



Phoenix Elementary School District No. 1  
Regular Public Meeting/Regular Session  
December 9, 2010

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      Mr. Tom Lind      Mr. Kenneth Baca  
Superintendent      Assistant Superintendent      Assistant Superintendent  
for Curriculum and Instruction      for Business Services

Mr. Randy Dickason      Ms. Eleanor Moyza  
Executive Director for      Board Secretary  
Human Resources

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**A. Regular Session – 6:00 p.m.**

1. Call to Order – Dr. Ruth Ann Marston, President
2. Pledge of Allegiance – Rosalinda Ramirez

**B. Approval of Consent Agenda**

1. Approval of Minutes: November 18, 2010
2. Ratification of Payroll \$3,896,523.44 and Expense Vouchers \$1,293,402.74 in the Total Amount of \$5,189,926.18
3. Approval of Financial Reports for Student Activity Funds through October 2010
4. Request to Approve Out of District Field Trip
5. Request for Approval or Ratification of Employment of Administrative, Certified and Classified Staff
6. Request for Approval or Ratification of Employment Contract/Work Agreement Adjustments for Changes in Position
7. Request for Approval of Separation of Employment, Resignations and Retirements
8. Request for Approval of Uncompensated Leave of Absence
9. Request to Implement Revised Arizona Minimum Wage

*Ms. Bliss moved approval of the Consent Agenda and Dr. Stark seconded the motion and stated that she had a question about Item B4. Ms. Bliss moved for approval to pull Item B4 for discussion and Mr. Allsworth seconded the motion. The board unanimously approved the motion and the Consent Agenda was passed with the exception of Item B4, which will be discussed.*

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

**D. Superintendent's Report**

1. Awards and Recognitions  
Ms. Roa introduced Mr. Russell Sanders, Principal of Capitol School who introduced Mrs. Jodi Hanet, the Capitol School Music Teacher and the outstanding Capitol School Choir. The Capitol School Choir sang beautiful songs of the season.

## 2. Announcements

### **B. Consent Agenda** (continued)

#### 4. Request to Approve Out of District Field Trip

*Dr. Stark asked what the focus of the field trip Granite Mountain Middle School and requested further information. Mr. Lind stated that the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Student Council Representatives will attend something similar to a leadership retreat, where they will practice and develop their leadership skills. Dr. Stark asked Mr. Lind if a group of schools will be coming from around the state and Mr. Lind stated that it is only for Lowell School. Ms. Bliss asked why this can't be done here and Mr. Lind stated that he will need to ask the school about that. Ms. Bliss then stated that the blue sheet in this case does not meet the minimum criteria for a blue sheet, and with the amount of information the board has, she can only vote no for it. Dr. Stark asked if this item can be put on the next agenda and Ms. Roa stated that there are three board meetings scheduled for January, 2011 and she's sure we will be able to get the requested information, in terms of the alternatives and the purpose and we might be able to have the principal come and be available for questions, as well. It was decided that Item B4 of the Consent Agenda, "Request to Approve Out of District Field Trip" will be brought back to the board when further information is presented to the board.*

### **C. Community Communications**

- *Ms. Stella Garcia, spoke on behalf of ESPA and thanked the board members for their support. She stated that she is here tonight to discuss the Bus Drivers and Bus Attendants. She spoke on behalf of ESPA, on behalf of herself, on behalf of all the Support Staff that appreciates the decisions that the board has to make tonight on this issue. She stated that we have these funds right now and we have these bus drivers who will stay with us with good pay and she hopes that the right decision is made. She thanked the board for their time, their service and for their support. Dr. Marston stated that her bottom line is, she doesn't want to lose any jobs and she wants us to come out of this recession with a staff that knows that the board cared about them through the whole thing. Ms. Garcia stated that the staff understands that it's a commitment, both ways.*
- *Ms. Rosalinda Ramirez expressed her concerns to the board about teacher evaluations and stated that the job of evaluating teachers is one of the most important roles that a principal has and the district has some exceptional principals that are supportive of our teachers that are collaborative and not authoritative and provide instructional leadership. Then we have some that are not, just as there are teachers that are not. She reminded the board that the night that they approved the revised evaluation for teachers, she submitted a list of concerns that PECTA had in implementing the revised evaluation. As principals are now using the evaluations, some of the concerns that PECTA had are coming up. PECTA expects that teachers be provided with the improvement tools, in-services and most of all, the time to correct and improve on the areas that they are found to be weak. Ms. Ramirez stated that PECTA would like to know that there will be a process to follow up on what the principal does to provide that support and are not asking that the principals take teachers by the hand to improve, but to make arrangements for that needed support to their staff or the person so that they can meet their goal. She stated that teachers need and want their job and they are not going to intentionally fail, and at times as human beings, we just need to be redirected. We have requested information from Mr. Dickason to compare any significant changes from last year's evaluation to now. She stated that a follow-up meeting has been scheduled and she wants to express her appreciation to Superintendent Roa and to Mr. Dickason for the conversations they have had to address these concerns. As the PECTA president she asked that we promote fairness, justice and respect for all. Ms. Roa stated that the board cannot discuss something that is not on the agenda.*

*Dr. Marston stated that she would like to look at something a little creative and asked Mr. Dickason for a report on options.*

*Ms. Bliss suggested to Ms. Ramirez, that as the system is implemented and things don't seem to be working out quite right, time should be spent on how to make it better, since this is the first year of this particular wrinkle in it and it may need some changes.*

*(Continuation of Superintendent's Report)*

**D. Superintendent's Report**

- Mr. Lind presented a slide show of the 2010 District Holiday Party.
- Ms. Roa stated that Mr. Claudio Sanchez from National Public Radio (NPR) interviewed Mr. Matthew Camacho, Heard School Principal.
- Mr. Tom Lind showed the board members how to use the District's 2010-2011 Interactive Calendar which is on the District's Website.

