Minutes of Regular Public Meeting
December 8, 2016

Dr. Louisa Stark presided over the PESD No. 1 Governing Board Meeting in the Governing Board room at Emerson Court, 1817 N. Seventh Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85006

Other Board Members present were:
Dr. Ruth Ann Marston   Dr. Angel Jannasch-Pennell   Mrs. Susan Benjamin   Mr. Daniil Gunitskiy

Also present were:
Mr. Larry Weeks
Chief Executive Officer

Mr. Tom Lind
Assistant Superintendent

Dr. Rosanna Hidalgo
Assistant Superintendent

Jovanny Cervantes
Board Secretary

A. Regular Session - 6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order - Dr. Louisa Stark

Meeting called to order at 6:01 pm

2. Pledge of Allegiance- Mr. Fred Graef

Mr. Fred Graef led us in the pledge of allegiance.

3. Holiday Musical Presentation - Edison School - 5th grade choir with support of 6th and 7th ELL students singing the following multicultural repertoire - A Song for Hanukkah - Child of God (African-American Spiritual) - Adelita (Mexican Folk Song) in Spanish - Jingle Bells/Hear the Bells (Partner Songs) - Teacher, Malgorzata Ceglinska

Mr. Weeks congratulated the Edison School Choir for opening the meeting with multicultural songs.

B. Discuss if necessary and Approval of Consent Agenda

1. Request Approval of Governing Board Minutes for October 27, 2016 and November 10, 2016

2. Request for Governing Board to Approve Out of State Travel
3. Request Approval for Out of District Field Trip

4. Request Approval to Revise the 180-day and 190-day Calendar to Add an Early Release Day on Friday, May 19, 2017

5. Request Approval or Ratification of Payroll $4,149,120.66 and Expense Vouchers $2,311,722.76 in the total amount of $6,460,843.42

6. Administration recommends the Governing Board Approve the Gifts, Donations and Grants as listed from July through October 2016.

7. Request Approval of the Financial Reports for Student Activity Funds as listed for October 2016

8. Request Approval or Ratification of Employment of Administrative, Certified and Support Staff

9. Request Approval or Ratification of Employee Contract/Work Agreement Adjustments for Changes in Position

10. Request Approval of Separation of Employment, Resignations and Retirements

11. Request Approval of Uncompensated Leave of Absences

12. Request Approval/Ratification of Emergency Actions (if necessary)

13. Request Approval of Consent Agenda

Administration recommends the Governing Board Receive, Discuss and Possibly Approve a Resolution

Motion by Angel Pennell, second by Susan Benjamin.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Danil Guntisky, Ruth Ann Marston, Susan Benjamin, Angel Pennell, Louisa Stark

C. Chief Executive Officer's Report - Larry Weeks

1. Awards and Recognitions

Mr. Jason Hammond congratulated the November star award winners and shared a few words regarding their nominations. Those nominated were Geo Cervantes, District Receptionist/Board Transcriber; Michelle Hernandez, Custodian and Heidi Schermer, Instructional Coach at Lowell Elementary. Also nominated were Shasha Riner, Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) and Jacob Nurse, General Music teacher at Heard Elementary.
Mr. Weeks recognized Jennifer Sumida from Lowell for becoming a National Board Certified Teacher.

Mr. Weeks recognized the Hour of Code at Kenilworth Elementary.

Mr. Weeks spoke about his attendance to the principals luncheon earlier this week.

Mr. Lind introduced Ms. Lauren Ashmore Director of Educational Technology. Ms. Ashmore gave a few words about how grateful she was to be here at Phoenix Elementary School District.

Mr. Jason Hammond spoke about the ASPAA Fall Conference. Mr. Hammond presented a short video clip of the conference.

Dr. Angel Pennell spoke about the ASPAA conference and encouraged that other Board Members attend this conference in the future.

2. Announcements

Mr. Weeks spoke about the 2016 Winter Music Programs.

Mr. Weeks spoke about Herrera Marching Band and announced that they would be coming out with their new uniforms this month.

Mr. Weeks spoke about the Early Dismissal on Thursday, December 22nd.

