

J.O. COMBS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 44
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2015

A public meeting of the J.O. Combs Unified School District #44 Governing Board convened on Wednesday, August 12, 2015 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; Kathy Bourgeois, Clerk; Pat Pinckard, Member; Bob D'Elena, Member; and Dr. Gary Kemp, Member. Administrators, Directors, and Coordinators present were Marcus Berkshire, Tammy Stimatze, Angie Beauchene, Bradley Shepstead, Sue Kruse, Mark Mauro, Brenda Mayberry, Karla Slovitsky, Jane Rupard, Jack Wallbrecht, Shannon Weber, Kelly Guerra, and Santa Dunker; 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 5-0.

Welcoming of Guests

Pledge of Allegiance – President Hargis invited Simonton student, Levi Potter, to lead the pledge.

Superintendent Report – Dr. Blanchard noted we are off to a great start and shared a few updates with the Board.

- Current enrollment is 4,436, which includes preschool through grade 12 students. She mentioned enrollment is fluctuating and is down by 81 students compared to the 100th day count from the previous year. Dr. Blanchard stated that District would continue to watch enrollment.
- The opening of a second location for the Young Coyotes program for children ages 3 - 5 at Ellsworth Elementary. Young Coyotes is a licensed program through the Department of Health Services. She shared news about the special ribbon cutting ceremony scheduled August 17, 2015 at 5:30 p.m., sponsored by San Tan Valley Chamber of Commerce.
- Opened three additional classrooms at Combs Traditional Academy (CTA) and moved Transportation Department to a portable building east of the CTA campus. She thanked Ms. Shannon Weber, Director of Support Services, and her team for completing the moves over the summer.
- Food & Nutrition department served 2,461 breakfast meals and 4,305 lunches to students during the summer foods program under a federally funded program. In addition, positive results from Arizona Department of Education (ADE) as there were no findings during the administrative review and the District was recognized by ADE with highest participation.

Focus on Students / Programs – Mr. Bradley Shepstead, Principal at Simonton Elementary, publicized that Simonton is a *Leader in Me* campus and all staff have participated in the seven habits leadership training. He also shared that Simonton has updated their mission statement to include the acronym “LEAD”, which stands for “Learn, Empower, Achieve, and Dream.” Mr. Shepstead introduced several students with each one taking a turn to present a specific leadership habit (Be proactive, Begin with the end in mind and plan ahead and set goals, Put first things first, Think win-win, Seek to understand and then to be understood, Synergize, and Sharpen the saw).

Citizen's Comments – None

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.

Approval of Consent Agenda Action Items – Mr. D’Elena made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Dr. Kemp, and the motion carried 5-0.

A. Approval of Minutes

- i. Regular Meeting July 8, 2015

B. Business and Finance

- i. Monthly Financial Report July 2015

- ii. Student Activities Financial Statement July 2015

iii. Expense Vouchers

# 6059	\$ 96,067.80	# 7000	\$461,801.20
# 6060	\$293,865.24	# 7001	\$ 55,230.02
# 6061	\$ 57,718.58	# 7002	\$ 85,064.52
# 6062	\$ 80,320.97	# 7003	\$364,175.54
# 6063	\$226,483.35	# 7004	\$163,441.96
# 6064	\$ 2,749.77		

iv. Payroll Vouchers

# 1	\$ 31,524.69	# 4	\$123,348.13
# 2	\$ 73,203.88	# 5	\$ 81,341.57
# 3	\$ 2,288.46		

v. Intergovernmental Agreements

- a. Student Teaching Affiliation Agreement Between Grand Canyon University (GCU) and J.O. Combs Unified School District - RATIFY
- b. Argosy University School Psychology Intern Training Agreement

vi. Bid Request(s)

- a. None

vii. Bid Approval(s)

- a. None

viii. Purchase(s)

- a. FranklinCovey *The Leader in Me* Training and Materials, Sole Source (Simonton Elementary) - RATIFY

ix. Grants, Gifts, and Donations

- a. None

x. Overnight and/or Out-of-State Travel Request

- a. FCCLA Adviser Leadership Conference, Phoenix, AZ, Alice Goodrick-CHS CTE Teacher, Professional Development, September 11-12, 2015 (Grant Funded)
- b. AIA 2015 Conference, Prescott, AZ, Jim Denton-Assistant Principal/Athletic Director, Professional Development, September 12-15, 2015
- c. Arizona Interagency Farmworkers Coalition Annual Conference, Tubac, AZ, Kelly Guerra-Coordinator of Community Education and Elizabeth Kloehr-Migrant Liaison, September 16-18, 2015 (Grant Funded)
- d. FBLA Officer Leadership Camp, Camp Pine Summit, Prescott, AZ, Combs High School, Gr. 9-12, September 24-26, 2015
- e. FCCLA Chapter Leadership Camp, Camp Pine Summit, Prescott, AZ, Combs High School, Gr. 9-12, October 1-3, 2015
- f. HOSA Chapter Leadership Camp, Pine Summit, Prescott, AZ, Combs High School Medical Professions Gr. 12 and Sports Medicine Gr. 11-12, October 1-3, 2015

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

Qualified Evaluators for 2015-2016 – Dr. Rogers presented to the Board since annual approval of evaluators is required. She explained that there is one new addition to the list and that is to include the high school department chairs. Dr. Rogers said the department chairs will be sent to a two-day training course through Arizona Department of Education and that all others listed have been through the evaluation training.

