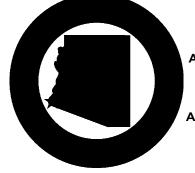
# **MINUTES**



**Attending Board** 

J. Scott Omer

Martha Camacho

Luis Heredia

**Absent Board** 

Leticia Yepez

Dale Phillips

**Attending Public** 

Jeanie Volpe Ken Huffman Martin Porchas Celine Fernandez Gerald Streit Ramiro Camarillo Maureen Irr Paul Filby Bill Rhodes Veronica Lopez Maria P. Vasquez Shelly Reed-Mezei

Jose Mendivil

Maria De La Fuente Enrique Porchas Elizabeth Merino George Brick Bob Cassidy Augustin Tumbaga Judith Bobbitt

Judith Lopez M. Rose Arévalo

Governing Board Work Study Session
Thursday, December 09, 2004 -- 6:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting Immediately Following

# **Desert Sonora Elementary**

301 North Carlisle Avenue Somerton, Arizona

# Presentation by Principals

Information

Mr. Omer noted the Study Session was canceled.

# Regular Board Meeting Immediately Following Work Session

# 1. OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

1.a. Call to Order

Mr. Omer

In Mr. Phillips' absence, Mr. Omer called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

1.b. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Omer

Mr. Heredia led the Pledge.

1.c. Audience with Individuals

Mr. Omer

Information

Mr. Rhodes, spokesperson for SEA Certified Meet/Confer Team, said Certified Staff will be polled in regard to next year's school calendar and he hopes their input will be used in regard to any decision on Item 4.07. Certified staff will be surveyed and given the option of beginning the school year after Labor Day. Mr. Omer informed Mr. Rhodes that Item 4.07 would be withdrawn from the Agenda.

Mr. Martin Porchas mentioned he did not see a Board Meeting announcement on Desert Sonora's billboard. Mrs. Bobbitt explained that the official posting place is outside the District Office in the display case.

Mr. Porchas had questions regarding Mr. Klein, hiring procedure, and whether background checks are made before hiring staff. He said he knew everyone knew where Mr. Klein was and asked if he was getting paid. He said it seems like the District hires family members, because Mr. Bobbitt had been hired and Mr. Klein's son had been hired for a position that Mr. Porchas didn't believe was posted. Mr. Porchas felt those jobs could have been filled by members of this community and not by people from outside this area. Mrs. Bobbitt said the Board hired her husband.

Mr. Porchas asked if money had been missing from the District before and insisted on an immediate investigation. Mr. Porchas said he felt District vehicles are being used by staff as if they are staff's personal property.

Mr. Porchas said he understood APS donated a year's supply of electricity at Reynoso Field and said that Mr. Klein was charging, hourly, for the lights. Mrs. Bobbitt clarified that the electrical poles were donated. In closing, Mr. Porchas asked what the Board's roll was in regard to hiring and school vehicles. He added that there are too many Anglo-Americans running this District, in a community largely made up of Hispanics.

Mr. Omer explained that the Board cannot comment or respond to Audience with Individuals. In addition, he said the Board has many of the same concerns and are keeping abreast of the situation.

#### 1.d. Approval of Board Minutes

Mr. Omer

**Action** 

• November 19, 2004

**Regular Minutes** 

Mr. Omer entertained a Motion to approve Minutes as submitted.

MOTION: Mr. Heredia so moved, Mrs. Camacho seconded, motion carried.

# 2. REPORTS

#### 2.a. Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Bobbitt

Information

Mrs. Bobbitt deferred to addressing the new school issue noted later on the Agenda.

# 2.b. Administrator's/Director's Report

Information

Mrs. De La Fuente publicly thanked principals for their support in publicizing and attending the recent Family Literacy nights held at their respective schools.

Mrs. Bobbitt mentioned that Ms. Fernández had visits from Crane District Principals and staff to observe DSSs strategies for working with ELL students and obtaining high student engagement.

#### 2.c. Board Member Report

Information

Mr. Heredia reported on the high school boundary meetings. The consensus was to draw Foothills' boundary first. Mr. Heredia feels that opening a high school closer to the center of Somerton would better serve the high school student population, because the mesa area has a smaller number of high school students.

