



MINUTES

Monday, May 12, 2003 -- 4:00 p.m.

Public Hearing and Regular Governing Board Meeting

Governing Board Room
215 North Carlisle Avenue
Somerton, Arizona

Attending Board	Dale Phillips	Martha Camacho	Luis Heredia
Absent Board	J. Scott Omer	Leticia Yepez	
Attending Public	Jerry Cabrera	Jean Volpe	Bill Rhodes
	Celine Fernández	Duane Sheppard	Jody Attaway
	Mike Slawinski	Maureen Irr	George Blek
	Maria P.Vasquez	Ken Huffman	Jean Glover
	Elizabeth Merino	Blanche Odom	George Brick
	Merton Glass	Cathy Witmer	Bob Klein
	Judith Bobbitt	Rose Arévalo	

Public Hearing -- 6:00 p.m. 2002-2003 REVISED BUDGET

Regular Meeting Will Immediately Follow Public Hearing

The Public Hearing began at 6:20 p.m. Ms. Witmer explained that the total budget increase is \$261,718. The District stays under budget because it is written to the maximum capacity. The Public Hearing ended at 6:23 p.m.

MINUTES

Monday, May 12, 2003

Regular Governing Board Meeting

Governing Board Room
215 North Carlisle Avenue, Somerton, Arizona

1. OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1.a. Call to Order** **Mr. Phillips**
Mr. Phillips called the meeting to order at 6:23 p.m.
- 1.b. Pledge of Allegiance** **Mr. Phillips**
Mr. Heredia led the Pledge.
- 1.c. Audience with Individuals** **Mr. Phillips** **Information**
None were submitted.
- 1.d. Approval of Board Minutes** **Mr. Phillips** **Action**
• **Regular Session -- April 14, 2003** • **Executive Session -- April 14, 2003**
• **Special Session -- April 15, 2003**

Mr. Phillips asked for revisions to the Board Minutes or a Motion to accept as submitted.

MOTION: Mrs. Camacho moved to approve April 14 Regular Session Minutes and April 15 Special Session, Mr. Heredia seconded, Motion carried.

MOTION: Mrs. Camacho moved to approve the Executive Minutes, Mr. Heredia seconded, Motion carried.

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. 38-431.07 (A.7) Executive Sessions

Discussion or consultations with designated representatives of the public body in order to consider its position and instruct its representatives regarding negotiations for the purchase, sale, or lease of real property.

Executive Session was not needed.

2. REPORTS

2.a. Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Bobbitt

Information

State Superintendent Horne appointed Mrs. Bobbitt to a Teacher Certification Committee that will take recommendations to the State Board of Education. The Committee will assure all *No Child Left Behind* (NCLB) criteria is met in relation to teacher certification. This committee will also be looking at classes available or lacking that teachers are required for certification. Under No Child Left Behind, Emergency Certified teachers are not considered 'quality teachers'.

The Intern Certificate may be used by an individual with a degree in another subject area that will be going in to teaching. They would enter a fast track program with mentoring and tutoring in order to qualify for their Standard Certificate. Special Education teachers may hold dual certificates, Special and Regular Ed, which means they would have to have a certain amount of time in each subject in order to qualify for both certificates.

Mrs. Bobbitt hopes to recruit people from Yuma to attend meetings and possibly expedite the recommendation that has to be submitted to the State Board in August.

Mrs. Bobbitt said that position openings have been filled thanks to Administrators working diligently with applicants. In addition, we have hired quality teachers from current staff that have moved from lower level positions after receiving their teaching degrees. The District hopes to continue this practice when possible.

The Board received information on the 5.2% overall increase Arizona Retirement System shows for the 2003-04 employee/employer contribution. The employer is not allowed to pay for the employee's cost, but can increase salaries to cover the increase. In addition, medical insurance shows an increase of almost 15%. If the insurance is prepaid by the District, the District could pay the increase for the employee. This is all contingent upon the outcome of the legislative budget.

