



## ***Sahuarita Unified School District No. 30***

*Sahuarita High School  
Sahuarita Intermediate School  
Sopori Elementary School*

*Sahuarita Middle School  
Sahuarita Primary School  
Anza Trail School*

### ***Office of the Superintendent***

REGULAR GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
6:30 P.M. – FEBRUARY 22, 2006 – SUSD 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 6:30PM. Also in attendance were Tom Murphy, Clerk of the Board, Board members Diana Kellermeyer, Martin McGee, Tom Murphy, Superintendent Dr. Jay C. St. John, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Manuel O. Valenzuela and Director of Business Charlotte Gates. There were 98 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 5-0.

#### **III. Approval of Minutes – February 8, 2006**

Dr. St. John recommended approval of the minutes from the February 8, 2006 regular Governing Board meeting. Mrs. Kellermeyer made the motion and was seconded by Mr. McGee. The motion carried 5-0.

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

Mrs. Gates recommended ratification of previously approved payroll Voucher 17 in the amount of \$603,499.18 and new payroll Voucher 18 for the pay period ending February 24, 2006 in the amount not to exceed \$800,000.00. She further recommended approval of expense voucher 7041 through 7043 for a total amount of \$414,632.60. Mr. McGee made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Murphy. The motion carried 5-0.

**v. Call to the Public**

Michael Gardner of Sahuarita Arizona spoke on behalf of several junior class students. He stated that at the beginning of the year his English teacher was out for an extended period of time on maternity leave, she is now due to return to the classroom. The class was given a substitute teacher and that substitute has done a fine job. The students have been notified that the original teacher will be back in the classroom next week. Their concern is that with this change at the end of the school they may lose some time in their learning. This is nothing against the regular teacher, but they would like to keep the consistency with their substitute teacher.

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

The High School Drill Team performed in the main auditorium for the Board. The members of the Drill Team are as follows: Kati Gibson, Keisha Evert, Kim Hoback, DeAnna Bard, Emily Tingle, Jessica Rogers, Jessica Moore, Shelby Wilson, Lisa Vera, Alexis Paulos, Cynthia Hurtado, Michelle Guzman, Verlene Encinas.

Emily Tingle performed on the Trombone and Malani Negrito performed on the Flute for the Board members. Ann Twarogal, Erica Medearis, Carlton Rueb and Curtis Brawdy, members of the band, were unable to attend the meeting.

The Board recognized the following volunteers from Sahuarita Intermediate School:

Ms. Charlie Wilson has volunteered in the SIS library for four years. She has faithfully come in once or twice a week to help Mrs. Steely, the librarian, with the endless tasks associated with processing and shelving hundreds of books. Charlie helped Mrs. Steely through the "Great Library Divide" between the Primary and Intermediate schools; she has spent hours organizing/updating the card catalog; she covers books, types new library circulation cards, prepares new books for the shelf, files card-catalog cards, and any other projects Mrs. Steely can devise to improve the library's service to kids and teachers at SIS. Thank you Charlie!!

Ms. Lola Epperson has volunteered in the SIS library for two years. She has faithfully come in twice a week to help in many ways...Lola helps: check books in, get new books ready for the shelf, files and pulls card catalog

cards, shelves books, works in the book fair, and any other projects which Mrs. Steely lines up for her. Thank you Lola!!

Dr. Valenzuela introduced the "Leaders in Character" award honorees: Edgar Garcia-Sopori, Rene Mills-SIS, Elizabeth Rangel-SPS, Kathryn Tingle-SMS, and Nicholas Wearne-SHS.

The Governing Board recognized them for their excellent display of leadership and service amongst their peers at each of their perspective schools.

