

**J.O. COMBS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 44
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2014**

A public meeting of the J.O. Combs Unified School District #44 Governing Board convened on Wednesday, August 13, 2014 at 6:00 pm 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; Rhett Homan, Member; Dr. Gary Kemp, Member; Marcus Berkshire, Tammy Stimatze, Ames Singley, Bradley Shepstead, Sue Kruse, Mark Mauro, Brenda Mayberry, Jane Rupard, Jack Wallbrecht, Santa Dunker, Kelly Guerra, Dale Vincent, Chris Combs, Shannon Weber, Karla Slovitsky, Dr. Patty Rogers, Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Gayle Blanchard, Superintendent, and MaryLou Martinez, Administrative Assistant.

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

Approval of Meeting Agenda – Mrs. Bourgeois made a motion to approve the meeting agenda as presented, seconded by Mrs. Pinckard, and the motion carried 5-0.

Welcoming of Guests

Pledge of Allegiance

Superintendent's Report - Dr. Blanchard stated that the District has seen a smooth start to the school year with student enrollment at 4,585 and enrolling a few students daily. District has maintained enrollment in comparison to the 100th day enrollment data from last year. Dr. Blanchard noted that under the guidance of Mrs. Shannon Weber, the Transportation department has moved forward without any problems with “*Safety by choice not by chance*” as their theme and passed the DPS fleet inspection with flying colors. Dr. Blanchard also shared information about the new Young Coyotes daycare program for 3-4 year olds which is a licensed program overseen by an experienced teacher. The program currently has 17 children enrolled with an average of 11 per day. As part of the Professional Learning Communities, all school sites received training which involved site administrators.

Dr. Blanchard recognized Mrs. Karla Slovitsky, Director of Business Services along with the business department staff as recipients of the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from ASBO for the fourth consecutive year. Additionally, for the first time the district qualifies for the Certificate of Achievement from the Government Finance Officers Association. This is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting. Dr. Blanchard thanked the team for their efforts.

Focus on Students/Programs – Mrs. Mayberry, Combs High School Principal, spoke about her experience meeting students in Dr. Savidge's English class last year. Mrs. Mayberry explained that in a conversation with students she had asked them what was the most valuable thing they had learned. The students shared that grammar was the most valuable thing they learned that year. The students explained that learning grammar made them much better writers. As a result, the English Department has made the appropriate adjustments in curriculum and is teaching grammar at each grade level. Mrs. Mayberry commented that student feedback played a role in making those adjustments.

Dr. Savidge introduced two of his former students, Sara Kendall and Yaritza Moreno, past graduates from Combs High School. He discussed one of his writing assignments in which he challenged his students to go on a virtual road trip and write a review. The idea was a writing exercise in which the student went on a virtual road trip, to “dating” destinations and eating sweet treats. Dr. Savidge described that he went out with his wife, took pictures of the entrees, showed a slide show to the students about going on a date with his wife, and brought them back half a piece of dessert. He then asked students to write a review of the dining establishment as if they were actually there. Additionally, students were “photo shopped” into the photos Dr. Savidge had taken of the establishments. Examples of the photos were on display and Ms. Kendall and Ms. Moreno served desserts to the board members.

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. Homan made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Mrs. Pinckard, and the motion carried 4-0. Mrs. Bourgeois recused herself from voting on the consent agenda.

Approval of Consent Agenda Action Items – Discussion / Motion

A. Approval of Minutes

- i. Regular Meeting July 9, 2014

B. Business and Finance

- i. Student Activities Financial Statement July 2014

ii. Expense Vouchers

# 5054	\$ 206,133.29	# 6001	\$ 158,622.80
# 5055	\$ 103,902.74	# 6002	\$ 182,717.17
# 5056	\$ 18,835.72	# 6003	\$ 581,616.74
# 5057	\$ 130,772.40	# 6004	\$ 114,888.54

iii. Payroll Vouchers

# 1	\$ 8,003.20	# 4	\$ 436.83
# 2	\$ 70,750.58	# 5	\$ 77,227.23
# 3	\$ 67,515.29	# 6	\$ 121,016.89

iv. Intergovernmental Agreements

- a. Intergovernmental Agreement for Provision of Services by the Pinal County Recorder and Elections Department

v. Bid Request(s)

- a. None

vi. Bid Approval(s)

