

COUNTY OF MARICOPA  
OSBORN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 8  
Governing Board Regular Meeting  
May 12, 2026

---

The Regular Meeting of the Osborn School District Governing Board was called to order at 5:33 PM by Board President Violeta Ramos.

Violeta Ramos, Board President  
Rhiannon Ford, Board Clerk  
Edward Hermes, Board Member  
Eric Thompson, Board Member  
Ben Blink, Board Member  
Dr. Michael Robert, Superintendent

Following the Public Hearing the meeting resumed at 5:38 with staff years of service, retirements and You Make the Difference recognitions.

A break was called at 6:42 pm and the meeting resumed at 7:01 pm.

**Pledge of Allegiance/Land Acknowledgement**

Dr. Robert led the pledge. President Ramos read the land acknowledgement.

**Governing Board Reports**

Mr. Blink enjoyed the celebration of staff. He thanked all who attended the Superintendent Community Forum and thanked President Ramos for facilitating the event adding that he is inspired by the applications. He also congratulated 8<sup>th</sup> graders on their upcoming promotion.

Mr. Thompson said it was great to celebrate the contributions of staff. He thanked all who attended the Superintendent Forum and President Ramos for organizing the forum.

Mr. Hermes echoed previous comments adding that it was a wonderful celebration. He said he was glad members held the forum and thanked President Ramos noting that it is good to keep the community at the center. He said he also attended the dual language showcase at Clarendon.

Mrs. Ford said in addition to the May Day march she attended she was elected by her district to attend the AEA Delegate Assembly and will be attending promotion events.

President Ramos chaperoned a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade field trip to the state capitol. She said there was good representation at the community forum and a survey will be shared for those to complete who did not attend to find out what the community wants in the new superintendent. President Ramos expressed thanks to district staff who have assisted with the search and said it will be a difficult decision to make.

**Call to the Public**

None.

**Consent Agenda – Approval of Items Since March Meeting**

- A. Ratification of Accounts Payable Vouchers
- B. Ratification of Payroll Vouchers
- C. Board Minutes
  - 1. April 21, 2026 Regular Meeting
  - 2. May 5, 2026 Work Study

D. Approval of Personnel Items

1. New Employees
2. Extra Duty Contracts
3. Employment Changes/Additions
4. Resignations
5. Terminations
6. Retirements
7. Leaves of Absence
8. Non-Renewal

E. Donations

F. Expenditure and Revenue Report

G. Student Activities Statement of Revenue and Expenditures

H. Disposal

I. Sole Source Listing FY25 -Revision

J. Approval of Lease Agreement with Sounds Academy

K. Out of state travel for Rhiannon Ford to attend the CUBE Conference October 1-3, 2026 in Chicago, IL

L. Renewal of Agreement with Phoenix Indian Center

M. Out of state travel for Violeta Ramos to attend the 2026 MASBA National Conference September 10-11, 2026 in San Antonio, Texas

Mrs. Ford motion to approve. Mr. Thompson seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Mrs. Ramos aye

Mrs. Ford aye

Mr. Hermes aye

Mr. Thompson aye

Mr. Blink aye

**Admin Reports**

No comments

**Information/Discussion Items**

**OEA Update**

Ms. Gerlock informed that for April/May they have assisted with a total of 12 advocacy cases bringing the total to 38 since the beginning of the year. She said the group is committed to collaborative problem solving and anticipates continued discussion on staff retention, staff transfers, hiring practices, OEA representation on administrative hires. She said they look forward to collaborating with new Superintendent and HR Director on matters and will be scheduling meetings with administration adding that OEA appreciates the collaborative efforts this year.

**Action Items**

**Approval of Revision to the 2025/26 School District Expenditure Budget**

Mrs. Ford moved to approve. Mr. Blink seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Mrs. Ramos aye

Mrs. Ford aye

Mr. Hermes aye

Mr. Thompson aye  
Mr. Blink aye

**Approval to exceed 2025/26 M&O Budget Subsections**

Ms. McCabe explained that this annual housekeeping item is presented in May and allows the district to correct any calculation errors as long as districts do not exceed their M and O budget capacity.

