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
  o Consider options to attract students from historic neighborhoods
  o Consider use of Pappas location for an innovative program
  o Analyze demographics of new housing construction in district, including new condos
  o Consider interesting programs for schools to attract students

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

• Discussion on English Language Learners
  o ELD Financial concerns discussed
  o Fiscal compliance and Programmatic compliance discussed
  o ELD population is neediest population
  o ADE’s ELD model is questionable
  o Alpha Partnership Project discussed – Institute for Teachers of English Language Learners (ITELL)
  o 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
  o Agreement with UPSP is multi-year agreement, with annual reports provided to Governing Board, report scheduled for December 10, 2009
  o Staff has met with UPSP to continue collaboration by determining successful areas and those areas needing improvement
  o Continue to build collaboration
  o District is building culture of involvement between charter schools and public schools

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