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*Office of the Superintendent*

## MINUTES

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

#### REGULAR GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

FEBRUARY 23, 2011 – 6:30 P.M. DISTRICT AUDITORIUM, POD B  
350 W. SAHUARITA ROAD – SAHUARITA, AZ 85629

#### I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

President Tom Murphy called the meeting to order at 6:32 P.M. Also in attendance was Board Clerk, Kris Ham, Members Elaine Hall, Diana Kellermeyer, and David Eves; Business Manager, Charlotte Gates; Superintendent Dr. Manuel Valenzuela, and Assistant Superintendent Scott Downs. There were 40 guests. The Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

#### II. Approval of Agenda

The superintendent recommended approval of the agenda as it was revised. Mrs. Ham made the motion and was seconded by Mrs. Hall. The motion carried.

#### III. Approval of Minutes – January 26, 2011 & February 9, 2011

The superintendent recommended approval of the January 26, 2011 & February 9, 2011 minutes as posted. Mrs. Ham made the motion and was seconded by Mrs. Hall. The motion carried.

#### IV. Approval and Ratification of Vouchers

Mrs. Gates recommended ratification of previously approved payroll Vouchers 16 in the amount totaling \$930,907.60, new payroll #20 for the period ending April 1, 2011, in the amount not to exceed \$2,000,000 and new payroll #21 for the period ending April 15, 2011, in the amount not to exceed \$2,000,000. She further recommended approval of expense vouchers 1045 through 1047 in the amount of \$630,353.77. The motion was made by Mrs. Ham and seconded by Mrs. Ham. The motion carried.

#### V. Call to the Public

**Sean Hamm – Parent of a SHS Student** – I have a daughter that attends Sahuarita High School and is a senior. She has been on the tennis team for 3 years. Last year during one of the tennis practices, fly balls were flying into the tennis court from the baseball field right next to the tennis court. The ball flew in and hit my daughter in the head and knocked her out. They took her to the locker room, put a bag of ice on her head, and called home. I picked her up, took her to the emergency room where they put three stitches in her head. Apparently, she had a minor concussion but did not perform an MRI. I have been to some of

the tennis games last year and they seem to coincide with baseball practice or games. On regular bases, hard balls are coming from home field into the tennis court and kids are dodging them all the time. Today, just before I left for the Board meeting, my daughter called me and said that at least 10 balls came into the court today and they were dodging them again. My daughter only got a concussion the last time; it's only a matter of time before somebody gets seriously injured. We were told last year, that they already have a net and it's just a matter of putting it up. It has been a whole year and absolutely nothing has been done. When I called originally, my idea was that someone would say, "You are absolutely right, we have a real problem here, let's get it fixed right away." So far, all that's been done is people are looking into it and seeing what they can do. They were supposed to have spotters during baseball practice. They had a scrimmage today and as the balls were flying in, there were spotters there, but could not catch all the balls coming in. One literally missed my daughter by inches and was only knocked out last time. It is just a matter of time before someone really gets hurt and I think something needs to be done right away.

## **VI. Recognition of Staff, Students and Community**

**A. February "Leaders in Character" Honorees** – Jonathan Sunich, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, Sopori; Claire McCarthy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade, Anza Trail; Ian Thompson, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade, SPS; Arizelma Celaya, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade, SIS; Sebastain Walker, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade, SMS; Ryan Schmidt, 11<sup>th</sup> Grade, SHS.

Dr. Valenzuela introduced the following February "Leaders in Character" Honorees – Jonathan Sunich, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, Sopori; Claire McCarthy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade, Anza Trail; Ian Thompson, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade, SPS; Arizelma Celaya, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade, SIS; Sebastain Walker, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade, SMS; Ryan Schmidt, 11<sup>th</sup> Grade, SHS. The Governing Board recognized the above students for their excellent display of leadership and service among their peers at each of their perspective schools. Each student received a framed certificate and a gift certificate to Borders thanks to the sponsors of Freeport McMoRan. Dr. Valenzuela thanked Freeport McMoRan for sponsoring the program.

## **B. Support Staff of the Month – Name to be Announced**

Mr. Downs presented the Support Staff of the Month. He stated that it was his pleasure to announce that Mr. Chris Mendoza as the Support Staff Employee of the Month for February 2011. Chris is currently the Operations Supervisor for the District and is a dedicated, loyal employee who has been with our organization for approximately 6 years.