The Board's packet included a sample contract, which reflects the base salary of this year's schedule which guarantees that no one will make less than what they are making this year. Information includes projected salary amounts, about 2% to the base, which both the legislative and governor's budgets reflect. Because this information is included on the contracts, there is no need to void them and reissue.

State Representatives Aguirre, Cannell, and Carruthers held a budget testimony session on May 16 in Yuma to get information to take to government officials in hopes that they can change the minds of those wanting to cut the education budget.

Mr. Klein explained that the sample contract is a little misleading because the dollar figure should be 3.5% of the employee's contract amount, which is the maximum. If all triggers are met, it will be a lesser amount, not everyone will receive \$1,042. Mrs. Bobbitt assured the Board that employees would receive an explanation of this information.

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

The Board did not have questions of the administrator's reports. However, Mr. Heredia attended a Cinco De Mayo celebration where the Orange Grove Folkloric Dancers performed. He congratulated them on a great performance and said he knows they are very busy with performance throughout the Yuma.

Mr. Sheppard said that Stanford 9 data has been distributed to principals and a presentation to the Board will be made either in June or in the fall. Principals and their staff will be working the first week of June to disaggregate information. The Board asked that they receive information in June in order to plan in advance.

2.c. Board Member Report Information

Mr. Phillips thanked Somerton Middle School for the invitation for him to participate in their Career Day. He had one student ask if he had to finish high school to be a storyteller. Mr. Phillips said he explained that traditional Cocopah stories use the coyote, because it is a trickster that cons people in to doing things that are unacceptable. But even the coyote is a good teacher because you don't do what he tells you, but you learn from what he tells you.

Mr. Phillips thanked the principals and Mr. Rhodes because he learned a lot from them, even if they only spoke for a short time. Presentations were scheduled at Orange Grove and Tierra Del Sol that will include traditional Cocopah dancing, singing and storytelling. Some Cocopah girls will be participating at their schools. His people believe that life and music go together. They travel through life as a journey and if you miss a musical note and are out of harmony, you can be out of balance in your life.

In addition, students will contribute to the presentations by illustrating the animals in the stories, editing the stories and participating as dancers. His hope is to translate the stories in to Cocopah and someday have everyone speak their language.

Mr. Heredia also thanked the Middle School staff for the opportunity to have Manny Cisneros from Phoenix participate. He is a former Somerton resident, who is now employed as the Director of the Equal Opportunity Office of the Governor. In addition, Mr. Heredia mentioned another Somerton student, Aracely Rodriguez, who is Cibola's 2002-03 Valedictorian and will be attending Stanford. Aracely's sister, Laura, is at U. C. Berkley completing her Doctorate as a School Psychologist. Mr. Phillips acknowledged the positive role models our students have.

3. CONSENT AGENDA -- PERSONNEL 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

- | | | |
|---------------|------------------|--|
| 3.1.a. | Alvarez, Juan C. | Temporary, Custodian, Somerton Middle School |
| 3.1.b. | Cooper, Samantha | Teacher, Orange Grove Elementary |
| 3.1.c. | Fusana, Lourdes | Teacher, Desert Sonora Elementary |
| 3.1.d. | Gentry, Jahan | Teacher, Orange Grove Elementary |

