



MINUTES-- Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, September 2, 2004 - 6:00 p.m.

Tierra Del Sol Elementary Cafetorium

1002 South Somerton Avenue, Somerton, Arizona

Attending Board	Scott Omer Luis Heredia	Leticia Yepez Dale Phillips (6:20 p.m.)	Martha Camacho
Attending Public	Jody Attaway Bob Cassidy Victor Casillas Paula Manherz Maria E. De La Fuente Yvonne Llanes Veronica Lopez Jerry Cabrera Paul Manherz Judith Bobbitt	Celine Fernández Jeanie Volpe Vienna N. Casillas George Brick Shelly Reed Maria P. Vasquez Ken Huffman Bill Rhodes Bob Klein Rose Arévalo	Frank Reed Tom Volpe Laura DeSantiago-Rios Ann McBride Liz Santos, R.N. D. Jeannie Magaña Duane Sheppard Elizabeth Merino Cathy Witmer

1. OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1.a. Call to Order** **Mr. Omer**
In Mr. Phillips absence, Mr. Omer called the meeting to order at 6:17 p.m.
- 1.b. Pledge of Allegiance** **Mr. Omer**
Mr. Omer led the Pledge.
- 1.c. Audience with Individuals** **Mr. Omer** **Information**
Mrs. Paula Manherz introduced herself as a representative of Somerton Education Association (SEA). They are hoping to get enough signatures to be this year's Meet and Confer bargaining agent. SEA understands the District has been busy and not able to tally the signatures.
- 1.d. Approval of Board Minutes** **Mr. Omer** **Action**
• **August 12, 2004 Regular and Executive Sessions**
Mr. Omer entertained a motion to approve the Minutes as submitted .
MOTION: Mr. Heredia moved to approve the Regular and Executive Minutes for August 12, Mrs. Camacho seconded, Motion carried.

2. REPORTS

- 2.a. Superintendent's Report** **Mrs. Bobbitt** **Information**
Mrs. Bobbitt mentioned that escalating construction costs and whether next school year will begin later will be discussed toward the end of the meeting.
- 2.b. Administrator's/Director's Report** **Information**
No additional discussion. Mr. Phillips arrived 6:20 p.m.
- 2.c. Board Member Report** **Information**
Mr. Omer voiced his concern regarding over-the-counter (OTC) medications not being administered by school personnel because they are supposed to be provided by parents. He agreed that prescription meds should be provided by parents, but he feels that immediate attention may not be possible if families haven't provided their child's meds in advance.

Mrs. Bobbitt explained that compliance issues are being reviewed by staff and ASBA and will be presented to the Board at the October meeting.

Mrs. Liz Santos, District Health Coordinator, explained that Registered Nurses should work under the direction of a medical doctor. Currently, the District does not have a medical doctor willing to do this. Mrs. Santos feels that District health personnel are working under her license and does not want to jeopardize it with any unfortunate incidents.

Mr. Omer wants the children's health and well-being to be everyone's primary concern and doesn't want to worry about parents working an hour or more from the District having to provide their child with meds.

A.R.S. §38-431.03 Executive Sessions

A. *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:*

3. *Discussion or consultation for legal advice with the attorney or attorneys of the public body.*

A.R.S. §15-843 (F.1.2) Pupil Disciplinary Proceedings

A.R.S. §15-841 (D) A District may annually or upon the request of any pupil or the parent or guardian review the reasons for expulsion and consider readmission.

Mr. Phillips entertained a Motion to go in to Executive Session.

MOTION: Mr. Omer moved to enter in to Executive Session pursuant to ARS 38-431.03, Mr. Heredia seconded, Motion carried. The Board enter in to Executive Session at 6:24 p.m.

Mr. Phillips entertained a Motion to return to Regular Session.

MOTION: Mr. Omer s moved, Mrs. Yopez seconded, Motion carried. The Board returned to Regular Session at 6:39p.m.

