

NOGALES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 GOVERNING BOARD

Minutes of the Study Session held on March 9, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.

- I. Attendance:
The following Board Members were present:

Manuel Ruiz, President; Dr. Marcelino Varona, Jr., Clerk; Members Barbara Mendoza, Santiny Orozco and Greg Lucero

- a. Call to Order

Mr. Ruiz called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

- b. Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Varona led all in the pledge

- c. Adoption of the Agenda

A motion was made by Dr. Varona and seconded by Mr. Orozco for approval.
Motion carried unanimously.

- II. Study Session

- a. Presentation and Discussion on the Notice Findings of Accountability
Investigation Report

Mrs. Barbara Mendoza clarified that there was a family member working at Wade Carpenter Middle School and she was recusing herself from any decision.

Her recusal was approved by President Ruiz.

Superintendent Parra gave a brief review of the item and introduced Mrs. Angel Canto to give a Power Point presentation of the findings at Wade Carpenter Middle School by the Arizona Department of Education.

Mrs. Canto gave a brief overview and proceeded with her presentation of ADE's investigation and findings.

The Governing Board asked some questions and Mrs. Canto clarified and explained their concerns.

There were questions by the Board on the findings of erasures, deviations and the internal investigation.

Mrs. Canto and attorney Susan Segal clarified their concerns.

Mr. Ruiz made some comments of regret.

There was further discussion by Dr. Varona about how many tests had been taken and by how many students.

Mrs. Canto clarified there had been 48 students.

Dr. Varona asked where the students had taken the test and how many of those students had been tested with the teachers, or if they had been pulled out.

Mrs. Segal explained and clarified Dr. Varona's concern.

b. Recommendation of Superintendent as to Next Steps

Superintendent Parra stated his recommendation to the Board and proceeded to mention the steps to be taken.

He further mentioned that he would take full control of the situation; he would oversee all testing administration given to the school beginning now together with his staff; Carpenter would not handle the WCMS testing at all; an Internal investigation would be conducted with a third party, and he would be coming back to the Board with further recommendations as needed. He further said that other administrative decisions-changes would also be made as needed and as they would move forward with the Internal Investigation.

Finally, he asked that he receive the total support from the Board.

III. Action

a. Discussion and Possible Action on Next Steps based on Recommendation of the Superintendent

A motion was made by Dr. Varona, that this Board be in support of the Superintendent's recommendation and 1) that the District follow all statutory regulations of §15-743 that concern all invalidation results; that the District provide other test assessments to the students that will be moving on to their freshmen year to Nogales High School for proper placement; that all testing administration be handled by the District in reference to the current testing at Wade Carpenter Middle School; that no appeal be taken by the District on the ADE letter of investigation results, and that a third party independent investigation be conducted. Mr. Lucero seconded the motion.

Dr. Varona mentioned that he felt that the Board needed to be and remain impartial during the tribunal until this matter was clarified, and to give all support to the superintendent to take corrective action as needed.

Mr. Orozco concurred with Dr. Varona's motion and agreed with Superintendent Parra's recommendation.

Mr. Lucero made a few recommendations with regards to Superintendent Parra being transparent and open to clarify any inquiries about all procedures on the issue to the parents. Also, that he would like to see some follow-up information as to when the letters would be mailed out. He said the District must make sure the parents received them, and asked that Mr. Parra bring back a follow-up report to the board.

Mr. Ruiz thanked Superintendent Parra for his well thought out recommendations. He further made comments that no judgment would be made until all facts are brought up to the board for further development.

Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Adjournment


A motion was made by Dr. Varona and was seconded by Mr. Lucero for adjournment of the Special Meeting.

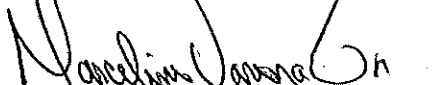
Motion carried unanimously.