- a. None

vii. Recommendation to Reject Proposal for Instrument Rental Vendor

viii. Purchases

- a. Recommendation to Ratify Sole Source Purchase for Bookstore System - J.O. Combs Middle School
- b. Recommendation to Ratify Sole Source Software Renewal Purchase Time Clock Plus

ix. Gifts and Donations

- a. Donation of two (2) Dell OptiPlex 755 Tower Computers with mice and keyboard from Tom Sharland valued at \$350 for Combs Middle School

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

- a. FCCLA State Leadership Camp, Camp Pine Summit, Prescott, AZ, Combs High School HOSA students, Gr. 11 & 12, September 11-13, 2014
- b. National FFA Convention, Louisville, KY, Combs High School FFA students, Gr. 9-12, October 29 - November 1, 2014
- c. Heritage Festival, Anaheim, CA, Combs High School and Middle School Band & Orchestra students, Gr. 7-12, May 8-10, 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. HVAC Technician I
- b. HVAC Technician II
- c. Program Specialist
- d. School Psychologist
- e. School Psychologist Intern
- f. Speech Language Pathologist

- g. Speech Language Pathologist - Assistant
- h. Teacher
- i. Teacher - Special Education - ED or ED-P
- j. Teacher - Special Education - Life Skills
- k. Teacher - Special Education - Resource/Inclusion
- ii. Administrative Staff: Resignation, Termination, Transfer, Leave of Absence, Employment
- iii. Certificated Staff: Resignation, Termination, Transfer, Leave of Absence, Employment
- iv. Support Staff: Resignation, Termination, Transfer, Leave of Absence, Employment
- v. Substitute Staff: Resignation, Termination, Transfer, Leave of Absence, Employment

Consideration and Possible Adoption of Permitting Online Charter School Students to Try Out for Interscholastic Athletics and Activities as Defined and Supported by AIA – Dr. Blanchard stated that this item is the annual review since AIA added new language in the bylaws. Dr. Blanchard recommends moving forward and continuing with the practice.

Mrs. Hargis asked if the charter school students pay the same fee as District students and Mrs. Mayberry answered yes. Mr. Homan asked how many students participated last year and this year. Mrs. Mayberry did not have the information readily available and said she believes it is five students this year.

Mrs. Pinckard made a motion to Permit Online Charter School Students to Try Out for Interscholastic Athletics and Activities as Defined and Supported by AIA as presented, seconded by Mrs. Bourgeois, and the motion carried 5-0.

Qualified Evaluators for 2014-2015 – Dr. Rogers said that every year GCO requires District to designate professional staff as qualified evaluators and is therefore requesting approval.

Mrs. Hargis asked about the Dean position and if they are a teacher on assignment what makes them more qualified to evaluate than the regular classroom teacher. Dr. Rogers confirmed that there is one Dean of Students who is at the middle school, Mrs. Beauchene and that she has received the required training to be a qualified evaluator. Mrs. Hargis clarified that she wanted to make sure that evaluators have the required qualifications to be an evaluator.

Dr. Kemp made a motion to approve the Qualified Evaluators for 2014-2015 as presented, seconded by Mrs. Pinckard, and the motion carried 5-0.

Principal Performance Evaluation Framework – Dr. Rogers presented a PowerPoint presentation and a copy of the slides were distributed to the board members. She stated that additional information is in the board packet. Dr. Rogers explained the state statute requires District to include a growth component in the principal evaluation (a major change) although performance standards have not changed (there are seven). She further explained there are three categories to the principal evaluation framework which are: overall evaluation summary rating of principal performance standards, student achievement progress goal (Math and Reading) and School Letter Grade. She reviewed the evaluation ranking of Distinguished (Highly Effective), Effective, Developing, and Ineffective and discussed the performance improvement plan. Dr. Rogers stated that interim observations are for principals within their first three years and that teacher/staff surveys are conducted in December and April. She added that school goals focus on growth. Dr. Rogers also discussed the tiered student academic progress goals. Galileo will be used to monitor progress and all pre and post test data will be housed in Galileo. Mrs. Hargis asked for clarification about the data input in Galileo. Dr. Rogers explained that the data will be input in Galileo for analysis purposes.

Mrs. Hargis made a motion to adopt the Principal Performance Evaluation Framework as presented, seconded by Mrs. Bourgeois, and the motion carried 5-0.

