



Sahuarita Unified School District No. 30

*Sahuarita High School
Sahuarita Intermediate School
Sopori Elementary School*

*Sahuarita Middle School
Sahuarita Primary School
Anza Trail School*

SUSD Early Childhood Center

Regular Governing Board Meeting Minutes 6:30 p.m. – January 10, 2007 – Sub Hall B - District Auditorium 350 W. Sahuarita Rd., Sahuarita, AZ 85629

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

President Michael Lurkins called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Also in attendance were Tom Murphy, Clerk of the Board, Board members Elaine Hall, Martin McGee, Superintendent Dr. Jay C. St. John, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Manny Valenzuela and Director of Business Services Charlotte Gates. Board member Diana Kellermeyer was absent. There were 67 guests. The Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

IA. Reorganization of the Governing Board

1. Election of President – Discussion and Possible Action

Governing Board President Michael Lurkins stated that the nominations were now in order for the office of president.

Mr. McGee nominated Mr. Tom Murphy.

Mr. Lurkins asked if there were any other nominations.

Mr. McGee moved the Board close the nominations and was seconded by Mrs. Hall. The motion carried

A vote was taken with all members voting aye to elect Tom Murphy as President

2. Election of Clerk – Discussion and Possible Action

President Tom Murphy stated that nominations were now in order for the office of clerk.

Mr. McGee nominated Mrs. Diana Kellermeyer.

Mr. Murphy asked if there were any other nominations.

Mrs. Hall moved the board close the nominations and was seconded by Mr. McGee. The motion carried

A vote was taken with all members voting aye to elect Diana Kellermeyer as Clerk of the Board.

II. Approval of Agenda

Dr. St. John recommended approval of the agenda as it was distributed. Mr. Lurkins made the motion and was seconded by Mrs. Hall. The motion carried.

III. Approval and Ratification of Vouchers

Mrs. Gates recommended ratification of previously approved payroll voucher 11 in the amount of \$746,468.69, payroll voucher 12 in the amount of \$771,086.92, payroll voucher 13 in the amount of \$696,406.19, and new payroll voucher 14 for the pay period ending January 12, 2007 in the amount not to exceed \$900,000.00, She further recommended approval of expense vouchers 7536-7043 in the amount of \$2,928,809.29. Mr. McGee made the motion and was seconded by Mrs. Hall. The motion carried.

IV. Call to the Public - None

V. Recognition of Staff, Students and Community

Dr. Valenzuela recognized the Governing Board for their recent receipt of the Lou Ella Kleinz Award of Excellence. This award is presented annually by the Arizona School Boards Association to recognize a School District Governing Board that demonstrates the most outstanding educational leadership in the State of Arizona. An informal reception in honor of their accomplishment will be held before the January 24, 2007 Governing Board at 6:00pm in the Auditorium.

A. “Leaders in Character” Honorees

Dr. Valenzuela introduced the following award recipients’:

Sopori – Miss Eliuth Holguin – 5th Grade
SPS – Mr. Matt De La Ossa – 1st Grade
SIS – Miss Yesenia Felix – 4th Grade
SMS – Miss Lara Harrison – 8th Grade
SHS – Mr. Robert Fragoza – 12th Grade

The Governing Board recognized the above students for their excellent display of leadership and service among their peers at each of their perspective schools.

VI. New Business

A. Business – Information Only

1. Update on Anza Trail

Dr. St. John stated that the opening of Anza Trail went very smoothly. During the next few meetings, many people and organizations will be recognized for their assistance in opening the school.

The Town of Sahuarita did an excellent job in working with the district to get the permits, etc that were needed to open a building of that size.

The Sahuarita Police Department were especially helpful in advising the District and seeing that all students were safe whether they were walking to school, riding on a bus, or riding in a private vehicle.

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The District expects to have a substantial completion on the remaining buildings by April 1, 2007. The cafeteria dining area will be available on/or about January 20, 2007. The rest of the multipurpose building and the second classroom building will be ready about on/or about the end of March.

