

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

January 7, 2025

A Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of the Scottsdale Unified School District, #48, Maricopa County, was called to order at 6:01 PM, at the Scottsdale Unified School District Coronado High School, 7501 E. Virginia Avenue, 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 January 7, 2025. Members of the Governing Board and non-Board member participants participated in the meeting in-person.

Board Members in attendance were Carine Werner, Temporary Chairperson; Amy Carney; Dr. Donna W. Lewis, Dr. Matthew Pittinsky; and Mike Sharkey. Superintendent Dr. Scott A. Menzel was also present. A quorum was present. Mrs. Werner called upon Mrs. Carney to lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following request was made to amend the agenda:

- Mrs. Carney requested to pull Consent Agenda Item 8.I. SUSD Work Calendars 2025-2026 – Administrative, Certified, and Classified for further discussion.

Mrs. Werner moved to approve the Agenda as amended. Dr. Lewis seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 5 – 0.

Motion
Approval of
Agenda as
Amended

3. ACTION ITEM – BOARD ACTION REQUIRED

3. A. Election of Governing Board Officers

Per Policy BDA the Board has opted to conduct a reorganization each year in January. By statute, A.R.S. 15-321, the Board shall elect from the membership a Board President at the organizational meeting. SUSD policy BDA also requires the appointment of a Vice President with outlined duties in policy BDB. The Board will conduct an election to appoint a President and Vice President for 2025.

Mrs. Werner nominated Mrs. Carney for President
Dr. Pittinsky nominated Dr. Lewis for President
No additional nominations for President

Mrs. Werner moved to elect Mrs. Carney as Board President. Mrs. Carney accepted the nomination and seconded the motion. Dr. Lewis, Dr. Pittinsky and Mr. Sharkey voted No. The motion failed with a vote of 2 – 3.

Dr. Pittinsky moved to elect Dr. Lewis as Board President. Mr. Sharkey seconded the motion. Mrs. Carney and Mrs. Werner voted No. The motion was approved with a vote of 3 – 2.

Motion
Approval of Dr.
Lewis as
Governing Board
President

Dr. Pittinsky nominated Mr. Sharkey for Vice President
Mrs. Werner nominated Mrs. Carney for Vice President
No additional nominations for Vice President

Dr. Pittinsky moved to elect Mr. Sharkey as Board Vice President. Mr. Sharkey accepted the nomination and seconded the motion. Mrs. Carney and Mrs. Werner voted No. The motion was approved with a vote of 3 – 2.

Motion
Approval of Mr.
Sharkey as
Governing Board
Vice President

Dr. Lewis requested a roll call vote:

Mr. Sharkey – Yes
Dr. Pittinsky – Yes
Dr. Lewis – Yes
Mrs. Carney – No
Mrs. Werner – No

STUDENTS AND STAFF RECOGNITIONS AND CELEBRATIONS

Acknowledgement of some outstanding celebrations:

- Dr. Milissa Sackos, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education, celebrated Daniela Sanchez Morales, Arcadia High School and Emma Feeney, Desert Mountain High School (not in attendance) – Boys & Girls Club of Greater Scottsdale 2025 Youth of the Year finalists. Daniela and Emma were presented with challenge coins.

Students and
Staff
Recognitions and
Celebrations

- Dr. David Priniski, Director of State and Federal Programs Director, celebrated the latest round of SUSD Innovation StartUp Grant recipients. Tanner Bollman, Tavan Elementary School; Jackie Clark, Tavan Elementary School; Hokunani Sanchez, Kiva Elementary School; Stacey Pasquel, SUSD Professional Learning & Innovation (not in attendance). Congratulations! Each innovator received a challenge coin.
- Dr. Kim Dodds Keran, Director of Teaching and Learning, recognized and thanked our newly certified and newly re-certified National Board educators.
 - New certifications: Ilalia Coburn, Sequoya; Zosha Darnell, Arcadia; Ashtyn Deak, Cheyenne; Surani Joshua, Arcadia
 - Renewed ("Maintained") certifications: Darci Aronson, Redfield; Jennifer Bethke, Laguna; Diana Bode, Hopi (not in attendance); Lori Campos, Cherokee; Ashley Crose, Saguaro; Emily Deck, Hopi (not in attendance); Jennifer Fox, Hopi; Sheila Fullerton, Kiva; Patti Hanlon, Cochise (not in attendance); Kimberly Keck, Yavapai; Tammy Kohli, DCES; Tom Roxborough, Desert Mountain; Jessica Valencia, SUSD Teaching & Learning; Kelly Vandenheuvel, Redfield; Anne Waddington, Cherokee

