



# ***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. – APRIL 26, 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 was Tom Murphy, Clerk of the Board, Board members Elaine Hall, Diana Kellermeyer, Martin McGee, Superintendent Dr. Jay C. St. John, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Manuel O. Valenzuela and Business Manager Charlotte Gates. There were 59 guests. The Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

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

Dr. St. John requested that Item J. Approval of the 2006-2007 Support Staff Salary Schedule from the Consent Agenda be pulled for discussion. Dr. St. John recommended approval of the agenda as it was revised. Mr. McGee made the motion and was seconded by Mrs. Kellermeyer. The motion carried 5-0.

#### **III. Approval of Minutes – April 12, 2006 Regular Governing Board Meeting**

Dr. St. John recommended approval of the minutes, as they were e-mailed to the Board. Mr. McGee made the motion and was seconded by Mrs. Hall. The motion carried 5-0.

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

Mrs. Gates recommended ratification of previously approved payroll Voucher 21 in the amount of \$597,540.93 and new payroll Voucher 24 for the pay period ending May 19, 2006 in the amount not to exceed \$800,000.00. She further recommended approval of expense voucher 7054 through 7056 for a total amount of \$371,423.15. Mrs. Kellermeyer made the motion and was seconded by Mrs. Hall. The motion carried 5-0.

#### **V. Call to the Public**

Bob Lucas from Sahuarita spoke on behalf of the 49ers Football/Cheer Program. They are asking to use the fields for this summer. They are looking for other places that can be used for the program, but have not been successful. Anamax Park will have facilities that they can use within two years, but right now they are requesting the use of the fields for another two years.

Neal Rocklin from Tucson Arizona thanked the Governing Board for allowing him to speak to them at the meeting. Mr. Rocklin is a middle school teacher in TUSD and he also has a local cable access talk show. As an education advocate he felt that he had an obligation to his students and others to do something out of the classroom. He feels a responsibility to share the positive things that happen in the classroom. He interviewed Dr. Jay St. John on his and they decided that it would be within the best interest of the Sahuarita District to promote the positive things that are happening in the District. Through help from Mr. Flannery and Mr. Boone he is able to tape the Board meeting on this evening so that it can be aired on access television.

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

The Sahuarita Middle School Cheer Squad performed their routine that was used at a National Competition in Knots Berry Farms where they were awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place. The members of the squad are as follows: Marisa Acosta, Janine Benas, Danitza Campoy, Ashley Cuestas, Nicole Kellermeyer, Larissa Lopez, Mandi Lurkins, Kinsey Norman, Lacy Robling, Cassidy Solares, Hope Stogsdill, Jenny Sutton and Joe Ware. The squad had three coaches; Sarah Galecki, Katrina Powell and Evelyn Reilly.

Dr. Valenzuela introduced the “Leaders in Character” Honorees: “Leaders in Character”: Sopori – Juana Triana, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade, SPS – Anissa Dominguez – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade, SIS – Rikely Gonzales – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, SMS – Mandi Lurkins – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, SHS – Jace Lankow – 12<sup>th</sup> 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.

## **VII. New Business**

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

#### **1. Approval of School Wellness Policy**

Joann Harris and Alice Sanchez presented the School Wellness Policy to the Board at a past meeting. The Board was asked for feedback and it is now time to adopt the new policy. The Board members received a copy

of the final new School Wellness Policy. Mrs. Gates and Dr. St. John recommended approval of the new policy. Mr. McGee made the motion and was seconded by Mrs. Kellermeyer. The motion carried 5-0.

## **2. Application to ADE for Academic contest Funds**

Several weeks ago, Dr. St. John was notified that there are academic contest funds available through the Arizona Department of Education for assisting students who compete at the National level. The information was forwarded to several programs. Mrs. Margaret Link, FCCLA teacher at SHS, has two students who will be representing SHS at the FCCLA National Competition. Mrs. Link filled out the application and has asked the Governing Board to approve the application so that it can be submitted to ADE. Mrs. Kellermeyer made the motion and was seconded by Mrs. Hall. The motion carried 5-0.