Mr. Weeks spoke about the release of the Longevity Holiday pay.

Mr. Weeks spoke about how the FAA would be reopening conversations about flight paths to and from Sky Harbor Airport.

Mr. Weeks explained that Proposition 206, also known as “Arizona’s minimum wage increase,” goes into effect January 1, 2017 and it increases to $10.00. There are 140 employees impacted totaling $98,000.00. The first pay date is January 19, 2017. Further increases are $10.50 January 2018, $11.00 January 2019 and $12.00 January 2020. This also impacts paid time-off and sick leave. Administration will work collaboratively with employee groups to communicate detailed information to employees and the governing board.

Mr. Weeks asked that Mr. Paul Chase and Mr. Rocky Berumen come before the Governing Board and give an update on their Technology Upgrades.

Mr. Weeks Announced that the whole fourth grade class would be attending the Tonto Creek Camp.

Mr. Weeks announced that there would be a Business Partners Luncheon on December 14th.
3. Post MCESA / REIL Update

Mr. Weeks announced that he expects to bring a timeline to the Governing Board for approval in January.

D. Community Communications

1. Community Communications

Ms. Gail LaGrander came before the Governing Board and thanked Dr. Pennell for her action taken during her time as a Governing Board Member.

Ms. Rosalinda Ramirez came before the Governing Board on behalf of PECTA to thank Dr. Pennell for time as a Member of the Phoenix Elementary School District Governing Board.

E. Curriculum & Instruction - Tom Lind, Assistant Superintendent

1. Informational Student Data Presentation - Edison School

Mr. Lind introduced Mr. Fred Graef, Principal of Edison School, who presented an update of Edison’s achievements and plans.

Mr. Graef spoke about the Edison Celebrations and spoke about how the students of Edison follow the 7 Habits.

Mr. Graef shared the data for Edison Elementary.

Mr. Graef shared the many different clubs available at Edison Elementary.

The Governing Board thanked Mr. Graef for his presentation and hard work.

Dr. Marston spoke to the issue.

Mr. Daniil commended Mr. Graef for the culture being built at Edison.

Mrs. Benjamin congratulated Mr. Graef on his Goals.

The Governing Board Members appreciated the schools for coming out and presenting the updates and achievements of the Phoenix Elementary schools.

2. Request Approval of the Sanford Harmony Memorandum of Understanding and "Changing the World One Classroom at a Time" Supplemental Instructional Materials

Mr. Lind spoke to the issue.
Curriculum and Instruction recommends the approval of the Sanford Harmony "Changing the World One Classroom at a Time" supplemental instructional materials. These materials, for Pre-K-6th grade students, support a safe school environment by providing resources aligned to the following goals:
- Communicate: learn relationship skills that promote self-confidence and respect
- Cooperate: work cooperatively and collaboratively with others
- Connect: develop an increased sense of connection with their peers
- Embrace Diversity: learn to appreciate similarities and differences
- Resolve Conflict: develop positive conflict resolution strategies
- Build Healthy Relationships: helps to reduce stereotyping, teasing, harassment and bullying

Shannon Smith is the Arizona contact for the Sanford Harmony program. She will provide training to district staff. District Social Workers will be included in the training and assist with the implementation of this resource.

This Sanford Harmony program was developed and researched at the School of Family Dynamics at Arizona State University.

Teacher kits and training are provided at no cost to school districts through the support of T. Denny Sanford and National University.

Dr. Angel and Mrs. Benjamin spoke to the issue.

Administration recommends approval of the Sanford Harmony Memorandum of Understanding and "Changing the World One Classroom at a Time" as supplemental instructional materials.

Motion by Angel Pennell, second by Susan Benjamin.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Daniil Gunitskiy, Ruth Ann Marston, Susan Benjamin, Angel Pennell, Louisa Stark

F. Business Services - Dr. Rosanna Hidalgo, Assistant Superintendent

1. Request Approval of Issuance of Purchase Order to Play It Safe Playgrounds (Mohave Contract #14X-PLAY-0220) for the Replacement of Obsolete Playground Equipment at Edison School

Mr. Anthony Parra came before the Governing Board to speak about the Purchase of Play It Safe Playground Equipment.