It appears that the District's Capital Improvement Plan will be dealt with on the first Thursday in February at a School Facilities Board meeting held in the Phoenix area. Dr. St. John plans to attend that meeting and present to them, one more time, a request to have the assessed evaluation of the land donation renegotiated. If this is not an option, Dr. St. John will discuss with the Board filing a suit against the SFB on behalf of the School District.

2. Update on New High School

Dr. St. John stated that prior to the winter break, he and other members of the potential community partners in the area met with representatives from the Emc2 Architectural Firm. The District has a tentative agreement from Pima Community College to add space to the new high school building. The District also has a tentative commitment for cooperation with the Corondelet Health Care Network. There are other additional commitments from other community partners that are being worked on. Nothing has been heard from the Town of Sahuarita.

The State Land Department has been notified that the District needed a commitment by the first of the year as to whether the District would be able to take possession of the 45-acres on State Land by June 1, 2007. There has been no response on the part of the State Land Department. Dr. St. John will attempt to get a commitment from them, if not then he will spend time with the School Facilities Board discussing other potential sites, which the SFB will have to purchase. Major land owners in the School District are FICO, Park Corporation, Rancho Sahuarita, ASARCO and Phelps Dodge. With the permission of the SFB, he will contact them and present a list of sites to the Board to select so that SFB can purchase the best available site.

Mr. Larry McKee has put together a committee of high school staff members who meet regularly with Dr. Valenzuela and Dr. St. John to outline a curriculum approach that the district is going to use with the new high school. There is a great deal of reluctance on the part of the committee to designate the high school as having any one emphasis. The problem, of course, is that if you specialize a high school, you begin to start the process of segregation. A discussion is being held regarding a common district theme supporting or emphasizing Science and Math. The committee will continue to discuss the new high school approach and bring a plan to the Board.

3. Update on Bond Projects

Dr. St. John stated that the Bond projects continue to move forward. The tennis courts will be available by the February 1, 2007 deadline that was set with Core Construction. Block is being laid at all three of the classroom addition sites on the main campus. The major stumbling block continues to be the Sopori School Gym. It was Dr. St. John's opinion that it is a combination of the fact that Orcutt Winslow dropped the ball in terms of getting plans to the County for the review process, a reluctance on the part of Pima County to allow the District to begin with a grading permit at its own risk, and the fact that the district is having difficulty getting a septic

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system approved for the addition to the building. Due to the condition of the remaining portables, the administration is not allowing any classes of students to spend all day in any of these buildings. The IT department has been moved into one of the SPS portables. The Board may want to consider disposing of the portables.

B. Governing Board

1. Approval of High School Parking Violation Proposal

The Governing Board received information from Stephanie Silman, Assistant Principal at SHS, regarding a High School Parking Violation Proposal. Mrs. Silman introduced Mr. Hector Romero, SHS Security Monitor. Mrs. Silman and Mr. Romero proposed a School Parking Violation Notice tool to gain control and accountability of vehicles that are utilizing all the parking lots that service the high school. There is a problem with students parking in unauthorized areas throughout the school. They believe this notice will help get control of the parking lots. Mrs. Silman also asked for approval to purchase a standard model wheel boot to help get control. The notice will be a three-tiered offense discipline as follows:

1st Offense – Written Warning

2nd Offense – 2 Weeks No Parking

3rd Offense – Parking Privilege Revoked for Remainder of School Year.

Dr. St. John recommended approval of the proposal. Mr. McGee made the motion and was seconded by Mrs. Hall. The motion carried.

Mrs. Hall complimented the high school for their work on this proposal.

2. 2006-2007 Goal Progress – Information Only

Dr. St. John reviewed the progress of the Board's goals. He listed the following goals as being accomplished or they are in the progress of them at this time:

Consistently enforce the dress code, bus discipline procedures, and discipline procedures for all students.