## **3. Presentation on Project Inspire Program – Dr. Barbara Smith**

Dr. Smith thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak to the Board regarding a special program that has been in existence in the District for approximately fifteen years. This year marked a significant change in the program. Currently the program is serving 565 students who have disabilities and are receiving services of some kind. This number includes the preschool population. As of December 1 the numbers had increased by 97 students. This doesn't account for students who arrived after December 1<sup>st</sup>. The student services office has actually worked with over two hundred transactions this year. That is paperwork that has come into the district, IEPs or students that are leaving. Special Education is driven by Federal Laws and requires a heavy amount of paperwork.

When you look at the 565 students who are served they represent a variety of categories of eligibility. Currently there are eight (8) autistic children, seven (7) hearing impaired students and one (1) visually impaired. The district does receive services for those students from Southeast Regional Cooperative that contracts with the district to provide support services. There are currently twenty (22) students with emotional disorders, five (5) students who are categorized as having multiply disabilities. When you look at the mentally retarded range of disabilities from mild to sever there are thirty-three (33) students in those categories. There are thirty-seven (37) students who are health impaired. These are students who traditionally have Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. There are two (2) orthopedically impaired students and two (2) traumatic brain injured students, two hundred seventy-five (275) students who have specific learning disabilities, one hundred five (105) students who receive services for speech and language impairments and sixty-seven (67)

students in the preschool program who are receiving special education services. There is one student who is attending the State School for the Deaf and Blind.

Project Inspire is one of the many wonderful programs that work with these children who qualify for services. There are currently three (3) teachers who work in Project Inspire. They technically work with the most challenging students. Dr. Smith is the individual who makes the decision whether the students go into the program or not. She always considers the level of services required, the type of intensity of work that is required before a student is placed in the program. Last year there were twenty-nine (29) students in Project Inspire, this year there are thirty-one (31). This demonstrates how the program is growing. There are thirty-four (34) Inclusion Health Specialist who work in the program. These specialists are supervised by one of the three (3) teachers.

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

### **1. Approval of New SMS Principal – Name Available**

The interviewing process for the Sahuarita Middle School Principal has been completed. The committee, Norm Popp, classified SMS employee, Kevin Harcourt, Sylvia Tellez, Manny Valenzuela, Elsa Young, and Dr. St. John interviewed three candidates from a pool of eight potential candidates. Of the three candidates, one was from outside the district and two were internal. Dr. St. John recommended offering a two-year contract for the position of Principal at SMS to Mrs. Terri Noe, current Assistant Principal at Sahuarita High School.

### **2. Dividing of Staff for Anza Trail School - Information Only**

The Board was given preliminary plans for staffing Anza Trail School. Dr. Valenzuela, Kathy Shiba and Dr. St. John have worked on a preliminary breakdown of staff, not by name, but by numbers of who goes and who stays based on neighborhood counts and so forth. Dr. Valenzuela and Dr. St. John asked Mrs. Shiba to go ahead and being making arrangements with Mr. Downs and Dr. Ross to begin the process of separating the staff so that principals may start placing students with teachers for next year. They feel at this point in time the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade need to stay at SMS all of next year and only K-6 will move to Anza Trail. That recommendation is based on numbers available, potential classrooms available and other factors.

### **3. Approval of 2006-2007 Support Staff Salary Schedule (Moved from Consent Agenda for Discussion)**

Dr. St. John stated that the item that the Board was asked to move is a support staff salary schedule for 2006-2007. Meet and Confer has not been completed with the support staff, however; the Board directed Dr. St. John to do a reclassification study. If the Board approves this support staff salary schedule it will reflect some significant changes. Mrs. Young contacted the Southern Arizona School Personnel Association, which the District is a member of, and received comparative salaries for classified positions. The reclassification is being done on the position not on individual people. Dr. St. John recommended approval of the reclassification and the addition of two new positions. Mrs. Kellermeier made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Murphy. The motion carried 5-0.