Session was adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

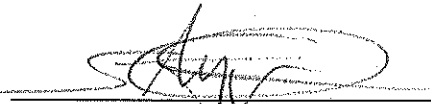
APPROVED BY THE BOARD

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary T. Lopez, Secretary
March 30, 2015

 President
Manny Ruiz

 Clerk
Dr. Marcelino Varona, Jr.

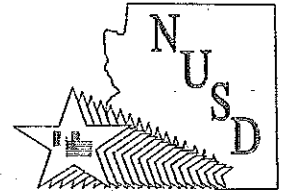
 Member
Barbara Mendoza

 Member
Santiny Orozco

 Member
Greg Lucero

(For exact statements made during the Board Meeting, you may request a copy of the DVD)

Nogales Unified School District No. 1



NOGALES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 GOVERNING BOARD

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on March 9, 2015
(Following the study session)**

- I. Attendance:
The following Board Members were present:

Manuel Ruiz, President; Dr. Marcelino Varona, Jr., Clerk; Members Barbara Mendoza, Santiny Orozco and Greg Lucero

- a. Call to Order

Mr. Ruiz called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

- c. Adoption of the Agenda

Superintendent Parra requested to add a last-minute report under the superintendent's report.

A motion was made by Dr. Varona and seconded by Mrs. Mendoza for approval. Motion carried unanimously.

- I. Approval of Governing Board Minutes
a. Governing Board Study Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of February 9, 2015

A motion was made by Mrs. Mendoza and seconded by Mr. Lucero to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

- II. Governing Board/Superintendent Information

- a. Superintendent Reports, Celebrations, Recognitions, Announcements

1. Jump Back to School Update (Committee)

Superintendent Parra gave an update about the Jump Back event and informed the board they had a new committee for the program and that everything was looking well.

2. Kinder Enrollment Update

Superintendent Parra gave an update on the new kinder registrations and said that 212 students had been registered and was expecting that there would be a good number coming up.

3. Future Items:

E-Rate-Technology Presentation, PE/Elementary Positions-Other Options and Proposals, and Auditor General's Financial Report/ Five Year Comparison

Superintendent Parra mentioned he was working on these items and would bring back future information to the Board.

He further reported that Mr. Lopez had informed him that the Trillion towers were coming down as soon as next week.

b. Governing Board Reports, Celebrations, Recognitions, Announcements

Dr. Varona apologized to Desert Shadows Middle School and Bracker Elementary for not having been able to attend the reading program and thanked them for their invitation.

Mr. Lucero thanked the school for their invitation to the reading program and mentioned it had been a good event.

Mrs. Mendoza thanked the schools for the invitation to the reading program and apologized for not having been able to attend. She mentioned she had attended the Legal Governing Board Training the past Saturday and mentioned it had been very informative and a good meeting.

Mr. Ruiz reported he had read at A.J. Mitchell Elementary and that he had noticed the "sad" paint on the hallway walls. He pointed out that the school walls needed to be happy colors, especially the area where you have the preschoolers.

III. Call to the Public

None

IV. Consent Agenda Items

Mr. Ruiz read the items for the records.

A motion was made by Dr. Varona and was seconded by Mr. Lucero for approval of the consent agenda as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

- a. Ratification of Expense/Payroll Vouchers
- b. Award of RFQ 1415-I03 – Cell Phone Services for FY 15/16
- c. Personnel Agenda Summary
- d. Addenda – Positions for School Year 2014/15

V. Action Items – None

VI. Information and Discussion Items

a. Preschool Development Grant

Superintendent Parra gave a brief explanation and introduced Ms. Kathy Scott to give an overview of the grant.

Mrs. Scott explained that the grant had been approved by the state for the term of four years; and that the proposal had been received in September but it had taken a while to finalize. She also mentioned that one of the grant's requirements was leveraging.

Mrs. Scott proceeded to read the letter provided in the board packet for the record.