Plan for increased staffing in all areas of the district

Maximize the Foundation

Evaluate the food service program

Consider additional resources for the district

Evaluate the transportation program

Plan for the Early Childhood Center

Review the Project Inspire program

Implement instructional planning and data driven decision making

Implement technology integration to support high academic outcomes

Plan and implement a performance pay schedule for administrators

Implement a strategic plan for instruction

Continue the implementation of the 8 step model

Review the high school schedule

Implement a systematic Public Relations program

Publish a quarterly district newsletter.

Review the Administrator Evaluation system

Continue study sessions with the Board and the Administrative Team

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- Implement the Galileo Educational System
- Develop a comprehensive model of alternative education
- Develop large scale extended day programs
- Implement a comprehensive staff development program
- Implement a staff development program for classified employees
- Implement a reward system for licenses and special skills acquired by classified staff
- Plan the next buildings
- Implement regular reports to the Board
- Review the Emergency Response manual with all staff
- Implement a district safety committee

3. 2007-2008 – Goals – Information Only

Dr. St. John stated that he has briefly begun working on goals for the 2007-2008. He shared the few that he had at that time:

- Review the Early Childhood Center
- Consider additional resources for the district.
- Reducing Class Size

VII. Superintendent/Administrative Reports

Dr. St. John stated that Mr. Paul Huppe was nominated as Teacher of the Year through Circle K program. He was interviewed by Channel 13 on January 2, 2007. Mr. John Flannery taped the interview. The Governing Board reviewed the tape. The District is very proud of Mr. Huppe. The final selection will be made in the next few weeks and the award recipient will be honored at a UofA men's basketball game.

Charlotte Gates reported that the District received \$158, 589.00 in tax credits this year from the community.

Fred Huff reported that the mileage was down to 41,340 total school miles and 3,186 active trip miles which is 35 trips. From June 1st to December 31st they have had a few charters which took in approximately \$15,056. He has been speaking with Charlotte regarding busses for next year. It takes approximately 6 months to get a bus. The District will need approximately 5 big busses and 1 special bus.

George Emerson stated that maintenance is doing well although they are still short a few employees. They completed 336 work orders last month. They are beginning to see an improvement as far as the trade work is concerned.

Dr. Barbara Smith stated that every six years, the whole scope of Special Education gets monitored by the Arizona Department of Education. It is more of a self-study process. She has a committee working on the process and the Department of Education representatives will be at the district the last week of January to review the documentation. Dr. Barb will give a formal presentation when that process is completed. The Crisis and Safety manual has been edited for this year. It needs to be printed out and distributed. She has been working with Linda Robinson at SHS to set up a crisis first response training. All the health providers, social workers, counselors, administrators and psychologists will be attending this training two days in February.

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She reported that all of the students at the ECC have been assessed using the work sampling technique which is an improved developmental assessment in the State. Tomorrow she will be giving an in-service at the ECC on classroom management and positive discipline strategies.

Stephanie Silman reported that the current enrollment at SHS is 1230 students. They are gaining and losing students all the time.

SHS is having a second semester lock down drill tomorrow during study hall. They will also have their monthly fire drill this week.

On 01/17/07 the counseling department will have its first annual financial planning and aid for college. This is a K-12 event that the high school counselors planned. It will take place from 6:00 – 8:00pm in the auditorium.

Next Thursday, SHS will have an evacuation drill.

Next Friday, SHS Band is having a pancake dinner from 4:30 to 6:30 in the cafeteria.

The wrestling team won their 3rd championship last weekend.

Stephanie recognized Ms. Marsha Flores, who attended a Youth Leadership Workshop today in the library.

Mrs. Silman also recognized security at the high school.

Clint Carlton reported that the current enrollment at SMS is 796. It has been a very busy start of the semester.

SMS held its second quarter awards assembly where they recognized 475 students who made the honor roll. It was followed by a positive incentive program. The faculty designed and run a carnival for the students.

The school Science Fair just ended and he thanked all the volunteers for their help. This year's fair produced 12 projects that will compete in the regional science fair. Special thanks to all the science teachers.

The Jaguar Jaws media program will be a club this year. The students will be creating a video announcement weekly for the student body.