Dr. Kemp made a motion to approve the Qualified Evaluators for 2015-2016 as presented, seconded by Ms. Pinckard, and the motion carried 5-0.

Adoption of District Priority Map and Focus Areas for 2015-2016 – Dr. Blanchard presented the document as an annual item that is discussed and presented early in the school year. The map and focus areas were discussed during the Governing Board retreat and Leadership retreat. Dr. Blanchard explained the document has not changed and presented two specific focus areas identified for additional emphasis: 1) staff retention and 2) community engagement and involvement. She clarified that official approval allows individual school teams and departments to continue with their goal setting.

Ms. Hargis commented about the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) Analysis and stated that it was a really good discussion at the Governing Board retreat.

Mr. D'Elena made a motion to adopt the District Priority Map and Focus Areas for 2015-2016 as presented, seconded by Ms. Bourgeois, and the motion carried 5-0.

Policy First Read – Dr. Blanchard presented the list of policies stating most are modifications due to the Fifty-second Legislature wherein information was added, deleted or changed. She clarified that all of these are advisories except policy GCBA noting language that had to be changed due to a form change as it relates to initial salary placement and policy LH that updated language to include AdvancED. Dr. Blanchard explained that some policies are in color (such as red and blue) since Arizona School Board Association (ASBA) is utilizing new software called PolicyBridge. She further explained that a strike through the copyright means it is a modification to the ASBA policy template. Dr. Blanchard mentioned that no action is required for a first read and policies will be brought forward for a second read and adoption.

Mr. D'Elena commented on policy GBI - Staff Participation in Political Activities (page 8) and that it is important to be cognizant of what we may or may not do. Dr. Blanchard stated that all employees received bond campaign information from the Arizona School Board Association.

FCB	Retirement of Facilities
GBI	Staff Participation in Political Activities
GCBA	Professional Staff Salary Schedules
GDQA	Support Staff Reduction in Force
IKE-RB	Promotion and Retention of Students
IKF	Graduation Requirements
JFAB	Tuition/Admission of Nonresident Students
JFABC	Admission of Transfer Students
JK	Student Discipline
JK-RB	Student Discipline
JLIA	Supervision of Students
JQ-R	Student Fees, Fines, and Charges
JQ-EB	Student Fees, Fines, and Charges
JRCA-R	Request for Transfer of Records
KDB-R	Public's Right to Know/Freedom of Information
LH	Relations with Education Accreditation Agencies

ASBA Proposed 2016 Political Agenda and Delegate Assembly Process – Dr. Blanchard acknowledged Dr. Kemp and thanked him for volunteering to serve as the District's delegate. Dr. Kemp will represent the Governing Board's views, ideas and thoughts at the ASBA Delegate Assembly. Ms. Hargis remarked the Board has done an in-depth review of what they want and puts it in Dr. Kemp's capable hands.

Mr. D'Elena commented in reference to ASBA's draft Political Agenda page, item 1.a., which reads, "Assure a more stable..." should it read "Ensure a more stable..."

Mr. D'Elena commented on the required override language and if possible, change language to get away from sounding negative and use terms to support local control.

Mr. D'Elena commented on the 2015 Legislative Session Specific language, item 6., which reads, "Maximize trust land..." saying the land trust that the governor is talking about is a short-term solution. He suggests making it permanent instead of making it a "sunset" provision. Dr. Kemp mentioned the governor's proposal which says it has a "sunset" provision and he is concerned about that too.

Ms. Hargis made a motion for the Delegate, Dr. Kemp, to vote as he sees fit, seconded by Ms. Pinckard, and the motion carried 5-0.

Governing Board School Liaisons for the 2015-2016 School Year – President Hargis shared with the public the School Liaisons for the 2015-2016 school year.

Ms. Shelly Hargis - Combs High School and Harmon Elementary

Mr. Bob D'Elena - J.O. Combs Middle School

Dr. Gary Kemp - Ranch Elementary and Simonton Elementary

Ms. Pat Pinckard - Combs Traditional Academy

Ms. Kathy Bourgeois - Ellsworth Elementary

Adjournment – Ms. Hargis made a motion to adjourn at 6:24 p.m., seconded by Dr. Kemp and the motion carried 5-0.

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

Shelly Hargis, President

Kathy Bourgeois, Clerk

Patricia J. Pinckard, Member

Gary F. Kemp, Ed.D., Member

Bob D'Elena, Member

Respectfully Submitted by:
MaryLou Martinez
Administrative Assistant
Superintendent / Governing Board
August 12, 2015