

OFFICIAL MINUTES

August 24, 2004

The Governing Board of the Flagstaff Unified School District Number One, Coconino County, Flagstaff, Arizona held a Regular Meeting on August 24, 2004 at the District Administrative Center, 3285 E. Sparrow, Flagstaff, Arizona.

PRELIMINARY

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. Roll Call:

Board Members

Absent Mrs. Janet Kramer, President
 Mr. Christopher J. Bavasi, Clerk
 Ms. Elaine Morrison, Member
 Mr. Paul Kulpinski, Member
 Ms. Deborah J. Harris, Member

Administrative Staff

Dr. Kevin J. Brown, Superintendent
Ms. Ann DeSimone, Executive Assistant
Ms. Kathy Gill, Assistant Superintendent
Mr. George Ritchie, Director of Finance and Planning
Mrs. Kim Branges, Administrative Assistant to the Board

3. There were no requests to reorder the agenda.
4. Ms. Morrison moved to adopt the agenda with addenda items, as submitted. Mr. Kulpinski seconded; motion carried.

Seven people signed the guest register.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mr. Bavasi called on the public for comment:

- Jodie Fails – expressed concerns about the size of classes at Cromer Elementary School and the need for a full-time nurse. Dr. Brown assured him that both issues will be carefully looked at during the next couple of weeks.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda Items 1 – 12 included the following:

1. Minutes – Board Retreat/Worksession held on August 6, 2004 (Ref. A)
2. Minutes – Regular Meeting held on August 10, 2004 (Ref. B)
3. Acceptance of Gifts – (Ref. C)
4. Vouchers – (Ref. D) (see attached)
5. Associated Students Activity Fund – for month ending July 31, 2004 (Ref. E)
6. Student Activities Treasurer – for school year 2004 - 05 (Ref. F)
7. Ratification of Operation School Bell Agreement – (For Your Information #2 on 08/10/04)
8. Resignations, Terminations, and Appointments (with addenda) – (see attached) (Ref. G)
9. Out of State Travel (as addenda) – (S. Johnson; J. Kitterman; G. Linn; A. Mendoza; K. Ontiveros; N. Reyes de Francis; T. Testa; D. Trubakoff; M. Vasquez; O. Zubiata; M. Fillerup) (Ref. H)
10. Leave of Absence – (none) (Ref. I)
11. Release of Contract (as addenda) – (A. Begay) (Ref. J)
12. Retirement – (none) (Ref. K)

Mr. Kulpinski asked to remove Consent Agenda Items 5 and 6 to consider separately.

Ms. Morrison moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 1 – 4 and 7 – 12, as submitted with addenda.
Mr. Bavasi seconded; motion carried.

In reference to Consent Agenda Items 5 and 6, Mr. Kulpinski asked what was going to happen to the Activity Funds (\$2081.59) from Weitzel School. Mr. Ritchie explained that these funds would be distributed to the schools that received the Weitzel students in a percentage amount equal to the distribution of students to those schools.

Mr. Kulpinski moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 5 and 6. Ms. Morrison seconded; motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS

1. School Liaison Report (none)

Regular Meeting

2. Curriculum Report

Ms. Gill referred to her written report supplied in the agenda materials. Board questions were answered. Ms. Morrison suggested that each school hold a “curriculum night” to explain what the curriculum will be, the expectations of the children and parents, and to explain the Standards Report and the Arizona State Standards. Sylvia Johnson, Educational Enrichment Director, was present at the meeting and said a video had been created to help the teachers use the Standards Report. A brochure will be created and an explanation of the Standards Report will be on the district’s website. (Ref. L)

3. SAT 9 Scores

Dr. Brown said that SAT 9 scores have decreased across the district. He said approximately 250 students were tested “at level” last year that were previously tested “out of level” and this could explain some of the decreases. He said scores for FUSD are still above state and national averages.