- 3.1 HIRING (cont'd)**
- 3.1.e.** Salas, Martha Teacher, Desert Sonora Elementary
3.1.f. Sanchez, Herminia Temporary Health Aide, Desert Sonora Elementary
3.1.g. Sanchez, Jason Teacher, Tierra Del Sol Elementary
3.1.h. Sanchez, Suzanne Teacher, Tierra Del Sol Elementary
- 3.2 REQUEST FOR RESIGNATION / RETIREMENT**
- 3.2.a.** Castro, Anthony Teacher, Desert Sonora Elementary
3.2.b. Garcia, Manuel Teacher, Somerton Middle School
3.2.c. Gonzalez, Claudia COE Worker, Tierra Del Sol Elementary
3.2.d. Odom, Blanche Assistant Principal, Somerton Middle School
3.2.e. Patel, Pallavi Teacher, Orange Grove Elementary
3.2.f. Steinfeld, Jane Teacher, Orange Grove Elementary
3.2.g. Vondrak, Elizabeth Teacher, Tierra Del Sol Elementary
- 3.3 REASSIGNMENT**
- 3.3.a.** Arvizo, Cecilia Teacher, Tierra Del Sol Elementary
3.3.b. Colvin, Roxanna Teacher, Desert Sonora Elementary
3.3.c. Llanes, Yvonne Teacher, Tierra Del Sol Elementary
3.3.d. Slawinski, Michael Teacher, Tierra Del Sol Elementary
3.3.e. Touchet, Jean Teacher, Orange Grove Elementary
3.3.f. Volpe, Tom Teacher, Desert Sonora Elementary
- 3.4 ADDITIONAL ASSIGNMENTS**
- 3.4.a.** Moreno, Javier Migrant Even Start Summer Program
- 3.4.b. After School Tutorial (AIMS Preparation)**
- Fermanis, Chris
 - Houg, Lynda
- 3.4.c. After School Counseling**
- Garcia, Theresa
 - LaMarque, Marina
 - Weissenberg, Patricia
- 3.4.d. Summer School Counselor**
- Weissenberg, Patricia
- 3.4.e. Title I**
- Barba, Sylvia
 - Rodriguez, Irene
- 3.4.f. Somerton Middle School Summer Program**
- Bobbitt, M. Douglas
 - LaMarque, Marina
 - Klotz, Melany
 - Volenstine, Joe
- 3.4.g. Newcomers Summer Program**
- Anaya, Gema
 - Medina, Petra
 - Chávez, J. Matthew
 - Nuñez, Maria
 - Lopez, Maria T.
 - Villafaña, Juan
- 3.4.h. Instructional Calendar Planning**
- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Bravo, Anna | Gentry, Jahan |
| Pacheco, Edna | Touchet, Jean |
| Caiazzo, Maria | Hernandez, Gloria |
| Rodriguez, Brenda | Tyus, Odette |
| Camarillo, Adriana | Houg, Lynda |
| Steinfeld, Jane | Wilson, Madeline |
| Cooper, Samantha | Martinez, Erika |
| Stillings, June | Zarate, Ana |

3.4.i. 2003 Summer School

Nurses (2)	Reynoso, Bertha
Benitez, Cristina	Gomez, Ana
Magana, Meredith	Robles, Melissa
Casillas, Jorge	Heredia, Julia
Mora, Linda	Valencia, Irma
Casillas, Martina	Juarez, Julieta
Moreno, Manuela	Vargas, Alba
Felix, Hilario	

3.4.j. 2003 Summer School Staff

Volpe, Tom	Cook, Beth
Ullery, Guadalupe	Glass, Paula
Martinez, Erika	Conwill, Dinora
Cortez, Nilda	Garlitz, Jessica
Salas, Martha	Spadafino, Christine
Bravo, Ana	Rodriguez, Lydia
Bohon, Ana Laura	Piche, Shannon
Colvin, Roxanna	Manherz, Michael
Stillings, June	Volenstine, Paula
Duran, Juan C.	Klotz, Melany
Lupercio, Araceli	Navarro, Liz
Pacheco, Edna	Juarez, Gladys
Garner, Charles	Sharp, Marichu
Ledet, Frances	Johnson, Linda
Hernandez, Gloria	Parker, Le Anne
Smith, Stan	Salas, Adriana
Rodriguez, Brenda	Arvizu, Paz
Neblina, Karla	Andersen, Kristi
Cale, Donna	Sullivan, Jennifer
Birmingham, Carolyn	Cervantes, Eva
Macedo, Alba	Chavez, Annette
Touchet, Jean	Riccuitti, Steven
Streit, Jerry	Llanes, Yvonne
Reimnitz, Katrina	Garlit, Russell
Rhodes, Bill	LaMarque, Marina
Moreno, Natalia	Hamilton, Leah
Riccuitti, Lisa	