Charlotte Gates, Mr. Mendoza's supervisor, describes him as an employee who takes great pride in his job and works well with everyone. He has a pleasant personality and is always willing to help in any way he can.

Chris has made a huge difference in the organization and efficiency at the warehouse since becoming the Operations Supervisor. Deliveries are made in a timely fashion and utilization of the warehouse has increased immensely. Chris has helped the District in saving money by constantly checking prices for the items in the warehouse. He was also instrumental in finding a fuel program to help keep track of our fuel usage.

While Chris is very busy as a full time employee of the Sahuarita Unified School District, he continues to further his education in school business by taking classes and attending workshops. Chris is a team player and an asset to our District.

Chris Mendoza exemplifies the highest level of the SUSD core values and standards of excellence. It is a pleasure to join with the entire Business Department team to recognize Mr. Chris Mendoza as the February Support Staff Employee of the Month.

**VII. New Business**

**A. Instruction – Discussion and Possible Action**

1. Approval of Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) - Demolition of the SMS Gym.

Dr. Valenzuela stated that we are in the midst of exciting initiatives to build, improve, and enhance the quality of our facilities. We have a gym at Sahuarita Middle School that for multiple years has had some maintenance concerns and came to the point where we determined that it was best to demolish the structure and build a new one, which we are initiating with the generosity of our local community through the passage of bonds. Dr. Valenzuela presented the Board with a Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) for the completion of the demolition of the SMS Gymnasium. The total cost for the project is \$190,650 and it is scheduled to be complete in the next 2 – 3 weeks. This will be the first phase of rebuilding a new gymnasium at the middle school. We are very excited to be taking these steps and coming through on the promises we made to the community about these projects and continuing to build high quality first class facilities for our students and community. Dr. Valenzuela recommended approval of the Guaranteed Maximum Price as presented. The motion to approve the Maximum Price (GMP) for the demolition of the SMS Gym was made by Mr. Eves and seconded by Mrs. Kellermeyer. The motion carried.

**B. Business – Discussion and Possible Action**

1. Open Enrollment Policy JFB – R and JFB – E Update

Dr. Valenzuela shared that for many years the District has had an open enrollment policy which allows, based on the availability of space and some criteria, for students to transfer and enroll in our schools even if they live outside of the Sahuarita School District attendance area or in some cases to transfer within. These updates are change in forms and regulations in logistics that really put the policy more in line with what has been our practice. For example, the timeline has been proposed to change so that families receive a more timely response to their request for renewal. Dr. Valenzuela explained the open enrollment process in detail. Dr. Valenzuela recommended approval of the Open Enrollment Policy JFB – R and JFB – E as it was presented. A motion to approve the Open Enrollment Policy JFB – R and JFB – E as it was presented was made by Mrs. Kellermeyer and seconded by Mrs. Hall. The motion carried.

**C. Governing Board – Discussion and Possible Action – None**

**D. Personnel – Discussion and Possible Action**

1. Permanent Appointment of Sahuarita High School Principal

Dr. Valenzuela stated the for the approximately the last five months Mr. Kent Thompson has served in the role of first Acting Principal, then in the role of Interim Principal. However, he has been in the District for several years. He has been a history and government teacher; he has taken on multiple leadership roles including sponsorship of the England Exchange Program, chair of the social studies department, and most

recently served on the coordination committee for the PowerSchool student information system implementation. Mr. Thompson previously worked in the private sector in the area of computer services so he has a strong technology background. Since 2009-2010 he served as Sahuarita High School as an Assistant Principal. At this time, Dr. Valenzuela believes that it is in the best interest of the stability and the long term continuity and overall effectiveness of the school to recommend permanent appointment. After having the chance to, not only work with Kent over the past several years, but also observe his leadership over the past several months. It has been Dr. Valenzuela's observation that he's exhibited very strong leadership of the school organization, with a solid ability to evaluate programs, reinforcement in further development of school norms and school culture, and he is an excellent communicator with strong interpersonal leadership skills. Dr. Valenzuela stated that he is confident in Mr. Thompson's ability to lead Sahuarita High School into the future and is proud to recommend Mr. Kent Thompson to be appointed as the Principal of Sahuarita High School. Dr. Valenzuela noted that he is absent this evening as he is attending a conference for high school principals out of state. A motion to permanently appoint Mr. Kent Thompson as Principal of Sahuarita High School was made by Mrs. Ham and seconded by Mr. Eves. The motion carried.