## **VII. New Business**

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

#### **1. Approval of 2006-2007 Teaching Calendar**

The two calendars presented at the February 8, 2006 Board meeting have been shared with staff and the community. The community sharing was done through a voicemail account where parents could give their preference and additions/corrections. There was also an e-mail account in which parents were given the opportunity to respond in a similar manner. Staff responses and the responses from the community were tabulated. It appeared that calendar one was the preference. There were 50 votes for calendar 1, 32 votes for calendar 2 and 3 people created their own calendar or said they didn't like either one of them. Out of those 85 votes, 5 of them were from the community, the remaining were from staff members. Dr. St. John recommended approval of Calendar Option 1 based on the response from the staff and community. Mrs. Kellermeyer made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Murphy. The motion carried 5-0.

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

#### **1. Awarding of RFP 2006-4 – Architectural Services**

Bill Woodward, Charles Oldham, Jack Lehmkuhl, Daryl Rawson, and Dr. St. John interviewed five architectural firms based on the

response to the RFP. There were eight responses that were narrowed down to five with a paper screening. The committee recommended awarding the project to Orcutt Winslow Partnership, an architectural firm out of Phoenix. They are currently completing a

6-8 middle school for the Vail District. They are a large Phoenix based firm who are very well known in terms of school architecture. Mrs. Kellermeyer made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Murphy. The motion carried 5-0.

### **Items 2 and 3 were handled with one motion**

2. School District Governing Board Resolution to Call for a Joint Technology Election

Over the past few months, Dr. St. John reported on a Joint Technology District (JTED). In Arizona, most or all of the counties except Pima County has a JTED. What the law states is that school districts may band together and ask the voters to approve a JTED and that district would become a super school district in terms that it would be made up of 5-7 school districts in the area. They will form a separate district with a separate Governing Board for Career/Technical Education Programs. Pima County has never been involved with one of these before, but there is a push from several school districts and business in the greater Metropolitan Pima County area to begin one. Dr. St. John asked the Board to let the other School Boards in Pima County know that they are going to call for the election at the first available date.

Dr. St. John stated the following reasons for the JTED:

°This is something good for the community and for Pima County in general.

°The Auto Program and Woods Program, while very strong in the district, the space is under utilized. There could be many more students in this program through JTED.

°The program would allow for new Career and Technical Education offerings. There will be a hospital built in the future right across from Sahuarita High School that will need to be

staffed. This program will give students the opportunity to develop in the medical field.

Dr. St. John recommend approval of a resolution stating that at the first available date the Board will call for the election.

Dr. St. John introduced John Brake, General Manager of Phelps Dodge Sierrita Mining Company.

Mr. Brake expressed his support for the JTED program. The mining industry, like most industries, is no longer a manual labor type of industry. They need technical support for them to continue to operate. The JTED program would support those needs.

Dr. Valenzuela stated that a partnership between the District and Phelps Dodge, Inc. is being developed. Phelps Dodge is supporting those students who were recognized at the beginning of the meeting in terms of the award that they receive. The partnership is being expanded with a program called "Recognizing Excellence". This program will recognized teachers and support staff and outstanding volunteers.

Mrs. Kellermeyer made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Murphy. The motion carried 5-0.

3. Resolution Requesting Authorization to Submit the Joint Technology Question to the Voters of the District – Can not be approved until June.
4. Presentation on Technology – Scott Boone – Information Only

Mr. Scott Boone presented information on the history of technology in the district and where the district is now with technology. A few facts that he presented were as follows: Seven years ago the district had no e-mail, only 25 phone extensions, they outsourced planning & support, no network and very few computers. Today the district has Web and E-mail, 370 phones, 800 computers, 13 servers, a Tech Web Help Desk and five department employees.

5. Adding the locker-room to Anza Trail School

After several discussions with the architect, Dr. St. John now feels that the District has enough funding to provide the addition of a locker-room at Anza Trail School. There were several reasons for his recommendation:

- 1) The district is very close to not getting the building permit for the gymnasium, cafeteria building due to the fact that we are very close on the number of restrooms. The additional locker-room will add restrooms, which will make the number of restrooms for that building more appropriate.
- 2) The original inclusion of all day kindergarten rooms was to be beyond the amount of square footage required by the SFB. We were able to include the all day kindergarten rooms because we have more rooms in the total amount of square footage than the SFB requires. We do, however, want to add additional square footage at this point in time and then go back and add other items as more funds become available.

