



MINUTES

Special Board Session Thursday, October 28, 2004 -- 6:00 p.m. *Work Study Session Immediately Follows*

Superintendent's Office
West Entrance
215 North Carlisle Avenue
Somerton, Arizona

Attending Board	Leticia Yopez	Martha Camacho	Dale Phillips
Absent Board	Luis Heredia	Scott Omer	
Others Public	Cathy Witmer	Judith Bobbitt	Rose Arévalo

1.a. Call to Order **President/Clerk**

Mr. Phillips called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

1.b. Pledge of Allegiance **President/Clerk**

Mr. Phillips asked Mrs. Camacho to lead the Pledge.

1.c. Approval to Change Early Release Dates for Parent/Teacher Conferences from November 3 & 4 to November 17 and 18 **Action President/Clerk**

Mrs. Bobbitt explained that the school principals asked for approval to move Parent/Teacher Conferences to November 17 and 18. With Board approval, the schools will send notices to advise parents.

Mr. Phillips entertained a Motion.

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

Work Study Session *Following Special Session to 8:00 p.m.*

1.a. Budget Presentation **Info Ms. Witmer**

At 6:12 p.m. Mrs. Witmer began her Budget presentation. The Board received Budget packets at the beginning of the school year that will reflect information in this presentation. This process shows how the revenue budget is developed and will assist the Board in developing the 2005-06 Budget. The Title 15 section of the Arizona Revised Statutes which is the Education section and the Uniform System of Financial Records (USFR) manual are followed carefully to assure compliance with the law in reporting financial information.

Mrs. Witmer explained that the calculation used to arrive at the General Budget Limit is to take the Base Revenue Control Limit (BRCL) plus the Transportation Revenue Control Limit (TRCL) which equals the Revenue Control Limit (RCL). Then you add the RCL to the Amounts Transferred to M & O from the CORL plus the M & O Override which equals (RCL x %) or Fixed Amount, then you add any additions to the Budget which equals the General Budget Limit. Each of those areas were explained and the Board saw how that calculation was reached.

Mrs. Witmer explained that the District received 1% of the funding for each student for each day a student is enrolled for the first 100 days. This is called the Average Daily Membership (ADM). Depending on which enrollment figure is higher on either the 40th and 100th day, that is the count used for calculating funds that go to the District. Unfortunately, the District's growth has not been predictable enough to estimate the amount the District will receive for ADM at a given time.

ADM has a weighted count for students with disabilities. A Regular Education student is counted at 1.0, but if in addition a student is hearing impaired, they would also receive an additional 4.771 which would bring that student's total ADM as 5.929. ARS 15-943 addressed weighted student count and goes in to detail on Group A and Group B-add on counts.

Mrs. Bobbitt interjected that Superintendent Horne is against bilingual programs and believes in English immersion. Instead of using the IPT test, that has been utilized for years, he insists on using the SELP Test. Jeanie Volpe, District ELL Coordinator, and other ELL administrators in the area, met and have information that Mrs. Bobbitt and Mrs. Volpe will be presenting to Tim Hogan in this regard. The area ELL people are concerned because they feel that the SELP test is devised so that most students taking will not pass, thus showing that students are proficient when they are not. This would mean that many districts, similar to Somerton will lose funding for their ELL students. Mrs. Witmer added that approximately \$605,000 is generated by the District's 1,799 ELL students.

Mrs. Bobbitt gave the Board a duplicate copy of notebooks that will be used by staff to record their involvement in Proposition 301 implementation. Teacher notebooks have instructions and requirements and are laid out simplistically so there is no confusion as to how they will be used by staff. Mrs. Bobbitt will be meeting with staff at each site to present the notebooks and instructions.

Mrs. Witmer concluded her presentation. The Board was pleased with the information received.

1.b. Adjournment

President/Clerk

Mr. Phillips entertained a Motion to adjourn.

MOTION: Mrs. Camacho so moved, Mrs. Yopez seconded, Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.