



# 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

## *Office of the Superintendent*

### **Regular Governing Board Meeting Minutes**

**6:30 p.m. November 8, 2006**

**District Auditorium, 350 W. Sahuarita Rd., Sahuarita, AZ 85629**

**Board Member Tour of Anza Trail – 5:00pm – Anza Trail Site**

#### **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, Diana Kellermeyer, Martin McGee, Superintendent Dr. Jay C. St. John, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Manny Valenzuela and Director of Business Services Charlotte Gates. There were 72 guests. The Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

#### **II. Approval of Agenda**

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

#### **III. Approval of Minutes**

Dr. St. John recommended approval of the minutes from the September 27, 2006 and October 25, 2006 regular Governing Board meeting as distributed. Mrs. Kellermeyer made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Murphy. The motion carried.

#### **IV. Approval and Ratification of Vouchers**

Mrs. Gates recommended ratification of previously approved payroll voucher 8 in the amount of \$725,884.94. She further recommended approval of expense voucher 7526 thru 7529 in a total amount of \$1,165,424.38. Mr. Murphy made the motion and was seconded by Mrs. Kellermeyer. The motion carried.

#### **v. Call to the Public**

Mr. Phillip Moreno, District Patron and parent of several students in the district addressed the Board. He thanked everyone for the opportunity to try and make a difference in the community with the Keep Kids First Campaign. Unfortunately, his efforts fell short. The override election failed. As a result, the Board will have

to make some difficult decisions in the near future. One of the more difficult decisions would be whether to pursue another override or not. He encouraged the Board to act soon if that is the direction they are going to choose. This will give enough time to build a strong campaign organization before the election cycle begins. There were a number of folks in the community that tried to make a difference. He again thanked everyone for the opportunity. He also thanked the Board for all they do for the children of the district.

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

**“Friends of Sahuarita” Honoree: Mrs. Kris Ham**

Dr. St. John introduced Mrs. Kris Ham. Mrs. Ham was recognized for her community service to the District, as evident by her recent testimony before the Joint Legislative Budget Committee in Phoenix.

**Mrs. Julie Hall**

Mr. Scott Downs and the Board recognized Mrs. Julie Hall for commitment to the School District. Mr. Downs had this to say about her:  
“From the first day of school, Julie was asking what activities the school needed help with. Since then, she has been on campus everyday. She is here bright and early every morning at 7 am directing traffic in the parking lot and on the front curb. She volunteers in our library and was the co-chair for our “School Book Fair”, which sold over \$14,000 in books. Her bright smile and enthusiasm is appreciated. Many other parents have seen her inspiration to make our school an even more friendly and warm place, that they have followed her foot steps and are volunteering as well. Sahuarita Primary School appreciates Mrs. Hall for everything she does for us! Her warmth and caring personality inspires us each and every day! Thank you Julie for everything you do!”

**Mrs. Kathy Shiba**

Mrs. Shiba was recognized for her exemplary service in support of the district-testifying before the Joint Legislative Budget Committee

**VII. New Business**

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

1. High School Presentation on 4A Conference Placement

Dr. St. John introduced Larry McKee, Larry Cleveland and Chris Fanning.

Mr. Cleveland stated that he has seen the school grow by leaps and bounds throughout the year. Due to this growth, Sahuarita will be classified at 4A. There will be a transition into 4A.

Mr. Fanning stated that he is very excited about the move to 4A. He believes the coaches and student athletes are excited about the opportunity. It will be a nice change as far as traveling distance for the district. Every school that has over 1200 students was lumped into 4A and 5A. They then cut it in half which made 62 4A and 62 5A. The 4A was then cut into a 4A division I and a 4A division II based on the school's enrollment. Sahuarita was placed in the 4A division II. There are 31 schools that will be in the 4A II conference. Next year the district will play the following schools in division 4A II: Amphitheater, Catalina, Douglas, Palo Verde, Rio Rico, and Santa Rita. The schools in the 4A I division are Cienega, Desert View, Flowing Wells, Nogales, Sabino, Sahuaro, Canyon Del Oro, Catalina foothills, Cholla, Marana, & Pueblo. Most of the non-conference games that will be scheduled will be with these schools. Travel will be cut drastically.

