



Phoenix Elementary School District No. 1

Regular Session - Executive Session
May 28, 2009

Dr. Ruth Ann Marston presided over the PESD #1 Governing Board Meeting in the Phoenix Elementary School District Governing Board Room.

Other Board members present at the meeting were:

Mr. Doug Allsworth Ms. Susan Bliss Ms. Liz Meza Dr. Louisa Stark

Also present were:

Ms. Myriam Roa Chief Executive Officer	Mr. Tom Lind Interim Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction	Mr. Kenneth Baca Assistant Superintendent for Business Services
Mr. Randy Dickason Executive Director for Human Resources	Ms. Eleanor Moyza Board Secretary	

A. Regular Session – 6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order – Dr. Ruth Ann Marston, President
2. Pledge of Allegiance – Tom Lind
3. Adjourn to Executive Session

(Item E was discussed out of the order of discussion)

E. Chief Executive Officer’s Report

1. Acknowledgement of Educational Certification and Official Re-designation of Chief Executive Officer to Superintendent

Dr. Marston stated that two years ago they had the opportunity as a Board to choose a new leader for our District upon the retirement of a loved and effective Superintendent, Dr. Georgina Takemoto. She stated that they chose to make an unconventional choice; they had a lot of good candidates with a lot of outstanding characteristics. They chose someone who had already proven herself as our Assistant Superintendent for Business and who was already familiar with and concerned with the implementation of the District’s Strategic Plan. They chose someone that they already knew to be supportive of the members of our staff and especially supportive of their professional and personal development.

Dr. Stark moved approval to acknowledge the Educational Certification and official Re-Designation of Chief Executive Officer Myriam Roa to Superintendent and CEO. Ms. Meza seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Ms. Roa thanked Dr. Marston and said “If I may pause to thank all of those who have helped me on my journey and who continue to support and inspire me, this Governing Board took a big chance on me and I’m very proud of all of you, my Cabinet, Mr. Kenneth Baca, Mr. Russell

Sanders, Mr. Randy Dickason, Prudence Lee, who was on my Cabinet for a year and still works with us on special projects and Mr. Tom Lind, and the absolutely brilliant administrators that work with us even through these tough economic times. We have weathered this together as an organization by keeping our unified focus on academic achievement and support of our students and families. We'll be using our Title One Stimulus Money to the best advantage; we have accolades from the Department of Education on Implementation of our English Language Development Model, we have been told that our model for implementing the Stimulus Money to add three Reading Interventionists at every school is an excellent example of using this money to save jobs and increase student achievement. All of this through the support and brilliant ideas of the administration and staff of this District I am so proud to lead."

Dr. Marston thanked Christine Miller, the Music Teacher from Emerson School for playing the piano and Rick Hernandez from Bethune for playing the trumpet on Myriam's behalf. She thanked Sara Bresnahan for bringing the cake and also thanked all the other people without mentioning names, who made this happen and she stated that they know who they are.

2. Awards and Recognitions

Ms. Roa congratulated Mr. Russell Sanders for Capitol School's achievement of Reading First Lighthouse Status. Mr. Sanders introduced his Kinder and First Grade Team and stated that Capitol School was recognized by the Arizona Department of Education through the Reading First Program as a Lighthouse School for its outstanding performance as measured by the Dibbles Assessment, the Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills that they applied for the outstanding job done by the Kinder and First Grade Teams. Mr. Sanders introduced the Kinder Team Members; Ms. Marissa Madsen, Ms. Eliza Roper and Ms. Anna Alarcon and stated that they have been an outstanding team producing results consistently for the last three years. He introduced the First Grade Team and stated that they accepted the challenge of continuous growth and excellence. He introduced two representatives who were at the Board Meeting as Ms. Jennifer Douglas and Ms. Martha Fizzard, two outstanding teachers who worked collaboratively as a team for the benefit of students and he stated that they make Capitol School proud and helped to lead the way for the entire school.

B. Executive Session

§38-431.03.5. 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

Ms. Bliss moved approval for the Board to move into Executive Session and Dr. Stark seconded the motion. The Board moved into Executive Session at 6:15 p.m.

1. Receive and Discuss the Meet and Confer Salaries, Proposals and Budget Impact
2. Adjourn to Regular Session (7:30 p.m.)

C. Approval of Consent Agenda

1. Ratification of Payroll \$4,281,673.02 and Expense Vouchers \$1,303,423.67 in the Total Amount of \$5,585,096.69 (May 14, 2009 Board Meeting)
2. Ratification of Payroll \$1,157.97 and Expense Vouchers \$859,665.71 in the Total Amount of \$860,823.68 (May 28, 2009 Board Meeting)
3. Request for Approval of Gifts and Donations
4. Request for Approval of Resolution to Allow Maricopa County Superintendent of Schools Office As the Chief Disbursing Office for All Wage Garnishments
5. Request to Ratify Out of District Field Trips
6. Request for Approval of Out of State Travel
7. Request for Approval of Employment of Administrative, Certified and Classified Staff and Employee Contract Adjustments

8. Request for Approval of Separation of Employment, Resignations and Retirements
Ms. Bliss moved approval of the Consent Agenda and Dr. Stark seconded the motion. The Board Unanimously approved the motion and was passed.

