

**Minutes of the Special Governing Board Meeting  
Amphitheater Public Schools  
Tuesday, July 27, 2021**

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A Special public meeting of the Governing Board of Amphitheater Public Schools was held Tuesday, June 27, 2021, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the Wetmore Center, 701 W. Wetmore Road, Tucson, AZ 85705 in the Leadership and Professional Development Center. This meeting was held under COVID-19 pandemic related conditions.

**Governing Board Members Present**

Ms. Susan Zibrat, President  
Ms. Deanna M. Day, M.Ed., Vice President  
Dr. Scott K. Baker, Member  
Ms. Vicki Cox Golder, Member  
Mr. Matthew A. Kopec, Member

**Superintendent's Cabinet Members Present**

Mr. Todd A. Jaeger, J.D., Superintendent  
Dr. Roseanne Lopez, Associate Superintendent  
Mr. Matthew Munger, Associate Superintendent for Secondary Education  
Ms. Michelle H. Tong, J. D., Associate to the Superintendent and Legal Counsel  
Mr. Scott Little, Chief Financial Officer  
Ms. Kristin McGraw, Director of Student Services  
Dr. Shannon McKinney, Director of Curriculum and Assessment  
Mr. Richard C. La Nasa, Executive Manager of Operational Support  
Ms. Michelle Valenzuela, Director of Communications

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND SIGNING OF THE VISITOR'S REGISTER**

President Zibrat called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and invited members of the audience to sign the visitor's register.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Zibrat asked Vice President Day to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. ANNOUNCEMENT OF DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT REGULAR GOVERNING BOARD MEETING**

President Zibrat announced that the next Regular Governing Board meeting would be held on Tuesday, August 10, 2021 at 6:00 p.m., at the Wetmore Center, 701 W. Wetmore Road, Tucson AZ 85705 in the Leadership and Professional Development Center.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT<sup>1</sup>**

*President Zibrat read the Call to the Audience procedures.*

John Maynard thanked the Board members for their service, and said he has two grandchildren at Ironwood Ridge High School. He felt a quality education is important for all students, and graduates need to possess good communication and reading skills, and an understanding of basic math and science. He understood the Governing Board could not answer, but he had two questions: what is the definition of an outbreak; and what are the specific guidelines of quarantining?

Jessica Olsen said she has a student at Ironwood Ridge High School. She referenced COVID-19 mitigation information on the Amphi website that said the Pima County Health Department (PCHD) determines when a student is allowed to return to class after an exposure to an infected individual. She felt the wording was too vague and urged the Governing Board not to rely on PCHD for guidance. Ms. Olsen spoke about her concerns defining quarantining and said the Governing Board and District needs to be more specific in the definition. She concluded, saying she appreciated Mr. Jaeger's email about mask wearing that stated the District will respect the decision made by families for their children and urged everyone to be respectful also.

Nolan Reidhead said he has a student at Ironwood Ridge High School and five children that have graduated from Amphi schools. He talked about some of the topics being pushed nationally in the educational system. He encouraged the Governing Board to be vigilant with issues in the classroom concerning justice, equality and Critical Race Theory. Mr. Reidhead also urged the Governing Board to continue to follow the mask mandates issued by Governor Ducey. He thanked the Governing Board for the support of the students of Amphi and hoped the schools will continue to be "Schools of Excellence".

Jim McFadzean read a statement from Governor Ducey, addressing the new Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines. He quoted, (in part) "Arizona does not allow mask mandates, vaccine mandates, vaccine passports or discrimination in schools based on who is or isn't vaccinated. We've passed all of this into law, and it will not change." Mr. McFadzean continued, quoting "Public health officials in Arizona and across the country have made it clear that the best protection against COVID-19 is the vaccine". He urged the Governing Board to adhere to these policies going forward.