Sports that are offered at the 4A level include: Football, Volleyball, Cross Country, Boys Golf, Girls Golf, Swimming and Diving, Boys and Girls Basketball, Wrestling, Boys and Girls Soccer, Baseball, Softball, Boys and Girls Track, Boys and Girls Tennis, & Boys Volleyball. The sports that the district currently does not have are: Boys Golf (spring to fall), Girls Golf, Swimming & Diving, Boys JV Soccer, Girls JV Soccer, JV Wrestling, 9<sup>th</sup> grade Softball and Boys Volley Ball. Fifteen of the eighteen schools offer all sports. In order to offer every sport on every level, new sports will have to be added. Administrators are currently attending the 4A meetings to gain more knowledge regarding this conference.

Mr. McKee stated that they would like to return in the future with a cost estimate for coaches, uniforms, equipment, etc... for the new sports that they would like to have added.

Dr. St. John asked Mr. Fanning to confirm whether all these sports were mandatory. Mr. Fanning stated that none of the sports are mandatory. He did state that it does make scheduling easier and does feel that the interest is there at the school.

Dr. St. John asked if any of the traditional rivals will be included. Mr. Fanning stated that 4A and 5A have what is called a power point system. Scheduling games with 3A teams does not help the power point system. In order to qualify for the playoffs, the school has to play teams that will give it power points.

Dr. St. John asked Mr. McKee to include gym and field space in their cost estimate when they return to the Board.

2. Arizona Youth Partnership: Request to offer Teen Pregnancy Prevention/Abstinence Program

Dr. Valenzuela stated that young people, as they grow up, face many challenges in terms of developing healthy relationships, managing peer pressure and making wise choices in their lives. He has been in communication with The Arizona Youth Partnership which provides programs such as an abstinence based educational program. They have been in dialogue with the middle and are offering it to 8<sup>th</sup> grades.

Dr. Valenzuela introduced Patricia Merrill and Lori Malangone from the Arizona Youth Partnership. The program's purpose is to cultivate youth and adult community leaders, organize and facilitate your and adult coalitions, mobilizing resources, building networks, promoting positive roles for youth, increasing resiliency and protective factors, increasing community involvement and interdependence and involving communities in planning. The teen pregnancy prevention program involves speaking to the students about healthy relations, STDs, how to say no, assertiveness training.

The students are required to have signed permission from the parents before they participated in the class. This mandated by the grant that Arizona Youth Partnership receives.

Dr. Valenzuela recommended approval of the program. Mr. McGee made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Murphy. Discussion followed: Mrs. Kellermeyer asked when the program would be offered. Mrs. Noe stated that it would be offered to the 8<sup>th</sup> graders on the middle school campus during Social Studies classes. Mrs. Kellermeyer stated that while she has no objections to the program, she has heard from other parents throughout Tucson who have had significant objects to it being offered in their school. She would like make sure that this school district does everything it needs to to make the public aware that it is going to be happening and that it is optional. Ms. Merrill stated that a parent meeting is held before the program is implemented. Mrs. Kellermeyer asked what would happen to the students who elect not to participate during Social Studies class. Mrs. Noe stated that there will be an alternate assignment. The program is a week long. Mrs. Kellermeyer asked what the cost would be if the program was implemented. Ms. Merrill stated that there is no cost to the district. The motion carried.

## **B. Governing Board – Discussion and Possible Action**

### **1. Approval of 2007 Board Meeting Schedule**

Dr. St. John recommended approval of the 2007 Governing Board Meetings schedule. Mr. Murphy made the motion and was seconded by Mr. McGee. The motion carried.

### **2. Possible JTED Board Member**

Dr. St. John was pleased to announce that the voters of the district approved the participation in a Joint Technology Education District. The Board needs to appoint a person to serve on the Board of the JTED. At the last meeting, Dr. St. John presented an application and stated some steps that have been suggested to follow. The Board needs to give Dr. St. John names so that he can contact them or the Board may contact that person themselves if they would like too. There is already an Advisory Board for the CTE program at the high school. The Board is made up of individuals from the local business and industries; this may be a place to start. The individual can be an employee of the district but cannot be a Board member. Dr. St. John suggested that there are several past Governing Board members that may be interested in serving on the JTED Board.

