



Sahuarita Unified School District No. 30

Sahuarita High School

Sahuarita Middle School

Sopori Elementary School

Sahuarita Primary School

Sahuarita Intermediate School

MINUTES

REGULAR GOVERNING BOARD MEETING & EXECUTIVE SESSION

July 9, 2003 – Sub Hall B – Sahuarita Auditorium – 350 W. Sahuarita Rd. Sahuarita, Arizona

TIME: immediately after the public hearing on the proposed budget

I Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

President Elaine Hall called the meeting to order at 6:37 PM. Also present were Board members Dan Zobenica, Anthony Bruno, Superintendent Dr. Jay C. St. John and Business Manager Charlotte Gates. Board member Martin McGee and Mike Lurkins were absent. There were 6 guests.

II Approval of Agenda

Dr. St. John recommended approval of the agenda with a correction to the Consent Agenda Item G – Procurement. Custom Roofing should be added as a sole source provider. Mr. Bruno made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Zobenica. The motion carried.

III Approval of Minutes – June 25

Dr. St. John recommended approval of the minutes for June 25. Mr. Zobenica made the motion and was seconded by Mrs. Hall. The motion carried.

IV Approval and Ratification of Vouchers *

Dr. St. John recommended ratification of previously approved payroll Vouchers 26 in the amount of \$500,882.12, payroll voucher 27 in the amount of \$196,591.61, payroll voucher 28 in the amount of \$148,412.70, payroll voucher 29 in the amount of \$146,451.92, payroll voucher 30 in the amount of \$85,951.97 and new payroll voucher 2 for the pay period ending July 18 in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 and new payroll voucher 3 in the amount not to exceed \$250,000. He further recommended approval of expense vouchers 4060 through 4061 in a total amount of \$218,140.67. Mr. Zobenica made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bruno. Discussion followed. Mr. Bruno stated that on one of the vouchers we pay Pima County Solid Waste for disposal. Since we will now be required to have everything bagged how will this affect us, we will have to start shipping it out? Dr. St. John stated that we shouldn't have a problem with this situation because we contract with Waste Management and their services shouldn't be affected. They use closed vehicles to distribute the items. Commercial providers are not required to have them in bags. The motion carried.

V Call to the Public - None

VI Recognition of Staff, Students and Community - None

VII New Business

A. Instruction – Discussion and possible action

1. Approval of Job Share Position

Dr. St. John received a memo from Barb Smith recommending that we allow Veronica Grijalva, Special Education Therapist, to job share her current full time position. She would like to work 60% of her contract 3 days a week. Dr. St. John recommended approval of the request to job share this position with the stipulation that we will not allow it if we cannot find another qualified candidate to fill the other 40% of the position. Mr. Zobenica made the motion and was seconded by Mrs. Hall. Discussion followed. Mr. Bruno asked how the benefits would break down and will the cost increase if this position is changed? Dr. St. John stated that it would probably not change and may save money in the long run. The motion carried 2-1 with Mr. Bruno voting Nay.

B. Personnel – Discussion and possible action

1. Approval of New Groundskeeper Position

Dr. St. John and Charlotte Gates received a memo from Daryl Rawson. Daryl is requesting 3 and half additional positions in the maintenance department. He feels that the increase in grounds that need to be taken care of is the main reason for the 2-groundskeeper positions. The inventory control technician, which is a warehouse person, is due to the fact that we have increased the amount of supplies and equipment that need to be stored at the warehouse due to increase in student population. After a discussion with Charlotte Gates, Dr. St. John feels that we can afford one additional groundskeeper position. At the 40th day, when we know what our student growth will be, we will look at these requests again. Dr. St. John recommended that approval of an additional groundskeeper for the maintenance department. Mr. Bruno made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Zobenica. The motion carried.

C. Business – Discussion and possible action

1. Adoption of the FY 2003-04 Budgets

Earlier in the evening a hearing was held on the proposed budget for 2003-04. Dr. St. John recommended approval as it was distributed in the proposed meeting in June and as it was presented tonight in the public hearing. Mr. Zobenica made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bruno. The motion carried.