Darlene Rowe, a third grade teacher at Coronado K-8, said that last year even with COVID-19 protocols in place in her classroom, there was one student who tested positive. She was told the student did not contract it in the classroom. She mentioned information she has heard on the news, regarding the opening of schools. The recommendation is that students should have in-person learning, children over the age of two should wear a mask, hands should be washed frequently and students should be vaccinated when they are old enough. Ms. Rowe stated in her classroom, she will encourage families to have their students wear masks and will request parents to wear a mask when they enter her room. She urged the Governing Board to adopt a District-wide mask policy that advocates for protection.

## **5. INFORMATION<sup>2</sup>**

### **A. Superintendent's Report; Update on Pandemic Conditions and Operations**

*For the Superintendent's Report Point Presentation see Exhibit 1.*

Superintendent Jaeger began his report by highlighting some of the activities that have taken place over the summer. He said the new school year will begin on August 5, 2021, and teachers, staff and administrators have been preparing for the students. He shared some pictures of staff and administrators participating in professional development.

Superintendent Jaeger spoke about the BOOST training offered for brand new teachers, saying it has been very well received. He stated that at a future meeting, Dr. McKinney will give a detailed report about the summer trainings. He said he has received positive feedback and thanked her and all involved for their hard work.

He talked about the annual All Admin Team Retreat and thanked Board members for participating in the event. He said they are excited for the year ahead.

Superintendent Jaeger spoke about the lack of staff, saying there is a shortage of qualified applicants statewide. He commented that because of budget restraints, school districts find wage competition difficult to meet. In order to recruit more staff, the Human Resources Department held a career fair on July 14, 2021. They invited applicants for all types of jobs, including teachers, support staff, bus drivers, and counselors. Amphi staff interviewed 93 candidates in just a few hours, then followed up for more extensive interviews and to make offers. He thanked Ms. Tong, the Human Resources Department, and all the staff involved that made the event a success.

Superintendent Jaeger expressed his appreciation to Luciano Sanchez and Advance Auto Parts for donating 100 backpacks filled with school supplies to Amphi students. He said they are being distributed to students in need.

Superintendent Jaeger then updated the Board on current public health metrics. He reported that recently Pima County statistics are going in the wrong direction, and percent positivity is now in the yellow category. He commented that another metric, hospital bed capacity, has changed, and it is in the red category. He noted that Public Health Tracking and Investigation category has continued to stay in the green category, and felt confident in their ability to investigate cases as they are reported. Superintendent Jaeger shared additional data used for guidance, saying there was an increase in cases for the week of July 11, 2021, with 52 cases per 100,000 individuals testing positive for COVID-19. He said according to the Arizona Department of Health (AZDHS) standards, Pima County is now in the Substantial Transmission category and mentioned the increase in cases can be attributed to the Delta variant, which seems to spread more rapidly. Referencing the increase of cases, he stated that he did not anticipate any changes in District protocols.

Superintendent Jaeger spoke about the changes in mask regulations. He stated he rescinded the mask requirement in the District at the end of June, and on June 30, 2021 the Arizona Legislature enacted a law which prohibits any Arizona public school from mandating masks. He said as the Superintendent and a licensed attorney, he will ensure the District will comply with Arizona law. He reported since masks are recommended to help prevent the spread of the virus, the District will encourage people not vaccinated to wear masks for their own protection and for that of others. The District and staff will respect individuals' decisions under the law.

Superintendent Jaeger talked about the guidelines released today from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), recommending that fully vaccinated individuals should wear a mask in an indoor setting, particularly in areas that are in a substantial transmission category. He reiterated that the CDC guidelines are only recommendations and cannot dictate what is done in Arizona or the District, and only the legislature can make laws.

Superintendent Jaeger explained that while the Governing Board is not allowed to respond to Public Comment, however, as a District employee he may respond to clarify any misinformation. He said as he explained at a previous Governing Board meeting, the District does not teach Critical Race Theory (CRT). By law, school districts are required to implement state standards as determined by the Arizona Board of Education. The Governing Board then adopts a curriculum that aligns with the state standards, and the staff is required to implement that curriculum. He acknowledged that CRT is a topic in other parts of the country, but wanted to reassure people it is not happening in Amphitheater.

