. President Sneed called upon Mr. Jackson to lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. Sneed welcomed approximately 150 visitors.

Mrs. Kirby moved to approve the Agenda with the Amendment of Information/Discussion Item, Superintendent's Contract Extension, to be heard after Information/Discussion Item A. Facility Capacity Discussion. Mr. Jackson seconded the motion.

The motion was approved with a vote of 5 – 0.

Students and Staff Recognition and Celebrations

Dr. Peterson recognized Scottsdale Charros, thanking them for their continued support of students, teachers and programs in our District. In 2014 alone, the Charros will contribute more than \$250,000 to SUSD and youth education initiatives. Dr. Peterson presented the Charros with a "Team 7" wooden bear. "Team 7" is comprised of Special Education students who are working in several areas of the District's Building Services Department. This evening, the Charros presented educational grants of \$12,500 each to principals Chad Caudle – Ingleside Middle School, Amy Moore – Navajo Elementary School, and Sheryl Rednor – Supai Middle School. Also receiving this grant were the Occupational Therapists from the District's Special Education department.

Dr. Dave McNeil, Executive Director of Elementary and Assessment, and Nancy Hudson, principal of Yavapai Elementary School, thanked Scottsdale Bible Church for donating the proceeds from its 2013 Christmas production to Yavapai. Scottsdale Bible Church has adopted Yavapai as part of the "Be Kind to People" project.

Public Comment

Bridget Braney and Mary Loehnis, Co-Presidents of the Scottsdale Administrators' Association, read a statement sent to the Governing Board in support of Dr. Peterson and his leadership team.

Christine Bonow, principal of Redfield Elementary School, spoke in support of the Board's decision to extend Dr. Peterson's contract.

Margaret Serna, Principal of Tavan Elementary School, spoke in support of Dr. Peterson's leadership.

Alyssa Tarkington, Principal of Coronado High School, spoke in support of Dr. Peterson's leadership and his leadership team.

Amy Uchacz, Principal of Pima Elementary School, spoke in support of Dr. Peterson's leadership and his leadership team.

Lori Pizzo, Principal of Tonalea Elementary School, spoke in support of Dr. Peterson's leadership and his leadership team.

Amy Moore, Principal of Navajo Elementary School, spoke in support of Dr. Peterson's leadership and his leadership team.

Nick Noonan, Principal of Kiva Elementary School, spoke in support of Dr. Peterson's leadership and his leadership team.

Art Velarde, Principal of Pueblo Elementary School and an SUSD parent, spoke in support of Dr. Peterson's leadership and his leadership team.

Motion #54

Amendment to Agenda

Students and Staff
Recognition and
Celebrations

Public Comment

Walt Chantler, Principal of Cherokee Elementary School, spoke in support of Dr. Peterson's leadership and his leadership team.

Chad Caudle, Principal of Ingleside Middle School, and Sheryl Rednor, Principal of Supai Middle School, both spoke in support of Dr. Peterson's leadership and his leadership team.

Zachary Cuppy, Third Grade teacher at Tonalea Elementary School, spoke in support of Tonalea Elementary School.

Melissa Rafalski, President of Tonalea Elementary School's PTO, spoke in support of Tonalea, asking the Board to consider the school's cultural and intrinsic value to the community.

John McCarthy asked the Board to consider making changes to the District's administration.

Superintendent's Comments

Dr. Peterson gave an update on enrollment. The Centralized Enrollment Office enrolled 123 new students during the week of January 6th. Thus far, the District has received 1,377 open enrollment applications for the 2014-15 school year.

The new SUSD phone app is now available to download at the Apple Store and Google Play. It will also soon be available on Windows Marketplace.

On New Year's Eve, the Education Center and the Mohave District annex were open to take Tax Credit Donations. There were 53 walk-in customers on that date for a total of \$15,650 for the day.

Enrollment for eLearning and Scottsdale Online Learning (SOL) continues to grow. For spring 2014, 2,092 students are enrolled in eLearning. As of January 7th, there are 242 active students enrolled in SOL.

Dr. Peterson thanked Clif McKenzie, District Athletic Director K-12, for his work in organizing the MLK Voices event scheduled at Saguaro High School, on January 16. Mr. McKenzie has engaged Coach Ken Carter, educator and inspiration for the film *Coach Carter*, starring Samuel L. Jackson, as the guest speaker.

Chaparral High School was awarded the Best High School Baseball Field of the Year for District 7 which includes Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah and Colorado.

