



MINUTES

Monday, August 12, 2002

6:00 p.m.

Governing Board Room
215 North Carlisle Avenue
Somerton, Arizona

Attending Board

J. Scott Omer
Luis Heredia

Leticia Yepez
Dale Phillips (6:19 p.m.)

Absent Board

Martha Camacho

Attending Public

Ken Huffman
Elizabeth Merino
Celine Fernández
Jerry Cabrera
Kurt Karwoski

Shelly Reed
Martin Porchas
Patsy Howerton
Mike Slawinski
Bob Klein

Lydia Mendoza
Blanche Odom
Maureen Irr
Bill Rhodes
Cathy Witmer

1. OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

1.a. Call to Order

Mr. Phillips

Mr. Omer explained that Mr. Phillips had a family emergency and would arrive late. Mr. Omer called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

1.b. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Phillips

Mr. Heredia lead the Pledge.

1.c. Approval of Board Minutes

Mr. Phillips

Action

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

MOTION: Mrs. Yepez moved to approve Executive Session Minutes as submitted, Mr. Heredia seconded, Motion carried.

1.d. Audience with Individuals

Information

Mr. Martin Porchas asked for an explanation of what was happening with the mold at Tierra Del Sol.

The Board reminded the public that the time for Audience with Individuals is for the community to voice their opinion and that normally the Board makes no comment. In this case, they asked Mrs. Bobbitt to explain the situation at Tierra Del Sol (TDS).

Mrs. Bobbitt assured all present that the mold present at TDS is not harmful to the health of anyone in the building. On-going air quality tests reveal that there is more harmful mold in

the air outside than in the building. Because this has been a constant concern, the State Facilities Board (SFB) has conducted tests and the District hired an independent expert to do additional tests. Remediation has been held up because the SFB has had a change in administration. Painting and shelving are being completed in classrooms so that rooms will be ready for the school year.

The District is certain that Tierra Del Sol has a safe environment for students, staff, and the community. Mrs. Bobbitt asked the public to contact herself or Mr. Klein with additional concerns. Three Board Members have children attending TDS and they know that the building is safe. The Board asked for a District representative to be present at TDS's Open House to address concerns the parents may have. Mr. Klein mentioned that he would request a fax transmittal of the most recent test so that parents will be apprised of the most current information.

1.e. Call for Executive Session **Mr. Phillips** Action

A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A.1) Executive Sessions

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 a public meeting.

A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A.3) Executive Sessions

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

A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A.4) Executive Sessions

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. §38-431.03 (A.5) Executive Sessions

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.

Mrs. Bobbitt said there was no reason to hold an Executive Session at this time.

2. REPORTS

2.a. Superintendent's Report **Mrs. Bobbitt** Information

Mrs. Bobbitt asked Mr. Klein to speak in regard to project updates. Projects are about eight weeks later than originally expected. This means that they will not be completed by the first day of school. Pipes at Orange Grove were repaired, mold remediation is completed at Tierra Del Sol and rooms are being rearranged. He assured that the Board that areas will be cleaned in time for school to open. The major projects being held are the air conditioning units and roofing at Orange Grove and the Middle School. Truck mounted a/c units were looked in to, but the cost was high and they wouldn't arrive until the weather would cool. In addition, the bell and intercom system at the Middle School may not be restored for a while.

Mr. Omer asked about the sheet rock and painting completion times at TDS. Mr. Klein assured the Board that those projects will be done with exception of the wall paper. Work crews must complete their jobs before teachers and students occupy rooms. Teachers will be able to arrange their rooms in time for students.

Mrs. Bobbitt reminded the Board of Rick Grandinetti's presentations at the Middle School to students at 8:15 and staff at 1:15 p.m. An audio/visual person from AWC will be video taping the presentations and copies will be made for the District and AWC's use. Mrs. Bobbitt thanked Mr. Phillips for his part in convincing Mr. Grandinetti to present at a lower cost.

Mr. Klein explained that deficiency projects will be adding 25, 000 square feet and staff have been able to assist in design. Most construction will be confined to a single building near Pod E, which are the existing locker rooms. There will be four classrooms, a work area, faculty lounge, science room, workroom for teachers, vocational education, in-school suspension and much needed restrooms.

The office area will be reviewed so that the AWC office will have access from outside campus. More money must be allocated from the SFB because earthquake construction is required. The latest completion date is July 15, 2003. Mr. Rhodes mentioned that students and staff were able to give input in the design and was pleased with the architects interest in getting information from everyone.

With the additional space, the multipurpose room will be utilized as first envisioned. Mr. Heredia was very impressed with the architects and Mrs. Bobbitt said that this EMC2 had gotten input from students, staff and the community when constructing Desert Sonora. In this regard, Mrs. Bobbitt suggested finding other ways to have the community become more involved and vocal in the decisions being made, not only in construction, but in the educational arena also. Mr. Heredia suggested public participation and identifying groups of staff to work on different projects. He felt that having different Open Board Meetings at school sites, might give the public more of a chance to attend Board Meetings and get involved. Mr. Omer said that he felt staff would feel more at home if the meetings were held in their surroundings. Mrs. Bobbitt added that when she's attended the Interfaith Meetings, equipment is used for translation, so that more people understand the meetings and the District might want to invest in that type of equipment.