D. Community Communications

Ms. Pat Kuhn submitted a Speaker Card and informed the Board that Ms. Evelyn Gibbons, a retired school Principal for a number of years who worked at Shaw and Longfellow Schools passed away last week. Dr. Marston thanked her and stated that the Board receives all milestones, but stated that the community should be aware of it and told Ms. Kuhn that the Board appreciates her bringing it to their attention.

Ms. Pat Kuhn also stated that now that we are recruiting students to the Charter School, she'd like to see some type of information go out to the community and letting them know.

F. Business Services – Kenneth Baca, Assistant Superintendent

1. Receive and Discuss Conceptual Drawings for Facility Addition to Silvestre S. Herrera School

Mr. Ben Barcone from the ADM Group presented slides of the Conceptual Drawings of the Herrera Performing Arts Center and stated that they have worked hard and diligently with the Herrera Community, with staff and administration to be able to make modifications but continuing on with the project. Mr. Barcone introduced Jennifer Bowen the Project Manager and Tim Terrell the Contractor with Ry-Tan Construction who works on the project with them on a daily basis. Mr. Barcone stated that they not only work with the schedule, but also with the budget and added that they are constantly monitoring the budget to make sure that they're within the dollars that they originally gave.

Ms. Meza asked how wheelchair-bound students can get on the stage and Mr. Barcone stated that they have two ADA ramps that start on either end onto the stage and the ramp from the stage craft is in the back.

Regarding parking spaces, Mr. Barcone stated that there are 104 spaces by calculations for this complex, but we are only required to have 94 spaces.

Ms. Bliss asked if meetings have been held with the community and asked who has been involved with this. Dr. Carolyn Taylor, Principal of Herrera School spoke about the involvement of the community and stated that they have had several meetings with their teachers and are still meeting, having conversations and negotiating the use of the interior rooms and stated that this information was presented to their Community Council and they did have parents in attendance at that meeting and also at their monthly Breakfast with the Principal Meetings, where they usually have 20-30 parents in attendance. Dr. Taylor stated that the drawings have been posted on the building so that when people come in and out of the building they have an opportunity to see the drawings and school staff is always available to answer any questions that community members or parents might have.

Ms. Pat Kuhn submitted a Speaker Card and expressed her opinion about the Herrera School Addition, the parking and then asked how long the building will be in existence with the airport expansion. Dr. Marston stated that the Board doesn't have information on what's happening at the airport but we have the capacity to transport people from this building so it can be in existence as long as we want it to be. Dr. Marston asked Mr. Rosenfeld if he sees any impediments to building it to which Mr. Rosenfeld stated that he doesn't see any impediments.

2. Request Approval to Consider and, if Deemed Advisable, Adopt a Resolution Ordering and Calling a Special Override Election to be Held in and for the District on November 3, 2009

Dr. Marston stated that the Board needs to know that if they move to authorize it now and if the

economy worsens, are we going to be in a position to cancel it? Mr. Baca stated that he would turn this over to our expert, Mr. Rosenfeld, who stated that it is not clear whether we can cancel it or not. However, the passage of it does not mandate that the future budgets be that high; that just changes the revenue control limit and increases it. The District can budget below that if they want to, but that would depend on the times. He stated that the situation that the District has is that uniquely for Arizona (he doesn't know if this is true in any other state), Override Elections can go for 7 years but they reduce on the last two years, one third each year and then they phase out. By moving the elections to November, we are almost required that we hold it the year before it starts to phase down if we want to keep the same authorization and keep the revenue control exception at the 10% or 15% limit. Mr. Rosenfeld stated that there is a bill in the Legislature to allow a single March election in 2010 for 17% combined to make up for the falling state revenues, but it hasn't passed and nobody knows right now what's going to happen in this Legislature and very few things have passed.

Dr. Marston stated that we are concerned with possibly unnecessarily burdening our taxpayers including ourselves, so we need to be clear about it because they've been very supportive.

Ms. Bliss moved approval to call for an election in November of 2009 to consider a Special Override for M & O and K-3 as provided in the agenda of today's date. Ms. Meza seconded the motion.

Ms. Pat Kuhn submitted a Speaker Card and spoke about the possible Override. Dr. Stark stated that she would like to postpone the Override Election.

The Board approved the motion by 4-1 (Dr. Stark abstained). The Board passed Item F2.

