



*Inspiring Hope and Empowering All Students To Courageously Pursue Their Goals and Dreams*

**Governing Board  
Public Hearing and Regular Meeting Minutes  
July 09, 2020**

**I. CALL TO ORDER PUBLIC HEARING:**

Ms. Briceno, Governing Board member, at 5:01 p.m., called the public hearing to order.

**II. ROLL CALL:** Ms. Nubia Briceno, and Ms. Susan Doucet were in attendance. Ms. Susan Doucet attended telephonically. Mr. Delson Sunn was not in attendance.

Administration Present:

*Kristine Morris, Superintendent*

*Ana M. Avalos, Director of Human Resources*

*Susan O’Rielly, Executive Director of Business Services*

*Dr. Randy Watkins- Hurley Ranch Principal*

*Matthew Haley, Network Administrator*

*Melanie Block, Director of Academic Services*

*Carrie Brandon, Director of Student Service*

*Michael Welsh, Union Principal*

*Jonathan Stewart, Dos Rios Principal*

**III. PRESENTATION:** Mrs. Susan O’Rielly presented on the proposed 2020-2021 Fiscal Year Adopted District Expenditure Budget.

**IV. ADJOURNMENT OF THE PUBLIC HEARING:**

Motion by Ms. Briceno, seconded by Ms. Doucet to adjourn the public hearing at 5:05 p.m. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried. Aye: Ms. Briceno, Ms. Doucet

**V. CALL TO ORDER THE REGULAR MEETING:** Ms. Briceno, Governing Board Member, at 5:05 p.m., called the regular meeting to order.

**VI. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

Motion by Ms. Briceno seconded by Ms. Doucet to approve the agenda. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried. Aye: Ms. Briceno, Ms. Doucet

**VII. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

The call to the public will be restricted due to social distancing guidelines, therefore, limiting the number of participants at the meeting. The meeting is open to the public to listen via phone by calling: 1 (646) 749-3122 and entering access code: 440-747-085.

**IX. SUPERINTENDENT SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS**

Our summer has just flown by and it is hard to believe our new teachers will begin their orientation on July 20, 2020 and all teachers are set to return on July 27, 2020!

To be ready for all of this, our team is putting final touches on training protocols, calendars for professional development, and ensuring we are bringing our team back in a safe and responsible manner. Precautionary signage has arrived, soap and hand sanitizer stations have arrived, cubbies for classrooms are in and the

final desks are set to arrive by August 3, 2020. Our team has done a great job keeping up with the changing information about how to slow the spread of COVID-19 and stand ready to help all our employees get up to speed when they return.

On July 7 and 8, our team held 6 Town Hall Sessions for our community and employees. Three of the town halls were in person and had a very small turnout. Our virtual sessions engaged more families and employees. In both sessions we heard from individuals very concerned about the spread of the virus and nervous about a return to the physical buildings. Additionally, we heard from individuals that were hopeful and optimistic about returning to the classroom with smaller classes and following CDC guidelines. The community was concerned, as was the Board that class size caps of 25 still seems large. We are optimistic that we can reduce the actual in-person class size slightly through parent choice. When running current projections based on this week's enrollment, if a small percentage of families choose on-line, the in-person class size will be even smaller than the cap of 25. To also minimize the in-person class size, we will have to maintain or increase our traditional class size ratios for on-line instruction. Of course, all of this is dependent upon what models the board adopts, and which of the models our families select, and if we come back to in-person on August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

To also ensure we can support the smaller in person classes, we continue to hire qualified candidates. We currently have 4 certified positions districtwide without offers pending, and only 2 of those are homeroom positions. While we continue to recruit for these 4, we are also recruiting for a certified substitute pool to have on hand in case it is needed for maintaining small in person class sizes, or covering for illnesses, breaks, etc. We are looking at our paraprofessional staff to see who can be substitute certified and has the skills to manage these responsibilities should the need arise. We are also preparing all our certified employees to be ready to take over as the need arises.

During the Town Halls our families expressed concern that the on-line learning was not effective during the last quarter. When we shared that the on-line learning would be structured like the traditional school day parents were very relieved. One significant obstacle we face still, is that our computers for 1:1 have not arrived yet. We will be asking parents when they select their option if they have a computer to begin with so that we can prioritize those who do not have one in their household.

We cancelled our July in person summer school out of an abundance of caution and to ensure all staff was focused on readying for the upcoming school year.

On a different note, I want to celebrate that members of Superintendent's Council and I have been participating in a course titled "Learning with Emotional Intelligence in Uncertain Times", through the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence. As part of our work to support student and staff well-being, we are learning how to practice these skills and develop them in others. We look forward to bringing this work into our day to day work and supporting leaders, teachers, students and families in applying these foundational and lifelong skills for success.

I want to thank the Board, staff, and community for their patience throughout this time. We are really looking forward to starting our learning up again and seeing our students and families.