President Zibrat thanked him for his report, and asked the Governing Board members if they had any questions.

There were none.

## **6. CONSENT AGENDA<sup>3</sup>**

*Details of agenda items, supporting documents, and presentations are available in the electronic Board Book by clicking on the hyperlink below.*

*[Amphitheater Public Schools Public View - BoardBook Premier](#)*

*President Zibrat asked if there were any Items that should be pulled for further discussion. Vice President Day asked to pull Consent Agenda Item A. , Approval of Appointment of Administrative Personnel.*

*President Zibrat asked for a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items B. – P. as presented. Ms. Cox Golder moved for Consent Agenda Items B. – P. be approved as presented. Mr. Kopec seconded the motion. Roll call vote in favor – 5. President Zibrat, Vice President Day, Dr. Baker, Ms. Cox Golder, Mr. Kopec. Opposed – 0. Consent Agenda Items B. – P. passed.*

Superintendent Jaeger said that he was honored to recommend Pasty Harris as interim Assistant Principal at Ironwood Ridge High School. He spoke about her many roles within the district, beginning as a Clerk and ultimately serving as Principal at Amphi High School for nine years. He said she has held multiple positions in the District for over 23 years, and with other staff promotions creating this opening at Ironwood Ridge, he felt that she was the appropriate person to step in to assist. He was personally grateful for her willingness to do so.

A picture was taken with Ms. Harris, the Governing Board, and Superintendent Jaeger to mark the occasion.

*President Zibrat asked for a motion to approve Consent Agenda Item A. Vice President Day moved to approve Consent Agenda Item A. Ms. Cox Golder seconded the motion. Roll call vote in favor – 5. President Zibrat, Vice President Day, Dr. Baker, Ms. Cox Golder, Mr. Kopec. Opposed – 0. Consent Agenda Item A. passed.*

### **A. Approval of Appointment of Administrative Personnel**

*Administrative personnel appointments were approved as listed in Exhibit 2.*

### **B. Approval of Appointment of Non-Administrative Personnel**

*Non-administrative personnel appointments were approved as listed in Exhibit 3.*

### **C. Approval of Personnel Changes**

*Certified and classified personnel changes were approved as listed in Exhibit 4.*

### **D. Approval of Separation(s) and Termination(s)**

*Separations and terminations were approved as listed in Exhibit 5.*

### **E. Approval of Stipend for Coaching Volunteers**

*Stipend for coaching volunteers were approved as listed in Exhibit 6.*

### **F. Approval of Vouchers Totaling and Not Exceeding Approximately \$4,782,847.30**

*A copy of vouchers for goods and services received by the Amphitheater Public Schools and recommended for payment has been provided to the Governing Board. The following vouchers were approved as presented and payment authorized as submitted in Exhibit 7.*

Voucher #	Amount	Voucher #	Amount	Voucher #	Amount
1000	\$15,560.34	1332	\$18,526.35	1333	\$701,162.11
1337	\$75,709.23	1338	\$13,587.29	1339	\$53,389.60
1340	\$2,193,886.68	1341	\$46,852.52	1342	\$14,377.25
1343	\$2,628.03	1002	\$48,810.96	1003	\$183,701.21
1344	\$108,386.67	1345	\$118,368.33	1346	\$86,787.80
1347	\$26,462.00	1348	\$25,376.30	1004	\$51,845.38
1005	\$6,758.23	1006	\$11,091.37	1007	\$261,394.97
1349	\$176,964.77	1350	\$5,974.79	1351	\$369,933.49
1352	\$165,311.63				

**G. Acceptance of Gifts**

*Gifts were accepted as presented in Exhibit 8.*

**H. Receipt of June 2021 Report on School Auxiliary and Club Balances**

*The Governing Board approved the June 2021 report on school auxiliary and club balances as listed in Exhibit 9.*