Thank you, SUSD educators, for your commitment and passion for teaching that drives you to continue to improve the inspired instruction you provide to our students! We are truly grateful that your professional home is to SUSD!

- Thank you to our Governing Board for volunteering to oversee this legacy public school district. With your partnership, guidance, and wisdom, SUSD will continue to be one of Arizona's finest districts and one of the best in the nation.
- January is School Board Recognition Month. Thank you to our Governing Board for the work they have already done and will continue to do on behalf of Scottsdale Unified School District. This is not an easy calling, we want to express our gratitude for your service, past and future.

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Dr. Menzel highlighted the following:

- The 25th annual MLK Youth Voices program will take place Thursday, January 19th at 9am at Saguaro High School.
- The Spanish Spelling Bee will take place at Coronado High School at 9am on January 23rd.
- January 24th The District Scripps Spelling Bee will take place at Coronado High School at 9am on January 24th.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda, Non-Agenda, Information/Discussion, and Consent Agenda Items

Four (4) Digital Public Comment forms were submitted:

- Gary Shapiro – Expressed enthusiasm for SUSD and the community. Congratulations to the new Board members.
- Jeff Rattay – Personal comment.
- Patricia Pellett – Commented on the safety of students.
- Mike Bengert – Commented on the Governing Board.

7. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

7. A. Annual Open Meeting Law Training

The Governing Board received its annual Open Meeting Law training. This annual review is held every January. Nicholas Buzan, General Counsel, was available to answer questions. PowerPoint presentation: Arizona's Open Meeting Law Annual Training.

7. B. Assessment and Accountability Update

Nicholas Buzan, General Counsel, presented an overview of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). The Board asked general questions of counsel relating to FERPA and its application at SUSD. PowerPoint presentation: FERPA: Family Educational Rights & Privacy.

7. C. First Read - Middle School Planning Guide for the 2025-2026 School Year

Dr. Kim Dodds Keran, Director of Teaching and Learning, presented the proposed Middle School Course Planning Guide which included updates for course additions and revisions to department language. The guide represented the work of content and department leads from Teaching and Learning, College and Career Readiness, Special Education, Gifted and Accelerated Learning, English Language Development and SIMAR departments and Middle School Principals representing all five learning communities. PowerPoint presentation: Middle School Planning Guide 2025-2026.

Superintendent's
Comments

Public Comments

Information/
Discussion

7. D. First Read – Governing Board Policy IL re Evaluation of Instructional Programs

A.R.S. §15-708 requires that schools provide notification to parents of pupils in grades six through eight who have not demonstrated proficiency in grade-level mathematics. This recommendation will assist in compliance with the state statute. Additionally, there is presently a requirement in Policy IL that is not statutory. The recommendation is to remove this requirement. Nicholas Buzan, General Counsel, was available to answer questions.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Acceptance of Gifts \$61,278.70
- B. Accounts Payable Vouchers Processed from November 15, through December 4, 2024
- C. Payroll Vouchers Processed from November 15 through December 3, 2024
- D. Monthly Expenditure Report – November 16, 2024 through December 5, 2024
- E. High School Athletic Gate Entrance Fee Increase
- F. Middle School Athletic Participation Fee Increase
- G. Approve the Award of Request for Proposal (RFP) 25009, E-Rate Wide Area Network
- H. Personnel Action Items, 12/10/2024 to 07/01/2025
- I. SUSD Work Calendars 2025-2026 – Administrative, Certified, and Classified
- J. Approval of School Safety Officer Grant
- K. Approval of Minutes of December 10, 2024 Regular Governing Board Meeting

Dr. Lewis moved to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Mr. Sharkey seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 5 – 0.