Mr. Anthony Parra shared the committee members who were part of the selection process.

Mr. Parra stated that the project consists of removing old worn out playground equipment and installing new playground equipment along with a new rubber pathway.

Mr. Joseph McGinnity brought the Governing Board Members high resolution images of the equipment being requested for approval.
The Governing Board Members thanked Mr. Parra and his team for a great job in choosing the new playground equipment.

Administration recommends that the Governing Board approve the issuance of a purchase order to Play It Safe (Mohave Contract #14X-PLAY-0220) for the replacement of obsolete playground equipment at Edison School.

Motion by Angel Pennell, second by Susan Benjamin.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Daniil Gunitskiy, Ruth Ann Marston, Susan Benjamin, Angel Pennell, Louisa Stark

2. Request Approval of the Revised Expenditure Budget for Fiscal Year 2016-2017

Dr. Hidalgo spoke to the issue.

Administration recommends that the Governing Board approve the FY2016-2017 revised expenditure budget.

Motion by Angel Pennell, second by Ruth Ann Marston.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Daniil Gunitskiy, Ruth Ann Marston, Susan Benjamin, Angel Pennell, Louisa Stark

3. Request Approval to Amend the AIA A133 Contract, to McCarthy Building Companies, for a Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of $3,417,558 to upgrade the Heating, Ventilation Air Conditioning (HVAC) System and Energy Management System (EMS) at 735 E. Fillmore Street Phoenix, AZ 85006

Dr. Hidalgo spoke to the issue.

Mr. Ben Barcon and his team shared a few words. Mr. Barcon's team walked the Governing Board through the changes being proposed to the HVAC upgrades for ASU Prep.

Dr. Peterson came before the Governing Board and introduced the team in charge of getting all this work done.

Administration recommends that the Governing Board approve the enclosed Amendment to the AIA A133 Contract, to McCarthy Building Companies, for a Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of $3,417,558 to upgrade the Heating, Ventilation Air Conditioning (HVAC) System and Energy Management System (EMS) at 735 E. Fillmore Street, Phoenix, AZ 85006.

Motion by Angel Pennell, second by Ruth Ann Marston.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Daniil Gunitskiy, Ruth Ann Marston, Susan Benjamin, Angel Pennell, Louisa Stark

4. Request Approval of Changes to the Job Description, Software Support Technician - Human Resources
Dr. Hidalgo spoke to the issue.

Administration recommends that the Governing Board approve changes to the job description, Software Support Technician - Human Resources.

Motion by Angel Pennell, second by Susan Benjamin.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Daniil Gunitsky, Ruth Ann Marston, Susan Benjamin, Angel Pennell, Louisa Stark

G. Board Reports and Requests

1. Board Direction to the Superintendent (if necessary)

2. Board Reports

Dr. Angel Pennell my farewell speech:

"Thank you, again for everything. I am at a loss for words - which you know isn't usually a problem for me ;). Your kindness will be forever carried in my heart.

December 8, 2016
Final words as a Board Member.
Angel Jannasch-Pennell

I want to say — that I have tremendous pride and gratitude for what we have accomplished together as a board, as a district, and as a community. You represent the best of our profession. Being able to serve and represent our community and our families has been one of my greatest honors.

As I reflected on my last four years of service — with MECSA, Changes in Leadership, Bonds & Elections, outside pressures from state and local gov’ts, etc.

I started to noticed we, as educators and Board members, have been forced into focusing on what a child will become tomorrow, sometimes putting on the back burner that s/he is someone today. We have done a lot around school culture and climate as a District during my tenure -- moving ever closer to Phoenix Elementary becoming a statewide example in this arena.

Especially since Nov 8th, I have work very hard to be mindful of the changes happening around us. In other words, trying to be simply being aware of what is happening right now without wishing it were different; enjoying the good without holding on when it changes (which it will & it did); being with the not-so-great stuff without fearing it will always be this way (which it won’t). On this recent journey, I’ve noticed something collectively about the people in our district, in our schools who make a difference.
They all hold the unshakable conviction that individuals are extremely important, that every person, child matters. They get excited over one smile, they are willing to educate one mind, advocate for one family, put a roof over the head of one teacher. This isn’t revolutionary in and of itself; each act on its own doesn’t change the world all at once. But these small changes, over time, being done by each one of us - add up. And can and will lead to great transformation.

