



Sahuarita Unified School District No. 30

Sahuarita High School
Sahuarita Primary School

Sahuarita Middle School
Sahuarita Intermediate School

Sopori Elementary School

MINUTES

Regular Governing Board Meeting

**6:30 p.m. – January 28, 2004 – Sub Hall B - District Auditorium
350 W. Sahuarita Rd., Sahuarita, AZ 85629**

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

President Anthony Bruno called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Also present were Board members Michael Lurkins, Elaine Hall, Daniel Zobenica, Superintendent Dr. Jay C. St. John and Business Manager Charlotte Gates. Board member Martin McGee was absent. There were 33 guests. The Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

II. Approval of Agenda -

Dr. St. John recommended approval of the agenda with a change on the Consent Agenda Item A #3 – Substitute Teachers – Striking the name of Dorothy Boudreau from the list of Substitute Teachers. Mrs. Hall made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Lurkins. The motion carried.

III. Approval of Minutes – January 14, 2004

Dr. St. John recommended approval of the minutes for January 14, 2004 as distributed. Mr. Lurkins 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 Voucher 15 in the amount of \$415,680.42 and new payroll Voucher 16 for the pay period ending January 30, 2004 in the amount not to exceed \$500,000.00. She further recommended approval of expense vouchers 5030 and 5031 in a total amount of \$433,312.00. Mr. Lurkins made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Zobenica. The motion carried.

V. Call to the Public - None

VI. Recognition of Staff, Students and Community

Kathy Shiba, Middle School Principal, recognized the following staff member

John Flannery, auditorium manager, does an outstanding job in the auditorium. He is flexible and seems to know what we need even when we don't. John goes out of his way to make sure that every production looks professional and is outstanding. We can't imagine working in the auditorium without his expertise, caring, understanding, and enthusiasm! Thank you John!

Steve Kellermeyer, Acting Principal at the high school, recognized the following staff members

Debora Drake, special education department chair, has preformed yeoman's work preparing and maintaining a second teaching assignment while Sahuarita High School locates a new special education teacher. She has provided lesson plans, helped compile quarter and semester grades and will begin inservicing and mentoring our new faculty member. Thank you, Deb.

Joni Keating, the alternative to suspension as well as the in-school suspension teacher, has fit beautifully into the Sahuarita High School culture. She has developed a working relationship with staff and students alike. Joni has also volunteered to head the Sahuarita chapter of the National Honor Society for school year 2004 -2005. Thank you, Joni.

VII. New Business

A. Instruction – Information Only

1 2004-2005 Teaching Calendar

The 2004-2005 Teaching Calendar was presented to the Board as information only. The principals of each building have also received copies of the draft calendar to take to their buildings for feedback. Dr. St. John reminded everyone that with the passage of Prop 301, an additional instructional day each year needs to be added until it has moved from 175 teaching days to 180. The total number of teacher days is now at 179. The 179th teaching day was added by removing a vacation day, which would have been Good Friday. Historically, high school graduation has always been the Thursday before Memorial Day. If the vacation day is removed, graduation can continue on its traditional day and the structure of the calendar may stay the same. This is information only, the principals' will present the calendar in their building and after feedback has been received it will be brought back at the February 11 2004 meeting.

B. Business – Discussion and Possible Action

1. Awarding of RFP for the Auditorium HVAC

The bids were opened on January 13, 2004 for the Auditorium Mechanical Replacement of the HVAC. Responses were received from Pueblo Mechanical, R. E. Lee Mechanical and Mechanical Systems, Inc. After reviewing the bids it is Daryl Rawson's, Facilities Manager, recommendation to award the contract to Mechanical Systems. Dr. St. John also recommended the RFP for the auditorium mechanical replacement of the HVAC is awarded to Mechanical Systems, Inc. Mr. Zobenica made the motion and was seconded by Mrs. Hall. Discussion followed. Mr. Zobenica questioned if the controls that are going to be used for the HVAC will be utilized or tied into the lighting system. Dr. St. John responded that this would be a question for Daryl Rawson to answer. Daryl Rawson was not in attendance to answer the question. Dr. St. John stated that this system will be programmable and Daryl will be able to zone and run the temperature up and down from either work or home if it is needed during the weekend. The motion carried.