### VIII. Superintendent/Administrative Reports

**Dr. St. John** attended the CTE Advisory Board meeting last week. They discussed the Joint Technological Education District and where they are going as a community.

He attended and participated in the Country Fair White Elephant Parade. He was pleased to see that several groups including the marching band and cheerleaders from both the high school and middle school participated. The district needs to continue to do whatever it can to support that organization.

He attended the ASA Superintendent's Conference in Prescott last weekend.

He had a meeting with Mr. Joe Rieman, who is on special assignment from Larry at the high school to do some fundraising in the area of athletics including starting leagues etc... There are some capital needs which include scoreboards for the new gym at Anza and Sopori and some other things.

A Foundation Board meeting was held on November 1<sup>st</sup>. The Foundation continues to be a viable source for income support for the district. The \$2500.00 that was received from Wells Fargo will be given to SUSD students in the form of scholarships.

He attended the Metropolitan Tucson Chamber of Commerce State of Education Luncheon. Dr. Peter Likens, passed president of the University of Arizona spoke to a large group. He wanted those in attendance who support education are the same who support the Arizona Tax Payers group. This is sending a mix message in Dr. Likens opinion.

The architectural firm, EMC2, and Dr. St. John held a community partners meeting with representatives from businesses and the Town. The discussion held was in regards to the new high school.

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Dr. Valenzuela and Dr. St. John organized a Music Boosters Club meeting which went very well. They will continue to support the music programs throughout the district.

Dr. St. John made a presentation to the Tucson City Council from the Metropolitan Education Commission of which he is chairperson. They will be offering a college access counseling office through the MEC office to organize college access network throughout Pima County.

Dr. Valenzuela and a group that he is working with have put together a volunteer literacy tutor handbook.

A letter was written to Mr. Charles Huckleberry, Administrator of Pima County, asking him to fund the additional \$19,000.00 that is needed to add a movable wall to the community center in Amado. He respectfully declined to fund the additional amount.

The Board received a communication from the president of the Sahuarita Education Association asking a similar question to the one that is being asked by the Tucson Education Association and TUSD. What happen to the raise that the Governor gave that should be above the raise that TUSD gave. Mrs. Gates and Dr. St. John will respond to Mr. Goldberg. He appreciates the question.

The district is having a very difficult time contacting the Marikay home development which is right next to Anza Trial School. There are some concerns regarding drainage situations.

Unfortunately, the Capital Outlay Override did not pass. Dr. St. John stated that he will take responsibility for not communicating the importance of this override to the community. He did not have a recommendation for the Governing Board. Mrs. Gates and Dr. St. John need to take a look at what the district has in terms of Capital Outlay funds that is not committed and then present the Board with some hard decisions. Dr. Valenzuela and Mr. Downs are looking at new Science textbooks. There is a traditional six year rotation on textbooks, but this year's adoption may not take place this year. "The problem remains, we cannot continue to meet the needs of the unprecedented growth that is coming into our district now when the capital budget by the State of Arizona is 18 months behind, and we just can't do it anymore". Decisions will have to be made such as the new class rooms that are being built to replace the portables will not have new furniture. The funds are not available. If the roofs are leaking and new desks are needed, the roof will have to fixed and new desks will not be purchased.

Dr. St. John thanked Phillip Moreno and everyone else who put in a great deal of effort to get the message out to the community.

**Ms. Maribel Lopez** stated that the PTO is beginning a student t-shirt sale for a fundraiser.

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Sopori is collecting plastic bags for Wall-Mart. Sopori will receive funds for the plastic bags they recycle.

The Sopori Feast is on November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:45 – 12:15, invitations are on their way.

Auditions begin on November 22<sup>nd</sup> for Spoor's musical for 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students. The musical this year will be Broadway Santa.

Sopori is having a food drive for the Amado Food Bank and will end on November 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Mr. Scott Downs** stated that yesterday was picture retakes.