#### **X. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion made by Ms. Briceno seconded by Ms. Doucet to approve the consent items. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried. Aye: Ms. Briceno, Ms. Doucet

- A. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes for June 11, 2020
- B. Approval of Personnel Consent List
- C. Approval of Accounts Payable Vouchers
- D. Approval of Accounts Payroll Vouchers
- E. Approval of Student Activity Transaction Report
- F. Approval of Gifts and Donations
- G. Approval of Study Session and Special Meeting Minutes for June 23, 2020
- H. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes for July 01, 2020

**XI. PRESENTATION FROM DISTRICT PERSONNEL**

Ms. Kristine Morris presented on the 2020-2021 School Re-Opening Plan.

Q. Ms. Doucet asked if August 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> are enough time for teachers to meet with the parents?

A. Ms. Kristine Morris responded they are working that out. They will have to get with 25 parents. They may need to work longer days, and there may be some parent's they will have to follow up with on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>.

Q. Ms. Briceno asked if there will be translators available for the Meet the Teacher Conference?

A. Ms. Kristine Morris responded that we have discussed having our paraprofessionals come in to assist.

Q. Ms. Briceno asked if a family chooses one model and then decided they would like the other models, are they able to transition back and forth?

A. Ms. Kristine Morris responded that we are recommending that we work with families at the quarter, with 9-week increments. They will select an option the first 9 weeks, and then loop back to the family and ask what their choice for the next 9 weeks would be. This is for the continuity of the students instruction and for classrooms.

Q. Ms. Doucet asked if the actual start date for school is August 10<sup>th</sup>, that would put us "technically" 1 week behind?

A. Ms. Kristine Morris responded no; it will still be August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**XII. ACTION ITEMS**

A. Motion by Ms. Briceno, seconded by Ms. Doucet to approve the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Adopted District Expenditure Budget. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried. Aye: Ms. Briceno, Ms. Doucet

B. Motion by Ms. Briceno, seconded by Ms. Doucet to approve the Resolution for "Designation of Applicant's Agent Form" for submission to the Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried. Aye: Ms. Briceno, Ms. Doucet

C. Motion by Ms. Briceno, seconded by Ms. Doucet to approve the 2020-2021 School Re-Opening Recommendations A, B, C1 or C2, D, and E. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried. Aye: Ms. Briceno, Ms. Doucet

Q. Ms. Briceno asked if we are choosing between A, B, or C?

A. Ms. Kristine Morris clarified that you would vote on all. Approve both A, and B. C you will pick an option. Approve D and E.

Q. Ms. Doucet asked if we open on August 3<sup>rd</sup> will it confuse parents, opposed to opening on August 17<sup>th</sup> for everybody?

A. Ms. Kristine Morris responded that we would continue to communicate and engage with families about the 3<sup>rd</sup> and the 17<sup>th</sup>.

Q. Ms. Doucet asked if we wanted to extend the opening of August 3<sup>rd</sup> by a week because you need more time, possibly to train staff, or is that not going to be needed now?

A. Ms. Kristine Morris responded that we think we can get them in during the early releases on the 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup>.

Q. Ms. Doucet asked if we are giving teachers options if one of them has health issues, can they teach online or do both?

A. Ms. Kristine Morris responded that we would have an application process for teachers to submit for online options. As soon as the board approves the model, in-person online, we will ask all parents to choose, that way we can see how many teachers we will need for all the options. Once we know how many we need, Ms. Ana Avalos will communicate with teachers to make their intentions known. We need to make sure there is a match, the right amount of online requests and the right number of teachers that request. Anyone who has a medical need will be accommodated.

Q. Ms. Doucet asked if you want us to state what option we like?

A. Ms. Kristine Morris responded yes. Ms. Doucet replied that she likes Option 1 starting on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Ms. Briceno agreed with Ms. Doucet's recommendation.

**XIII. FUTURE MEETING ITEMS**

1. August 13, 2020 – Intergovernmental Agreements (IGAs)

2. August 13, 2020 – Qualified Evaluators
3. August 13, 2020 – 2019-2020 Teacher of the Year recognition.
  - a. Ms. Kristine Morris stated that we may want to delay this until we have appropriate social distancing in place, so they can have people come celebrate with them.
4. TBD – Teacher and Leader Performance Pay Plan Study Session and Special Meeting
5. TBD – Superintendent 2020-2021 Pay for Performance and Evaluation
6. TBD – Additional meetings set for COVID-19 duration.
  - a. Ms. Briceno and Ms. Doucet would like to schedule out an additional meeting. The additional meeting will be 2 weeks after the regular scheduled board meeting. We will keep them on Thursdays. If the Governing Board feels we do not need to have a meeting, we will cancel it, and continue with the regular scheduled board meeting.
7. TBD – ASBA trainings
  - a. Ms. Kristine Morris asked if they would like us to work these trainings into the calendar. They will be virtual, and we can set this up during one of our meeting times. Ms. Briceno and Ms. Doucet agreed to find a time for the trainings.

**XIV. INFORMATIONAL ITEM ONLY**

1. Governing Board Financial Report
2. Union Elementary School District AOI, Union Connects

**XV. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Ms. Briceno, to adjourn the meeting at 5:43 p.m. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried. Aye: Mrs. Briceno, Mrs. Doucet

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Mr. Delson Sunn, President of the Board

Date