



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

**Governing Board
Public Hearing and Regular Meeting Minutes
May 13, 2021**

I. CALL TO ORDER PUBLIC HEARING:

Ms. Briceno, Governing Board member, at 5:05 p.m., called the public hearing to order.

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

Administration Present:

Kristine Morris, Superintendent

Melanie Block, Director of Academic Services

Ana M. Avalos, Director of Human Resources

Carrie Brandon, Director of Student Service

Susan O'Rielly, Executive Director of Business Services

Michael Welsh, Union Principal

Dr. Randy Watkins- Hurley Ranch Principal

Jonathan Stewart, Dos Rios Principal

Matthew Haley, Network Administrator

III. PRESENTATION: Mrs. Susan O'Rielly presented on the proposed 2020-2021 Expenditure Budget Second Revision.

IV. ADJOURNMENT OF THE PUBLIC HEARING:

Motion by Ms. Briceno, seconded by Ms. Doucet to adjourn the public hearing at 5:10 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 5:10 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:

Each speaker is limited to three (3) minutes.

The call to the public will be restricted due to social distancing guidelines, therefore, limiting the number of participants at the meeting. This is the time for the public to comment. Members of the Governing Board may not discuss items that are not on the agenda. Therefore, action taken as a result of public comments will be limited to directing staff to study the matter or scheduling the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date.

No public comment.

IX. RECOGNITION OF THE PRIDE AWARD RECIPIENTS:

- A. Anthony Huntley – District Transportation
- B. Shelly Sotelo – District Administrative Assistant for Academic Services
- C. Nichole Lozano – Dos Rios Office Manager
- D. Kristie Richardson – Dos Rios Counselor
- E. Rebecca Barsky – Hurley Ranch & Union School Psychologist

- F. Beverly Canney – Hurley Ranch Health Office CMA
- G. Jennifer Glueck – Union Kindergarten Teacher
- H. Leticia Barrett – Union Reading Interventionist

X. RECOGNITION OF THE TEACHERS OF THE YEAR FROM 2020-2021

- A. Union Elementary School – Timber Anderson
- B. Hurley Ranch Elementary School – Victoria Williams
- C. Dos Rios Elementary School – Emily Zelazny

XI. SUPERINTENDENT SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

This is our final Board meeting during our student's 2021 school year. We have lots of activity happening to close out the year and much to celebrate.

First, let's talk about our community metrics, this week both cases and percent positivity increased, and we have moved into the highest overall community transmission rate.

Reporting Date	Cases per 100/K People	Percent Positivity	Overall Community Transmission	Recommended Learning Scenario
5/6/2021	56.44	6.54	Substantial Transmission	Hybrid mode with physical distancing of 6 ft. or more to greatest extent possible.
5/13/2021	82.10	10.26	High Transmission	Hybrid mode with physical distancing of 6 ft. or more to greatest extent possible.

We are continuing to employ our mitigations for the remainder of the school year, and into our summer school programming. We will hold our annual administrative retreat the first week of June where we will be discussing our approach to next year and bring our recommendations for mitigation to the Board, most likely in July. At this point in time we are planning for all students to return to in-person learning next year, unless given direction from the Board to proceed otherwise. We believe our in-person model is the best learning environment for our students and therefore want to ensure our students return in-person to our classrooms. As we did this year, we will have plans for all contingencies, should COVID-19 resurge and require us to change course. We are approved for an on-line school, should we find there is a high demand or need for this option. I want to thank the amazing Union ESD team and our community for working together to keep our school environments safe. We are very fortunate that we were able to offer safe options. Thank you to our Board for your steady leadership in supporting administration, staff, and students.

Just a few of our celebrations to close out the year...

As of the end of April, our School Health Office Team, plus Ms. Avalos, conducted 1170 COVID BinaxNow tests on individuals throughout the District since December 6th, 2020.

Dos Rios	Hurley Ranch	Union	District	Combined	
175	298	219	478	1170	Total Tested
108	275	212	163	758	Students
60	21	7	133	221	Family (Community)
6	1	0	182	189	Staff
27	7	3	52	89	# Positive
15.43	2.35	1.37	10.88	7.61	% Positive

This team was courageous, pre cautious and our front line of defense against the spread of COVID-19. They safely identified 89 positive cases in our school community, without getting sick! Thank you also to the front office staff who provided back-up and supported the health offices in the many functions they carried out beyond testing. Additionally, thank you to Maricopa County Public Health who provided us with the materials to conduct these important diagnostic tests.