SMS is looking forward to the district spelling bee on January 31, 2007. Their spelling bee was held today in the auditorium.

The SMS Book Fair will be January 22-26.

Third quarter sports began as of Monday. Those sports include; girl's basketball, boy's soccer, wrestling as well as cheerleading. SMS will host a wrestling tournament this Saturday.

He thanked all the teachers for helping to make the Anza Trail transition very smooth and successful. Special thanks went to the custodian staff that put in extra hours to clean the schools.

Kathy Shiba reported that Anza Trail has 812 students with four new enrollments yesterday and today.

The opening of Anza Trail went very smoothly. There are so many people to thank. She has been sending thank you cards this week to those who helped with the transition.

Kathy thanked Tom Murphy for his help. He moved boxes and vacuumed. Mr. Luna and his son also helped to move some teachers. He also volunteered to come back and help students to find their way around.

The middle school administration was in buildings directing students for two days making sure students got to their classrooms.

Dr. St. John, Dr. Valenzuela and Charlotte Gates were also there to help with the move.

The teachers did a phenomenal job; it was probably one of the smoothest openings Mrs. Shiba has ever seen. She received several compliments from the community, teachers and parents.

Blinds will be installed on Sunday.

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The playground should have woodchips laid on it by next week.

It has been exciting and she has been speaking to parents regarding the safety precautions in place.

Scott Downs reported that there are 516 students currently enrolled at SIS.

Things are going very smoothly. He stated that SIS has a wonderful staff and he appreciates their patience while he transitions into his new position.

On January 18th a local author, Susan Lowell, will be talking to the students. She will also follow up with three small sessions to all the 3rd graders. She will be speaking about the importance of reading.

On January 23rd the PTP will be meeting to plan numerous events at SIS.

Today was the first Bobcat assembly. Many awards were given out to students. He thanked Dr. St. John, Dr. Valenzuela, and Mr. Murphy for attending.

The SHS NJROTC did a presentation at the assembly.

Today was the first Wright Flight program meeting. Thank you to Mr. & Mrs. Acosta for their help with that program.

Scott recognized Carol Salica for the tremendous job she has done at SIS. He also thanked Dr. Valenzuela for his help with the Title I grant.

Scott reported that the Science Book adoption team has narrowed down their choice. They will continue to research and will select a science series.

Tina Steward stated that she is very excited to be working at SPS as the Principal.

The campus was quite after coming back from break. There is more space on the playground, cafeteria and there is a lot less traffic.

SPS currently has 511 students on campus.

PTO is sponsoring a 100th day door decorating contest. The winner will receive a pizza party. There are also other 100th day activities planned to remind students the importance of attending school everyday.

There will be a jump rope demonstration in the auditorium to kick off the SPS Jump Rope for Heart Community Fundraiser on January 23rd at 9:00.

The PTO is also working on the second annual spring carnival fundraiser. This will take place on March 24th.

The Phoenix Zoo mobile was on campus yesterday showing the 1st grades different animals including spiders, giant cockroaches, snakes and owls. This kicks off the annual science unit. The students loved it.

The Owl of the Month and Most Improved Owl awards were given at an assembly this morning. Thirty eight SPS students were recognized for going above and beyond and make good choices everyday.

The PTO donated two complete basketball hoops to add to the 2nd grade playground.

Maribel Lopez reported that Sopori currently has 251 students.

On February 1st the 4th grade students will be given reading and math assessments.

Today, Dr. Valenzuela and Mrs. Cutler provided the Sopori staff with information on the 21st Century Grant.

The K-3 staff will be visiting Roberts Elementary on January 16 and 18th. They will have the opportunity to see a Reading First Class in action and also see groupings of intervention in the afternoon.

January 17th is the next PTO meeting.

On January 24th, Maribel will be attending a Reading First meeting in Phoenix with their reading first coach.

The 6th grade Valentine's Dance will be held on February 14th.

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Ms. Lopez introduce Brian Huie, Brian will be doing his administrative internship under Ms. Lopez. He thanked the Board, Superintendent, and the administrators for the opportunity.

