



Phoenix Elementary School District No. 1

Governing Board Study Session
December 3, 2009

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

Other Board members present at the meeting were:

Mr. Doug Allsworth, Ms. Susan Bliss, Ms. Liz Meza, Dr. Louisa Stark
(absent)

Also present were:

Ms. Myriam Roa Superintendent	Mr. Tom Lind Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction	Mr. Kenneth Baca Assistant Superintendent for Business Services
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Mr. Randy Dickason Executive Director for Human Resources	Ms. Eleanor Moyza Board Secretary
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A. Study Session – 8:30 a.m.

1. Call to Order – Dr. Ruth Ann Marston
2. Pledge of Allegiance – Kenneth Baca

B. Study Session Update

- Board members' vision for the future of our district
 - Purpose of the Study Session is to gather input from Governing Board members on several topics, as posted on the agenda.
 - Continue with choices and options in all schools
 - Raise assessment “floor” and keep “ceiling” high
 - Hire and support excellent teachers that challenge their students
 - Establish culture that all can succeed in classrooms
 - Parents have dissatisfaction with two Montessori campuses
- Health and Wellness of our employees and students
 - District is not in a deficit this year with health insurance
 - Interest in establishing incentive program to focus on wellness, a resource provided by VSBET
 - Wellness Committee to consider options for workshops, wellness fair and weight-loss programs
 - Continue efforts to improve and serve healthy breakfast and lunch for students and adults

- Reach out to students not enrolled in school
 - Consider options to attract students from historic neighborhoods
 - Consider use of Pappas location for an innovative program
 - Analyze demographics of new housing construction in district, including new condos
 - Consider interesting programs for schools to attract students

- Discussion on the District's academic achievement
 - Continue work on improvement of test scores
 - Academic achievement is assessment in ways other than AIMS and benchmarks
 - Establish high expectations for all.
 - Raise "floor" and keep "ceiling" high
 - Benchmark data is helpful and sets expectations
 - Consider time as a portion of the cost of assessment

- Discussion on English Language Learners
 - ELD Financial concerns discussed
 - Fiscal compliance and Programmatic compliance discussed
 - ELD population is neediest population
 - ADE's ELD model is questionable
 - Alpha Partnership Project discussed – Institute for Teachers of English Language Learners (ITELL)
 - ELD Committee recommends participation in ITELL at two schools to include professional development for teachers and tutoring for students

- Discussion of University Public School Phoenix Collaboration
 - Agreement with UPSP is multi-year agreement, with annual reports provided to Governing Board, report scheduled for December 10, 2009
 - Staff has met with UPSP to continue collaboration by determining successful areas and those areas needing improvement
 - Continue to build collaboration
 - District is building culture of involvement between charter schools and public schools

- Budget
 - Arizona legislature reduces K-12 soft capital budget, anticipate significant reduction
 - Bank of America is no longer offering line of credit to state
 - Districts faced with fiscal or programmatic compliance
 - ELD mentioned as program with significant fiscal requirements to meet staffing models established by ADE
 - Capital funds cannot be used in place of soft capital
 - Awareness of Race to the Top (RTTT) grant application, pending in Arizona
 - Discussion of compliance with ramifications for either fiscal or programmatic non-compliance, waivers with ADE is a possibility
 - Consider input from Strategic Plan
 - District Budget Advisory Committee regularly meets to review fiscal information
 - Five-year trend enrollment data provided

- Question asked about “where students go” when they leave District and how does District track this
 - Consider consolidation of campuses
 - Clarification of Faith North @ Shaw student enrollment included in Faith North’s numbers, not Shaw’s
 - Arizona is a declining growth state
- Policies
 - No comments
- Newsletter
 - No comments

C. Board Reports and Requests

1. Board Direction to the Superintendent
 - a. Child Nutrition Report
 - b. PEER Report
 - c. Suspension Report, including input from Principals
 - d. Assessment Report, including cost
 - e. Demographic and Real Estate trends
 - f. Faith North Montessori Report

2. Board Report
 - a. None

D. Adjourn

10:35 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Ruth Ann Marston
Board President