2. Revised agreements for the participation in the Medicaid Administrative Claiming and Direct Service Claiming Programs.

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Mrs. Gates stated that MAXIMUS won the state bid to manage the Medicaid and MIPS programs. These are routine renewal agreements stating that the district is going to participate in the programs with this company. Mr. Lurkins made the motion and was seconded by Mrs. Hall. The motion carried.

3. 1st – 5th Grade Swimming Program

Dr. St. John stated that historically in the Sahuarita Public Schools every 1st - 5th grader is taught how to swim, then in their 7th – 12th grade years there is a unit on swimming in the PE curriculum. With the growth that the district has been experiencing at the primary and intermediate school it is very difficult to provide time for each one of the grades to be involved in the swimming program. The affected principals have spoken with Dr. St. John about either eliminating the program or reducing it to selected grade levels.

Dr. St. John asked the Board for direction on what they would like to have done with the Swimming Program.

Mr. Bruno stated that he would like the program to continue. It has been a program for twenty years or more and the reaction today is a reaction based on growth. It is not a proactive reaction. He believes that there are solutions and different ways that will not impact the district as much to keep the program. He suggested an Intergovernmental Agreement with the County for Sopori Park, which would eliminate the bus runs every day and cut some of the time constraints. He believes this is a temporary fix, but it will open time up at the district for those classes. In speaking with Mr. Oldham, Principal of Sopori School, the individual who is teaching at Sopori is not a certified swim instructor and maybe a stipend and getting the individual certified before swimming begins would be a possibility. He feels there are plenty of pools that can be relied on to continue the program. He stated that he feared the loss of one life is too much and with the lake and canals in the community there is the possibility of that loss.

Mr. Lurkins stated that if it weren't for the program, his own daughter would not know how to swim. He understands that there are budget constraints and money is short, but you cannot put a cost on a child's life. He concurred with Mr. Bruno and believes the district should find a way to continue the program the best way they know how.

Mr. Zobenica questioned when the Sopori pool opens and if the pool is heated.

Dr. St. John stated that the pool is not heated and he believes that the district offered to put heaters in the pool in return for the ability to use it. He believes that there wasn't a big response on the part of the County.

If Barbara Lewis and Chris Sanders, P.E. Instructors, are used for the program, the district may have to hire substitutes to provide P.E. to the other students.

Mr. Zobenica asked if it would be possible to utilize the students at the high school who are certified lifeguards and aides, and if so can their schedules be meshed with the swimming schedule.

Mrs. Hall concurred with the other members of the Board on the program.

Dr. St. John stated that steps would be taken to continue the program. Nobody in the district wants to lose the program, but that fact that the district has grown 25 to 30% in the last 24 months puts a strain on the resources. No action was taken; the item will be brought back to the Board at a future meeting.

C. Governing Board – Discussion and Possible Action

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1. Revision of Policy GCG Part – Time and Substitute Professional Staff Employment

When the district employs a substitute teacher on a permanent basis to complete a school year they are placed on the beginning teachers salary after 20 consecutive days to compensate them for the fact that they are willing to work the rest of the year. Traditionally, that pay is retroactive to the first day of their substitute teaching assignment. This is not in policy and the policy needs to be change to reflect the practices. Dr. St. John recommended approval of the policy change. Mrs. Hall made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Lurkins. The motion carried.

VIII. Superintendent/Administrative Reports

Written reports from the administrators were distributed.

Dr. St. John – Mrs. Gates sent out the Transportation RFP's on January 27, 2004. The bids are due on February 18, 2004. A recommendation will be made on February 25, 2004.

The NJROTC program had its military inspection on Thursday, January 22, 2004. There was a 50% increase this year in the number of students who passed their military inspection.

The University of Arizona Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration presented The Winners of the Arizona Mining Heritage Photo Contest in a 2004 Calendar. Several of Sahuarita students where winners and have their photos in the calendar.

Dr. St. John presented the newsletter "Kachina" from the Arizona Educational Office Professionals Association to the Board. Board member Elaine Hall is the President of that association and included in the newsletters were articles written by her and Business Manager Charlotte Gates.

Reminder to the Board that there will be a special Board meeting on Monday at 8:30 am in the District Auditorium.

An Override informational meeting was held on Monday, January 19, 2004. The attendance was rather poor and the majority of people where school employees. The committee will reconvene later.