**I. Approval of Parent Support Organization(s) - 2021-2022**

*The Governing Board approved Innovation Academy PTO, IRHS Boys Soccer PAC and Copper Creek Elementary PTO as submitted in Exhibit 10.*

**J. Approval of Oro Valley Police Department, Tucson Police Department and Pima County Sheriff's Department Special Duty Program Agreements for Special Duty Law Enforcement Services**

*The Governing Board approved the law enforcement services as listed in Exhibit 11.*

**K. Approval of the Amphitheater Teacher Performance Evaluation System for the 2021-2022 School Year**

*The Governing Board approved the Amphitheater Teacher Performance Evaluation System for the 2021-2022 School Year as listed in Exhibit 12.*

**L. Approval of Out of State Travel**

*The Governing Board approved request for out of state travel as listed in Exhibit 13.*

**M. Approval of Increase in Daily Rate of Pay for Substitute Teachers**

*The Governing Board approved the Increase in Daily Rate of Pay for Substitute Teachers.*

**N. Approval of School Facilities Board (SFB) Grant for Copper Creek Elementary School MPR Roof Replacement Design**

*The Governing Board approved the School Facilities Board (SFB) grant for Copper Creek Elementary School MPR Roof Replacement Design as submitted in Exhibit 14.*

**O. Approval of School Facilities Board (SFB) Grant for Mesa Verde Elementary School Roof Replacement Construction**

*The Governing Board approved the School Facilities Board (SFB) grant for Mesa Verde Elementary School Roof Replacement Construction as submitted in Exhibit 15.*

**P. Approval of School Facilities Board (SFB) Grant for Rillito Center Weatherization Design**

*The Governing Board approved the School Facilities Board (SFB) grant for Rillito Center Weatherization Design as submitted in Exhibit 16.*

**7. EXECUTIVE SESSION\***

- A. Motion to Recess Open Meeting and Hold an Executive Session for:**
- B. Consideration and Decision Upon Request for Readmission Pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-843(F)(2), Regarding: Student #30051655**
- C. Discussion or Consultation with the Attorneys of the Public Body, Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3), Concerning HB 2898 (K-12 Education; Budget Reconciliation; 2021-2022) and Other Education Laws Approved During the 2021 Arizona Legislative Session**
- D. Discussion or Consultation with the Attorneys of the Public Body, Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3) and/or (4), Concerning the Meet and Confer Process; and**
- E. Discussions 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 of Employees of the Public Body Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(5)**

*President Zibrat asked for a motion to hold Executive Session. Vice President Day moved to recess the Open Meeting to hold an Executive Session for Discussion of Items 7. as listed on the Board agenda. Mr. Kopec seconded the motion. Roll call vote in favor 5: President Zibrat, Vice President Day, Dr. Baker, Ms. Cox Golder, and Mr. Kopec. Opposed - 0. President Zibrat proclaimed they were in Executive Session at 6:08 p.m.*

**8. RECONVENE PUBLIC MEETING**

President Zibrat reconvened the public meeting at 7:30.

**9. PUBLIC COMMENT<sup>1</sup>**


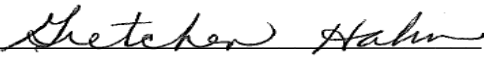
There were none.

**10. BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

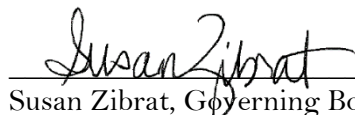
There were none.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

*President Zibrat asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice President Day so moved. Ms. Cox Golder seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call vote in favor - 5: President Zibrat, Vice President Day, Dr. Baker, Ms. Cox Golder, and Mr. Kopec. Roll call vote opposed - 0. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.*

   
Minutes respectfully submitted for Governing Board Approval  
Jennifer Anderson, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent & Governing Board  
Gretchen Hahn, Secretary III, Governing Board Office

August 23, 2021  
Date

  
Susan Zibrat, Governing Board President

August 24, 2021  
Date