



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

**Governing Board
Regular Meeting and Study Session Minutes
October 5, 2023**

A. CALL TO ORDER REGULAR MEETING:

Mrs. Doucet Governing Board President at 6:00 p.m., called the meeting to order.

Motion by Mrs. Doucet, seconded by Mrs. Briceno, Vote was unanimous. Motion carried. Aye: Mrs. Doucet, Mrs. Briceno

B. ROLL CALL

Mrs. Susan Doucet & Mrs. Nubia Briceno were in attendance.

Administration Present:

Kristine Morris, Superintendent

Renee Estrella-Chavez, Dos Rios Principal

Michael Welsh, Union Principal

Ana Avalos, Director of HR

Tonia Immel, Executive Director of Business Services

Melynda Martin, Director of Student Services

Melanie Block, Director of Academics

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

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

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Each speaker is limited to three (3) minutes.

F. SUPERINTENDENT SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS:

A. UESD Current Events Summary

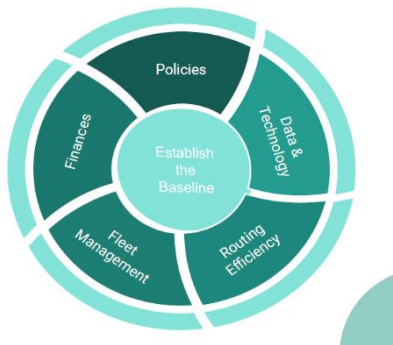
Good evening, President Doucet and Ms. Briceno,

During this final week of the first quarter, our team continues to improve our practice so that all children succeed!

In the area of Student Well-Being, we are responding to our Employee and Parent Survey results from last year indicating a desire to improve in managing student behaviors. We continue our work on our implementation of Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) using Boys Town Well Managed Schools strategies and curriculum. An implementation consultant from *LIFT w/Boys Town* is here this week to observe classrooms and provide feedback to teachers and leaders. We look forward to receiving the feedback and using that to refine our strategies to address behavior within a structured

school-wide behavior management system. Thanks to our staff for being learners and leaders and working to implement these evidence-based interventions that when implemented consistently, are proven to reduce challenging behavior, and improve students’ physical and emotional safety.

We also administered our first districtwide student survey this week to students in kindergarten through eighth grade. We will be using this feedback with our Superintendent’s Student Advisory Committee made up of students in fourth through eighth grade. Invitations to our nominated students will go out after break. During the remainder of the year, the Advisory Committee will meet three times, identifying areas where we can improve their experience. They will share their recommendations on how to improve with our Strategic Planning Team in April and attend our end-of-year Celebration at the Board meeting in May I am so excited to add our students’ voice, perspective, and input into our continuous improvement process!



In strategic plan goal area 4, Stewardship of Resources, our Employee Survey Results indicated a desire to better utilize our district resources. Our transportation department does a nice job of getting our students to and from school safely. However, this year we are struggling with delayed routes, too many students on the bus, requiring multiple trips, and staffing coverage when absences occur. To assist us with identifying options for tackling these challenges, we have begun a Transportation Study. The study will examine our current state, policies, data and technology, route efficiencies, fleet management, and finances. As a result of their study, we will receive the

following deliverables:

- Detail of our baseline assessment
- Summary of findings and recommendations related to the key areas:
 - Routing
 - Finance
 - Fleet
 - Policy
 - Technology
- Route maps in EZ Routing



We look forward to having this information compiled so that we can engage our team in identifying effective and efficient solutions for meeting the needs of our families.

Our community continues to grow, which not only impacts us internally but throughout the community. I am excited to share that on Tuesday, City of Phoenix Fire Station 62 broke ground on Lower Buckeye! The award-winning station is being noted for its safety features for firefighters and its focus on the community. There will be a community room as well as a community response team housed at the station. The station is scheduled to

open at the end of the calendar year 2024. We look forward to a great partnership with this needed resource in our community!

Our Union Elementary and Central Office projects with DLR and CORE are wrapping up the Schematic Design Process. This phase of the design includes high-level information about the project with technical information that will allow CORE to begin pricing the project. Phase I of the project is the transportation relocation and we are presently on track for that to happen over Winter Break 2023. Thanks to Daniel Moreno, Michael Welsh, and Ralph King for meeting every two weeks to move this forward. Thanks also to members of Council for engaging in the



planning process. At our November Board meeting, CORE and DLR will share the exciting work and we will be rolling this information out to various stakeholder groups.

To fund these important projects, we will be going out for a sale of our community-approved Bonds from the 2022 election next week. We met with Standard and Poors and they have affirmed the District's "A+" credit rating. "The stable outlook reflects our expectation that the district's budgetary flexibility will remain very strong, supported by an expanding tax base that should provide additional students in the longer term, and bolstered by its M&O override. Therefore, we do not expect to change the rating within the two-year outlook horizon." I have attached a copy of the report for your information.

Next week is Fall break. Wishing everyone a restful and rejuvenating time.

G. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA:

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

- A. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes for September 14, 2023
- B. Approval of Personnel Consent List
- C. Approval of Accounts Payable Vouchers
- D. Approval of Payroll Vouchers
- E. Approval of Student Activity Accounts
- F. Approval of Construction Manager at Risk (RFQ #Union 62-100) Agreement and General Conditions
- G. Approval of Hearing Officer List 2023-2024
- H. Approval of 2022-23 Annual Preventative Maintenance Report

H. PRESENTATION FROM DISTRICT PERSONNEL:

- A. 2022-2023 Annual Financial Report Presentation by Ms. Tonia Immel

I. ACTION ITEMS:

- A. Motion by Mrs. Briceno, seconded by Mrs. Doucet to approve the First Reading of Policy Advisories. Motion carried. Aye: Mrs. Briceno, Mrs. Doucet
- B. Motion by Mrs. Doucet, seconded by Mrs. Briceno to approve Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Finance Report Motion carried. Aye: Mrs. Briceno, Mrs. Doucet
- C. Motion by Mrs. Briceno, seconded by Mrs. Doucet to approve the Student Spaceflight Experiments Program Agreement. Motion carried. Aye: Mrs. Briceno, Mrs. Doucet
- D. Motion by Mrs. Briceno, seconded by Mrs. Doucet to approve the Energy Cost Savings Provider. Motion carried. Aye: Mrs. Briceno, Mrs. Doucet

Q: Ms. Briceno asked how this will impact growth or new buildings.

A: Ms. Morris responded this is excluding any new buildings doesn't impact any future growth. If we decline enrollment we would see an impact, such as failure to meet obligations, even though there is a provision that if your budget is reduced by the state, you might not have to fulfill the legal

term. If we have an overall increase in student enrollment doesn't matter where the enrollment happens in the district, we get to use the resources, however.

Ms. Immel also responded that in the event of a new building, we would be using energy-efficient fixtures. Right now, we will be replacing 20-year-old fixtures, but we will have new ones in any new building.

Q: Ms. Doucet asked why Schneider didn't list solar as a service provided.

A: Ms. Morris responded when we started this pathway there were no good incentives at the time for installing solar. We had passed that window. When we engaged with Schneider early on none of those rebates were there, so they were not advising us to do solar. We weren't going to get the benefits compared to the expense. Veregy was able to factor it in, they came in later, and some of these incentives and rebates. This is what we pushed for, show us how you can make it work with solar but it's not what all the providers will recommend. We think it's an important thing, it brings us some benefits so how can we make it work. That's why it's not there. But you don't realize the savings through solar if you left it out of the packet, I don't know if Veregy would agree.

Q: Ms. Doucet asked if Trove could only offer short-term or if they would be able to offer a long-term plan. She also wanted to confirm Trove was doing business in Texas.

A: Ms. Morris responded it doesn't make sense to drag it out because of what they only offer. You realize the savings quickly and sustain them long-term. Yes, Trove has done business in Texas.

Q: Ms. Doucet asked if we knew who does long-term or short-term.

A: Ms. Morris responded I'm sure we could go back and get an updated proposal for the short term if the board decides to go that route.

Q: Ms. Briceno asked if we add solar, do we have to go long-term?

A: Ms. Morris responded the reason it's long-term is due to cost. If you were to look at a comprehensive solution you are getting into several million dollars, so you need to spread those expenses out to realize the savings. These are also banking on increasing energy costs so that we make up those differentials. These are higher-cost programs so they can spread out over a long period of time.

Q: Ms. Doucet asked if commercial solar was the same as residential solar where you produce solar and sell it back.

A: Schneider rep responded generally there's a reduced export rate once you have access beyond what you're using directly onsite generally it's not as favorable as many of the residential programs where you can sell it back at a higher rate. This is where sizing it based on current usage is most beneficial cause once you're generating more than what you use the financial benefit of that drop-off.

Shannon Roepke Veregy's rep added that this also depends on the utility company. Typically when solar is sized in SRP territory you want to make sure you're not exporting in APS territory there's a difference. Finding that provider that sizes it right so that you're not putting more upfront cost to bill solar and not getting that return on investment.

Ms. Briceno and Ms. Doucet both agreed that they want to go long-term with a comprehensive package.

J. ITEMS ONLY – NO ACTION REQUIRED:

- A. Governing Board Financial Report
- B. EEAE Bus Safety Program exhibit update

K. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS:

- November 9, 2023- Integrated Action Plan- Dos Rios
- December 14, 2023- Integrated Action Plan- Hurley Ranch & Student Performance
- December 14, 2023- Executive Session, Superintendent Evaluation
- January 11, 2024- Integrated Action Plan- Union
- Special Board Meeting March 21, 2024- Guarantee Maximum Price Presentation and Approval from CORE

L. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Mrs. Doucet, seconded by Mrs. Briceno to adjourn the Executive Session at 6:35 p.m.

Vote was unanimous. Motion carried. Aye: Mrs. Doucet, Mrs. Briceno

Governing Board Member

Date