Tomorrow is movie night and they will be showing Curious George. The get together is only to enjoy each others company.

With all the changes going on, he thanked Mrs. Tina Steward and feels absolutely comfortable leaving the primary school in her hands. He appreciates her leadership. He is looking forward to working with Ms. Carol Silica at SIS.

**Dr. Wayne Ross** thanked all the veterans for serving their country. This Friday school will not be in session in observance of Veteran's Day.

Picture retakes were held on Tuesday.

Today was the Bobcat Awards Ceremony where students were recognized for their attendance, academics and character. Over 200 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders were recognized for the work they have done in those areas.

Tomorrow completes the first Holiday Food Drive. The food will go to the Green Valley/Sahuarita Food Bank.

**Mrs. Kathy Shiba** stated that it is less then two months before the move to Anza Trail. Everything is going great. She thanked Phil for all his does publicly for the school district and thank you to Philip Moreno for his help with the Override Election.

**Mrs. Terri Noe** stated that things are busy as always at the middle school. They are preparing for their next Galileo test at the end of November.

Three groups attended the Country Fair White Elephant Parade and it went really well.

Sports are well under way.

Midterm progress reports are going out next week.

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The Green Valley Elks were on campus this week to award a prize to Kendal Hogback for winning the poster contest for the campaign against drugs.

Breakaway training began today. A group of students come together and discuss issues that they would like to solve on campus.

They are also having a food drive for the Amado Food Bank.

**Mr. Larry McKee** stated that construction has begun at the high school campus on the tennis courts and the new classroom addition.

AIMS testing is over. Over 70 students attempted to do the exceeds.

Homecoming was the best it has been in the last three years along with survivor and all the other activities.

Football made it to state; Volleyball is number 2 seed, Cross-country competed in State.

The band presented Mr. McKee with over 20 awards today.

**Mr. George Emerson** stated that they have filled the position of plumber this week.

The grounds department is finally fully staffed.

The vans and maintenance trucks that were ordered have arrived.

Last month the department completed approximately 300 work orders.

**Mr. Fred Huff** stated that everything is going well in transportation. He had three open routes. One driver was hired today and there are two in training.

They are beginning their school bus poster safety week. The winners will have their picture taken and they will also go out for pizza.

**Mrs. Charlotte Gates** and her administrative assistant will be attending a mandatory ADE meeting tomorrow. It is the district's turn to send an RFP for Food Service. She hopes to get the RFP's out in December.

She attended the ASSBO meeting where they discussed ARS. They are curious about the increase for next year. The spokesperson thought that there would be an increase but it should be minimal.

**Dr. Manny Valenzuela** stated that this morning at approximately 8:00am the fall AIMS high school tests were picked up. He was pleased to report that it was a successful test administration. The teachers prepared their students on a very



high level. He acknowledged Mr. Jack Lehmkuhl and his team for their role in administering that test.

Mrs. Shiba, Mrs. Noe and Dr. Valenzuela will accompany and support Mr. Kevin Harcourt, Sahuarita Middle School Language Arts and Drama Teacher. He will be formally recognized by the Arizona Education Foundation and the Department of Education as a top ten finalist for Arizona Teacher of the Year.

The district will be implementing a new district-wide recognition program on behalf of the Board for a support staff employee of the month. Administrators, staff members and community are all asked to be on the look out for team members who demonstrate the highest values of the district's mission and who make a difference and set a great example for everyone.