Another suggestion was to post Minutes or keep them available in offices for review. The suggestion was made to have them available on the website. Mr. Phillips explained that having meeting with children involvement also brings parent participation. In addition, Mr. Phillips said he was happy to hear students had a voice in the construction of the new facilities.

2.b. Administrative Reports

Information

Mrs. Bobbitt explained that she had not requested Board Reports from administrators because they have been busy readying their schools for the first day of school. The new certified staff were welcomed with a potluck hosted by the District Complex Staff. As part of the new teacher orientation, staff was able to take a tour of the District, the Cocopah Tribe and Museum and enjoy a luncheon hosted by SEA also.

Mrs. Bobbitt introduced Mrs. Lydia Mendoza as the new principal at the Middle School. She added that Monsignor O'Keefe congratulated the Board and the District for going after quality staff, he was referring to Mrs. Lopez and Mrs. Mendoza. In addition, she recognized, Mrs. Odom, SMS Assistant Principal, Mr. Jerry Cabrera who will be mentored by Mrs. Howerton as Literacy Coordinator. She added that Ms. Shelly Reed took a new position as

Federal Projects Director. This position was not filled after Mr. Iverson left and Mrs. Irr graciously took over all those duties, but with the assistance of Ms. Reed, the load won't be as heavy.

2.c. Student Activity Information
Mrs. Bobbitt explained that auditors require Student Activity to be presented to the Board monthly. Having it on the Agenda allows for discussion as needed.

2.d. Board Member Report Information
The Board welcomed everyone back and are looking forward to a good school year.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

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.

• PERSONNEL **Mrs. Bobbitt** **Action**

3.1 HIRING

Mrs. Bobbitt explained that personnel was hired at a previous meeting, this Motion will be to ratify Items 3.1 to 3.3 and she asked for approval of Items 3.4 through 3.8.

MOTION: Mr. Omer moved to ratify Items 3.1 to 3.3, Mrs. Yopez seconded, Motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Omer made the second motion to approve Items 3.4 to 3.8, Mr. Heredia seconded, Motion carried.

4. BUSINESS AND FINANCE **Mrs. Bobbitt** **Action**

4.1. Signing of Vouchers

Mrs. Bobbitt submitted for the Board's approval the accounts payable encumbrance vouchers processed in July, ratification of vouchers of accounts payable vouchers processed in July for FY 2002-03, and approval of Accounts Payable Vouchers for FY 2002-03.

MOTION: Mr. Heredia moved to approve Item 4.1, Mr. Omer seconded, Motion carried.

4.2. Accounts Payable for August - December Vouchers NTE \$500,000.

Mrs. Bobbitt submitted approval of ratification of payroll vouchers Numbers 1 through 9 processed in July for FY 2002-03 and approval of Payroll Vouchers for FY 2002-03 for August through December. She suggested approval both in on Motion.

MOTION: Mr. Omer moved to approve Payroll Vouchers for FY 2002-03 that were processed in July and Payroll Vouchers for August through December, Mr. Heredia seconded, Motion carried.

4.3. First Reading of Policy Advisory

Mrs. Bobbitt submitted Policy Advisories #203 to #211 for approval. She explained that there were some technical changes. In addition, there may be some reauthorization Title I changes that will be sent at a later date. These items are sent throughout the District for comments or changes as submitted by staff.

MOTION: Mr. Yepez moved to approve the First Reading of the Policy Advisories, Mr. Omer seconded, Motion carried.

4.4. Approval of Award Contract for Legal Services

Mrs. Bobbitt said that bids were sent out and DeConcini, McDonald, Yetwin, and Lacy was the lowest bidder. They have provided quality service in the past, have many attorneys that are familiar with education law and use their expertise in a variety of situations.

MOTION: Mr. Omer moved to approve the Motion to award the Contract of Legal Services to DeConcini, McDonald, Yetwin, and Lacy, Mr. Heredia seconded. Mrs. Bobbitt said the firm had a slight increase in cost, but that the District also receives services at a discounted rate. Motion carried.

4.5. Approval of Certified Qualified Evaluators

Mrs. Bobbitt recommended herself, Lydia Mendoza, Blanche Odom, Frank Reed, Celine Fernández, Veronica Lopez and Maria P. Vasquez approved by the Board as qualified evaluators.

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

4.6. Approval of Sign Declaration of Curriculum and Instructional Alignment to the Arizona Academic Standards.

Mrs. Bobbitt submitted the Declaration of Curriculum and Instructional Alignment to Arizona Academic Standards for approval. This document will be submitted to ADE. Principals will sign a similar document in May, documenting that they applied these standards throughout the school year.

MOTION: Mr. Omer moved to approve, Mr. Heredia seconded. Mr. Omer asked why this was being requested of us, Mrs. Bobbitt said it's a matter of accountability for ADE. It must be recorded that we are aware what is being expected of the District.

Mr. Phillips said that he was on a radio talk show and he told the community that schools are the lowest paid in the country.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Phillips entertained a Motion to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Heredia so moved, Mrs. Yepez seconded, Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Board President or Clerk's Signature

Date