Mr. Murphy stated that he watched him in action as part of the PowerSchool committee and was very impressed as he traveled around to the different school districts. A few years ago, Mr. Thompson was selected by the students to give the commencement speech, which Mr. Murphy felt showed a lot of support from the school community.

#### **VIII. Superintendent/Administrative Reports**

Dr. Valenzuela presented a summary of enrollments by school. He stated that enrollment is just shy of 5,200 students. Dr. Valenzuela stated that he would like to provide a representation at every Board meeting regarding student enrollment by school and overall so that we can track trends.

Dr. Valenzuela shared the overview of the use of our District website. The feedback that Dr. Valenzuela has received about the redesign of the website, in terms of functionality, aesthetics, and ease of use has been very favorable. Mr. Boone shared informative data regarding the usage of technology and specifically of the District website.

Dr. Valenzuela shared that recently our schools participated in the National History Day. Kathy Shiba mentioned to Dr. Valenzuela that out of 12 qualifying categories Sahuarita students qualified for the State competition in 9. In addition, Dr. Valenzuela also reported that we completed the initial phase of the staff development for the recently adopted Writing Up A Storm Language Arts and Writing program which will continue to be phased through the spring and into the summer. Dr. Valenzuela expressed gratitude to Kevin Harcourt and Desi Raulston for the Leadership with that initiative. Furthermore, Dr. Valenzuela thanked Mr. Harcourt for his leadership with the Rodeo Wrestling Tournament as our Sahuarita students did very well.

Dr. Valenzuela shared that we are still waiting for a response from the School Facilities Board (SFB). He shared that he has every confidence in the world that the team that represents this District, Mr. Downs, CORE Construction, George Emerson, Daryl Rawson and all the people involved in complying with the SFB are above reproach in terms of their attention to detail and communication.

At the last Board meeting, the Board approved a meaningful study that is being done on National level by some professors at the U of A. The Board requested additional information at the last Board meeting and Drs. Bauman and Card from the U of A provided the Board a handout which will be made available to all students. The handouts includes information regarding being cyber safe, strategies for being safe online, and how to use this wonderful resource that our young generation has available to them in a safe and responsible way.

In March of every year, the District initiated a annual Quality Focused Survey which is designed to get feedback from our stakeholders who we are here to serve about how we are doing in areas of core values, safety, loyalty, achievement, and excellence. Dr. Valenzuela shared that this year we are going to try to conduct this survey paperless. Our office staff spent a significant amount of time tabulating that and we believe we have the tools to move to a paperless online based system this March.

Dr. Valenzuela shared that next Wednesday, March 2, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. the District will host a dedication ribbon cutting ceremony of our new Sahuarita athletic complex prior to the first home track and field meet. He extended an invitation to those who are available to attend.

## **IX. Consent Agenda – Discussion and Possible Action**

The superintendent recommended approval of the items on the consent agenda as it was presented. A motion to approve the consent agenda as it was presented was made by Mrs. Kellermeier and seconded by Mrs. Hall. The motion carried.

### **A. Employment / Change of Status / Transfers**

1. Georgina Ahumada, Inclusion Health Assistant, SPS, Replacement – Effective 02/10/11
2. Jennifer A. Bruers, Inclusion Health Assistant, ECC, Replacement – Effective 02/14/11
3. Tanya D. Campbell, Secretary-Asst. Principal, SHS, Replacement – Effective 02/17/11
4. Kathryn A. Cirando, Campus Monitor, SPS, Replacement – Effective 02/10/11
5. Hayley Fox, Substitute Teacher, District Wide, New Hire – Effective 02/08/11
6. Kathleen E. Kennedy, Inclusion Health Assistant, ECC, Replacement – Effective 02/10/11
7. Bernardo Corrales, Herbicide Application Technician, Facilities, Status Change – Effective 02/07/11
8. Jacquelyn Law, EOY Teacher, ATS, Status Change – Effective 02/07/11
9. Leigh Lundberg, Bus Driver, Trans, Status Change – Effective 02/14/11
10. Christina S. Martin Del Campo, Secretary-High School, SHS, Status Change – Effective 02/10/11
11. Natalia Miller, Classroom Lead, ECC, Status Change – Effective 02/09/11
12. Gonzalo Nava-Valencia, Custodian-Night, Facilities, Status Change – Effective 02/07/11
13. Lillian H. Vance, EOY Teacher, ATS Status Change – Effective 02/07/11

