Tucson Unified School District No. 1  
Governing Board Special Meeting  
Joint Meeting with the Blue Ribbon Committee  
Fireplace Room, Patio Building, Tucson Medical Center  
5301 E. Grant Road  
Tucson, Arizona

June 17, 2008  
12:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Board Members Present:
Alex Rodriguez, President  
Bruce Burke, Member  
Judy Burns, Member

Board Members Absent:
Adelita S. Grijalva, Clerk  
Joel T. Ireland, Member

Blue Ribbon Committee (BRC) Members Present:
Michael Duran, VP & Chief Development Officer, TMC Foundation; Interim BRC Chair  
Chyrl Hill Lander, Director, Communications & Media Relations, TUSD  
Jaimie Leopold, Coordinator, BRC  
Earl Mendenhall III, Mendenhall Insurance & Investments  
Loretta Peto, CPA, ABV, CEO, Peto & Company CPA’s PLLC  
Roger F. Pfeuffer, Superintendent, TUSD  
Beatriz Rendon, CEO for Educational Support Services, TUSD  
Rudy Flores, Interim Executive Director, Engineering, Facilities & Planning, TUSD  
Lloyd Sydney, Bourne Partners  
Ed Parker, Executive Director, United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona  
Mary Rowley, President, Strongpoint Public Relations

TUSD Staff Present (in addition to those who are BRC Members):
Rob Ross, Legal Counsel  
Mary Alice Wallace, Director of Staff Services to the Governing Board

Others Present in the Audience:
Rhonda Bodfield, Arizona Daily Star  
Mary Schiltz  
Kristin Wright  
J. D. Herron
SPECIAL MEETING CALLED TO ORDER – 12:15 p.m.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Welcome – Alex Rodriguez, Board President, and Michael Duran, Co-Chair, Blue Ribbon Committee

Alex Rodriguez called the meeting to order. Michael Duran welcomed those present to the meeting. All present introduced themselves.

Alex stated the meeting to be unique in that it was Roger Pfeuffer’s last BRC meeting. June 30 is his last day. Alex thanked Roger for his service.

Michael also acknowledged Roger’s management of TUSD with grace and relayed the circumstances of their first meeting.

Roger responded that the four years have been exciting, and noted the difficult times in education – huge challenges, international, and change is critical. He commented on the time he has spent with new Superintendent Dr. Elizabeth Fagen and his positive impression of her energy and desire to work for an inclusive process for decision making and embraces change. He thanked the BRC for working with TUSD.

Others commenting were Jaime Leopold on behalf of Bill Estes, Jr., Judy Burns and Ed Parker.

2. TUSD Board President’s Report – Alex Rodriguez

Alex Rodriguez stated the meetings with the BRC provide opportunities for dialogue on how to improve education. Critical items:

- The unprecedented transition of the superintendency from Roger to Elizabeth Fagen. It has gone above and beyond expectations.
- The essential balancing of the 2008-2009 budget. Remaining $1.1m deficit is expected to be resolved.
- Board’s unanimous vote in May to go for an override election.

Roger Pfeuffer and Beatriz Rendon responded to questions and comments by Ed Parker, Lloyd Sydney, Jaime Leopold, and Bruce Burke.
DISCUSSION ITEMS (continued)

3. MGT Management Audit – Roger Pfeuffer and Rudy Flores

- Roger commented on the transforming audit with a potential of $17+m savings over five years. The Board held a retreat with the new Superintendent to discuss recommendations.

Beatriz reported on recommendations being prioritized for action and a tool being develop to track implementation. She provided examples including a revision of how financials are reported to the Board and distributed a sample report. Rudy discussed the new REAP policy developed around the SMART format and reported on the need to address excess utilities. Others commenting were Michael Duran and Bruce Burke.

4. Renew Communications Committee – Michael Duran and Lloyd Sydney

Brief discussion on how the BRC can be supportive of publicity regarding TUSD successes. Roger and Chyrl commented on need for developing a user-friendly format for production of annual financial reports for public consumption and how information is disseminated. Lloyd Sydney and Chyrl Lander will be external and internal representatives on the Committee. Judy Burns commented she would participate.

5. TUSD Audit Committee – Loretta Peto

Loretta reported on activities of the Committee to review and improve internal controls in order to safeguard finances and assets, and to monitor TUSD outside auditors. Meeting monthly and will report to the Board in July or August.

Those commenting and/or asking questions were Judy Burns, Alex Rodriguez and Chyrl Lander.
SPECIAL MEETING ADJOURNED – 1:20 p.m. due a loss of a quorum of Board members.
Ms. Burns left the meeting at 1:40 p.m.

Approved this _______ 9th ___________ day of _______ September, 2008.

TUCSON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. ONE

By ____________________________________________
Adelita Grijalva, Clerk, Governing Board