Dr. Varona mentioned he was completely supportive of the program and that he understood there was no guarantee, but that the district should proceed with the application.

Mr. Orozco agreed with Dr. Varona's comment to proceed with the application.

Mr. Lucero asked regarding increments of 5%-10% in the District's obligations, if that would be cash or in-kind.

Mrs. Scott explained it would be in-kind.

Mrs. Mendoza asked what facilities would be used.

Mrs. Scott mentioned they were working on a facility at Lincoln school that was recommended by Dr. Utne and a movement to have the exceptional pre-school and the regular pre-school close by. She further clarified the grant required to have an enrollment of 10% special needs students.

Mrs. Mendoza asked if Dr. Romero would be in charge.

Mrs. Scott replies that Dr. Romero would be the supervisor, if the program was indeed held at Lincoln, but that Dr. Utne would be in charge of the program.

Mr. Ruiz made a few comments stating that he would be in support and agreement of anything to help the children.

b. Teacher Evaluation; iObservation Demonstration by Principal

Superintendent Parra gave a brief explanation and introduced Mrs. Mayra Zuñiga. Mrs. Zuñiga, HR Director, proceeded to explain that they had decided to use the Marzano Evaluation tool and mentioned this was the second year using the program.

Mrs. Zuñiga introduced Ms. Michelle Olguin to give a Power Point demonstration to the Board.

Ms. Olguin gave a brief explanation and proceeded with her Power Point presentation to highlight the process.

Mrs. Mendoza asked if the teachers didn't agree with evaluation if there were procedures to have another evaluation with a different observer.

Ms. Olguin clarified that it was included in the teacher evaluation handbook.

Mr. Orozco asked if there would be any action if the teacher was highly effective.

Ms. Olguin explained that the teacher would be asked to be used as a mentor and that she likes to have those teachers be leaders.

Ms. Olguin also mentioned that the teacher was not recognized with an award but were properly commended.

Superintendent Parra added a few comments to Ms. Olguin's clarifications on using a highly effective teacher as models.

Mr. Orozco asked how often the observations were performed.

Ms. Olguin replied that it was done as often as needed.

Mr. Orozco gave his opinion on the need for consistency.

Superintendent Parra clarified there was an official schedule of when the evaluations had to be submitted as well as the times for being submitted to HR for the District's record that the teachers had been evaluated.

Mr. Santiny asked to see the schedule and the incentives associated with it.

Mrs. Mayra Zuniga finally clarified that she would provide Policy GCO to the whole Board which had the information and requirements according to the law.

Mr. Ruiz made a few comments and stated that anything that they could do to improve the teacher effectiveness in the classroom would have their support.

Finally, he thanked Ms. Olguin for her presentation.

VII. Requests for Future Agenda Items

Dr. Varona welcomed to the Administrative Team Administrative Intern, Mr. Jeffrey Gudenkauf.

Dr. Varona asked for a report on how the students K-2 take the Galileo online. Also, he asked Superintendent Parra to look over the format of the school reports and ask the Principals for a different format that was more consistent with other schools.

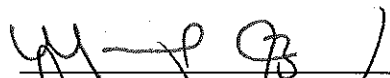
XI. Adjournment

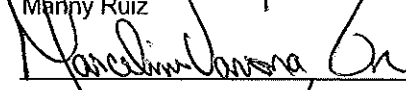
A motion was made by Dr. Varona and seconded by Mr. Lucero for adjournment of the public meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

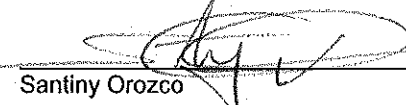
Session was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

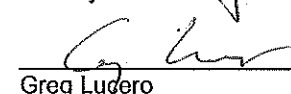
APPROVED BY THE BOARD

 President
Manny Ruiz

 Clerk
Dr. Marcelino Varona, Jr.

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Respectfully Submitted,
Mary T. Lopez, Secretary
March 30, 2015