Mr. Murphy made the motion to approve the recommendation to add the locker-room to Anza Trail School and was seconded by Mrs. Kellermeyer. The motion carried 5-0.

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

**Dr. Manny Valenzuela** shared information regarding a federal grant that was applied for on behalf of SHS that would facilitate the purchase of 30 network computers to initiate a needed computer/instructional lab. That grant has been awarded to the district and the computers are on their way.

**Mrs. Charlotte Gates** distributed reports from a data collection program in which the district participates. These are comparisons between school districts similar in size to this district. If there are specific districts that the District would like to compare itself to, they are able to do so. The Data Collection program is sponsored through AASBO. There are standard reports and reports that the district can request that may not be standard. It is a great tool to have access to.

Mrs. Gates also shared information on the busses that will be ordered for the district with the passing of the Bond Election in November. The base cost for

4 Special needs buses and 9 Conventional buses will be \$998,450.37 and will be purchased through BlueBird.

Mrs. Gates presented the following information on a Stepless Salary Schedule that may be proposed in the future.

### **How the Stepless Salary Schedule works:**

Contract contains a salary amount only

- Annual amount for certified staff
- Hourly rate for classified staff

Contract adjusted annually by the Board

- Across the board increases
- Percentage increases
- Combination of both
- Or (Heaven forbid) no increase at all

No steps or lanes listed on contracts

No one is ever “frozen” at a step – they get a “raise”

Increases given for education growth

Lends itself to performance-based incentives

### **Salary Increase Scenarios:**

Easy to calculate salary increase scenarios

After available funds for raises determined

Have total dollar amount of all contracts

Determine total amount for each 1% increase

**-For \$8 million - \$80,000 per 1% salary increase**

Have total amount of eligible employees

Determine total amount per \$100 increase

**-For 150 teachers - \$15,000 per \$100 salary increase**

Can work with different combinations

Across the Board and percentage increases possible

Not restricted by “steps” of a traditional salary schedule

### **Benefits to the Program:**

Budgeting for the upcoming year simplified

Easy to determine costs of raises compared to funds available for salary increases

-Across the board and/or percentage

Experienced staff never reach “top of the scale”

No penalty for longevity

-Salaries not frozen ... no artificial steps

No final column for education moves

Encourages continuing education

Flexibility in hiring new staff members  
Additional salary for unique qualifications

**Dr. Jay C. St. John** – The district is pursuing is application for a Neighborhood Reinvestment Grant to add a community center at the Sopori Campus.

Dr. St. John met with the Country Fair White Elephant Scholarship committee, which he is a member of; they are going to add funds due to the cost of tuition in Arizona going up.

Kathy Shiba and Dr. St. John met with a member of the community who is interested in helping the district have a greenhouse garden program at the new Anza Trail School.

The Southern Arizona Homebuilders Association and the Homebuilders Institute Board, which Dr. St. John is a member of, has received a grant in the amount \$165,000.00 over the next three year to help place young people in their Construction Trades programs.

The Long Range Planning Committee met with the Town Capital Improvement Plan Committee.

Dr. St. John attended the Green Valley Elks Lodge Awards Night, which honored Marsha Flores, teacher at SHS, as Teacher of the Year.

Dr. St. John will be out of Town until Monday attending a National Superintendent's Conference.

Sundt Construction provided the district with a copy of their report on the development of Anza Trail School.

Mrs. Kathy Shiba received a letter from Mr. Harold Porter, Executive Director of the Arizona School Administrators congratulating her selection to represent Arizona as the NASSP/MetLife 2006–2007 Middle Level Principal of the Year. The district is pleased to have her working for us.

The SUSD Early Childhood Center is getting closer to being finished. They are waiting for the health department to issue a license.