4.3. Discussion and Possible Reconsideration of Board Action Regarding Long Term Suspension Case #040507-SMS-04

Mrs. Bobbitt and Mr. Brick recommended approval for Student #040507-SMS-04 to return to Somerton Middle School for the 2004-05 School Year. Mr. Phillips entertained a Motion.

MOTION: Mr. Omer moved that Student #040507-SMS-04 begin immediately at Somerton Middle School, Mr. Heredia seconded, Motion carried.

2.d. Overview on AIMS

Mr. Sheppard

Information

6:40 p.m. Mr. Sheppard presented the District's AIMS rankings and noted that all District schools did very well or higher than state level scores. Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) is part of the federal government's No Child Left Behind educational act. It only looks at our AIMS scores and Reading and Math. It includes all students who are enrolled in the first ten days of school that are included within a subgroup of at least thirty students. Overall, our three elementary schools, did very well when compared to other county schools. Unfortunately, it took the state two years to distribute the correct 2000 test scores.

Category 2 begins at the first grade, these students are doing very well and EL strategies are being used effectively. Gender scores were not prepared for the Board's review because no trends were apparent.

Mr. Sheppard hopes to follow students that have been in the full-day kinder program until they leave eighth grade. The first group of full day District students are currently fifth graders. Mr. Sheppard explained that Dual Purpose Assessment (DAP) will show a clearer picture of where those students are. Across the state, fifth graders typically do better than eighth graders, our scores echoed this.

Mrs. Bobbitt explained that West Ed includes training that will address stimulation of children's higher level thinking skills. 7:08 p.m.

2.e. Video Clip of C.A.R.E. Program

Mr. Cabrera

Information

Mr. Cabrera presented a Video Clip funded by APS and aired during the Olympics. Campesinos Sin Fronteras have posters throughout the community and will be canvassing neighborhoods to inform the community of this program. Phone lines are open to information the community of the goal is for families to work with their children at home.

3. PERSONNEL CONSENT AGENDA

Mrs. Bobbitt

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

Armenta, Maria Inez	Teacher, Family Literacy
Cabrera, Rosa	Monitor, Child Nutrition
Carrillo, Antonio	Teacher, Adult Education
Cruz, Roberto	Teacher, Adult Education
Diaz, Rafael	Teacher, Adult Education
Figueroa, Jesse	Teacher, Adult Education
Garibay, Christian	Instructional Assistant, Desert Sonora Elementary
Gonzalez, Karina	Instructional Assistant, Special Programs
Gonzalez, Vanessa	COE Worker, Tierra Del Sol Elementary
Herrera, Maribel	Tutor, Desert Sonora Elementary
Lazalde, Maria	Monitor, Tierra Del Sol Elementary
Monzon, Sara	Permanent Substitute, Tierra Del Sol Elementary
Moreno, Javier	Teacher, Adult Education
Peña, Rosalba	Instructional Assistant, Orange Grove Elementary
Perez, Viviana	Temporary Secretary, Orange Grove Elementary
Plaza, Anita	COE Worker, Desert Sonora Elementary
Rios, Rosario	Monitor, Child Nutrition
Rodriguez, Brenda	Permanent Substitute, Orange Grove Elementary
Rodriguez, Elva	Monitor, Tierra Del Sol Elementary
Rubio, Maria	Monitor, Desert Sonora Elementary
Sepulveda, Jose	Teacher, Adult Education
Valladares, Adriana	Teacher, Adult Education

3.2. REASSIGNMENTS

Franco, Maria	Permanent Substitute, Orange Grove Elementary
Gonzalez, Gracie	Classroom Supervisor, Somerton Middle School
Martinez, Edith	Teacher, Adult Education
Martinez, Maria	Special Education Counselor/Gifted Teacher, District
Medina, Catalina	Instructional Assistant, Tierra Del Sol Elementary
Phillips, Cheryl	Classroom Supervisor, Tierra Del Sol Elementary
Torres, Martha	Food Service Worker, Child Nutrition
Uriarte, Leticia	Food Service Worker, Child Nutrition
Vasquez, Martha	Permanent Substitute, Desert Sonora Elementary