2. Bus Schedules

Dr. St. John informed the Board that principals Barbara Smith and Wayne Ross have suggested the district revert to the old bus schedule in which the primary and intermediate schools dismiss at 2:00 PM and the middle and high schools dismiss between 2:45 and 3:00 PM. Reverting to this schedule would eliminate the K-5 students from having to wait on the buses for approximately 35 minutes in the heat of the day before the buses leave as happens under the schedule implemented for the 02-03 school year. The earlier dismissal time will allow the transportation department enough time to take the younger children home and then return to the main campus to take the older children home.

Dr. St. John reviewed the history of the earlier dismissal time and the later dismissal time implemented in the 02-03 school year to increase instructional time for the K-5 students. Discussion was held at a previous Board meeting about possibly beginning and dismissing school at a later time. There were complications with the lunch periods using this schedule.

Dr. St. John recommended the dismissal schedule be changed back to the earlier dismissal times. A decision must be made this evening so that the bus schedules can be printed in the district newsletter. With the change in management in the transportation department, Dr. St. John feels there will be 10-15 minutes

of instructional time lost. Mrs. Hall made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bruno. Discussion followed.

Mr. Zobenica stated that we only changed to the new schedule about a year ago and it was done for the benefit of the children's education. The idea of students sitting on a bus for extended periods of time in the heat of the day is not a good idea. But the fact that someone's behavior, be it language or whatever else, is in part driving this motivation or public reaction to this. Parents wanted their children in school more, but they didn't want their children going home with a new vocabulary. The children may be picking the language up elsewhere; it may not even be on the bus. Fifteen minutes a day is a lot of education time. Mr. Zobenica stated that he would vote in favor of the change, but he doesn't like what is motivating it outside of the heat

Mr. Bruno agreed with Mr. Zobenica. Much time was spent on rewriting policy and bus contracts. It is very difficult for Mr. Bruno to go through with this schedule change. He questioned whether the buses should dictate the education of the children or should education be put first. Mr. Bruno believes safety is first and no child should be in the heat. He doesn't believe that anyone should suffer abusive language or any other type of abuse on a bus. But he feels this goes back to the employees and we as employees haven't done a good job. Mr. Bruno doesn't feel this change back to the former schedule is the best approach. He is willing to stand behind the principals, but he will not like it.

Mr. Zobenica asked if the current schedule was maintained could the children be taken to the buses a bit later so they were not on the buses so long and still keep the time schedules. Fred Huff from Laidlaw stated that it takes 35 minutes to pick up the students.

Dr. St. John asked how difficult would it be to change the schedule during the heated season and then change back to the original schedule during the winter months.

Mrs. Hall feels that as a parent she wouldn't like it and she doesn't think the parents would like it. She would like to see the children split up into younger and older children. She asked if there are any studies or statistics that show that at the lower levels, 10 minutes a day less instructional time will be make that big of a difference. Mr. Bruno stated that studies have shown that children get their basics by third grade. Mrs. Hall stated that she feels quality is more important than length of time. The scores are definitely improving whether they have those 10 minutes or not.

Mr. Zobenica asked if the reversion to the old schedule would reduce over crowdedness on the buses. Mr. Huff stated it would. More parents tend to bring their children to school rather than pick them up from school. More children ride the bus in the evening.

Additional cost and mileage will be about eight and half hours per day. We have four new buses and are retiring two buses. We have enough buses if there are any breakdowns. There are two Laidlaw buses that do not run regular routes and can be used as spares and will only run as needed.

Mr. Zobenica asked if we have heard from any of the families in regards to the change in the schedule. We have not heard from very many, only the negative ones.

The motion failed with a vote of 1-2 with Mr. Zobenica and Mr. Bruno voting no.

Mr. Zobenica moved to split the bus schedules, one for the hot months of the year and another for the cooler months. Mr. Bruno seconded the motion. Mr. Zobenica would like to hear from the parents and from the principals that were not in attendance tonight. Mr. Bruno stated that he seconded the motion only because he felt that a controversy is what brings the parents out to tell us what they believe. That is the bottom line and if it takes a controversy to get them in here to talk to us, then that's what we'll create. Mr. Zobenica stated that this is to eliminate the children from having to sit on buses for the first month and a half of school. The motion carried with a vote of 2-1, with Mrs. Hall voted nay.