Update on Implementation of Instructional Math Materials at J.O. Combs Middle School – Dr. Blanchard asked Mr. Mauro, J.O. Combs Middle School Principal, to share feedback about the new math materials that were board approved and purchased for the middle school. Mr. Mauro shared that the textbooks are consumable and that students can write in them. He explained that there is a flat fee within the contract and that new consumable

books are purchased for the next five years at no extra cost to the District. He discussed the various aspects of the materials such as parent on-line access, student online access to textbook materials, videos, teacher tutorials, and step-by-step process on how to solve a problem (when the student completes a step correctly, the program takes them to the next step, if the student does not, than the program shows them the correction and gives them a new problem to solve). Mr. Mauro also noted that teachers have the ability to explore math activities where students get to explore the math technologically before learning the step-by-step process. He described that there are career videos which are tied to each specific part of the curriculum and story problems are tied to that specific career for reinforcement and there is online assessment tool. Mr. Mauro noted that the teacher editions have Arizona state standards, math standards and a pacing guide for teachers to use which is tied to the common core companion. Teachers also have access to videos of other teachers implementing the math practices in a classroom setting. Overall, teachers are happy in what they have access to.

Dr. Kemp requested a copy of Mr. Mauro's notes. Dr. Blanchard will forward a copy to board members.

Adoption of Supplemental Instructional Materials for English Language Arts for Combs High School –

Ms. Santa Dunker, Coordinator of Curriculum & Instruction recommended the adoption of the supplemental instructional materials. She noted that the materials have been on display for the required 60-day review period and the materials are properly aligned and ready for approval.

Mrs. Pinckard motioned to approve the Adoption of Supplemental Instructional Materials for English Language Arts for Combs High School as presented, seconded by Mrs. Hargis, and the motion carried 5-0.

Adoption of District Priority Map and Focus Areas for 2014-2015 – Dr. Blanchard stated there are no changes in the priority map and focus areas. She stated the information is brought before the Board for official adoption and that District started this several years ago to help with goal setting. She noted that the information is reviewed annually at the Governing Board retreat and Leadership retreat as well.

Mrs. Hargis made a motion to adopt the District Priority Map and the Focus Areas for 2014-2015 as presented, seconded by Mr. Homan, and the motion carried 5-0.

Policy Second Read – Dr. Blanchard stated that the Policy First Read went before the Board in July without any changes. She commented that the policy changes are mostly cosmetic such as the knife issue, includes new forms for reporting child abuse, and noted that anything that is underlined is new information.

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| A. BCB | Board Member Conflict of Interest |
| B. BE | School Board Meetings |
| C. JICI | Weapons In School |
| D. JL | Student Wellness |
| E. JLF, JLF-EB thru JLF-ED | Reporting Child Abuse/Child Protection |

Mr. Homan asked if District has the forms online and available on the website. Dr. Blanchard explained that District trains our staff and that we do the online reporting and noted that this is for staff not for anyone else. Mrs. Hargis asked if this is for staff mandatory reporting and Dr. Blanchard said yes. There was a discussion regarding the designation of the regular school board meetings. Dr. Blanchard confirmed we will continue as we have and that the second Wednesday of the month is designated as the regular Governing Board meeting date. She explained that we may revisit in January at the organizational meeting since we don't have to make a decision right now to change.

Mrs. Bourgeois made a motion to approve the Adoption of Policy Second Read as presented, seconded by Mrs. Pinckard, and the motion carried 5-0.

Update on Arizona School Board Association Summer Leadership Institute, July 24-26, 2014 – Dr. Kemp shared information from the Summer Leadership Institute he attended. In general, he spoke about what occurs in education and commented how Twitter social media is utilized as well. He recommends *Arizona Education* and *Gaggle* as a source of good information and mentioned *AZEDNEWS* from the Arizona School Board Association, which comes out once a week. Dr. Kemp spoke about one of the guest speakers who referred to himself as the

Google Global Education Evangelist, and who made a reference about young kids and technology saying “you realize that the five year olds who are now using technology (such as iPad) are using the worst technology he/she will ever use.” Dr. Kemp said that he had shared a video from the conference with Dr. Blanchard. Dr. Blanchard added that the common core video is on the District Facebook page and website curriculum page. Dr. Kemp commented that there is so much disinformation and lack of intelligence it would do us well to be informed. As a result of attending the conference, he learned that not everybody has internet access which is a problem that we are all confronted with. Dr. Kemp encourages taking advantage of learning opportunities that come your way to broaden your knowledge.

Adjournment – Mr. Homan made a motion to adjourn at 6:46 pm, seconded by Mrs. Pinckard, 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

Rhett A. Homan, Member

Gary F. Kemp, Ed.D., Member

Respectfully Submitted by:
MaryLou Martinez
Administrative Assistant
Superintendent / Governing Board
August 13, 2014