# 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

Gustafson, Renee Teacher, Tierra Del Sol Elementary

#### 3.2 REASSIGNMENTS

Espinoza, Claudia Student Advocate, Somerton Middle School
 De La Cruz, Rosa Instructional Assistant, Desert Sonora Elementary

#### 3.3 ADDITIONAL ASSIGNMENT

Armenta, Maria I.
 Martinez, Edith
 Valladares, Adriana

#### 3.4 RETIREMENT / CONTRACTING WITH ESI

McBride, Ann Teacher, Tierra Del Sol Elementary

Mrs. Bobbitt recommended approval of Consent Agenda items as submitted.

Mr. Omer entertained a Motion.

**MOTION:** Mr. Heredia so moved, Mrs. Camacho seconded, Mr. Heredia asked that Mrs. McBride's be thanked for her years' of service to the District, Motion carried.

# 4. BUSINESS AND FINANCE

INFORMATION ONLY • Accounts Payable and Payroll Voucher Actual Amounts

Student Activity Report

#### 4.01. Approval of Accounts Payable and Payroll Vouchers for Second-Half of FY 2004-05

Mrs. Bobbitt recommended accounts payable and payroll vouchers for approval as submitted, in Ms. Witmer's absence.

Mr. Omer entertained a Motion.

**MOTION:** Mrs. Camacho moved to approve Item 4.01, Mr. Heredia seconded, Motion carried.

#### 4.02. Approval of Revised Annual Financial Report for 2003-04

Mrs. Bobbitt noted that Ms Witmer corrected coding errors. Corrections are reflected in the report the Board had to review. Mrs. Bobbitt recommended approval.

Mr. Omer entertained a Motion.

**MOTION:** Mr. Heredia so moved, Mrs. Camacho seconded, Mr. Omer asked for corrections to be flagged in some way to make them more visible. Mr. Heredia added that reports are available to the public and audit information is addressed throughout the year. Mrs. Bobbitt said Ms. Witmer addressed the discrepancy and reconciled the report. She added that reports are available to the public, Motion carried.

#### 4.03. Approval of IGA With SAVE Cooperative Purchasing Agreement

Mrs. Bobbitt noted great savings to the District being part of this cooperative and recommended for approval.

Mr. Omer entertained a Motion.

**MOTION:** Mrs. Camacho moved to approve Item 4.03, Mr. Heredia seconded, Motion carried.

## 4.04. Approval of Contracts and Existing RFP's

Mrs. Bobbitt noted that Ms. Witmer's report reflects a summary of contracts with existing agencies. She recommended for approval as submitted.

Mr. Omer entertained a Motion.

MOTION: Mr. Heredia so moved, Mrs. Camacho seconded, Motion carried.

# 4.05. Approval of Sole-Source Vendors

Mrs. Bobbitt explained Sole-Source Vendors are the only ones that provide the services noted in the information given to the Board for review. She recommended approval of this item.

Mr. Omer entertained a Motion.

**MOTION:** Mrs. Camacho moved to approve Item 4.05, Mr. Heredia seconded, Motion carried.

## 4.06. Approval to Issue RFP's

Mrs. Bobbitt recommended approval of Item 4.06 as submitted. These services are given for special education students with high needs, such as hearing or visual impairments. The District is reimbursed after services are rendered.

Mr. Omer entertained a Motion.

**MOTION:** Mrs. Camacho moved to approve Item 4.06, Mr. Heredia seconded and asked for Ms. Witmer to provide the mailing list of agencies or individuals that are contacted to respond to this RFP and wanted to know if local individuals have priority, Motion carried.

# 4.07. Discussion, Information, and Possible Action Regarding 2005-06 School Calendars

Mr. Omer noted this item will be addressed at a future meeting.

#### 4.08. Approval of Application for SFB Full-Day K

Mrs. Bobbitt explained this Item will allow her to present information to the SFB on their Agenda to request additional funding for the Full-Day K Program.

Mr. Omer entertained a Motion.

MOTION: Mr. Heredia so moved, Mrs. Camacho seconded, motion carried.

#### 4.09. Approval of Name for New School

Mr. Omer noted this item will be addressed at a future meeting.

# 4.10. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding New School

Mrs. Bobbitt explained that the State Facilities Board (SFB) is being very restrictive in approving monies for the new school. When the original application was submitted, they requested projected enrollment based ADM figures. Currently they are asking for attending membership from the beginning of this school year to the 40th day. Mrs. Bobbitt has been working with District, ADE, Candie Cooley, other district officials, as well as SFB staff to verify counts.