Dr. Jay C. St. John attended a Pima Medical Institute Luncheon where a former high school student was honored for being the youngest person to enter and graduate from the Radiologist program.

Dr. St. John stated that a capital concern right now is buses. Charlotte has to order busses now in order to get them for next year. The district will have to borrow approximately ½ million dollars to purchase busses. When you borrow this amount, the payments are usually \$100,000.00 a year for 5 or 6 years.

There continues to be capital concerns amongst administrators.

Dr. Jay continues to attend the Country Fair White Elephant Board meetings. As a Board member he will be on a committee to compose a job description and select a new manger for the store.

White Elephant Scholarship applications are available for seniors at this time.

The Board members along with Dr. St. John and Dr. Valenzuela attended the ASBA annual conference in December.

Mr. Murphy, Mr. Lurkins and Dr. St. John attend a meeting at Triple play with concerned citizens regarding class sizes. Those same people will meet at the end of January.

VIII. Consent Agenda - Action

Dr. St. John recommended approval of those items on the Consent Agenda, as they are routine items. Mr. McGee made the motion and was seconded by Mrs. Hall. The motion carried.

A. Employment

1. Melissa Ackerley, Music Teacher – Anza Trail – New Position - Ratification to 01/04/07
2. Bennie Barfield, Jr, Campus Monitor – Anza Trail – New Position – Ratification to 01/04/07
3. Sandra Behrens, Campus Monitor – Anza Trail – New Position – Ratification to 01/04/07
4. Sonia Guevara, Inclusion Health Assistant – SPS Project Inspire – Replacement (Rehire) – Ratification to 01/04/07
5. Kyle Kronmiller, 5th Grade Teacher – SIS – Replacement – Ratification to 01/04/07
6. Andrea Martin, Math Teacher – SHS – Replacement – Ratification to 12/11/06
7. Bernard McCall – Character Ed. Teacher – SHS – Replacement – Ratification to 01/04/07
8. Bernie McCall – Head Football Coach – SHS – Replacement – Effective Fall 2007
9. Denise Mills – Clerk I/Attendance – Anza Trail – New Position – Ratification to 01/04/07
10. Cynamin VanLue, Technology Assistant – Anza Trail – New Position – Ratification to 01/04/07
11. Selina Bittle, Inclusion Health Assistant – SUSD ECC – Replacement – Ratification to 01/04/07

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12. Agnes Bolesta, ACE Instructional Aide – SHS – Replacement – Ratification to 01/04/07
13. Roberto Hernandez, Custodian – Anza Trail – New Position – Transfer Ratification to 01/02/07
14. Doug Higdon, Groundskeeper, Facilities – Reduction in Hours – Ratification to 01/04/07
15. Michael Hudson, Bus Driver – Change in Status – Ratification to 12/05/06
16. Gloria Huerta, Inclusion Health Assistant – SHS – Replacement – Transfer Ratification to 01/04/07
17. Diana Moreno, Elementary School Secretary – SPS – Temporary – Ratification to 12/05/06
18. Norman Popp, Library Technician – Anza Trail – New Position – Ratification to 01/04/07
19. Lila Salcido, Health Assistant – Sopori – Replacement – Transfer Ratification to 12/11/06
20. Jay C. St. John, Superintendent – Admin. Office – ESI Contract Effective 04/01/07

B. Resignations/Terminations/Separations

1. Sue Carolan – SIS – Technology Assistant – Resignation Effective 01/18/07
2. Lynne Forbes, Assistant Principal Secretary – SHS – Resignation Effective 01/10/07
3. Marjorie Fry, Custodian – Sopori – Resignation Effective 12/14/06
4. Luis Lopez, Mechanic – Transportation – Resignation Effective 01/09/07
5. Vicki Lundberg, Inclusion Health Assistant – SUSD ECC – Resignation Effective 01/03/07
6. Ronald Nickerson, Sub School Bus Driver – Transportation – Verbal Resignation Effective 12/15/06
7. Robert Tabaj, Maintenance Technician – Facilities – Involuntary Resignation Effective 01/10/07
8. Katherine Wallace, Instructional Aide – Sopori – Resignation Effective 12/15/06
9. Jay C. St. John, Superintendent – Admin. Office – Retirement Effective 03/31/07