VIII Old Business

A. Revised Food Service Agreement – Discussion and possible action

The original Food Service Contract was with Fine Host. A company has bought Fine Host by the name of Aramark. Aramark had several changes that they wanted to make to the original Food Service Agreement. Most of the changes Dr. St. John did not recommend. Aramark's Proportionate Charge for fringe benefits and human resource services shall not exceed 23%. Dr. St. John did not agree with this and it has been removed from the agreement. Dr. St. John recommended approval of the revised Food Service Agreement. Mr. Zobenica made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bruno. Discussion followed. Mr. Bruno asked if they would review section 5.1 on "Inventory of Food and Supplies" because what they are proposing isn't above board for how commodities work. Mrs. Gates stated that it is not referring to commodities; it is referring to groceries and things that are purchased. Normally the school purchases the items, but with the agreement with Fine Host they have their own inventory and then we are charged for what they use. The commodities are in the originally contract; this is just an amendment to the contract. Everything in the original contract stays the same. The motion carried.

IX Superintendent/Administrative Reports

Dr. St. John stated that Sahuarita Unified School District was chosen to have a school wide audit team visit us for approximately 6 months. Dr. St. John distributed an audit from the Murphy Elementary School District, where their administrative costs were high. It is also in the Capital Times. We have not seen our preliminary report, but we will share it when we receive it. Dr. St. John wanted to give an example. This is different from the auditing company that we employ to do an audit of our books. This is a program audit.

Earlier in the evening when Dr. St. John spoke about the budget report, he spoke about the auditorium and the HVAC problems. Meetings have taken place with a few different companies, Arizona Public Services and Trico, to try to find help to replace the HVAC. The School Facilities Board Deficiency Correction Program has ended. The last project that was approved in Arizona was our middle school locker rooms. There is a new statute that states that if you can show that you have saved \$1000.00 of electric service by making some changes then you give \$500.00 back to the state and use the other \$500.00 to fund the improvements. This wouldn't be enough money to fund the improvements, but another law was passed that stated a financing contract could be extended over 10 years if it is energy management. Normally it would only allow financing of 5 years. It looks like we will have to fund this with district funds.

The 4th of July event went very well. The set up and clean up is done without any obstructions to the school. They continue to clean up after themselves and it looks as if they were never here. According to the Green Valley News, there were approximately 10,000 to 12,000 attendees.

It was brought to Dr. St. John's attention by a friend of his that there is a statute that was passed a couple of years ago that states the State Board of Education has to adopt rules to provide for the presentation of an honorary high school diploma to a person who has never obtained a high school diploma and who meets each of the following requirements:

Is at least sixty-five years of age.

Currently resides in this state.

Provides documented evidence from the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services that the person enlisted in the armed forces of the United States before completing high school in a public or private school.

Was honorably discharged from service with the Armed Forces of the United States

Dr. St. John will be spending a little time trying to help him and those who might be in this situation in Green Valley

Last week we held a workshop on facilitating group meetings in the area of reading. A consultant from Madison Public School System facilitated the workshop.

Dr. St. John will be on vacation the last two weeks of July.

Kathy Shiba – She had a great vacation and is ready for the new school year. She recently had the opportunity to attend several workshops and received some great motivational ideas. While attending a workshop in Flagstaff, she was elected the Pima County ASA Middle School Representative. She will be on a committee that deals with the new No Child Left Behind law, we will be looking at highly effective teachers and what this means.

Steve Kellermeyer – Custodians are ahead of schedule with the summer catch up. There are a couple of positions that need to be filled, the attendance clerk position and ASP/ISS instructor. The high school currently has 771 students enrolled. The schedules are taking a little more time than usual due to the change from 6 classes to 7 classes. About 80 students still do not have a schedule. 20 students are waiting to schedule classes.

X Consent Agenda – Action

The superintendent recommended approval of the Consent Agenda as it was corrected at the beginning of the meeting, as they are routing items. Mr. Zobenica made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Bruno. The motion carried.