Dr. Lewis requested a roll call vote:

Mr. Sharkey – Yes
Dr. Pittinsky – Yes
Dr. Lewis – Yes
Mrs. Carney – Yes
Mrs. Werner – Yes

Mrs. Carney requested to pull Consent Agenda Item 8.I. SUSD Work Calendars 2025-2026 – Administrative, Certified, and Classified as presented. for further discussion.

Dr. Lewis moved to approve Consent Agenda Item 8.I. SUSD Work Calendars 2025-2026 – Administrative, Certified, and Classified as presented. Mr. Pittinsky seconded the motion. Mrs. Carney voted No. The motion was approved with a vote of 4 – 1.

Dr. Lewis requested a roll call vote:

Mr. Sharkey – Yes
Dr. Pittinsky – Yes
Dr. Lewis – Yes
Mrs. Carney – No
Mrs. Werner – Yes

9. ACTION ITEMS – BOARD ACTION REQUIRED

9. A. Action of Hearing Officer's Recommendation to Expel Student - Case# 242502

As per Governing Board Policy, the student has had five days to appeal the decision of the Hearing Officer's recommendation. Since no appeals have been received, the Hearing Officer's recommendation was presented at this time. Shannon Cronn, Director of Support Services, was available to answer questions.

Dr. Pittinsky moved to approve Action of Hearing Officer's Recommendation to Expel Student - Case# 242502. Mr. Sharkey seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 5 – 0.

Dr. Lewis requested a roll call vote:

Mr. Sharkey – Yes
Dr. Pittinsky – Yes
Dr. Lewis – Yes
Mrs. Carney – Yes

Consent Agenda

Motion
Approval of
Consent Agenda
as Amended

Motion
Approval of
Consent Agenda
Item 8.I. SUSD
Work Calendars
2025-2026 –
Administrative,
Certified, and
Classified as
presented

Action Items

Motion
Approval of
Action of Hearing
Officer's
Recommendation
to Expel Student
- Case# 242502

Mrs. Werner - Yes

GOVERNING BOARD REPORTS

Dr. Lewis

- The SUSD Governing Board received the ASBA 2024 Total Board Boardmanship Award.

FUTURE ITEMS

Mrs. Carney

- Requested an Executive Session to discuss the Auditor General's findings from the Security audit.
- Requested an update on the Juul Settlement and what the settlement dollars have been used for.

Dr. Lewis

- Suggested a Governing Board half-day retreat, to be facilitated by an outside facilitator.
- Requested professional development on a national level – an agenda item on participation in the National School Board Association conference this spring.

Dr. Pittinsky

- Encouraged a Board Retreat.
- Recommended taking advantage of the Study Sessions as a real opportunity to study and take a deeper dive on Board initiated topics of interest.

DATES OF UPCOMING MEETINGS

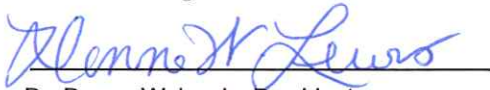
- Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 - 6:00 PM - Special Governing Board Meeting - MDA

At 7:43 PM, Mr. Sharkey moved to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 5 – 0.

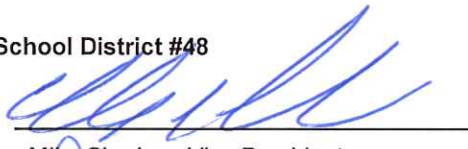
Dated this 7th day of January 2025

* Comment/Statement Made

The Governing Board of the Scottsdale Unified School District #48



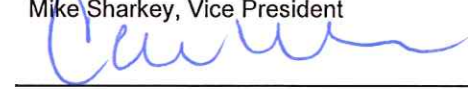
Dr. Donna W. Lewis, President



Mike Sharkey, Vice President



Amy Carney



Carine Werner



Dr. Matthew Pittinsky

Governing Board
Reports

Future Items

Dates of
Upcoming
Meetings

Motion
Adjournment