3.3. ADDITIONAL ASSIGNMENTS

Attaway, Jody	Special Programs Director, District
Gonzalez, Jose	School Secretary, Tierra Del Sol Elementary
Roldan, Angelica	Instructional Assistant, Tierra Del Sol Elementary
Title IV After School Tutorials and Parent/Student Groups/Nights	
• TBA Staff, Somerton Middle School	• TBA Staff, Desert Sonora Elementary
• TBA Staff, Orange Grove Elementary	• TBA Staff, Tierra Del Sol Elementary

3.4. RESIGNATIONS / RETIREMENTS

De La Cruz, Ruben	Instructional Assistants, Desert Sonora Elementary
Gue, Raffaella	Teacher, Desert Sonora Elementary
Isla, Jesus	Community School Liaison, Somerton Middle School
Soto, Elisa	Instructional Assistant, Desert Sonora Elementary
Valenzuela, Elizabeth	Special Programs Assistant, District

3.5. GROWTH RIDERS

- Garza, Elizabeth
- Merino, Elizabeth
- Gilchrist, Olga
- Riccuitti, Steven
- McCall, LeAnne

3.6. SUBSTITUTES

- Andre, Rosary
- Hernandez, Leticia
- Arévalo, Eva
- Johnson, Clara
- Collenberg, George
- López, Armida
- Conwill, Terry
- Mendoza, Maria
- Dusek, Noel
- Quintana, Robert
- Ehler, Paul
- Turley, Thad
- Gonzalez, Marta
- Zárata, Martha
- Hernandez, Henry
- Zinzún, Jose

Mrs. Bobbitt submitted the Consent Agenda 3.1 through 3.6 for approval and suggested discussing Item 3.7 separately.

Mr. Phillips entertained a Motion.

MOTION: Mrs. Camacho moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 3.1-3.6 as submitted, Mr. Heredia seconded, Motion carried.

3.7. NEW POSITION

Teacher

Desert Sonora Elementary

Mrs. Bobbitt explained that Ms. Fernández submitted the new teaching position for Desert Sonora and recommends Jeanne Magaña for the position. Mrs. Bobbitt said classroom size will be reduced by adding this position and instructional improvement funds are not used to fund the position.

Mr. Omer asked if the Motion would be for the position only or if it would include the recommended person. Mr. Heredia asked that funding decisions be made with care. Mrs. Bobbitt said the motion would be for the position and person being recommended. No further comments. Mr. Phillips entertained a Motion.

MOTION: Mr. Omer moved to approve the new Desert Sonora second grade teacher position and recommended Mrs. Magaña to fill the position. He agreed with Mr. Heredia and asked that caution be used when looking at funding. Mrs. Camacho thanked Ms. Fernández for her continued efforts to better her school. Mrs. Camacho seconded, Motion carried.

4. BUSINESS AND FINANCE

- INFORMATION ONLY*
- Accounts Payable and Payroll Voucher Actual Amounts
 - Student Activity Report

4.1. Second Reading and Adoption of Policy Services Advisories

- #237: BBBB - Board Member Removal From Office
- #238: GCCD - Professional / Support Staff Military / Legal Leave
- #239: IHA - Basic Instructional Program
- #240: IHBF - Homebound Instruction
- #241: JG - Assignment of Students to Classes and Grade Levels
- #242: JR - Student Records
 - JR-R - Student Records
 - JR-EB - Students Records
- #243: KF-RA - Community Use of School Facilities
- #244: LC - Relations with Education Research Agencies
 - LC-E - Relations with Education Research Agencies

Mrs. Bobbitt recommended Item 4.1 for adoption.

Mr. Phillips entertained a Motion to approve the Adoption of Policy Advisories #237 to #244.

MOTION: Mr. Omer so moved, Mr. Heredia seconded, Motion carried.

