

**J.O. COMBS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 44  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 2016**

A public meeting of the J.O. Combs Unified School District #44 Governing Board convened on Wednesday, June 8, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room at the J.O. Combs Middle School. Members of the Governing Board present were Shelly Hargis, President; Bob D'Elena, Clerk; Kathy Bourgeois, Member (absent); Dr. Gary Kemp, Member; and Pat Pinckard, Member. Administrators, Directors, and Coordinators present were Marcus Berkshire, Tammy Stimatze, Angie Beauchene, Bradley Shepstead, Mark Mauro, Brenda Mayberry, Brooke Davis, Jane Rupard, Karla Slovitsky, Jack Wallbrecht, Shannon Weber, Santa Dunker, Kelly Guerra, and John Scrogam; Dr. Patty Rogers, Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Gayle Blanchard, Superintendent, and MaryLou Martinez, Administrative Assistant.

**Call to Order** – Governing Board President Ms. Shelly Hargis called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Approval of Meeting Agenda** – Ms. Pinckard made a motion to approve the meeting agenda as presented, seconded by Dr. Kemp, and the motion carried 4-0. Ms. Kathy Bourgeois was absent.

**Welcoming of Guests** – Ms. Hargis welcomed Ms. Brooke Davis, Combs High School Principal.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Citizen's Comments**

The Governing Board invites the viewpoints of citizens throughout the District under guidelines as presented in Policy BEDH. (Policy BEDH—Public Participation at Board Meetings is posted in the Governing Board Room or available at the District Office.) State statutes prohibit the Governing Board from discussing an item that is not on the agenda, but they do listen to compliments / concerns and request that staff follow up on any questions.

Ms. Stacey Berklan addressed the Governing Board asking them to please consider her request to be released from her contract. Ms. Berklan stated that she is in agreement to pay the liquidated damages.

**Approval of Consent Agenda Action Items** – Mr. D'Elena made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Ms. Pinckard and the motion carried 4-0.

- A. Approval of Minutes
  - i. Regular Meeting May 11, 2016
- B. Business and Finance
  - i. Monthly Financial Report May 2016
  - ii. Student Activities Financial Statement May 2016
  - iii. Expense Vouchers
 

# 7053	\$ 194,005.72	# 7056	\$ 94,959.17
# 7054	\$ 123,934.12	# 7057	\$ 332,795.05
# 7055	\$ 2,325.67		
  - iv. Payroll Vouchers
 

# 53	\$ 596,962.94	# 56	\$ 318,074.11
# 54	\$ 321,963.88	# 57	\$ 80,437.73
# 55	\$ 595,175.73	# 58	\$2,173,991.69
  - v. Intergovernmental Agreements
    - a. None
  - vi. Bid Request(s)
    - a. None
  - vii. Bid Approval(s)
    - a. Recommendation for Rejection/Non-Award Proposal for Special Education Mathematics Instruction Materials for Adoption
    - b. Recommendation for Award of Proposal for Purchase of Landscape Management Services

- viii. Purchase(s)
  - a. None
- ix. Recommendation for 2016–2017 Purchasing Contract Renewals, Sole Source, and Adopted Items
- x. Annual Establishment of the following bank accounts at Wells Fargo Bank, designating authorized signers: Dr. Gayle A. Blanchard, Superintendent, Dr. Margaret P. Rogers, Assistant Superintendent, Mrs. Karla Slovitsky, Director of Business Services, and Mrs. Patty Myers, Account Clerk (Revolving Account only)
  - a. Revolving Account
  - b. Student Activities Accounts
  - c. Food Service Account
  - d. Clearing Account
  - e. Auxiliary Account
- xi. Annual authorization of signing of vouchers between meetings. This approval allows district account to be paid in a timely manner and avoid late fee charges
- xii. Annual Designation of Student Activities Treasurer
  - a. Mrs. Karla Slovitsky, Director of Business Services is recommended to continue as the designated Student Activities Treasurer
- xiii. Combined Resolution Affecting County Treasurer Transactions for Fiscal Year 2016–2017 (Annual)
  - a. Authorizing Pinal County Treasurer to invest and re-invest any surplus funds for the fiscal year 2016–2017
  - b. Authorizing Pinal County Treasurer to provide warrant information on a daily basis to the servicing bank for fiscal year 2016–2017
  - c. Authorizing Dr. Gayle A. Blanchard, Superintendent and Mrs. Karla Slovitsky, Director of Business Services as the authorized persons from the J.O. Combs Unified School District to request Pinal County Treasurer to wire funds from the district account on the district’s behalf
- xiv. Grants, Gifts, and Donations
  - a. Donation of books from Ms. Debra Jones for Professional Development library, valued at \$300
- xv. Overnight and/or Out-of-State Travel Request
  - a. ACTEAZ Summer Conference, Professional Development, Tucson, AZ, July 16-20, 2016, John Scrogam, Alice Goodrick, Conroy Bowman, Carl Hill
- C. Personnel  
(A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A)(1) the Governing Board may go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters.)
  - i. Job Descriptions
    - a. None
  - ii. Administrative Staff: Employment, Transfer, Leave of Absence, Resignation, Termination
  - iii. Certificated Staff: Employment, Transfer, Leave of Absence, Resignation, Termination
  - iv. Support Staff: Employment, Transfer, Leave of Absence, Resignation, Termination
  - v. Substitute Staff: Employment, Transfer, Leave of Absence, Resignation, Termination