The District was pulled from the SFB November Agenda, however Mrs. Bobbitt explained to them that this project has been delayed three years and the SFB understood that escalating cost of material is consistent within Yuma County. The SFB agreed to either hold a special session or place the District on their January Agenda. The SFB agrees that funds should be awarded, so construction can continue.

Mrs. Bobbitt shared a projected demographic report from Mr. Dunbar Norton. Upon closer review, the Board asked for more current information, because some projects are complete, but the data shows them in-progress. The report had a projected enrollment of 6,450 over the next 5-6 years, which would be triple current numbers. The Board asked staff to work with the City to get current figures. The Board asked attending City Officials to thank their staff for the good working rapport they have with the District.

Everyone agreed it's unfortunate, that Full-Day and regular kindergarten students are counted as half a student. It was suggested that the legislative bill be reviewed to make sure this is still the case or whether it is only the interpretation of the SFB.

#### 4.11. Approval of Site for New Administrative Building

Mrs. Bobbitt explained that there has been discussion as to whether a joint venture with the City to have a park constructed off Garvin Street, on an area around Tierra Del Sol was feasible or another possibility would be to construct the new administrative building there, eliminating refurbishing the pink building as a temporary site for staff. Staff thought it would be more cost effective to build on the TDS site, eliminating the cost of refurbishing the pink building, which is targeted for destruction, as well as the additional moves to the pink building and then on to the new site. This may free funds to aide with construction of the admin building.

The new facility off Avenue F will house Early Childhood, Transportation, and Maintenance. Yuma County is in discussion with the District to possibly house high school busses for south county students. These funds could assist with construction. If the administrative building is near TDS, DSS would have added playground space.

Discussion included possible restrictions due to being in the airport sound area. The Board asked for staff to get input from the community in regards to having the Administrative Offices near TDS and not as centralized as it is now. The Board asked for a review of cost effectiveness in staying in the old building until the new building constructed or possible rental of a modular unit, either suggestion may eliminate renovation of pink building.

#### 4.12. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Principals' Recommendations

Mr. Omer noted this item was withdrawn at the request of the Principals.

#### 4.13. CALL FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Omer Action

#### A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A.3) 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:
  - 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.

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

Mrs. Bobbitt noted that Executive Session would be held in accordance with A.R.S. 38-431.03(A.3) regarding Personnel issues and A.R.S. 15-843(F.1.2) regarding Pupil Disciplinary issues. She asked that the Pupil Disciplinary item be addressed first, because administrators were in attendance. Mrs. Bobbitt reminded the public that action is taken in Executive Session, before the Board resumes Regular Session. She suggested making one Motion to enter in to Executive Session for both items.

Mr. Omer entertained a Motion to enter in to Executive Session in accordance with A.R.S. 38-431.03(A.3) regarding a Personnel issue and A.R.S. 15-843(F.1.2) regarding a Pupil Disciplinary matter.

MOTION: Mrs. Camacho so moved, Mr. Heredia seconded.

Mr. Heredia said that in regards to employee related issues, he feels the Board has been transparent and acknowledged that this is not a perfect institution. He added that he is very proud of the District's success in not having double sessions and the District's ability to access funds that other districts have not easily accessed. He asked that everyone look at the positives and what gives them energy because this District is doing better than other districts in some aspects.

Mrs. Bobbitt noted that items discussed could be addressed at the January meeting or she is willing to meet with anyone to explain procedures and background checks, keeping in mind that individual personnel issues cannot be discussed.

Motion carried. The Board entered in to Executive Session at 6:59 p.m.

- 4.13a. Decision and Possible Action on Pupil Disciplinary Proceedings
- 4.13b. Ratification of Student Alternative School Placement
- 4.13c. Approval of Hearing Officer's Recommendation for Long-Term Suspension

The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:36 p.m.

**MOTION:** Mr. Heredia moved to return to Regular Session, Mrs. Camacho seconded, Motion carried.

# 5. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Omer entertained a Motion to adjourn.

**MOTION:** Mr. Heredia so moved, Mrs. Camacho seconded, motion carried. The Meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.