Mr. Blink moved to approve. Mr. Thompson seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Mrs. Ramos aye  
Mrs. Ford aye  
Mr. Hermes aye  
Mr. Thompson aye  
Mr. Blink aye

**FY2027 Budget Committee Recommendations**

Ms. McCabe shared committee recommendations A and B which will be put into effect should additional expenditures savings be identified. Recommendation A becomes effective July 1 and provides a 2% increase for returning staff and \$2,500 schedule enhancement for teachers and professional staff. Returning Classified and Administrative staff would receive a 1.5% increase.

Recommendation B would be brought back to the Board in the fall for approval if funds are available. The recommendation is to apply the same minimum wage percentage increase for Classified hourly to salary placement schedules for Classified Exempt and Administrator schedules as a schedule enhancement.

Ms. McCabe confirmed for Mr. Blink that reductions in staff were handled mostly through staff retirements.

Mr. Thompson moved to approve. Mrs. Ford seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Mrs. Ramos aye  
Mrs. Ford aye  
Mr. Hermes aye  
Mr. Thompson aye  
Mr. Blink aye

**Approval of the 26-27 SY Salary Placement Schedules**

Ms. McCabe said the schedules include the recommendations with teachers and support professional staff being the only change.

Mr. Thompson noted that with both the \$2500 and 2% increase, teachers and professional support staff are receiving about a 6% increase. Dr. Robert added that among the local Phoenix districts, these are among the largest increases.

Mrs. Ford moved to approve. Mr. Hermes seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Mrs. Ramos aye  
Mrs. Ford aye  
Mr. Hermes aye  
Mr. Thompson aye  
Mr. Blink aye

**Approval of GMP1 for Instructional Learning Spaces**

Ms. McCabe said this is the next step from the design presentation in April and is not the design in its entirety adding that it represents work only for 2026.

Ms. McCabe presented an overview of the process as requested by Mr. Blink.

SPS+ Required to get 3 contract proposals- we are getting multiple proposals- ben how does that work- our requirement- we take th lowest proce that can perform the work- eric- for tehnext part what is the ballpark for the next gmp- colleen- eric bidding- many times – ben-

Mr. Hermes moved to approve. Mrs. Ford seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Mrs. Ramos aye  
Mrs. Ford aye  
Mr. Hermes aye  
Mr. Thompson aye  
Mr. Blink aye

**Approval of Decision of Hearing Officer James Poquette in Expulsion Hearing for student A -2026**

Dr. Robert reviewed that the Board made the decision to utilize a hearing officer for all student hearings. Mr. Poquette was the hearing officer in this hearing and found in favor of the districts recommendation for expulsion.

Mr. Blink moved to approve. Mr. Thompson seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Mrs. Ramos aye  
Mrs. Ford aye  
Mr. Hermes aye  
Mr. Thompson aye  
Mr. Blink aye

**TO CONSIDER, DISCUSS, AMEND IF DESIRED, AND IF DEEMED ADVISABLE, TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION ORDERING AND CALLING A SPECIAL DISTRICT ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE OVERRIDE ELECTION TO BE HELD IN AND FOR THE DISTRICT AND DECLARING THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING ARGUMENTS “FOR” AND “AGAINST” THE ELECTION TO THE MARICOPA COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT AS AUGUST 7, 2026, AT 5:00 P.M.**

Ms. McCabe stated that this does involve an increase to capture additional capacities which is currently capped at 1.5 million.

Mr. Hermes moved to approve. Mrs. Ford seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

COUNTY OF MARICOPA  
OSBORN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 8  
Governing Board Regular Meeting  
May 12, 2026

---

Mrs. Ramos aye  
Mrs. Ford aye  
Mr. Hermes aye  
Mr. Thompson aye  
Mr. Blink aye

**Board Development**

none

**Future**

**Mrs. Ford**

- Discuss using capitol funds to build indoor recess spaces.

Mr. Thompson motioned to move into Executive Session. Mr. Blink seconded.  
7:38

**Adjournment**

Board President Mrs. Ramos declared the meeting adjourned at 9:43 PM.

Minutes submitted by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa Nye, Executive Assistant  
to the Superintendent and Governing Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rhiannon Ford, Board Clerk