A. Employment/Reassignment

1. Teresa Pokrant, Library Technician – SPS – New Position
2. Karen Hancock, SSTAR Tech, Teacher's Aide – SMS – Replacement
3. Judy Schofield, Behavior Health Counselor – SPS – Replacement
4. Substitute Teachers – Marilyn Bachelier, Lonna Abad, Sarah Baugh, Sarah Bazer, James Beach, Lyda Berman, Edwin Biernet, Meribeth Bosse, Karen Bova, Raymond Cook, Cynthia Coven, Wendela Dresang, Suellen Edwards, Kerry Elam, Helene Fish, Gilbert Freese, Linda Freischlad, Herbert Geist, Marilyn Geist, Mervin Glover, Wes Gentner, Fran Gordon, Maryann Grannis, Barbara Griffin, Ruth Hanna, Mary Lou Heuett, William Hodgson, Nancy Holton, Rose Hunt-Roman, Gay Ide, Carol Kilty, Millard LaGrange, Carolyn Lane, Barbara Mathis, Richard McEwen, Monica Mendivil, Laurie Neidich, Louise Netherton, Charles Plumb, Dick Purdy, Tanya Radovich, Sandra Recce, Ellen Rieger, Linda Roeder, William Schotz, Karen Scrivano, Thomas Sickles, Sandra Sprinkle, Raymond Swensen, Myscha Theriault, Nancy Tompkins, David Tronrud, Nancy Valentine-Holub, James Wilson, Charles York, Meriden Toombs, Ruth Morris
5. Jennifer Marie Aguon – 6th Grade Teacher – SMS – Replacement
6. Marisol, Metzler – Instructional Aide II – SIS – Replacement

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7. Christina Ragsdale – Special Education Aide – SMS – Replacement
 8. Michelle Roosma – Special Education Teacher – SMS – Replacement
 9. Name Available - 6th & 7th Grade Math Teacher – SMS – Replacement
- B. Resignation, Terminations, Retirements
1. Michael S. Wilson, Instructional Aide III, Resignation Effective 2003-04 School Year
- C. Approval of Position Description – Behavioral Health Counselor – SPS & SIS
- D. Approval of 2003-2004 Extra Duty Addenda – Names Available
- E. Facilities Use & Property Rental
1. Sahuarita/Green Valley 49ers – Use of SHS Football Field
- F. Re-Employment of Support Staff for 2003-04 School Year – Names Available
- G. Procurement
1. Approval of Sole Source Providers – US Postal Service, Trico Electric Cooperative, Tucson Electric Power Co., Southwest Gas Corporation, US West Communications, AZ Interscholastic Assn., Arizona School Boards Association, Arizona School Administrators, Arizona Trane, Renaissance Learning System, Authentic Data Solutions
- H. Designation of Student Activities Treasurer

XI Board Communication

Mr. Zobenica will not be in transit to Cleveland on August 13. Mr. Zobenica asked if there would be a welcome back celebration this year.

Dr. St. John stated that teachers new to the district would start on August 4, 5 and 6. On August 7, CIMT will have a facilitators group meeting. On August 11 and 12 there will be meetings for all teachers including returning teachers. First day of school for students will be on August 13. The traditional back to school celebration will be on Saturday, August 9, from 11:00 to 2:00 in the high school cafeteria. We have asked the optimist club to cook the hamburgers and hotdogs. The administrative team will provide the rest of the support to put the meal together.

Tony stated that the NEA, the National Education Association, is challenging No Child Left Behind and there is a lawsuit as the largest unfounded mandate. This was announced this morning and will be going to the Supreme Court. There is a national phone in campaign this week to the legislature regarding IDEA because it passed the first vote, but not the second vote and they are looking at cutting IDEA at the Federal level. Sahuarita Unified School District No. 30's IDEA grant is \$329,000.00.

Tony asked if there were plans to have a board retreat with the principals this calendar year. Dr. St. John said yes that would be arranged. He would like to hear first hand from the principals that were not here today.

Elaine stated that she would be out of state all of next week.

XII Establish Next Board Meeting – August 13, 2003, District Auditorium.

XIII Executive Session

*Unofficial until approved at
August 13, 2003 Governing Board Meeting*

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Mr. Bruno moved the Board enter executive session pursuant to those statutes listed below. Mr. Zobenica seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all members voting aye. The time was 7:28 PM. The Board returned to regular session at 8:26 PM.

- A. Pursuant to §A.R.S. 15-843 Appeal of Long-term Suspensions – Discussion and possible action
- B. Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03.A.1—discussion or consideration of employment – Discussion and possible action

XIV Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM

Respectfully,

Clerk of the Board