Consent Agenda

- A. Acceptance of Gifts - \$76,975.36
- B. Accounts Payable Vouchers 11/26/2013 through 12/19/2013
- C. Payroll Vouchers 12/03/2013 through 01/02/2014
- D. Personnel Actions – 11/21/2013 through 12/18/2013
- E. Approval of Minutes of December 5, 2013 Special Board Meeting – Study Session
- F. Approval of Minutes of December 10, 2013 Regular Governing Board Meeting
- G. Approval of Minutes of December 17, 2013 Special Board Meeting-Executive Session
- H. Approval of Minutes of December 19, 2013 Special Board Meeting – Executive Session
- I. Action of Hearing Officer's Recommendation
- J. Approval of Overnight, Out-of-State, Foreign Field Trips
- K. Approval of Auxiliary Operations Statement for November 30, 2013
- L. Approval of Student Activities Statement for November 30, 2013
- M. Approval of Tax Credit Statement for November 30, 2013
- N. Approval of Minor Revisions to 2014-15 High School Planning Guide – **Pulled - Heard separately**
- O. Adoption of Revisions to Governing Board Policy: DJE – Bidding/Purchasing Procedures
- P. Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between SUSD and University of Arizona Board of Regents
- Q. Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with City of Phoenix for School Resource Officers (SROs) for SUSD Schools
- R. Approve the Issuance of a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Energy Conservation Services
- S. Approve the Renewal of Contracts - **Pulled – Heard separately**

Mrs. Kirby asked to pull Consent Agenda Items N. Approval of Minor Revisions to 2014-15 High School Planning Guide, and S. Renewal of Contracts, to be heard separately.

Superintendent's Comments

Consent Agenda

Amendment to Consent Agenda

Mrs. Kirby moved to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Mrs. Perleberg seconded the motion.

The motion was approved with a vote of 5 – 0.

Mrs. Kirby pulled Consent Agenda Item IX. N. Approval to Minor Revisions to 2014-15 High School Planning Guide, to ask if there were any revisions related to SpringBoard and if there was consensus to offer Algebra I Honors for freshmen, when it could be offered. Dr. Karen Benson, Director of Curriculum, responded that there were no changes to what the Board already approved related to SpringBoard and that Algebra I Honors for freshmen, if approved by the Board, could be offered in 2015-16 school year.

Mrs. Kirby pulled Consent Agenda Item IX. S. Renewal of Contracts, to ask if the Board should be approving the contract listed for playground equipment at a time the Board is discussing school closure. Mr. Mike Romanoff, Director of Purchasing Services, responded that the contract listed is a renewal for specific equipment and only in case the equipment is needed.

Mrs. Sneed moved to approve Consent Agenda Item IX. N. Approval to Minor Revisions to 2014-15 High School Planning Guide, and Consent Agenda Item IX. S. Renewal of Contracts. Mr. Brown seconded the motion.

The motion was approved with a vote of 5 – 0.

Information/Discussion Items

Mr. Rick Freeman, Executive Director of Facilities and Operations, presented Information/Discussion Item IX. A. Facility Capacity Discussion. A PowerPoint was shown reviewing capacity for the District's elementary schools. Several schools were under-utilized. Recently, an audit by the Auditor General's office showed that SUSD had more capacity than what was being used. Options included "mothballing" certain wings of schools that were also under-utilized. That would save the District dollars for electricity, air-conditioning, water, etc., and would enable the District to re-open those wings if needed in the future. Mr. Freeman recommended that because Tonalea Elementary School is in dire need of refurbishing and has a very antiquated utilities' system, the school should be closed. The Board discussed its commitment to the community members to keep them involved in any decision to close Tonalea. Also discussed was relocating the District's Education Center office to a school that was under capacity and more centrally located in the District.

Dr. Peterson reported that a new demographic study was being done for the District and the results were expected by the end of January. He also stated that administration needed more time to study the recommendation to close Tonalea and that there are statutes to be followed before any such closing could take place. Mrs. Sneed, Board President, stated that there are three things governing boards do not like to do: close schools, decrease the budget, or change the calendar. She further stated that public schools rely on tax payers and that the public education system in Arizona has lost funding from federal, state and local governments. She stated that the Board will not take this decision lightly. The item will be brought back on February 11, 2014 with more information and for further discussion.

Amendment to Agenda, Information/Discussion Superintendent's Contract Extension. Mrs. Sneed stated that although the vote on the Superintendent's contract extension was done in an open meeting, she wanted to give each Board Member a chance to explain their vote at a larger venue.

Mr. Jackson stated that he voted to extend Dr. Peterson's contract. He stated that Dr. Peterson has met and in most cases, exceeded the goals the Governing Board has set for him. Dr. Peterson has his support and trust.

Mrs. Perleberg stated that she voted NAY on Dr. Peterson's contract extension. She stated that she has tremendous respect for Dr. Peterson; however, over the last year she has heard from the community that the relationship between leadership and site leadership needs to be fixed and that change is necessary.