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

#### **1. Consideration of Contract with Laidlaw Education Services, Inc.**

Dr. St. John stated that the District's contract with Laidlaw is a five-year contract, which is renewal by year. It also has a 30-day out clause in which if notification is given within 30 days that services are no longer needed the contract may be ended. Dr. St. John recommended to the Board that the District sever its relationship with Laidlaw Education Services. This in no way reflects the company at all; they are providing good service. The District feels it can run the operation at a lower cost.

Mr. Ron Latko, General Manager, from Laidlaw Educational Services thanked the District for being an exceptional customer. It has been wonderful working with the District and it is a good partnership, which is what they strive for at every location throughout the country. Dr. St. John and Mrs. Gates are the best as far as professionalism that you could have. Laidlaw does understand and appreciate the impact that programs such as transportation can have on the budget. They have worked with Dr. Jay and Charlotte to try to continue it's relationship, but it appears that they may have reached a point where no matter what Laidlaw is able to provide and how they can share the burdens with the District isn't going to be enough. Laidlaw will continue to work with the District through the length of their services for them and will do what they can to make it a smooth transition should the Board choose to go that way. It has been an honor and pleasure to work with the District.

Mr. Lurkins thank Mr. Latko for the services he and Laidlaw have provided to the District in the past. Mr. McGee made the motion to approve Dr. St. John's recommendation to sever the relationship with

Laidlaw Educational Services. Mrs. Kellermeyer seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

## **2. Approval of 3-year contract with E-Rate Consulting Services**

Mrs. Gates stated that last year the Board approved the hiring of a consultant for E-Rate. There are so many requirements, paperwork and reports that need to be completed. She is recommending a 3-year contract with E-Rate Consulting Services. This service will save the district funds. Mr. Murphy made the motion and was seconded by Mrs. Kellermeyer. The motion carried 5-0.

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

#### **1. Use of Facilities by the Sahuarita/Green Valley 49ers**

The Board was given information from the 49ers football league. The information included a request for the use of fields for the summer and next school year. Their request includes them providing temporary lighting so that they can practice after dark. Daryl Rawson is still working on the schedule for all the fields. The fields that they would utilize would be the JV field in the back of the high school and the main Football field for 4 or 5 home games. The league is in the process of looking for other facilities to use and hope to find something within the next year or so. The field located across from the Intermediate school is too small for their use. They would like to keep both the football and cheerleading squads together for practices. Dr. St. John recommended approval of the request for one more year. Mrs. Kellermeyer made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Murphy. The motion carried 5-0.

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

Dr. St. John stated that the Arizona Department of Education has approved Pima County's Joint Technological Plan so continued information will be provided to the Board.

Received a letter from the Elks Club congratulation the Governing Board's fine teacher staff for the outstanding academic performance of their students. Several students received scholarship from local and state Elks organizations.

The Board was given a copy of the performance evaluation for the NJROTC program. Sahuarita NJROTC program is number one in the 59 NJROTC program in the national competition.

Dr. St. John continues to attend the Town Capital Improvement Plan process meeting. The plan has been completed and will be presented to the Town Council.

Bill Woodward and Dr. St. John continue to meet with AMEC regarding the bond projects. The plan will be brought to the Board when it is a little more solidified.

The Board was shown three conceptual classroom pod floor plans. Depending on whether restrooms are needed and whether the portable classrooms will be eliminated. Restrooms are very expensive and this will make a difference on whether there will be a workroom for teachers and how big the pods will be. On Friday morning, Dr. Valenzuela and Dr. St. John will be presenting a recommendation to a committee representing the Pima County Board of Supervisors for a neighborhood reinvestment grant which includes the gymnasium at Sopori with a community building attached to the gym.

## **IX. Consent Agenda – Action**

Dr. St. John recommended approval of the consent agenda as it was revised. Mr. Murphy made the motion and was seconded by Mrs. Kellermeyer. The motion carried 5-0.

