

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING AND EXECUTIVE SESSION  
OF THE GOVERNING BOARD  
SCOTTSDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 48**

April 30, 2024

A Special Meeting and Executive Session of the Governing Board of the Scottsdale Unified School District, #48, Maricopa County, was called to order at 6:00 PM, at the Scottsdale Unified School District, Mohave District Annex, 8500 E. Jackrabbit Road, Scottsdale, Arizona. Pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.02, notice was hereby given to the members of the Scottsdale Governing Board and to the general public that the Governing Board would hold a public meeting open to the public on April 30, 2024. Members of the Governing Board and non-Board member participants participated in the meeting in-person.

Members of the public were also able to view the public portions of this meeting online, at the usual live streamed site through [YouTube](#).

Board Members in attendance were Dr. Libby Hart- Wells, President; Zach Lindsay, Vice President; Julie Cieniawski; Amy Carney; and Carine Werner. Superintendent Dr. Scott A. Menzel was also present. A quorum was present. Dr. Hart-Wells called upon Mr. Lindsay to lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Hart-Wells moved to approve the Agenda as presented. Mrs. Cieniawski seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 5 – 0.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS**

Dr. Menzel highlighted the following:

- May 1<sup>st</sup> is National Principal Appreciation Day.
- May 3<sup>rd</sup> is School Lunch Hero Day.
- Next week is National Teacher Appreciation Week.
- May 8<sup>th</sup> is National School Nurse Day.
- May is Asian Pacific Islander Month.
- On May 3<sup>rd</sup> Chuck Rantala (Hohokam Elementary) was named Exemplary Principal by County Superintendent Steve Watson.
- The evening of May 1<sup>st</sup> is the Coronado Promise Signing Dinner.
- May 2<sup>nd</sup> we are hosting Scottsdale Honors Its Own (SHIO) Awards/Reception.
- May 2<sup>nd</sup> is the middle school track championship.

**4. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**4. A. SAA, SEA and SSPA Updates**

SAA (Shelly Hummon and Dr. Lisa Hirsch), SEA (Becky Williams) and SSPA (Keri Blaker) presidents presented the final updates from the three associations for the 2023-2024 school year.

**4. B. First Read - School Calendars: 2025-26, 2026-27, 2027-28**

Dr. Karen Benson, Associate Superintendent, shared key data points from the calendar surveys and the preferred calendar options that emerged from the second survey. PowerPoint presentation: SUSD School Calendars 2025-26, 2026-27, 2027-28.

**4. C. First Read - Governing Board Policy GCO re Evaluation of Professional Staff Members**

The District administration recommended changes to Governing Board Policy GCO regarding Evaluation of Professional Staff Members to incorporate changes suggested by the Arizona School Board Association and to align the definition of inadequate classroom performance to the District's adopted evaluation tool. Jennifer MacLennan, Outside Counsel, was available to answer questions.

**4. D. Safety and Security Update – Audit and Raptor Technologies**

Josh Friedman, Director of Safety and Security, presented an overview of the status of the Special Audit related to school safety and emergency response practices as well as the school safety interoperability fund as directed by the Joint Legislative Audit Committee (JLAC) on December 6, 2023 and the Raptor Technologies Visitor Management System. PowerPoint presentation: Special School Security Audit.

Motion  
Approval of Agenda as Presented

Superintendent's Comments

Information/Discussion

4. E. ASU Accelerated Learning

Amy Downs, Director of College and Career Readiness (CTE), presented information on ASU Accelerated Learning – a possible dual enrollment pilot. CTE would like to partner with ASU to offer CIS105 through the ASU Accelerated Learning Facilitated course model. PowerPoint presentation: Accelerate Learning Dual Enrollment.

5. ACTION ITEMS – BOARD ACTION REQUIRED

5. A. *Second Read and Approval of Cheyenne K-5 Math Curriculum Adoption for 2024-2025 School Year*

It was recommended that the Governing Board approve the purchase of math curriculum for use in K-5 classrooms at Cheyenne Traditional School beginning the 2024-2025 school year. Dr. Kim Dodds Keran, Director of Teaching and Learning and Mrs. Donna Dempsey, Elementary Math Instructional Coach, were available to answer questions.

Mrs. Werner moved to approve the Second Read of Cheyenne K-5 Math Curriculum Adoption for 2024-2025 School Year as proposed. Mrs. Carney seconded the motion. Dr. Hart-Wells voted No. The motion was approved with a vote of 4 – 1.