4.4. Discussion and Possible Action on Procedures for Admission into La Esperanza (Accommodation School)

Mrs. Bobbitt explained that last year the District had five long-term suspension students. After the creation of La Esperanza Middle School, Mrs. Bobbitt has worked with Stella Watts, Cocopah Student Advocate, Mr. Bocio, La Esperanza Teacher, and parents for possible placement there. One student was placed, two are pending and the other two are attending another alternative school in Yuma.

Mrs. Bobbitt specifically asked that a Hearing Officer be used for long-term suspension cases, and as recommended by the Hearing Officer, Mrs. Bobbitt would be designated with the authority to immediately place students at La Esperanza, so as not to interrupt their education. The other option would be for the Board to make those decisions.

The Board agreed with Mrs. Bobbitt's recommendation because they don't want student(s)' education to be put on hold because they meet once a month. After the hearing is held, the Board will be given the opportunity to review and ratify a decision as they see fit. Parents are to be advised that they have the right to request an audience or hearing before the Board.

Mr. Phillips entertained a Motion to approve

MOTION: Mr. Omer so moved, Mr. Heredia seconded, Motion carried.

4.5. Discussion on New School and Escalating Costs

Mr. Klein and Mrs. Bobbitt met with architects and construction representatives to discuss escalating costs that may delay new school construction. Four classrooms were eliminated to bring the cost down and they will be constructed in Phase II. The District is on the SFBs October Agenda. Mrs. Bobbitt has been in dialogue with Mr. Hogan and Spencer Smith to prepare.

When the new school is built, the full-day kinder classes from Tierra Del Sol and Desert Sonora will free up ten classrooms. Orange Grove will have their full-day kinder program for another year, until the second phase is completed.

Mr. Omer wondered what the SFB needed to understand the hardship they are putting on districts when allocating such limited funds. Mrs. Bobbitt said that the District is preparing a very strong argument to present at the SFB meeting in October and knows Mr. Hogan addressed this in his initial lawsuit. She added that throughout the state, when SFB meetings are held, they are held at districts where SFB money funded new buildings. After speaking to administrators of those districts, Mrs. Bobbitt understood that SFB did not primarily fund those buildings. There was no further discussion.

4.6. Discussion on Later Starting Date for the Beginning of School

Mrs. Bobbitt explained that additional information will be presented at the Study Session, but the District is examining cost-effectiveness for starting school in September. Utility costs were not available and an analysis of actual costs will be available at the Study Session. The Board asked for community input to see if this will make a difference for Migrant families.

The Board and Mrs. Bobbitt chose the following dates for upcoming meetings. Budget Sessions will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. only:

- Budget Session Tuesday, September 28
- Regular Session Thursday, October 14
- Budget Session Thursday, October 28
- Regular Session Thursday, November 18
- NO BUDGET SESSION November
- Regular Session Thursday, December 9
- NO BUDGET SESSION December

4.2. **A.R.S. §38-431.03 Executive Sessions**

Mr. Phillips Action

A. 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. The public body shall provide the officer, appointee or employee with written notice of the executive session as is appropriate but not less than twenty-four hours for the officer, appointee or employee to determine whether the discussion or consideration should occur at the public meeting.
- 3.** Discussion or consultation for legal advice with the attorney or attorneys of the public body.
- 4.** Discussion or consultation with the attorneys of the public body in order to consider its position and instruct its attorneys regarding the public body's position regarding contracts that are the subject of negotiations, in pending or contemplated litigation or in settlement discussions conducted in order to avoid or resolve litigation.

Mr. Phillips entertained a Motion to go in to Executive Session

MOTION: Mr. Omer so moved, Mrs. Bobbitt excused herself, Mr. Heredia seconded, the Board entered in to Executive Session at 7:54 p.m.

Mr. Phillips entertained a Motion to return to Regular Session.

MOTION: Mr. Omer so moved, Mrs. Yepez seconded, the Board entered returned to Regular Session at 10:15 p.m.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Phillips entertained a Motion to adjourn.

MOTION: Mr. Omer so moved, Mrs. Yepez seconded, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Signature of Board President/Clerk

Date