**2015-2016 Revised Budget** — Ms. Karla Slovitsky, Director of Business Services, presented the 2015-2016 Revised Budget. She explained that with the passing of Prop 123, the budget has been revised to include the increase of the base level to \$3,645 per student count and the distribution of the additional \$50 Million.

Ms. Slovitsky said she will roll everything into the 2016-2017 budget and indicated that the next agenda item is the Proposed Budget.

Mr. D’Elena made a motion to Adopt the Revised 2015-2016 District Expenditure Budget as presented, seconded by Dr. Kemp, and the motion carried 4-0.

**Public Hearing to Propose the FY 2016–2017 District Expenditure Budget** —

- A. Call to Order
- B. Public Hearing of Proposed FY 2016–2017 Budget — Discussion
- C. Proposed FY 2016–2017 Budget Adoption — Motion
- D. Adjourn and Reconvene Regular Meeting

Ms. Hargis entertained a motion to enter into a Public Hearing at 6:05 p.m. Ms. Pinckard made a motion to enter into a Public Hearing, seconded by Ms. Hargis and the motion carried 4-0.

Ms. Hargis invited discussion and public comment. Ms. Karla Slovitsky presented a PowerPoint as it relates to the 2016-2017 proposed budget. Ms. Slovitsky covered the following topics: proposed budget base level, current year funding, total dollars for spending, budget by program and percentage, tax rate, and 2016-2017 budget recommendations as well as future considerations. She discussed the change this year regarding student count (100th day Average Daily Membership) and how that affects current year funding for 2016-2017.

Mr. D’Elena asked if the tax rates we refer to in the presentation are property tax rates. Ms. Slovitsky responded yes and that we will see fluctuations because it depends on what is levied.

The group briefly talked about the reopening of building 500 at the high school in relation to student head count this year versus next year. Ms. Hargis commented if we can open the building, that it would alleviate many issues.

Ms. Pinckard made a motion to Approve the Proposed FY 2016-2017 District Expenditure Budget as presented, seconded by Mr. D’Elena, and the motion carried 4-0.

Mr. D’Elena made a motion to adjourn Public Hearing and reconvene into regular meeting at 6:26 p.m., seconded by Ms. Pinckard, and the motion carried 4-0.

**Policy First Read** — Dr. Blanchard presented several policies submitted by policy services. Dr. Blanchard clarified that policy GCCH is a fix to an error that occurred during the full manual read by ASBA. That policy now defines family members. She noted that Dr. Rupard has spent some time reviewing Student Discipline and Restraint and Seclusion policies and that Community Use of School Facilities adds a statement about liability. Dr. Blanchard explained that no action is necessary at this time.

Mr. D’Elena asked if voting would be done at the next meeting to which Dr. Blanchard replied “correct.”

BDF	Advisory Committees
GCCH	Professional/Support Staff Bereavement Leave
JK	Student Discipline
JK-RB	Student Discipline
JLDB	Restraint and Seclusion
JLDB-EA, EB, EC	Restraint and Seclusion
KF	Community Use of School Facilities

**2016–2017 Proposition 301 Performance Based Pay Plan** — Ms. Santa Dunker presented the plan, which must be reviewed annually, approved by teachers, and adopted by the Governing Board. Ms. Dunker described minimal changes which included the additional tasks under the Professional Investment category.

Mr. D’Elena and Ms. Hargis commended Ms. Dunker and the committee of teachers for their work in updating the plan every year.

Mr. D’Elena made a motion to Approve the 2016–2017 Proposition 301 Performance Based Pay Plan as presented, seconded by Ms. Pinckard, and the motion carried 4-0.

**CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION ORDERING AND AUTHORIZING ALL MATTERS NECESSARY FOR A BOND ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 8, 2016. IF THIS RESOLUTION IS SO ADOPTED, THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING ARGUMENTS WITH RESPECT TO IT IS AUGUST 12, 2016, AT 5:00 P.M.** — Ms. Karla Slovitsky

presented, reminding the Board that at the March 2016 Study Session she had proposed a \$34 million dollar bond, however the amount has changed to \$36.8 million to cover all capital and facility needs. Ms. Slovitsky shared that after she had talked with the District's attorney regarding furniture and equipment (items that are attached to the building), she moved dollars out of the furniture and equipment category and moved to renovation, and added in field lighting, playground, bleachers, and fencing in the renovations. The other question she had asked the attorney was the possibility to purchase textbooks out of bond money. Ms. Slovitsky said the attorney explained that as long as it is attached to a school site yes, you can and Ms. Slovitsky will look at future textbook adoption. Since athletic storage is an issue at the high school, she added a facility/building but will still keep the storage containers, auditorium is still at \$8 million, maintenance/transportation bumped up a million (factored in inflation), and the cost of selling the bonds equals \$36.8 million.

Mr. D'Elena inquired about the auditorium saying that in the past we were calling it a community auditorium; however, it is more geared to the high school and has classrooms. Ms. Slovitsky explained the design does include an orchestra room, drama room, and stagecraft room and that seating capacity has been scaled back. Dr. Blanchard stated it would be a facility available for rental.

Ms. Slovitsky mentioned the estimated property tax rate for \$36.8 million to be about \$7.23 versus \$6.68 per month.

Dr. Kemp made a motion for the ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION ORDERING AND AUTHORIZING ALL MATTERS NECESSARY FOR A BOND ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 8, 2016. IF THIS RESOLUTION IS SO ADOPTED, THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING ARGUMENTS WITH RESPECT TO IT IS AUGUST 12, 2016, AT 5:00 P.M., seconded by Mr. D'Elena, and the motion carried 4-0.

**J.O. Combs Unified School District's Education Foundation Governing Board Representative** —

Dr. Blanchard reminded the Board of the previously approved, newly formed Foundation and that it is covered by the district's liability insurance.

Dr. Blanchard encouraged conversation and discussion among the board members for a Governing board member to serve on this foundation. She explained that a board member would serve as part of the Foundation's board of directors and an informational meeting is scheduled June 23, 2016. Dr. Blanchard made clear that this selection would typically happen at the organizational meeting held in January, however someone needs to be selected and who can serve until the end of December 2016. After a brief discussion among the board members, Dr. Kemp said he does not mind serving until December 2016.

Ms. Hargis made a motion to Appoint Dr. Gary Kemp to serve as the Governing Board Representative for the Combs Education Foundation for 2016, seconded by Ms. Pinckard, and the motion carried 4-0.

Ms. Hargis took the opportunity to acknowledge Ms. Brenda Mayberry who is retiring and Mr. Bradley Shepstead who is leaving the state.

**Call for Executive Session(s):** — Ms. Hargis made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 6:41 p.m., seconded by Mr. D'Elena and the motion carried 4-0.

- A. Pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03.A(1) for the Purpose of Reviewing the Superintendent's Performance Goals

Reconvene from Executive Session at approximately 7:32 p.m.

**Discussion or Possible Action Regarding Superintendent's Performance Goals for 2015–2016** — The Governing Board had no discussion on this agenda item.

Ms. Hargis made a motion to Approve the Release of Superintendent Performance Funds of 5% Based on Performance from January 2016-June 2016, seconded by Ms. Pinckard, and the motion carried 4-0.

**Adjournment** – Ms. Hargis made a motion to adjourn at 7:33 p.m., seconded by Mr. Pinckard, and the motion carried 4-0.

One or more Governing Board members will / may participate by telephonic or video communications. The Governing Board reserves the right to change the order of items on the agenda, unless a specific time is listed on the agenda.

The Governing Board reserves the right to move into executive session for legal advice with its attorneys, in person or by telephone, for any item listed on the agenda, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3).

J.O. Combs Unified School District #44 endeavors to make all public meetings accessible to persons with disabilities. Please call (480) 987-5300 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting to request an accommodation to attend or participate in the public meeting.

Governing Board Members

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Shelly Hargis, President

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Bob D'Elena, Clerk

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Kathy Bourgeois, Member

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Gary F. Kemp, Ed.D., Member

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Patricia J. Pinckard, Member

Respectfully Submitted by:  
MaryLou Martinez  
Administrative Assistant  
Superintendent / Governing Board  
June 8, 2016