

HIGLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

2935 South Recker Road, Gilbert, Arizona 85295

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April 5, 2023 - Board Meeting Agenda Questions & Responses

5.3

I'd like to know the reasons for terminations/resignations. Do they complete an exit survey? If so, I'd like to see their responses.

Exit surveys are provided to all employees leaving the organization. Most employees do not fill out an exit survey. During the past couple of months, we have not received any completed surveys. In the future, information can be shared on why employees leave HUSD.

5.4

Voucher 1076

██████████ -May I please get more information on Second Arrow? What does NTE in the description stand for?

██████████ provides mindfulness professional development for our staff. ██████████ business is called Second Arrow. NTE = Not to Exceed

Voucher 1074

Smart Firearm Weighted Training Magazines-What are these for?

Dummy supplies for CTE Criminal Justice program at HHS.

BALLARD SPAHR, LLP-Is this another law firm the district uses? If so, why were they used instead of Gust or Udall? What is JMF?

Ballard Spahr, LLP is the law firm for JMF Higley the previous lease owner. It was required per the lease agreement that HUSD is responsible for all legal fees. This invoice represents the last payment to JMF Higley attorney, Ballard Spahr, LLP for the closing of the lease agreement.

Voucher 1078

Fred Coates Mediation Services for student hearing-What type of mediation services do they offer?

This is the Trust approved suspension hearing officer that is required for disciplinary suspensions exceeding 10 days.

MDT Services-Drug testing-is this only done for transportation employees or all district employees?

This is done for employees who drive a district vehicle.

The posting of new books, does the notification only go to the parents who attend that school or to all parents in the district?

All books purchased by Higley are posted on the school's website for everyone to see.

How are parents to know that new books have been purchased and posted to the website if they aren't notified?

Implementation of the posting of news books due to state law revisions was discussed at the December 14, 2022, board meeting. Our process matches what the new requirements stated as to informing parents of how to access and monitor library books. Parents can check for updated materials by going to their school's website under the Library/Recently added Library Materials tab. If they have additional questions, they can reach out to the school administration or media specialists.

5.12

6/17 meeting at 10am. Most of us board members have day jobs. Why would we have this meeting at 10am? 7/19 meeting is listed twice on the calendar.

Historically, the superintendent evaluation meeting has been held at 10am.

We've reviewed the schedules and did not see 7/19 listed twice. Please provide a screen shot of what you are seeing so that we may correct it.

If you have duplicate calendar invites, please feel free to delete one.

5.15

Have we used ASU Gamage in prior years? Did they increase cost compared to prior years? What is the reason for the increase?

We use ASU Desert Financial Arena (the basketball arena) for our graduations as it has the ability to hold the number of spectators that we need. ASU Gamage is the vendor's name for the PO. We received notification last week that they increased the quote for this year to approximately \$52,000 per school. In the past we have paid between \$40,000 and \$44,000 per school. Additionally, all of the contact people we have used in the past are not involved anymore and there is a new team at ASU that we will work with. We have a meeting on April 13 to meet the new team and ask questions about the increase. Initially we have been told that the increase is due to increased costs for the vendors that ASU uses for security, audio/visual, and parking.

6.2

Page 2 Indicator 1.2

Provide resources to who? I'd like to know who is doing the suicide awareness training for all staff. Does the training include a certification? How long is the training?

The District provides resources to parents, staff, and ultimately students. All staff have been trained in More Than Sad by HUSD certified trainers. HUSD counselors and psychologists and other select employees were selected to be trained as trainers by a facilitator approved by the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. The training of trainers is 2.5 hours. The training of staff ranges from 60 – 90 minutes depending on questions. A certificate can be provided upon request and is housed in Vector Solutions or My Learning Plan.

I'd like to learn more on how the development of positive behavior will be done. How is it measured? What type of data is collected on this to determine if it is working or not?

We have begun tracking the number of suicide risk discussions, threat assessments, as well as more intentional student discipline tracking. Additionally plans to utilize features of MTSS to allow for a more streamlined approach for teacher data entry and tracking for classroom interactions.

1.5

Collaborative Culture Using Data-What type of data? Where does the data come from? How was the data collected? What research is being used?

This topic is not on the board agenda, but it is on the strategic plan and refers to the use of student achievement data to guide instruction as required by the ADE. (Arizona Department of Education)

You mentioned that this is not on the agenda but it is.

Strategic Anchor 1

Teaching and Learning/Student Success

Goal:

Maximize the academic and social emotional growth of each student aligned to the district's Portrait of a Graduate.

Indicators:

- 1.1 Provide exceptional opportunities for personalized instruction including; differentiation, acceleration, innovation, and leadership opportunities.
- 1.2 Provide resources to support the social-emotional growth of each student and the development of positive student behavior.
- 1.3 Provide guidance and support for college and career readiness.
- 1.4 Develop and implement a comprehensive, relevant curriculum that is aligned with state academic standards.
- 1.5 Support a collaborative culture using data and research-based practices.

Item 1.5 is not an agenda topic for the April 5th board meeting. The strategic plan anchor 1 snapshot was included in the presentation to reference the topic on the agenda of 1.2.

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Who is on the Crisis Team and what are their qualifications?

The Crisis Team is comprised of select counselors and psychologists and have been trained using the PREPaRE model.

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Offer Student Presentations-What does this entail? Does this mean showing students presentation or do the students do the presentations?

Offer families an opportunity to bring their children to a school or district event after school to share presentations and information from our partners.

Community agencies-who would this include?

Community Bridges, AZHIDTA Arizona High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area, Army National Guard, La Frontera, Towns of Gilbert and Queen Creek and Gilbert and QC Police and Fire, Arizona Department of Education, Arizona 211

Agenda Item 6.1 Benefits: Is it possible to see what health plans we were choosing between? Is there a breakdown of what employees currently pay to visually compare?

Plan documents attached.

I recognize that the issue is the larger problem of the American Health Care system, however, I just want to take stock of what percent of their income we are potentially asking our employees to pay for health insurance for their families, in addition to individual coverage.

The percentage is based on a first-year teacher's salary of \$56,226 (includes all additional salary; classroom site fund base, retention pay, and performance pay)

Plan	Monthly	Yearly	Percentage
Choice \$500 PPO	\$1,199.91	\$14,398.92	25.6%
Choice High-deductible	\$919.33	\$11,031.96	19.6%
Choice \$5,000 PPO	\$779.11	\$9,349.32	16.6%