## IX. Consent Agenda

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

### A. Employment/Reassignments

1. Bennie Barfield, Jr., Assistant Girls Basketball Coach – SHS – Replacement – Ratification to 10/30/06
2. Francisco Chavarria, Groundskeeper – Facilities – Replacement – Ratification to 10/31/06
3. Danielle Frahm, Inclusion Health Assistant – SHS Project Inspire – Ratification to 10/23/06
4. Claude Poe, Plumber – Facilities – New Position – Ratification to 11/06/06
5. Roger Shuman, Bus Driver – Transportation – Status Change – Ratification to 10/17/06
6. Carol Lindley, Inclusion Health Assistant – SPS Project Inspire – Replacement – Ratification to 10/25/06
7. Mary Jo Boyter, Oasis Volunteer Site Coordinator – SPS – Revised Addendum – Ratification to 10/26/06
8. Cynthia Gettinger, Oasis Volunteer Site Coordinator – Sopori – Revised Addendum – Ratification to 10/26/06
9. Bryan Huie, Winter Weights After School – SHS – Added Addendum – Effective 11/1/06 thru 02/01/07
10. Cynthia Hummel-Lynch, Oasis Volunteer Site Coordinator – SPS – Addendum – Ratification to 10/26/06
11. Approval of Paid Extra Credit Hour Supplement: Will Ahrens, Kristin Brackey, Diedre Cummings, Samantha Finney, Eric Heesackeer, Brittany Hyatt, Susan Johnson, Cynthia Larkins, Penny Nichols-Hoffman, Alexandria Scott, Mary Swanson, Burton Tingle, Jana Turner, Alyssa Wall, Nancy Wilde

### B. Resignations/Terminations/Separations

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1. Sonia Guevara, Inclusion Health Assistant – SPS Project Inspire – Resignation Effective 11/08/06
2. Alma Lopez, CTE Instruction Aide – Culinary – SHS – Resignation Effective 10/23/06

**C. Volunteers**

1. Mary Bonita Barfield – SHS – Effective 11/08/06
2. Chase Delperdang – SHS – Effective 11/08/06
3. Patricia A. Larson – SPS – Effective 11/08/06
4. Melinda Mutch – Sopori – Effective 11/08/06

**D. Gifts & Donations**

1. KB Home - \$1500.00 – Sahuarita Primary School

**E. Student Fund Raisers**

1. SHS Drama Club – Santa-Grams, Sell candy canes with messages at lunch. Deliver them to students' homerooms. – Effective 12/11/06 thru 12/20/06
2. SHS Spanish Club – Carwash at Wal-mart – 11/10/06

**F. Student/Staff Out of State/Overnight Travel**

1. Jay C. St. John, Manuel Valenzuela, Kathy Shiba, Diana Kellermeyer NSBA National Conference, San Francisco– CA, April 14-17, 2007
2. SMS Cheerleading – Las Vegas, NV – National Cheer Competition – March 23-25, 2007.

**x. Board Communication**

**Mr. Tom Murphy** asked if there were some way the district find out what kind of impact not getting the funds from the capital outlay override will have on the transportation system.

He attended the awards assembly at SIS today and was please to see the high school cheerleaders cheering on the younger Bobcats. It's great to see them out. The coaches are doing a fantastic job.

The tour of Anza Trail tonight was great. He stated that Mr. Bill Woodward is doing a fantastic job of making sure the job is coming in within cost and has the highest quality products.

He shared information about an article in the Arizona Daily Star regarding an award that was present to Marco Ramirez from Pueblo Gardens Elementary School. The award was in the amount of\$25,000. He later found out that Dr. Manny Valenzuela won that same award in 1998. He commended Dr. Valenzuela for this; the district is made up of great individuals.

He thanked Mr. Philip Moreno for his efforts on the capital outlay override.

**Mrs. Diana Kellermeyer** commended Fred for his participation in the White Elephant Parade.

She thanked Mr. Phillip Moreno for all he did with the override campaign. She is happy that his relationship will continue with the district as a member of the Board of Directors for the SUSD Educational Enrichment Foundation.

**Mrs. Elaine Hall** seconded everything that was said about Mr. Moreno and the Sahuarita staff.

She commented on Apple Day at the primary school, it was a great time.

**Mr. Mike Lurkins** attended the freshman four year planning career program last night. The counselors did a wonderful job; he wished it would have been better attended.

He also thanked Mr. Moreno and stated that the district will do the best they can with what they have.

XI. **Establish Next Board Meeting** – December 6, 2006 (Only One Meeting)

XII. **Executive Session - None**

XIII. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm. Mr. McGee made the motion and was seconded by Mrs. Kellermeyer. The motion carried.

Respectfully,

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Clerk of the Board