Dr. St. John commented on the two incidents at the campus with illegal immigrants being chased through the campus by Border Patrol and police officers. In both situations, no child was in danger. During the twelve years that Dr. St. John has been with the district there have been a couple of incidents, but it seems to be happening more now. The Board and community need to realize that if the district is inform, the buildings on this campus in less then two minutes. A week ago the middle school locked down the campus before school begin, they did an outstanding job. The district has a procedure and they are ready if such incidents should happen as long as it is notified by law enforcement that they are nearing the campus. Law enforcement has been given a special extension to the District Office that they are to call on and the District Office will notify all schools. If one school locks down on the campus...all schools will lockdown.

## **IX. Consent Agenda – Action**

The superintendent recommended approval of those items on the Consent Agenda, as they are routine items. Mr. Murphy made the motion and was seconded by Mrs. Hall. The motion carried 5-0.

### **A. Employment**

1. Cassandra Gomez – District Office – Acct. Clerk/Payroll – Replacement – Ratification to 02/13/06
2. Concepcion Santamaria – change in status – SIS – Night Custodian – Replacement –Ratification to 02/13/06

### **B. Approval of Addendums**

1. Cynthia Gettinger – Oasis Volunteer Site Coordinator
2. Mary Jo Boyter – Oasis Volunteer Site Coordinator

### **C. Resignations/Terminations/Separations**

1. Patti Rutherford – Accounting Clerk – Resignation Effective 02/15/06

### **D. Volunteers**

1. Jesse T. Richardson – SHS – Effective 02/22/06
2. Beatriz Nieves – SHS – Effective 02/22/06
3. Ruth H. Chapman – SPS – Effective 02/22/06

## E. Gifts & Donations

1. Mike and Valerie Hanlon – Baby Grand Piano – SMS
2. Super Wal-Mart – 500 Heart Shape Cookies – SPS 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders
3. AZ State Council Knights of Columbus – 786.75 – SUSD

## F. Approval of Student Activity, Auxiliary and Revolving Fund Expenditures

– January 2006

## G. Facilities Use & Property Rental

1. American Legion Baseball – Sahuarita High School Baseball Field – Saturday Evenings from 3:00pm to 8:00pm 07/08/06 – 07/29/06 and Tuesday Evenings from 6:00pm to 10:00pm 06/06/06 – 07/27/06

## H. Approval of New/Revised Position Descriptions

1. Accounting Clerk/Payroll Assistant
2. Early childhood Site Assistant Director
3. Early Childhood Classroom Lead
4. Early childhood Classroom Assistant

## I. Approval of E-Rate Contracts

### x. Board Communication

**Mr. Tom Murphy** commended the SHS Athletics for the success of the basketball season and the success of the boys and girls soccer program. Both coaches were name Coach of the Year; this is a great accomplishment for two first year teams.

He participated at the I19 Jazz Festival. Mr. Rodriguez and the middle school did a first class job putting on this event.

He attended the SIS Rodeo Day celebration and everyone had a great day.

He thanked George Emerson for his the job that he is doing in Maintenance. He received great feedback from some of the administrators.

Dr. Valenzuela and Mr. Murphy attended the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Sonoran Institute. It is going really well.

**Mrs. Diana Kellermeyer** attended the South Central Regional Honorees concert and it was amazing. The conductors and students were just amazing. She hopes that next year there will more students involved.

**Mrs. Elaine Hall** enjoyed hotdogs and chili at the Rodeo Luncheon that is held at Sopori each year.

**Mr. Mike Lurkins** stated that he was on campus during the time that one of the incidents with Border Patrol. He let everyone know that Dr. Valenzuela, Mrs. Raulston and all the staff did an exceptional job with securing the compass. He thanked the staff for taking care of the students.

**xI. Establish Next Board Meeting** – March 8, 2006, 6:30 PM, SUSD Auditorium

**xII. Executive Session**

Mr. Murphy moved the Board enter executive session pursuant to §A.R.S. 15-843 to hear the appeal of the decision of the hearing officer in several long-term suspension hearings – Discussion and possible action. The time was 8:15pm. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye. The Board returned to regular session at 8:55 and adjourned the meeting.

**xIII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm. Mr. Murphy made the motion and was seconded by Mrs. Kellermeyer. The motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully,

---

Clerk of the Board