



MINUTES

Tuesday, September 6, 2005 -- 5:00 p.m.
No Official Board Action Taken
While Board Toured New Facility

Valle Del Encanto Learning Center
400 North Avenue F, Somerton, Arizona

6:00 p.m. -- Regular Session

DESERT SONORA ELEMENTARY
301 North Carlisle Avenue, Somerton, Arizona

Attending Board J Scott Omer

Martha Camacho

Leticia Yepez

Absent Board Luis Heredia

Dale Phillips

Attending Public Shelly Reed
Gerald Streit
Maria Ines Armenta
Eldaa Galindo
Douglas Rutan

Jody Attaway
Elizabeth Merino
Adriana Valladares
Veronica Alvarez
Judith Bobbitt

George Brick
Bill Rhodes
Maria P. Vasquez
Rose Arévalo

1. OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

1.a. Call to Order

President/Clerk

Mr. Omer called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. expressing how happy the Board is to see the school up and running.

1.b. Pledge of Allegiance

President/Clerk

Mr. Omer led the Pledge.

1.c. Audience with Individuals

President/Clerk

Information

None submitted.

1.d. Approval of Board Minutes

President/Clerk

Action

- Regular Session: 06/28/2005
Regular and Executive Sessions: 08/11/2005

Mr. Omer entertained Motion to approve Minutes as submitted.

MOTION: Mrs. Camacho so moved, Mrs. Yepez seconded, Motion carried.

CALL FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

President/Clerk

Action

1.e. A.R.S. §38-431.03 Executive Session

- Upon a public majority vote of the members constituting a quorum, a public body may hold an executive session but only for the following purposes:
1. Discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, demotion, dismissal, salaries, disciplining or resignation of a public officer, appointee or employee of any public body, except that, with the exception of salary discussions, an officer, appointee or employee may demand that the discussion or consideration occur at a public meeting.
5. Discussions or consultations with designated representatives of the public body in order to consider its position and instruct its

The Board may enter in to Executive Session to Discuss and/or:

1. Review Superintendent Evaluation
2. Board Superintendent Working Relationship

2. REPORTS

2.a. Superintendent's Report

Information

• Opening of Valle Del Encanto Learning Center

Mrs. Bobbitt commended District staff for very smooth first day of classes. She said she was especially impressed with Valle Del Encanto's staff for working over the three day weekend to ready the facility for the children on Tuesday. Without the Fire Marshall's approval, the school may not have opened. District staff provided food, water and other treats for staff over the weekend. In addition, Mrs. Bobbitt noted that Transportation calls were minimal for the large number of children that are transported. She added the Mr. Cabrera has coordinated all entities involved in completing the new school.

2.b. Board Member Report

Information

Mrs. Camacho thanked everyone for their hard work and welcomed them back. Mr. Omer mentioned that he attended Somerton Middle School's Open House which he felt was very well organized and good for all attending. Children felt better knowing where classrooms were and got an idea of the Middle School area. He thanked everyone for their effort, as he did also for Tierra Del Sol staff.

2.d. Family Literacy Report Card

Mr. Cabrera

Information

Ms. Armenta, Family Literacy Instructor, explained that a Report Card was developed by staff and parents in order for adult participants to see their progress, as they do with their children's report cards. Parents feel more accountability with the report card in their role in literacy activities with their children at home. Parents didn't understand, at first, the importance of attendance and conduct and why it should be on their report card. This was explained as the development of a life skill that can translate to the work place, home, and while raising their children. They now understand that rules are not just for school, but they follow us throughout life. Ms. Armenta hopes the report card will give the parents a sense of responsibility and encourage them to do well.

2.c. Construction Update

Mr. Cabrera

Information

Mr. Cabrera reported that the State Fire Chief approve temporary occupancy in order for Valle Del Encanto staff to ready the school for the first day of school. Ninety-five percent of buildings A and B are complete. Kitchen equipment is being delayed as it was ordered from New Orleans, where Hurricane Katrina hit. Other items are being completed so they are up to code.

The bus loop changed to the north entrance/exit at the Middle School, due to the Jefferson Street Project. The Tierra Del Sol project is almost ninety-nine percent complete.