Dr. Hart-Wells requested a roll call vote:

Mrs. Werner - Yes  
Mrs. Carney – Yes  
Mrs. Cieniawski – Yes  
Mr. Lindsay - Yes  
Dr. Hart-Wells - No

5. B. *Second Read and Approval – Governing Board Policy BDE re Board Committees*

It was recommended that the Governing Board approve the revisions to Governing Board Policy BDE re Board Committees presented in supporting materials and listed in Background on the agenda sheet. The amendment would be effective July 1, 2024.

Dr. Hart-Wells moved to approve the Second Read – Governing Board Policy BDE re Board Committees as proposed. Mr. Cieniawski seconded the motion. Mrs. Carney, Mr. Lindsay and Mrs. Werner voted No. The motion failed with a vote of 2 – 3.

5. C. *Action of Hearing Officer's Recommendation to Expel Student - Case #232403*

As per Governing Board Policy, the student had five days to appeal the decision of the Hearing Officer's recommendation. Since no appeal was received, the Hearing Officer's recommendation was presented.

Dr. Hart-Wells moved to approve the Action of Hearing Officer's Recommendation to Expel Student - Case #232403. Mrs. Cieniawski seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 5 – 0.

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION – BOARD ACTION REQUIRED

At 7:05 PM the Governing Board convened in Executive Session for:

6. A. *The Governing Board may recess into executive session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(1) for the purpose of providing input to the superintendent regarding the evaluation of general counsel.*

Mrs. Cieniawski moved to recess into executive session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(1) for the purpose of providing input to the superintendent regarding the evaluation of general counsel. Mrs. Carney seconded. Dr. Hart-Wells voted No. The motion was approved with a vote of 4 – 1.

6. B. *The Governing Board may recess into executive session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3) and (4) to receive legal advice from and to provide direction to the attorney for the public body regarding superintendent's contract of employment.*

Dr. Hart-Wells moved to recess into executive session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3) and (4) to receive legal advice from and to provide direction to the attorney for the public body regarding

Action Items

Motion

Approval of the Second Read of Cheyenne K-5 Math Curriculum Adoption for 2024-2025 School Year

Motion

Failed - Second Read – Governing Board Policy BDE re Board Committees

Motion

Approval of the Action of Hearing Officer's Recommendation to Expel Student - Case #232403

Executive Session

Motion

Convene in Executive Session for 6.A.

Motion

superintendent's contract of employment. Mrs. Cieniawski seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 5 -0.

At 8:02 PM Executive Session adjourned

At 8:02 PM Dr. Hart-Wells moved to reconvene the Special Meeting. Mrs. Cieniawski seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 5 – 0.

**8. ACTION ITEM – BOARD ACTION REQUIRED**

**8. A. Approval of General Counsel's Contract of Employment**

It was recommended that the Governing Board approve the general counsel's contract of employment for the 2024-2025 school year. Jennifer MacLennan, Outside Counsel, was available to answer questions.

Dr. Hart-Wells made a motion to approve the General Counsel's Contract of Employment. Mrs. Cieniawski seconded the motion. Mrs. Carney and Mrs. Werner voted No. The motion was approved with a vote of 3 – 2.

**8. A. Approval of Superintendent's Contract of Employment**

It was recommended that the Governing Board approve the superintendent's contract of employment to begin in the 2024-2025 school year. Jennifer MacLennan, Outside Counsel, was available to answer questions.

Dr. Hart- Wells made a motion to approve the Superintendent's Contract of Employment per the terms discussed in executive session. Mrs. Cieniawski seconded the motion. Mrs. Carney and Mrs. Werner voted No. The motion was approved with a vote of 3 – 2.

Dr. Hart-Wells requested a roll call vote:

- Mrs. Werner – No\*
- Mrs. Carney – No\*
- Mrs. Cieniawski – Yes\*
- Mr. Lindsay - Yes
- Dr. Hart-Wells – Yes\*

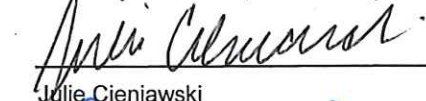
At 8:06 PM, Dr. Hart-Wells moved to adjourn the Special Meeting. Mrs. Cieniawski seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 5 – 0.

Dated this 30<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024

\* Comment/Statement Made

**The Governing Board of the Scottsdale Unified School District #48**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Libby Hart-Wells, President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Julie Cieniawski

Carine Werner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Zach Lindsay, Vice President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Amy Carney

Convene in Executive Session for 6.B.

Adjourn Executive Session

Motion  
Reconvene Special Meeting

Action Item

Motion  
Approval of General Counsel's Contract of Employment

Motion  
Approval of Superintendent's Contract of Employment per the terms discussed in executive session

Adjournment