### **A. Employment**

1. Scott Webb, Maintenance Technician – Facilities – Replacement – Ratification to 04/19/06
2. Javier Banos, HVAC Technician – Facilities – Replacement – Ratification to 04/17/06
3. Christina Gonzalez, Attendance Clerk I – SIS – Change in Work Hours to 35/wk – Ratification to 03/28/06
4. Jacob Wolfe, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher – SIS or Anza Trail – Replacement – Effective 07/31/06
5. Alyssa Wall, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher – SIS or Anza Trail – New Position – Effective 07/31/06
6. Julie Tatum, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher – SIS or Anza Trail – Replacement – Effective 07/31/06
7. Ashley Sutton, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher – SIS or Anza Trail – New Position – Effective 07/31/06
8. Wyleah Blohm, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher – SIS or Anza Trail – New Position – Effective 07/31/06
9. Luis Sainz, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher – SIS or Anza Trail – New Position – Effective 07/31/06
10. Laurie Huxsol, Kindergarten Teacher – SPS – Replacement – Effective 07/31/06

B. Approval of New Guest Teacher(s) – Michele Fournier

**C. Resignations/Terminations/Separations**

1. John Flannery, Radio/TV Broadcasting Instructor & Auditorium Director – SHS – Retirement Effective 07/16/06

**D. Volunteers**

1. Bonnie Wartgow – SPS – Effective 04/26/06
2. Charles Lindeman – SHS – Effective 04/26/06
3. Sandra S. Steely – SMS – Effective 04/26/06

**E. Gifts & Donations**

1. Military Officers Assoc. of Green Valley - \$44.75 – SHS NJROTC
2. Green Valley Rotary Foundation, Inc - \$1200.00 – SHS Breakdown Assembly
3. B.P.O. Elks Lodge No. 2592 - \$200.00 – SHS Culinary Arts
4. Mr. & Mrs. Ed Friedman – Casio Electronic Piano – SIS
5. Imerys Marble, Inc. – 11,200 lbs of Athletic Field Marker – SUSD

**F. Student Fund-Raising**

1. SHS Cheer Squad – Carwash – May 6, 2006 – Wal-mart

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

1. SMS Cheerleading – 12 students, 2 adults – Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ – Summer Cheer Camp – July 26 through July 29, 2006

**H. Approval of Facilities Rental/Usage**

1. Town of Sahuarita Summer Swim Program – Sunday through Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup> through August 6<sup>th</sup> excluding Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup> when the pool will be used for a fundraising event.

**I. Approval of New Position Descriptions**

1. Campus Monitor
2. Locksmith

**x. Board Communication**

**Mr. Murphy** thanked all the administrative assistants for their role in the district. He commented on how professional they all are and they are all appreciated.

He thanked the Sahuarita Sun for the great article on Mr. Lurkins, Governing Board President.

Mr. Murphy attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade music and arts program, which was really well done.

He also stated that the middle school awards ceremony was great.



He attended a Tucson Sidewinders game with students from SIS and they were all very well behaved.

**Mrs. Hall** was able to attend the Bridge the Gap Conference that was very informative.

She commented on all the performances that the Board has seen at the last few meetings and how wonderful they all are. She thanked everyone for his or her involvement.

**Mr. Lurkins** commented on all the programs and how rewarding it is to see all these groups and their accomplishments.

**XI. Establish Next Meeting – May 10, 2006 SUSD District Auditorium**

**XII. Executive Session**

Mr. Murphy moved the Board enter executive session pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03.A.5. Discussion or consultations with designated representatives of the public body in order to consider its position and instruct its representatives regarding negotiations with employee organizations regarding the salaries, salary schedules or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits to employees of the public body. The time was 8:19. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye. The Board returned to regular session at 9:03 and adjourned the meeting.

**XIII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm. Mrs. Hall made the motion and was seconded by Mrs. Kellermeyer. The motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully,

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Clerk of the Board