4. Superintendent Report

Dr. Brown referred to his written report and asked if there were any questions. He reported that attendance for the second day of school is up approximately 90 students over the same day last year. Dr. Brown, Mr. Ritchie, and Ms. Gill have visited every school except Leupp, which they will visit tomorrow morning. (Ref. M)

- a. Summary of Current Events
- b. “Stuff the Bus” for Christensen, Killip, Kinsey, and South Beaver
- c. New Teachers’ Orientation
- d. Opening of School Ceremonies and First Day of School
- e. MAC-Ro Meeting

4. Director of Finance and Planning Report

Mr. Ritchie referred to his written report and asked if there were any questions. (Ref. N)

- a. FY 2004 – 05 Budget Year to Date
- b. School Readiness Report

Mr. Kulpinski expressed concerns about having only one portable unit at Thomas Elementary School when initial calculations indicated that two would be needed to accommodate the incoming students from Weitzel Elementary School. He feels there could be a systemic problem in how project management is handled. Mr. Ritchie said he does not feel there is a systemic problem and he felt the cost of moving the second portable was excessive. Dr. Brown said that once classes are adjusted at Thomas, there will be enough room to accommodate all students without a second portable. Mr. Kulpinski requested an analysis of the district’s project needs within the next couple of weeks.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

1. Appointment of Hearing Officer

Dr. Brown recommended that the Governing Board appoint Stephanie Orr as the district's hearing officer for the 2004 – 05 school year. (Ref. O)

Mr. Kulpinski moved to accept the administration's recommendation to appoint Stephanie Orr as the district's hearing officer for the 2004 – 05 school year. Ms. Morrison seconded; motion carried.

2. Board Membership on Committees

Dr. Brown reviewed the committee assignments as provided in the agenda materials. Ms. Morrison said she is not convinced that the current committees are aligned with the priorities of this Board. She stressed the need to stay focused on student achievement. She would like to see the Individual School Plans by the end of September. (Ref. P)

Ms. Morrison volunteered to serve on the Professional Growth Committee; Mr. Kulpinski volunteered to serve on the Strategic Planning Committee; and Ms. Harris volunteered to serve on the FUSD Charter School Board.

Ms. Morrison moved to accept the volunteer appointments of Board Members to those committees. Mr. Kulpinski seconded; motion carried.

3. Middle School Fees

Dr. Brown said it was his recommendation that the Board approve the \$30 voluntary activity fee for Middle School students. (Ref. Q)

Ms. Morrison moved to approve the \$30 voluntary activity fee for Middle School students for the 2004 – 05 school year. Mr. Kulpinski seconded; motion carried.

4. Early Entrance to Kindergarten

Ms. Gill reviewed the process that led to the current board policy regarding early entrance to kindergarten. She said the current policy does not allow for early entry to kindergarten. She suggested that a committee be formed to look at changing current board policy on early entrance to kindergarten and that the district consider the creation of an Early Childhood Education Center.

Ms. Gill recommended denial of the current request for early entrance to kindergarten. (Ref. R)

Mr. Bavasi called on the public for comment:

- Jennifer Parker – spoke in support of more flexibility for early entrance to kindergarten and volunteered to serve on the committee when it is formed
- Melanie Osborne – would like a change in policy and testing in place for students that are ready but just miss the cutoff date

Ms. Harris said an Early Childhood Education Center may be two or three years away but she would like an appeal process in place along with assessment tools that test social, emotional, and academic readiness for next school year. The other Board Members present agreed with Ms. Harris’ request and directed administration to move forward accordingly. Ms. Harris indicated she would be willing to be on that committee.

Ms. Morrison moved to accept Administration’s recommendation to deny the request currently pending for early admission to kindergarten. Mr. Kulpinski seconded; motion carried.

GOVERNING BOARD PRESENTATIONS

1. Governing Board Members’ Report (none)
2. IBS Report (none)

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

ADJOURNMENT OF PUBLIC MEETING

Mr. Kulpinski moved to go into Executive Session at 7:10 p.m. to discuss student discipline matters. Ms. Morrison seconded; motion carried.

Adjournment of Public Meeting – At the completion of the Executive Session at 7:50 p.m., the public meeting was adjourned.

Signature Date Signature Date

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