### **B. Resignations / Terminations / Separations**

1. Larry A. DeVaughn, Substitute Teacher, District Wide, Resignation – Effective 02/09/11
2. Vandana Gaur, Classroom Lead, ECC, Resignation – Effective 02/04/11
3. Susan Morris, Substitute Teacher, District Wide, Resignation – Effective 02/07/11
4. Guadalupe Sanchez, Inclusion Health Assistant, SPS, Resignation – Effective 02/14/11
5. Yvonne Scott, Campus Monitor, ATS, Resignation – Effective 02/11/11
6. Jose Luis Castro, Bus Driver Trainee, Trans, Termination – Effective 01/28/11

7. Shilo Salacup, Substitute Teacher, District Wide, Termination – Effective 02/23/11
8. Leann Baggett, Teacher, SPS, Separation – Effective 03/11/11

**C. Addendums**

1. Melanie Goodenow, Success After School Teacher, SPS – Effective 01/25/11 thru 03/03/11
2. Krystal Lewis, Success After School Teacher, SPS – Effective 01/25/11 thru 03/03/11
3. Erica Meyers, Success After School Teacher, SPS – Effective 01/25/11 thru 03/03/11
4. Alycia Ruiz-Numkena, Success After School Teacher, SPS – Effective 01/25/11 thru 03/03/11
5. Gabrielle Saint-Paul, Success After School Program Coordinator, SPS – Effective 01/25/11 thru 03/03/11
6. Scott Smith, Freshman Class Sponsor (.5), SHS – Effective 2010-2011 School Year

**D. Request for Leave of Absence**

1. Denise P. Mills, Campus Monitor, ATS – Effective 02/18/11 thru 05/20/11

**E. Volunteers - None**

**F. Use of School Facilities**

1. The Sahuarita Lady Panthers has requested the use of the SIS Gym for four Basketball Clinics in March for Sahuarita Students, all on Saturdays, March 5, 12, 19, and 26<sup>th</sup> from 8:00a.m. to 4:00 p.m. All proceeds are to benefit the Sahuarita Lady Panthers, a non-profit girls Basketball team made up of Sahuarita High School Students.
2. Green Valley Concert Band has requested the use of the Main Auditorium for their Rehearsal on Saturday, March 19, 2011 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
3. The Good News Club has requested the use of the Anza Trail Library for their classes on Wednesdays (early out dates) March 9, 30, April 20, 27 and May 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. Then on Regular Release Wednesdays starting March 2, 23 and April 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> from 2:30 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.

**G. Out of State Travel/Student Travel**

1. Lynn Thomas and Anza Trail Language Arts & Social Studies class to participate in the National History Day Competition on April 28 - 29, 2011
2. Gloria Williams, Michelle Castro, Xeomara Fierro to attend the NCFL Conference in Louisville, Kentucky on April 1- 5, 2011.
3. FCCLA to attend the FCCLA Spring Leadership Conference and Competition on April 25- 27, 2011 in Glendale AZ.
4. SHS Music Band/Choir/Orchestra to attend the All-State Band/Choir/Orchestra in Tempe AZ in April 2011.

**H. Approval of Student Activity and Auxiliary Accounts Revenue and Expenditure Reports – None**

**I. Approval for Ratification of SFB Terms and Condition**

**J. Sole Source Approval – Onion Mountain Technology, Inc.**

## **X. Board Communication**

Mrs. Hall shared that she participated in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade SIS field trip to Old Tucson. She had the opportunity to ride in the new hybrid bus. The students were well behaved and had a good time. Mrs. Hall was impressed with the etiquette on the bus. She stated that her experience was very delightful and enjoyed it.

Mr. Murphy stated that these are the type of events would probably be lacking or missing for the students if it was not the White Elephant. He shared that he was able to participate in Love of Reading Week which was very interesting and a great effort by the District to promote reading and the foundation of reading early on is so important. Mr. Murphy stated that he heard that we had a great attendance for the regional band. This community has always supported the arts, music specifically and asked to please pass on our congratulations to the high school.

Mrs. Kellermeyer added that the middle school students also participated in the regional band at Flowing Wells High School this past weekend and was very impressive.

Mr. Murphy stated that music has always been such a strong program for our District. He asked Phil of the Green Valley News to please pass on our condolences to his staff as he recently read in the paper that Mario, one of the photographers recently passed.

## **XI. Establish Next Board Meeting March 9, 2011 – 6:30 P.M. – District Auditorium – Only One Board Meeting in March**

## **XII. Executive Session – Discussion and Possible Action - None**

## **XIII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m. Mrs. Hall made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Eves. The motion carried.

Respectfully,



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Clerk of the Board