In regard to the Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST), an RFP needs to be approved in order for contaminated soil to be treated. This treatment may in turn alleviate future contamination to ground water. This project can take up to five years and cost anywhere from \$350 to one million dollars, which the state assurance fund will pay for. Ms. Witmer assured the Board that the budget will be reviewed but doesn't anticipate a need for funds in 2006-07. The Board asked for an analysis of the amount of time the treatment will take and the cost to the District, if any.

3. PERSONNEL CONSENT AGENDA

Superintendent

Action

The following items may be approved in one motion under the Consent Agenda. If a particular item is to be discussed, it may be pulled from the Consent Agenda and taken as a separate Agenda item. The Board may take action on the following items or defer them to the next regularly scheduled meeting.

3.1. HIRING

• Alonzo, Martha	Instructional Services Secretary, District
• Alvarez, Gustavo	Instructional Assistant, Valle Del Encanto Learning Center
• Buettner, Karl	Student Advocate, District
• Courbron, Craig	Teacher, Somerton Middle School
• Dallabetta, John	Teacher, Somerton Middle School
• Dalton, Martin	Warehouse Clerk, District
• Gomez, Irene	Instructional Assistant, Tierra Del Sol Elementary
• Goycoolea, Yolanda	Teacher, Somerton Middle School
• Guiverra, Jessica	Teacher, Tierra Del Sol Elementary
• Hedglin, Uvet	Instructional Assistant, Somerton Middle School
• Herrera, Lynn	Teacher, Desert Sonora Elementary
• Johnson, Clara	Teacher, Somerton Middle School
• Kelly, Darin	Teacher, Desert Sonora Elementary
• Nava, Luz	Teacher, Somerton Middle School
• Perea, Maria Teresa	Reading 1st Interventionist, Tierra Del Sol Elementary
• Pogue, Rosa	Teacher, Somerton Middle School
• Valdivia, Jenisse	Teacher, Desert Sonora Elementary
• Valdivia, Maria	Instructional Assistant, Desert Sonora Elementary
• Villaescusa, Maria	Substitute, Child Nutrition
• Ward, Debra	Tutor, Desert Sonora Elementary
• Ward, Mary	Teacher, Orange Grove Elementary
• Warner, Tom	Data Tech/E-Rate Specialist, District
• TBA	Instructional Assistant, District

3.2. REASSIGNMENT

• Benitez, Cristina	Bus Driver, District
• Cervantes, Graciela	Food Service Worker, SMS Child Nutrition
• Garibay, Christian	Classroom Supervisor, Valle Del Encanto Learning Center
• Hernandez, Abigail	Bus Driver, Transportation
• Juarez, Julieta	Bus Driver, District
• Lopez, Hilda	Instructional Assistant, Tierra Del Sol Elementary
• Lopez, Maria C.	Food Service Worker, SMS Child Nutrition
• Loustaunau, Soledad	Bus Aide, Transportation
• Morrison, Grace	Food Service Worker, OGE Child Nutrition
• Navarro, Elizabeth	Facilitator, Somerton Middle School
• Peralta, Martha	Food Service Worker, TDS Child Nutrition
• Prado, Victoria	Food Service Worker, SMS Child Nutrition
• Rodriguez, Elva	Food Service Worker, Child Nutrition
• Singer, Dale	Facilitator, Somerton Middle School

Child Nutrition Staff:

• Beshears, Emilia	Tierra Del Sol Elementary
• Caro, Alicia	Orange Grove Elementary
• Figueroa, Ana	Valle Del Encanto Learning Center
• Guzman, Margarita	Tierra Del Sol Elementary
• Muñoz, Patricia	Tierra Del Sol Elementary
• Ramirez, Consuelo	Valle Del Encanto Learning Center
• Torres, Martha	Valle Del Encanto Learning Center

Special Education Staff:

• Duarte, Connie	Valle Del Encanto Learning Center
• Pampara, Angelica	Tierra Del Sol Elementary
• Sanchez, Annabel	Desert Sonora Elementary/Valle Del Encanto Learning Center
• Zamora, Berenice	Desert Sonora Elementary