3.5 2003-04 New Positions -- Somerton Middle School

3.5.a. Custodian

3.5.b. Part-Time Student Advocate

3.5.c. Dean of Students

Mrs. Bobbitt explained that Mrs. Odom has accepted a Principalship in Safford and Mrs. Steinfeld has submitted her wish to retire at the end of the next school year. There are various reassignments of staff to Reading Coaches, Reading Specialists, an additional custodian for the Middle School to accommodate the new classrooms. The recommendation to retain the position of Dean of Students because staff has seen a marked improvement and feel this position will benefit students for at least one more school. Mrs. Bobbitt recommended Consent Agenda Items for approval and told the Board she would be able to give more information on other items as needed. Mr. Heredia asked to hold Items 3.1 through 3.5.a.

Mr. Phillips asked for discussion or a Motion to accept Consent Agenda Items as submitted.

MOTION: Mr. Heredia moved to accept Items 3.1 to 3.5.a, Mrs. Camacho, Motion carried.

4. BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Mrs. Bobbitt

Action

4.01. Ratification of Accounts Payable Vouchers (April)

4.02. Approval of General Statement of Assurance

4.03. Approval of Revised Budget for 2002-03

Mrs. Bobbitt recommended Items 4.01 to 4.03 for approval.

Mr. Phillips entertained the Motion.

MOTION: Mrs. Camacho moved to approve Items 4.01 through 4.03, Mr. Heredia seconded, Motion carried.

4.04. Approval to Consider and, If Deemed Appropriate, Authorize the District to Pay 2003-04 Increase in Medical Insurance Premium Expense or Pass On the Increase to Employees

Mrs. Bobbitt moved to approve Item 4.04.

Mr. Phillips entertained motion to accept. Mr. Heredia asked if other plans have been considered. Mrs. Witmer assured the Board that having the District pay the increase, that is more than double of the current payments, for employees. Either the District would prepay the cost or increasing salaries to pay for the cost are the options given to the Board. The District is trying not to impact employees gross pay.

Mr. Rhodes said that most employees want the District to be responsible for the increase. Ms. Witmer said that dependent coverage and another plan that is more cost effective for families are being looked at.

Mr. Phillips entertained a Motion.

MOTION: Mr. Heredia moved to Authorize the District to Pay 2003-04 Increase in Medical Insurance Premium Expense, Mrs. Camacho seconded, Motion carried.

4.05. Acceptance of Student Activity Information

Mrs. Bobbitt explained that this item is always on the Agenda because Student Activity must be reported to the Board monthly. Student Activity listed on the Agenda allows for discussion if needed.

4.06. Approval of 301 Plan

Mrs. Bobbitt asked for this item to be withdrawn because this information needs to go before Meet and Confer and then to staff for their input.

4.07. Approval to Issue Certified Contracts and Contract Language

Mrs. Bobbitt referred to the sample contract for the Board's review. She explained that the wording allows for changes without reissuing contracts. A letter will be sent to staff indicating what salary increases are when information is received.

Mr. Phillips entertained a Motion to approve.

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

4.08. Ratification of Final Purchase Agreement for Property Adjacent to Middle School

Mrs. Bobbitt explained that the homeowners accepted the Districts counter bid and the parking and entrance at Somerton Middle School will begin July. The City has agreed to open Jefferson Street.

MOTION: Mr. Heredia moved to ratify the final purchase agreement for the property adjacent to the Middle School, Mrs. Camacho seconded, Motion carried.

4.09. Approval of ELL Task Force Recommendations

Mr. Phillips entertained the Motion to approve the ELL Task Force.

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

Mr. Heredia thanked everyone on the Meet and Confer team and was very appreciative of the positive outcome. Mrs. Bobbitt said that the communication between groups was meshing well.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Phillips entertained a Motion to adjourn.

MOTION: Mrs. Camacho so moved, Mr. Heredia seconded, Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Signature of Board President/Clerk

Date