C. Volunteers

1. Eloise Allen – SPS – Effective 01/10/07
2. Nicole Harper – SPS – Effective 01/10/07
3. Ruth Benson – SPS – Effective 01/10/07
4. Peggy Bradshaw – SPS – Effective 01/10/07
5. Camp Phyllis – SPS – Effective 01/10/07
6. Irene Craine – Anza Trail – Effective 01/10/07
7. Timothy Allen Cruz Garcia – SHS – Effective 01/10/07
8. Diane Culton – SPS or Anza Trail – Effective 01/10/07
9. Joanne M. Destefano – Sopori – Effective 01/10/07

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10. Gilbert A. Filko – SIS – Effective 01/10/07
11. Martha (Marti) Hash – SPS – Effective 01/10/07
12. Gladys D. Haxton – SIS – Effective 01/10/07
13. James B. Haxton – SIS – Effective 01/10/07
14. Nancy Kay – SIS – Effective 01/10/07
15. Mary Ellen G. Penessa – Anza Trail – Effective 01/10/07
16. Jean Richon – Sopori – Effective 01/10/07
17. Stacey Roberts – SIS – Effective 01/10/07

18. Virginia A. Siebers – SPS – Effective 01/10/07
19. James P. Stogsdill – SHS – Effective 01/10/07
20. Georgette Valle – SPS – Effective 01/10/07
21. Mary Anna Welch – Anza Trail – Effective 01/10/07

D. Gifts & Donations

1. Country Fair White Elephant, Inc. - \$20,000.00– Sopori
2. Country Fair White Elephant, Inc. - \$20,000.00 – Anza Trail
3. Country Fair White Elephant, Inc. - \$2,000.00 – SUSD
4. Country Fair White Elephant, Inc. - \$15,000.00 – SPS
5. Country Fair White Elephant, Inc. - \$24,000.00 – SIS
6. Country Fair White Elephant, Inc. - \$40,000.00 – SHS
7. Country Fair White Elephant, Inc. - \$2,000.00 – SUSD CIMT
8. Mr. William Bentley – Computer valued at \$850.00 – SHS Technology Department
9. Raytheon Hispanic Employees Association – \$2,500.00 – Scholarship 2006
10. Raytheon Hispanic Employees Association - \$225.00 – SIS
11. Green Valley Rotary Foundation - \$1,000.00 – Sopori “Coping Skills 4 Kids” Project
12. Greater Green Valley Council - \$500.00 – SIS Funhouse Movement Theater

E. Staff Overnight/Out Of State Travel

1. George Emerson and Dallas Rawson – Myrtle Beach, SC – Training/Professional Development – March 2007
2. SHS Administration – Las Vegas, NV – National Principals Conference – February 2007
3. Stephanie Silman – Las Vegas, NV – National Association of Secondary School Principals’ National Convention – February 2007

IX. Board Communication

Mr. McGee stated that the award that was received by the Board could not have been received had it not been for administrators and staff members. He thank everyone for their help

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Mrs. Lurkins stated that he was at Anza Trail school the 1st few days it opened and everyone was there helping out.

Mr. Murphy reiterated what was said by both Mr. McGee and Mr. Lurkins. Mrs. Desi Raulston was in the newspaper this morning.

X. Establish Next Board Meeting – January 24, 2007, District Auditorium

XI. Executive Session

1. Mr. Lurkins moved the Board enter executive session pursuant to §A.R.S. 15-843 to hear the possible appeal of the decision of the hearing officer in a long-term suspension hearing – Discussion and possible action – The time was 7:47pm. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye. The Board returned to regular session at 8:14pm and adjourned the meeting.

XII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm. Mr. Lurkins made the motion and was seconded by Mrs. Hall. The motion carried.

Respectfully,

Clerk of the Board