From Various Schools to Valle Del Encanto Learning Center:

- Ramirez, Eric
- Ramirez, Susan
- Herrera, Francisco

3.3. ADDITIONAL ASSIGNMENT

- Castillo, Maria
- Sheppard, Patricia
- Garza, Elizabeth
- Valdivia, Jenisse
- Gonzalez, Jose

METS Training:

- Parra, Robin
- Paramo, Patricia

Preschool Screening:

- Carlos, Flor
- Gonzalez, Angela
- Lugo, Amelia
- Sanchez, Annabel

Read Well Program:

- Cale, Donna
- Paramo, Patricia

3.4. GROWTH RIDERS

- Cervantes, Eva
- Havran, Martin
- Martinez, Jessica
- Schifano, Linda
- Cooper, Samantha
- Lopez, Hilda
- Robles, Veronica
- Cortez, Nilda
- Luera, Francisca
- Romero, Paulina
- Glover, Jeanne
- MacDougall, Elizabeth
- Sanchez, Annabel

3.5. GROWTH RIDERS

- Ellsworth, Dorothy
- Harris, Shirley
- Librarian, Desert Sonora Elementary
- Instructional Assistant, Somerton Middle School

3.6. CONTRACT OFFER WITHDRAWAL, RELEASE, AND/OR RETIREMENT

- Herrera, Margarita
- DeAnda-Forte, Olivia
- GomezHuerta, Javier

3.7. SUBSTITUTES

- Andre, Rosary
- Trujillo, Lourdes
- Garcia, Patricia
- Johnson, Clara
- Lopez, Armida

Mrs. Bobbitt recommended approval of Consent Agenda as submitted.

Mr. Omer asked to pull Item 3.1 for discussion and entertained a Motion to approve the other Consent Agenda Items as submitted.

MOTION: Mrs. Camacho moved to approve Items 3.2 through 3.7, Mrs. Yopez seconded, Motion carried.

Mr. Omer asked why the Board Packet's background information said a person's salary had not been decided. He asked if this was typical practice of the District, to hire a person without determining their salary. Ms. Witmer explained that this particular person's salary cannot be determined until receiving their completed paperwork. At that time, salary is determined by reviewing their experience and education. Mr. Heredia had asked Mr. Omer to get clarification before making a Motion for approval.

Mr. Omer entertained a Motion

MOTION: Mrs. Camacho moved to approve Item 3.1, Mrs. Yopez seconded, Motion carried.

4. BUSINESS AND FINANCE

INCLUDED FOR INFORMATION ONLY

- Accounts Payable and Payroll Voucher Actual Amounts
- Student Activity Report

ACTION ITEMS

4.1. Approval of IGA with Yuma County Education Service Agency

Mrs. Bobbitt noted that this agreement is beneficial to the District as part of the consortium with La Esperanza Alternative School.

Mr. Omer entertained a Motion.

MOTION: Mrs. Yepez so moved, Mrs. Camacho seconded, Motion carried.

4.2. Approval to Issue RFP for Leaking Underground Storage Tanks (LUST) Corrective Action Plan

Based on discussion led by Mr. Cabrera, Mr. Omer entertained a Motion.

MOTION: Mrs. Camacho so moved, Mrs. Yepez seconded, Motion carried.

4.3. Approval Not To Execute The Defeasance of Bonds

Mrs. Witmer explained that the District's Bonding Attorney and the Bonding Representative discussed the possible defeasance and determined not to executive the defeasance of bonds. Dollars would not be increased and bonds can be sold immediately. The cost to \$15,000 to \$20,000 to refund or defease the bonds. After review, it was determined that the \$125,000 is not needed to complete projected construction.

Mr. Omer entertained a Motion.

MOTION: Mrs. Yepez so moved, Mrs. Camacho seconded, Motion carried.

4.4. Approval of Memo of Understanding with Chicanos Por La Causa

The Board chose to take action on this item at the next meeting, after the District's attorney has time to review it.