A Long Range Planning Committee met on Wednesday, January 21, 2004. There were young parents from Rancho Sahuarita with long time district residents from as far away as Arivaca. The district needs to continue to get all parties represented in these meetings. This committee will look at naming new schools, additional high school sites and other items regarding the future of the district. There were several questions regarding the override at this meeting. It appears that the Long Range Planning Committee has concerns about the override and the two committees may be blended and will meet off campus.

Dr. St. John has asked Chis Thomas, legal counsel of Arizona School Boards Association, to meet with the Board, the Administration, and committee members regarding the override effort in the district.

Steve Kellermeyer and Dr. St. John attended small schools initiative meeting. There are several school districts in Pima County who are exploring the possibility of

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applying for some funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Their major effort is to break up large high schools and keep schools small. Research shows that small schools appear to do a better job of educating children than some larger buildings.

Dr. St. John has been asked to serve on the Town of Sahuarita Capital Improvement Plan Committee. The committee looks at all the capital improvements that need to be made in the Town. He will attend a few meetings in the month of February.

Charles Oldham - The district spelling bee was held on January 28, 2004. The first place winner was Frank Ortiz and the runner up was Oliva Waskins. Frank also won first place when he was in the 4th grade.

IX. Consent Agenda - Action

The superintendent recommended approval of those items on the Consent Agenda as it was revised when the agenda was adopted. Mr. Zobenica made the motion and was seconded by Mrs. Hall. The motion carried.

A. Employment

- 1 Carol Freeman, Instructional Aide Title I – SPS – New Position – Ratification to 01/21/04
- 2 Linda Straightiff, Instructional Aide III – Project Inspire – Replacement – Ratification to 1/12/04
- 3 Substitute Teachers – Loyd Maskell, Rom Stitts, Lillian Vazquez, Kathleen A. Chute, Kimberly Molthan, Margie Shiffman, Renee Villiani, Dennis Allen and Dorothy Boudreau – Ratification to 01/26/04, Thomas Ouellette – Ratification to 01/22/04

B. Resignations/Terminations/Separations

- 1 Terry Dent, Maintenance – Retirement Effective June 4, 2004

C. Volunteers

- 1 Dan Keith – SHS – Effective 1-28-04
- 2 Deborah Keith – SHS – Effective 1-28-04
- 3 Linda Kaiser – SPS – Effective 1-28-04
- 4 Norman Neipris – SPS – Effective 1-28-04
- 5 Nathan McCain – SHS Speech and Debate Team Trip – Effective 1/28/04

D. Gifts & Donations

1. Mr. & Mrs. Jesus M. Camacho - \$450.00 – SHS Girls Basketball Program
2. Caterpillar Inc. - \$100.00 – SHS Class of 2005 for their Junior-Senior Prom
3. Day's Excavating, inc. - \$50.00 – SHS NJROTC Program
4. Bashas - \$25.00 – SHS Class of 2005 for their Junior-Senior Prom

E. Student Travel

- 1 SHS Speech & Debate Team – Flagstaff, AZ – Competition at Sinagua High School – January 30 to February 1, 2004.

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- 2 SMS Wrestling Team – Mesa, AZ – State Tournament at Dobson High School – January 30 – 31, 2004.

F. Facilities Use & Property Rental – Sahuarita Stingrays Swim Team – Use of District swimming pool for 2004-swim season including the dates of April 5-May 21 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. 2-3 days a week.

X. Board Communication

Mr. Zobenica attended the Massing of Colors. Mr. Leander, Commander of the Military Order of the World Wars pointed out how nice the Auditorium looked. Mr. Zobenica thanked that John Flannery, Daryl Rawson and Dr. St. John for doing a great job on the auditorium.

He also attended the Spelling Bee and stated that the words were rather rigorous. He congratulated all the students that participated and all the staff and parents who dedicated their time. He commended Mrs. Burch for her ability to control the audience squeaks and rumbles. To have that many children sit through the event and behave in a wonderful fashion is truly a credit to all administrators, staff and students.

XI. Establish Next Board Meeting – February 11, 2004, Sopori Elementary School

XII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:04 PM. Mrs. Hall made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Lurkins.

Respectfully,

Clerk of the Board