



**Governing Board  
Regular Public Meeting Minutes  
February 12, 2015**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Mr. Sunn, Board President at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Delson Sunn, Nubia Briceno, and Stacy Marchelli were in attendance.

Administration Present:

*Dr. James W. Rice, Superintendent*

*Norma Pacheco, Executive Director of Business*

*Debra Ryan, Student Services Director*

*Tommie Dyer, Hurley Ranch Principal*

*Dr. Mary Radcliffe, Human Resource Director*

*Melanie Block, Academic Services Director*

*Milton Collins, Dos Rios Principal*

*Eric Atonna, Hurley Ranch Assistant Principal*

**II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Motion by Mr. Sunn, seconded by Mrs. Briceno to adopt the agenda. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**IV. SUPERINTENDENT TOP HAPPENINGS**

Dr. James Rice, Superintendent presented the governing board with the top happenings around the district.

1. The Grade Level Configuration Committee is recommending that Hurley Ranch's kindergarten and first grade classes attend Union Elementary School beginning with the 2015 – 2016 school year. The committee also recommended that Hurley Ranch sixth grade students remain at Hurley Ranch for their seventh and eighth grade school years. The committee's recommended plan will be presented to the community on February 17<sup>th</sup> at Hurley Ranch School and on February 18<sup>th</sup> at Dos Rios School. The community presentations will be held in the school libraries beginning at 6:00 p.m. We plan to bring the recommended plan to the Governing Board on March 12 for action.
2. Dos Rios school had a special guest on their school campus today to observe their Fire Drill. The special guest was the Phoenix Fire Marshall. Good news, the Fire Marshall gave the students and teachers an excellent rating for evacuating their classrooms in an efficient manner.
3. Mrs. Haley, third grade teacher at Dos Rios won a Westside Impact mini grant in the amount of \$677 for a photojournalism project. The application process was very competitive this year with one-hundred and ten mini applications submitted and only fifteen applications were awarded. The photojournalism project will allow students to think critically and creatively about their community through the lens of a camera and their unique writing.
4. Our 7th and 8th graders had an opportunity to go to US Airways on Monday to be a part of the Junior Achievement program that featured well known actor Hill Harper. He spoke to our students about financial planning.
5. The Dos Rios 8th grade girls' basketball team went to the semifinals last week. Unfortunately they lost but ended the season with a impressive 9 and 1 record. Our J.V. boys' team also made the playoffs but lost in

the first round and ended their season with an 8 and 4 record. Congratulations to our student athletes for their outstanding effort.

6. Julissa Rivas, 6th grader at Dos Rios and Josselyne Gallegos, 6th grader at Hurley Ranch are being honored at the Council for Exceptional Children's upcoming annual conference on February 20, 2015. The Yes I Can! Award program was established to celebrate the achievements of children and youth with disabilities, to encourage children and youth with disabilities to seek their highest potential; and to increase public awareness of the abilities, aspirations, and personal qualities of people with disabilities.

**V. PUBLIC COMMENTS-None**

**VI. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS**

**A. Summary of Current Events**

1. Dr. Rice gave an official report of the tax credit donations for 2014. We received a record number of donations of 88 totaling \$26,400.00. We give credit to the news article that ran in the Arizona Republic that highlighted the low number of donations Union Elementary School District received in prior years. This is the most tax credit donations we have received since 2008.
2. Norma Pacheco, Executive Director of Business Services gave the Governing Board a presentation on the cost to the district to provide a 2% raise in wages to employees.
3. Dr. Mary Radcliffe, Director of Human Resources gave a presentation to the Governing Board about how Union Elementary School District salaries compare to other west side school districts.
4. Melanie Block, Director of Academic Services presented to the Governing Board the proposed plan for the grade configuration to alleviate overcrowding at Dos Rios and Hurley Ranch Elementary. The proposed plan was compiled by stake holders in the district that included parents, teachers and staff, and administrators. The goals for the plan was safety concerns, minimize disruption to students, and cost. The proposed plan will be to reopen Union Elementary as a K-1 school for the 2015-2016 school year. The plan will be laid out for the community in two community forms taking place February 17, 2015 at Hurley Ranch and February 18, 2015 at Dos Rios. Governing Board approval will be recommended in the March Governing Board meeting.

**VII. ACTION ITEMS**

**1. Consent Agenda Items**

Motion by Mrs. Briceno, seconded by Mrs. Marchelli to approve consent items A-E.

- A. Approval of Regular Public Meeting Minutes.
- B. Approval of Personnel Items as presented.
- C. Approval of Accounts Payable Vouchers
- D. Approval of Payroll Vouchers
- E. Approval of Student Activity Accounts
- F. Approval of Gifts and Donations
- G. Approval of Use of Facilities Requests

Vote was unanimous. Motion carried

## 2. New Business

- A. Motion by Mr. Sunn, seconded by Mrs. Briceno to approve the agreement with the St. Mary's Food Bank and the Union Elementary School District. The St. Mary's Food Bank has partnered with UESD to participate in the Mobile Food Pantry on half day Wednesday's one time a month. Community members receive fresh produce at no cost and there are no income requirements. The food is delivered to the Dos Rios parking lot for distribution. The contract agreement is for the 2015 school year. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried.
- B. Motion by Mrs. Briceno, seconded by Mrs. Marchelli to approve the recommended English language arts textbook for student in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Administration request the governing board to approve Houghton Mifflin Harcourt English language arts textbooks. Charity Nightingale-Horton, Literacy Coach gave a presentation of the committees rational for the decision. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried.
- C. Motion by Mr. Sunn, seconded by Mrs. Briceno to approve the calendar for the 2015-2016 school year. The calendar includes 180 instructional days for students beginning Monday, August 3, 2015 and ending Thursday, May 19, 2016. There are a total of twenty-one (21) early release days; sixteen (16) for staff professional development; four (4) for parent teacher conferences and one (1) for the last day of school. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried.
- D. Motion by Mrs. Briceno, seconded by Mr. Sunn to approve the certified and special services contracts for the 2015-2016 school year. The district administration recommended approval of certified teacher contracts for the 2015-2016 school year with a 2% base salary increase. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried.
- E. Motion by Mr. Sunn, seconded by Mrs. Marchelli approve teacher stipends for 2015-2016 school year. Stipends include: National Board Certified teachers; Mentor teachers and instructional coaches; Hard to fill and retain Math and Science stipends and Sp. Ed stipends for Cross Categorical Resource and Self Contained teachers. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried.
- F. Motion by Mrs. Briceno, seconded by Mrs. Marchelli to approve the employee salary placement schedules for the 2015-2016 school year. The placement schedules do not include the 2% increase. These schedules are placement schedules only for employees hired new to the District. Presented here are schedules for District, School Administrators, School Psychologists, certified teachers including coaches, and mentor teachers and all classified positions. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

## VIII. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Dr. Rice informed the Governing Board that he will be doing a presentation on the information to have a five member governing board.
- Governing board meetings will be held at 5:00 pm.

**IX. INFORMATION ITEMS**

A. Requests for future agenda items-None

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Mr. Sunn, seconded by Mrs. Briceno, to adjourn the Public Meeting at 6:24 p.m. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

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Mr. Delson Sunn, President of the Board

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Date

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