

WICKENBURG UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 9
BOARD STUDY SESSION MINUTES
June 7, 2016

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Joe Maglio, President, Mr. Curtis Arnett, Member, Ms. Amy Brown, Member, Ms. Sandee Gill, Member, Mr. Daniel Scott, Member

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None

OTHERS PRESENT

Dr. Howard Carlson, Victoria Farrar, Lynn Greene, Erin Johnson, Patti Jares

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- ❖ Review of the following:
 - Financial Projection
 - FY2017 Budget Assumption/Changes
 - FY2017 Budget Reductions
 - Staff & Department Reorganizations
- ❖ Proposed Budget FY2017

The Study Session began at 5:37 pm.

Ms. Victoria Farrar gave a presentation on the Proposed Budget FY2017.

Ms. Farrar went through changes in budgeting that will result to the state implementing “Current Year Funding”. For Fiscal 2017, The District is under the “Hold Harmless” for the year because of declining enrollment, which means funding will still be done with the current method of using prior year student counts. The following year (2017/2018), the 100 day count, which will occur in January of 2018, will have to be estimated in May of 2017. If enrollment is less that estimated, the District will have to give part of their money back to the state and reduce the budget in that year.

There will be \$118,000 in carryover. At end of 2017, if you are declining in enrollment, this will be used to compensate. On the Capital side, there is a basic structural deficit. Programs such as Galileo, ingenuity, etc. will still need to be funded from capital. Other components the District will still be responsible for are federal programs, such as Title. Pulte funds, which pays for some teacher salaries at Festival Foothills will go away in a couple of years.

The high school is showing the greatest loss in tuition, as they have greatest loss in Average Daily Membership. This downward trend is expected to continue, as many of the students from Nadaburg are going elsewhere.

Mr. Arnett commented that there would be a public hearing on the budget held on June 23rd, and asked if this will include everything currently in the proposed budget. Ms. Farrar confirmed that everything would be included.

Ms. Brown asked what would happen with the budget if the bond passes. Ms. Farrar told her the budget will be revised in December. Dr. Carlson commented the District would probably wait until the spring

before any expenditures were made from bond monies. At present, bond monies are not included in the FY2017 budget.

Mr. Arnett noted that funding for school sponsored athletics has decreased approximately 55%. Ms. Farrar told him schools are given a certain amount of money in allocations, but it is their decision on how that money is spent. The amount projected is the base amount.

Ms. Johnson presented assumptions and changes FY2017.

Wickenburg High School is in need for a new track. The District plans to put \$70,000 towards the cost of the track and will look at financing remainder. Ms. Brown asked about getting a grant. Dr. Carlson told her the District has been looking into that for a year, but has had no success.

With the passing of Prop 123, funding for staff raises in salary will be provided. This includes raising the base salary for certified staff to \$36,000. There is also a plan to implement data support for the District.

Budget adjustments will include:

- Removing the non CDL driver position in Transportation for a savings of \$11,454
- The District will no longer need the services of Bagnall, for a savings of \$39,000
- There will be a savings \$20,000 in the Human Resources Department by eliminating the HR Coordinator position and replacing with an HR Specialist. Bill Roach will be moved from a contracted position to an Administration Substitute, and will work on an as needed basis, dealing with discipline issues, policies, etc.
- Ms. Hespen is retiring as the Executive Director of Educational Services. Her duties will be shared among Rose Garcia, who will assume the duties and title of CTE Director and Jeremy Courliss, who will assume the duties and title of Director of Technology. Soren Stoutner will assist the District on an as needed basis.
- Staffing and position inventory reductions will save \$75,000. This will include senior staff members who are leaving the District being replaced by staff with less experience and years, plus some positions being unfilled because of declining enrollment.

Mr. Arnett asked if, in terms of teachers, there was a count of FTE's in the current year and how many were coming in. Ms. Farrar told him the current year there were 80.45 FTE teachers; this was going to 78.65 FTE, with a reduction of 3.2.

Mr. Arnett asked if class loads would still be ok. Dr. Carlson told him classes will be higher than they were 10 years ago, and will definitely be higher than wanted, but will still lower than in the valley.

Mr. Scott asked what the critical mass was financially (number of students). He was told at this level, the high school needs to be above 400 to have offerings; with the digital age, the high school can continue with offerings, but student enrollment still needs to be above 400. Mr. Scott asked how many students were currently enrolled in the high school. Dr. Carlson told him 596. Mr. Scott asked how a class like engineering would be supported when there are not enough students. Dr. Carlson told him you would begin by dual certification of teachers.

Dr. Carlson presented the District's organization chart, explaining changes of staff and positions. Ann Marie Davee will now be dealing with the English Language Learner (ELL) services and her title is changing from Director of Special Education to Director of Special Services. Jeremy Courliss will be the new IT Director. Adam Malik will now be the Wickenburg High School Assistant Principal. Mr. Arnett asked who would be the Athletic Director. Dr. Carlson told him that position is being filled. Mr. Arnett commented on the heavy load of the Superintendent.

Ms. Gill asked if students were surveyed to see what classes they would be interested in. Dr. Carlson told her yes, this was done on an annual basis; this gives students the ability to request certain classes. If interest is expressed in a class the District does not offer, we are able to look at digital opportunities.

The Study Session ended at 6:27 pm.

ATTEST:

Mr. Joe Maglio, Board President