I encourage you to continue to strengthen the ties that make Phoenix Elementary a strong, unbeatable team.

But as you work towards becoming an even stronger, well-aligned, inclusive team – I encourage the Board to please take stock and turn a mirror towards yourselves. Ask yourself; when a group of students walk into the boardroom to wow us with their talents and skills, as their families sit in the audience – what do they see? What do they notice? What is their experience?

The students here earlier tonight probably don’t have a deep understanding of the role of the School Board in their lives, but I guarantee you - every single one of them thinks we do something pretty important – yet 89% plus of the students that perform for us throughout the year, every year – do not see themselves in us. Which begs the question – do they see themselves in positions of leadership? We need to dig deep to come up with ways and solutions so that the board better reflects the community it represents. Work on ways to nurture the next generation of Board Members; look for opportunities to bring the community into the board room and not just to see the kids perform or on the flip side to protest something – but to be part of the process.

Some examples that can be immediately implemented may look like:

• Adding a non-voting student representative to the Board. They don’t need to stay for the whole meeting and can rotate among the schools. This is a great leadership opportunity. There are other districts doing this with good success - I encourage you to reach out.
• On the same note, we have site councils and PTOs at most campus - what about having a parent or community rep – again non-voting. They can join a meeting once a month or once a quarter – provide a community update.

To quote Hillary Clinton: “I believe we are stronger together and we will go forward together. And you should never, ever regret fighting for that.”

Be brave. Our children are watching.

There’s an old saying says –
Children are great imitators. So give them something great to imitate.

Thank you.

Have a wonderful evening.
Until we meet again.
-angel”
Mr. Weeks shared a few words of appreciation to Dr. Pennell for serving as a board Member for Phoenix Elementary District and stated that Dr. Pennell would not be going very far because she was just appointed as a Board Member of the Phoenix One Foundation.

3. Governing Board 2017 Meeting Dates and Times

Dr. Angel Pennell asked that the Governing Board approve the January dates and wait until the new member is sworn in before choosing the remainder of the dates for the 2017 Governing Board Calendar Dates and Times.

Motion by Angel Pennell, second by Susan Benjamin.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Danil Gunitkskiy, Ruth Ann Marston, Susan Benjamin, Angel Pennell, Louisa Stark

4. Request Approval for the Governing Board to Receive, Discuss and Possibly Approve a Resolution

The Governing Board approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Phoenix Elementary School District #1 recognizes the education of our children is a shared responsibility among our community members;

WHEREAS, Phoenix Elementary School District #1 believes the key to a successful education includes a safe, welcoming environment for all students, their families and members of our Phoenix Elementary School District community;

WHEREAS, Phoenix Elementary School District #1 prides itself as a community that treats one another with respect and dignity;

WHEREAS, Phoenix Elementary School District #1 promotes cultural awareness, curiosity and kind-heartedness;

WHEREAS, Factors such as race, ethnicity and socio-economic status must not be allowed to predict student achievement;

WHEREAS, A diverse community with a robust immigrant population is an integral part of Phoenix Elementary School District #1;

BE IT RESOLVED, on the 8th day of December 2016, Phoenix Elementary School District #1 commits to fostering an inclusive school environment that promotes dignity, respect and curiosity for all cultures;

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, Phoenix Elementary School District #1 commits to school policies and an educational curriculum reflecting the values expressed in this resolution;
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, Phoenix Elementary School District #1 condemns bullying, discrimination, hateful and divisive speech and violent action.

Ms. Gail LaGander spoke to the issue.

Motion by Angel Pennell, second by Susan Benjamin.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yea: Daniil Gunitskiy, Ruth Ann Marston, Susan Benjamin, Angel Pennell, Louisa Stark

H. Adjournment

1. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted by

Mrs. Susan Benjamin
Board President, Phoenix Elementary School District #1