Mrs. Kirby stated that she voted NAY on Dr. Peterson's contract extension. She stated that for two years, she has struggled with administration's relationship with teachers. She feels it is time senior administration accountability is addressed. Mrs. Kirby stated that since 2008, SUSD

Motion #55

Approval of Consent Agenda as Amended

•Item IX. N - Revisions to 2014-15 High School Planning Guide

•Item IX. S. - Renewal of Contracts

Motion #56

Approval of Minor Revisions to 2014-15 HSPG and to Renewal of Contracts

Information/Discussion

•Facility Capacity Discussion

Brought Back on 2/11/14 Agenda

•Superintendent's Contract Extension

enrollment has declined and so has student achievement. She feels it is time to reject status quo and that she voted NAY because of the continued resistance to reject status quo.

Mr. Brown voted to extend Dr. Peterson's contract. He stated that he has faith that Dr. Peterson and his leadership team will take the District through these troubled financial times and continue to provide an exceptional education for all the students in SUSD.

Mrs. Sneed voted to extend Dr. Peterson's contract. This extension begins January 2015. She stated that Dr. Peterson accomplished almost all of the goals the Board set for him. He has the highest level of communication with the Board and has been the most responsive Superintendent. Mrs. Sneed has every confidence that he will meet his goals. She plans to develop a performance matrix in an open Board meeting and hopes the Board can move forward and reach an agreement on the actual goals for the Superintendent. Mrs. Sneed stated that the District has someone leading SUSD who has a statewide and nationwide reputation for excellence. She thanked Dr. Peterson for his service.

Daniel O'Brien, CFO, presented Information/Discussion Item IX. B. Preliminary Budget Discussion. Mr. O'Brien reviewed the budget projection as revised after the January 9, 2014 Board Study Session. The Board had asked to revise the projection without the inflation funding from the state that is still in the courts. Dr. Peterson stated that the Budget Committee is continuing its work and will have some preliminary recommendations at the Board meeting of February 11, 2014.

Dr. Mitch von Gnechten, Executive Director for Secondary Education, and Dr. Karen Benson, Director of Curriculum, presented Information/Discussion Item IX. C. District Math Achievement Review. A PowerPoint was shown updating math data and math achievement in SUSD. A discussion ensued regarding the data and comparing the District to peer districts. The Board would like administration to look at more models of flexible grouping tracking and differentiation and at what competing charter and private schools are doing, concentrating on fifth to sixth grade data. It is at that level that the District sees the greatest decline in achievement. This item will be brought back for further discussion at the Board meeting of February 11, 2014.

Michelle Marshall, District Legal Counsel, presented Information/Discussion Item IX. E. Annual Open Meeting Law Training. The District is under a Consent Decree that requires Open Meeting Law training every January. A PowerPoint was presented reviewing the statutes related to the Open Meeting Law.

Dr. Jeff Thomas, Associate Superintendent, presented Information/Discussion Item I. D. District Enrollment and Demographic Overview. A discussion followed regarding the impact of charter, private and parochial schools on SUSD's enrollment and demographics. The Board also discussed perception and reality. Dr. Peterson stated that when you actually compare the District's programs with any of the charter, private or parochial schools, they are the same as what SUSD offers. The difference is marketing and nomenclature. Dr. Thomas reported that the highest request for transcripts are received from Primavera Online. That is why SUSD created Scottsdale Online Learning (SOL) and eLearning. Since implementing those programs, the requests have dropped dramatically. The next step is to further challenge our competition.

Information/Discussion Item IX. F. Review of First Semester for K-12 and eLearning was tabled to the meeting of February 11, 2014.

Future Action

Mrs. Kirby would like:

- Update on SpringBoard.
- Superintendent's Performance Objectives – Policy CBI and CBI-E
- Contract Review for Superintendent's Leadership Team (SLT)

Governing Board Reports

There were no Governing Board Reports.

Dates of Upcoming Meetings

Thursday, February 6, 2014 – 12:00 PM – Study Session – Preliminary Discussion on Possible November 2014 Ballot Initiatives
 Tuesday, February 11, 2014 – 5:00 PM - Regular Board Meeting
 Tuesday, February 25, 2014 – 12:00 PM – Work/Study – Finance, Student Activities, Accounting (Non-Budget)

•Preliminary Budget Discussion

Brought Back on 2/11/14 Agenda

•District Math Achievement Review

Brought Back on 2/11/14 Agenda

•Annual Open Meeting Law Training

•District Enrollment and Demographic Overview

•Review 1st Semester K-12 and eLearning- TABLED to 2/11/14

Future Action

Governing Board Reports

Dates of Upcoming Meetings

At 9:40 PM, Mrs. Kirby moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Brown seconded the motion.

The motion was approved with a vote of 5 – 0.

Dated this 14th day of January 2014.

The Governing Board of the Scottsdale Unified School District #48

Bonnie Sneed, President

Denny Brown, Vice President

George Jackson

Pam Kirby

Barbara Perleberg

Motion #57
Adjournment