**E. Business Services – Kenneth Baca, Assistant Superintendent**

1. Request Approval of the Proposed Contract Amendments with Kennedy Partners, LLC for Solar Photovoltaic System Installation

*Ms. Bliss moved for approval of Item E1 and Mr. Allsworth seconded the motion. The board unanimously approved the motion and Item E1 was passed.*

2. Request for Approval to Utilize the Education Jobs Fund for the Recruitment and Retention of Bus Drivers and Bus Attendants

*Mr. Baca stated the Education Jobs Fund recognizes Bus Drivers and Bus Attendants as school-based employees, that it can be used to recruit and/or retain staff that we have so it is legitimate to be funded from Education Jobs Fund.*

*Mr. Baca described the three options for salaries adjustments:*

*Option One: Would have a high average compared to the other districts.*

*Option Two: Would be the average with other districts.*

*Option Three: Although it is below average of the other districts, it is still a salary adjustment for the Bus Drivers and Bus Attendants.*

*Ms. Roa wanted to bring to the board's attention for Options One, Two and Three of where the District would land in comparison to other school districts.*

*Mr. Baca called the board members' attention to a couple of things and stated that the minimum wage that was seen through the Consent Agenda affects our Bus Attendants because they would be below the minimum wage at their current salary, so we believe that through this proposal with Bus Drivers and Bus Attendants that it is fair. He stated that they have also met with the Bus Drivers and Bus Attendants and as Ms. Garcia pointed out, is the understanding and responsibility that with this proposal comes the request to hire one additional Bus Driver to meet the needs of our homeless students that have increased this year.*

*Four board members voted for approval of Option Two with the exception of Dr. Stark who said "Nay" (Dr. Stark expressed support for Option 3: higher salaries). Item E2 was passed with Option Two as the recommendation by the board.*

3. Request for Approval to Utilize the Education Jobs Fund for Employee Stipends and Salary Adjustments

*Dr. Marston stated that we have an administrative request to delay Item E3 to a future agenda.*

4. Request for Approval of the Revision to the Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2010  
*Ms. Bliss moved for approval of Item E4 as contained within our agenda on today's date and provided to the board in multiple pages and Mr. Allsworth seconded the motion. The board unanimously approved the motion and Item E4 was passed.*

5. Request for Approval of Issuance of Purchase Order to Sunland Asphalt (TCPN Contract #M0927) for Perimeter Concrete Replacement and Landscaping at Lowell Elementary School in the amount of \$35,259.96

*Ms. Bliss moved for approval of Item E5 and Mr. Allsworth seconded the motion. The board unanimously approved the motion and Item E5 was passed.*

6. Request for the Governing Board to Receive and Discuss the Planned Bond Projects of 2010 Series A (2010)

*Mr. Ben Barcone of the ADM Group (Architecture Design Management) presented information to the board regarding renovations/repairs to the schools and Emerson Court. Dr. Marston stated that renovations and repairs should be started on Whittier School before Emerson Court because it was promised. Mr. Baca advised that we cannot delay Whittier School renovations as the Bond Purchase Agreement indicated that we would expend these funds within three years otherwise, we have the risk of our tax exempt status becoming taxable. He stated that we want to make sure that although we place Whittier first and be cautious and be very methodical in terms of the steps we take for Emerson Court and that we do have that timeframe as well. Mr. Barcone stated that his recommendation is that once they get the board's approval to proceed with the planning portion, they will bring an action item back once they have more definitive plans and cost estimates, etc.*

**F. Curriculum & Instruction – Tom Lind, Assistant Superintendent**

1. Request to Approve Out of State Travel

*Mr. Lind stated that recognizing that the blue sheet perhaps does not provide enough justification for the travel, he would like the opportunity to bring this back to the January 13, 2011 Board Meeting, which was approved.*

2. Request to Approve the Revised Collaboration Agreement with University Public School, Inc. (UPSI)  
*Item F2 was pulled at Administration's request.*

**G. Human Resources – Randy Dickason, Executive Director**

1. None

**H. Board Reports and Requests**

1. Update on University Public School Phoenix
2. Board Direction to the Superintendent (if necessary)  
*Ms. Bliss asked if the Board Updates can be added to the District's Website for easier access by the board members.*
3. Board Report

**I. Adjournment**

*Mr. Allsworth moved for approval to adjourn the board meeting and Ms. Bliss seconded the motion. The board approved the motion and the board meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.*

Respectfully Submitted,

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Dr. Ruth Ann Marston  
Governing Board President

RAM/evm

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