3. Request for Approval of the Service Agreement with the Arizona School Risk Retention Trust, Inc.

Ms. Bliss moved for approval and Dr. Stark seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

G. Curriculum & Instruction – Tom Lind, Interim Assistant Superintendent

1. Request for Approval of District Plan to Support Dunbar and Herrera Schools as a Result of Arizona Department of Education Solution Team Visits in April 2009

Ms. Bliss moved approval of the District Plan to support Dunbar and Herrera Schools as presented to the Board in the agenda of today's date and Dr. Stark seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion and Item G1 was passed.

2. Request for Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between Communities in Schools of Arizona and the District

Ms. Bliss moved for approval and Dr. Stark seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion and Item G2 was passed.

3. Request for Approval to Submit 2009-2010 Gifted Education Scope and Sequence and Sequence For Submission to the Arizona Department of Education

Ms. Bliss moved approval and Mr. Allsworth seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved and Item G3 passed.

H. Human Resources – Randy Dickason, Executive Director

1. Request for Approval of Reading Intervention Specialist Job Description

Ms. Bliss moved approval and Mr. Allsworth seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion unanimously and Item H1 passed.

2. Request for Approval of 2009-2010 Salary Placement Schedules

Ms. Bliss moved approval of the 2009-2010 Salary Schedule reflecting a 3% Reduction and Ms. Meza seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion unanimously and Item H2 passed.

3. Request for Approval of 2009-2010 Pay Schedule for Substitute Teachers

Ms. Bliss moved approval of Item H3 and Ms. Meza seconded the motion and the Board approved the motion unanimously and Item H3 passed.

4. Request for Approval of an Extra-Duty Pay Schedule for 2009-2010

Ms. Bliss moved for approval of Item H4 the Extra-Duty Pay Schedule for 2009-2010 and Mr. Allsworth seconded the motion.

Dr. Stark asked if every new, first-year teacher has a mentor and Mr. Lind confirmed this and stated that an existing staff member on a campus would mentor two new teachers so for every two new teachers there is one experienced teacher that serves as their mentor. Dr. Marston stated that this has been standard practice for a long time. Dr. Stark replied that she remembers a complaint from some new teachers last year when she and Ms. Bliss were running for re-election, about either not having one or having one that moved somewhere else and she hopes that this doesn't happen frequently. Dr. Marston asked her to make it in the form of Board Direction to the staff and Ms. Roa stated that a Board Update can be provided on their Title Two- 2141 Plan that increases the mentoring activities for next year.

The Board approved the motion unanimously and Item H4 passed.

5. Request for Approval of a Revised 2008-2009 Performance-Based Compensation Plan

6. Request for Approval of a Revised 2009-2010 Performance-Based Compensation Plan

Ms. Bliss moved for approval of Items H5 and H6 which are Performance-Based Compensation Plans for 2008-2009 which is this year and 2009-2010 which is next year. Mr. Allsworth seconded the motion.

Mr. Dickason stated that back in December of 2008 the Board asked that they study the Student Achievement portion of the plan that was in effect for this year. He stated that they are revising a plan that was previously approved, and the committee that studied it came up with this Review Committee approach.

Mr. Jack Day, PECTA President spoke to the Board about the 301 Plan and stated that PECTA strongly supports the changes to the 2008-2009 301 plan and also strongly supports the 2009-2010 301 plan as well. He stated that they believe that the changes to the plan will create additional flexibility in how they look at student achievement and will acknowledge all the different ways that schools attempt to improve their student achievement and student learning in a more holistic manner and the additional changes are needed for equity and for fairness so that everyone is treated fairly in the process in their attempts to receive these monies.

The Board approved the motion unanimously with each Board Member voting "Aye" and Items H5 and H6 were passed.

I. Board Reports and Requests

1. Board Direction to the Superintendent (if necessary)

Dr. Stark reminded the Board about what she mentioned before, the Mentor/Mentee Program.

Ms. Roa mentioned the possibility of a Special Meeting for two open Principal positions. She stated that after action was taken at tonight's Board Meeting with the Consent Agenda, approval of Dr. Ronnie Pitre transferring from Whittier to Bethune School, and from a previous Board action to engage in a Collaboration Agreement with University Public Schools, we'll have two Principal

openings; Whittier and Shaw and we would like to conduct interviews and have some recommendation to the Board but we will not be able to do that prior to the July 11 meeting. We're requesting a Special Meeting for June 17th at 8:30 a.m.

Dr. Marston stated that she has a request for the Board Members. She stated that we have the proposed agenda items for the ASBA Convention and asked the Board Members if they have any recommendations on voting for this.

Ms. Roa informed Dr. Marston that her suggestion was accepted by the committee regarding allowing school districts to bid for utilities (electricity).

2. Board Report

J. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Ruth Ann Marston
Board President

RAM: evm