4.5. Approval to Submit the 2006 Capital Plan to State Facilities Board

Mrs. Bobbitt noted that Mr. Cabrera and Dr. Rutan have consulted with the City of Somerton in order to submit the Capital Plan to the SFB. The Plan notes that an additional elementary and middle school will be needed by 2007 and that Valle Del Encanto may need to build on to accommodate another 400 students. Land is available if Valle Del Encanto needs additional space. Dr. Rutan noted that the current surge of homes being built will warrant another five to seven schools being built in the next seven years. This is anticipating the homes that currently have approved building permits.

Mr. Omer noted that tax payers need to be made aware of the fact that many of the builders are not citizens of Somerton, which means they do not pay taxes in this community. The County Board of Supervisors and City of Somerton should initiate some type of agreement with developers, that when they propose a certain number of homes, they will donate a certain amount of land to accommodate for additional facilities for children living in the new homes.

MOTION: Mrs. Camacho moved to approve submission of the 2006 Capital Plan to the State Facilities Board, Mrs. Yopez seconded. Mr. Omer noted that it will be important to begin discussion as to what type of schools will be needed in the near future. Dr. Rutan noted that 600 homes will generate a minimum of 1000 students. Having to bus them to a school outside their area can be very costly. If developers provide land in the area it will benefit the new school and it's students. Motion carried.

4.6. Acceptance of Dictionary Donation for District Third Graders

Mrs. Bobbitt explained that over a number of years, Dr. Richard Geyer, a Retired Yuma Dentist and Rotary Club Member, has provided dictionaries to Somerton third grade students. The National Rotary Club adopted literacy as their theme this year and now all Yuma County third graders will receive dictionaries from other area Rotary Clubs. A presentation will be made at Tierra Del Sol Elementary with media coverage.

Mr. Omer entertained Motion.

MOTION: Mrs. Yopez so moved, Mrs. Camacho seconded, Mr. Omer asked if a letter will be sent to thank Dr. Geyer and his Club Members, Motion carried.

4.7. Approval of Second Reading and Adoption of Policy Service Advisories:

- **#248: CFD -- -Based Management**
- **#249: CM -- District Annual Reports**
- **#250: DN -- Properties Disposition**
- **#251: IHA -- Basic instructional Program**
IHA-E -- Basic Instructional Program
- **#252: IHB -- Gifted and Talented Education**
- **#253: IKA-R -- Grading / Assessment Systems**
- **#254: IKF -- Graduation Requirements**
- **#255: JEB -- Entrance Age Requirements**
- **#256: JFABD-EB -- Admission of Homeless Students**
- **#257: JIH -- Student Interrogations, Searches, and Arrests**
- **#258: JII -- Student Concerns, Complaints and Grievances**
JII-R -- Student Concerns, Complaints and Grievances
JII-E -- Student Concerns, Complaints and Grievances
- **#259: JLCD -- Medicines / Administering Medicines to Students**
JLCD-R -- Medicines / Administering Medicines to Students
JLCD-E -- Medicines / Administering Medicines to Students

Mr. Omer entertained a Motion.

MOTION: Mrs. Camacho so moved, Mrs. Yopez seconded, Motion carried.

Mr. Omer asked about Employment Announcements and particularly the Human Resource position. Mrs. Bobbitt mentioned that the position needed to be posted, but the job description needs to be developed. Mr. Omer reminded Staff that the Assistant Superintendent was hired in order to avoid hiring an HR Administrator with a \$60,000 salary. He suggested that staff define qualifications and a job description in order for a qualified person to be hired at a fair salary. There was some discussion as to why these position announcements were included in the Board Packet. Mrs. Arévalo, Board Secretary, noted she included the announcements at the request of the Board at prior meetings.

Dr. Rutan said that an Administrative Assistant to the HR Position may be what's needed. Mr. Omer noted that his concern is that the Assistant Superintendent was hired to assume the HR duties. Dr. Rutan will prepare a report to present to the Board at the next meeting.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Omer entertained Motion to adjourn.

MOTION: Mrs. Camacho so moved, Mrs. Yopez seconded, Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Signature of Board President or Clerk

Date Signed/Adopted