Our data indicates that we can celebrate that vaccinations are working to stop the spread. Since February 7th, we have had zero positive cases in staff, and since Spring Break we have only had 5 positive cases in students throughout the district. We are encouraged by the approval of the Pfizer vaccination for youth ages 12-15, and hopeful that over the summer the number of individuals receiving the vaccination will continue to rise. It is helping us get back closer to normal.

Our 8th graders had the opportunity to engage in the creation of a mural at Hurley Ranch & Dos Rios. Local Artist Mr. Jayarr Steiner, whose work you might see on Valley Metro buses and light rail, worked with our 8th graders over the past two weeks to engage in self-expression through art by creating symbols that are meaningful to them. He then placed the designs on wall and worked with students to paint the mural. Each mural design includes the positive affirmation "YOU ARE AMAZING".

Hurley Ranch students paint their Mural on Friday. We are thrilled about this first, of hopefully many opportunities, to brighten our campuses, send a positive message, and allow our students to experience art as a creative process and a possible lifetime hobby or vocation. Thank you to our Mr. Stewart, Dr. Watkins, Ms. Block, Mr. Moreno, Mr. Calderon, Mr. Silva, and our 8th grade teachers for their work to make arrangements to engage our students in this process. Thank you to our 8th grade students and Jayarr, for their energy and creativity in helping brighten our schools.

Next week we will be hosting Kindergarten drive through celebrations at Dos Rios and Union Elementary. Hurley Ranch & Dos Rios will also be hosting 8th grade promotion celebrations. Originally, we were hoping to offer in-person and drive-through ceremonies. However, due to this week's metrics we have shifted to all drive through. Thank you to our campus teams for working to make these events memorable.

At the present time, I want to celebrate that over 90% of our dedicated staff are planning to return for the 2022 school year. We know that a high quality, caring staff makes all the difference in the experience of our students and we are so happy to retain this great group of employees.

While our new enrollments for the end of this year have remained steady, Kindergarten and First grade enrollments remain low. To help get the word out, we have created an informational brochure. We will be using this for new housing developments, and we are also conducting neighborhood walks to distribute the information. Thank you to our teachers, administrators, and support staff who are helping us get the word out about enrolling for next year.

Because we can't ever celebrate enough, on May 21st, from 7:30-8:30 a.m. all staff will safely gather, in the center courtyard at Union Elementary School. We will celebrate our shared accomplishments, recognize some key milestones, preview the year to come, and enjoy each other's company, all while masked, cohorted, and distanced. We will be following CDC and Public Health guidelines. We are all looking forward to closing the year out in a celebratory and safe manner and welcome each Board member to join us at the celebration. Check your calendars and let us know if you can make it.

XII. 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 April 8, 2021
- 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 Extension of Vendor Contracts

XIII. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Motion by Ms. Doucet, seconded by Ms. Briceno to approve the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Expenditure Budget Second Revision. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried. Aye: Ms. Briceno, Ms. Doucet
- B. Motion by Ms. Briceno, seconded by Ms. Doucet to approve the Professional Consulting Services for Food Services under Emergency Procurement Rule. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried. Aye: Mrs. Briceno, Ms. Doucet
- C. COVID-19 School Learning Models & Mitigation Strategies. No action taken.
 - Q. Ms. Briceno asked if we will continue to make decisions based on numbers and rules to see if we continue online, in person, and can gather in large groups?
 - A. Ms. Kristine Morris responded right now that is how we are rolling out the rest of this year. Summer school we are planning just in person and no online options for summer school. Going into fall we are going to have to plan as if everyone is coming back. We staffed to have small class sizes. We do not know guidance yet on masking. There is new guidance that just came out today that if you are vaccinated you do not need to wear a mask. How do we know if you are vaccinated if we do not ask for a vaccination card or require it? We will have to figure that out when we welcome students and staff back into the next school year. We will wait on guidance and we will have to figure that out going into the next school year. We as the administrative team are coming together in June and we hope to bring a recommendation forward in July.

XIV. INFORMATION ITEM ONLY

- 1. Governing Board Financial Report

XV. FUTURE MEETING ITEMS

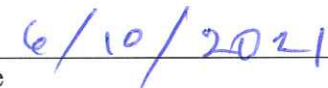
- 1. June 10, 2021 – Public Meeting for the 2021-2022 Budget Proposal
- 2. June 10, 2021 – IGA Renewals
- 3. June 10, 2021 – Resolutions
- 4. June 10, 2021 – Evaluations (Tentative)
- 5. June 10, 2021 – Pay for Performance 2021-2022 (Tentative)

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ms. Briceno seconded by Ms. Doucet, to adjourn the meeting at 5:53 p.m. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried. Aye: Mrs. Briceno, Mrs. Doucet



Mr. Delson Sunn, President of the Board



Date