

**Tucson Unified School District No. 1
Governing Board Special Meeting
Board Room, Morrow Education Center
1010 East Tenth Street
Tucson, Arizona**

**April 23, 2013
4:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

Present:

Adelita S. Grijalva, President – *arr. @ 4:12 p.m.*
Kristel Ann Foster, Clerk
Michael Hicks, Member
Cam Juárez, Member
Mark Stegeman, Member

Also Present:

John Pedicone, Ph.D., Superintendent
Maria Menconi, Interim Deputy Superintendent
Martha Durkin, Legal Counsel
Yousef Awwad, Chief Financial Officer
Candy Egbert, Chief Operations Officer, Engineering, Facilities and Planning
John Gay, Chief Information Officer, Technology and Telecommunications Services
Abel Morado, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Leadership
Maggie Shafer, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary/K-8 Leadership
James Fish, Executive Director, Equity Intervention
Pamela Palmo, Interim Executive Director, Human Resources
Lorraine McPherson, Interim Executive Director, Exceptional Education
David Scott, Director, Accountability and Research
Cara Rene, Director, Communications and Media Relations
Augustine Romero, Director, Multicultural Curriculum
Kevin Kingsley, School Safety Officer, and Staff
Mary Alice Wallace, Director of Staff Services to the Governing Board
Sylvia Lovegreen, Senior Staff Assistant II to the Governing Board
Alexis Huicochea, Arizona Daily Star

SPECIAL MEETING CALLED TO ORDER – 4:05 p.m.

Board Clerk Kristel Foster called the meeting to order.

ITEM

ACTION

ACTION ITEM

1. Schedule an executive meeting at this time to consider the following matters –
 - A. Legal Advice/Instruction to Attorney pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A)(3) and (A)(4)
 - 1) Fisher-Mendoza
 - B. Personnel issues pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A)(1); legal advice/instruction to attorney pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A)(3) and (A)(4)
 - 1) Administrative appointments, reassignments and transfers
 - C. Discussions or consultations with designated representatives of the public body in order to consider its position and instruct its representatives pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 Subsection (A)(5)
 - 1) Negotiations with employee organizations
 - D. Discussions or consultations with designated representatives of the public body in order to consider its position and instruct its representatives regarding negotiations for the purchase, sale or lease of real property pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 Subsection (A)(7)
 - 1) School Sites Update on Agreements

Cam Juárez moved approval, Michael Hicks seconded. Approved 4-0 in a voice vote. Adelita Grijalva was not present for the vote.

RECESS SPECIAL MEETING – 4:05 p.m.

RECONVENE SPECIAL MEETING – 6:38 p.m.

ITEM

ACTION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Kristel Foster led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM

ACTION

CALL TO THE AUDIENCE (20 Minutes)

No action required.

Adelita Grijalva reviewed the rules and protocol for the Call to the Audience. She advised those persons who have submitted cards and are not called tonight will be called first at the next meeting.

The following are names of individuals who spoke and the subject of their comments:

- Cindy Graybill** – Reduction in benefits for Blue Collar
- Tony Vacura** – Tipping Point in TEA Negotiations
- Lillian Fox** – Budget
- Marivel Roybal** – School Council Input on Budget
- Bill Yandell** – Automotive Program at Rincon
- Jana Happel** – Principal Firings
- Margaret Chaney** – Impact of Budget Cuts
- Jim Sinex** – Respect for TUSD employees

Individuals whose names were called but were not present: Lynn Valenzuela, Sylvia Reynozo, Debie Chess Mabie, Nancy Tepper, Noor Abdullahi, Iliana Reyes, Josephine Rincon, Leo Masursky.

Ms. Grijalva announced that the three remaining persons who have submitted cards and have not been called will be first on the list at the next Board meeting.

Mark Stegeman moved to extend the Call to the Audience, Kristel Foster seconded. Approved 4-1 in a voice vote. Michael Hicks voted no.

Dr. Stegeman moved to extend the Call to the Audience to allow the three remaining persons to speak.

Ms. Grijalva asked for clarification whether extending the Call to the Audience was at the President's discretion. Ms. Durkin provided legal advice that it was, however there was a motion. Ms. Foster seconded the motion.

CALL TO THE AUDIENCE (continued)

- Jason Freed** – Communications with Board Members and Negotiations
- Margarita Lane** – Impact of the Student Services Department
- Frances Banales** – Budget Reductions

ITEM

ACTION

Ms. Grijalva closed the Call to the Audience and asked if Board Members wished to respond to a criticism, request a review of any matter or ask for a matter to be put on a future agenda.

Michael Hicks asked Administration to make sure principals are communicating with Site Councils regarding the budgeting process.

Mark Stegeman addressed comments regarding Board's lack of respect for employees that are working hard and lack of response to e-mails.

Kristel Foster commented regarding advocacy criticism.

Adelita Grijalva addressed the reason for her hesitation to extend time allotted for Call To the Audience by explaining she had received complaints for extending the Call to the Audience at the last board meeting when people were waiting for action on specific agenda items later on the agenda.

STUDY ITEM

2. Curriculum Instruction and Professional Development Update

Studied only. No action taken.

Dr. Pedicone introduced the item for study of curriculum instruction and some issues with the Unitary Status Plan. Using Power Point [available as an attachment to the agenda item on the TUSD web], Dr. Menconi presented some history for new board members on coordinating professional development and working with aspiring teachers and principals, including monetary and time investment in EEI (Essentials Elements of Instruction) and Common Core. She reviewed activities in 2012 including adoption of curriculum, and critical activities in the current year, including the culturally relevant courses in Social Studies, the new teacher and principal growth systems, and the inclusion of professional development in every project of the Unitary Status Plan. She introduced the members of her team: Margaret Burkholder, Coordinator of the Math Innovation Team; Kristina Allen, Grants and Partnerships; Richard Foster, Professional Development; Tina Stevens, School Improvement; Vicki Callison, Magnet Programs; Ignacio Ruiz, Language Acquisition; Joan Ashcraft, Fine

ITEM

ACTION

STUDY ITEM (continued)

2. Curriculum Instruction and Professional Development Update (continued)

Arts; Shelly Duran, Title I; and Auggie Romero, Multicultural Education; and also math specialists Carolyn Torres, Sam Klein, Janice Parks, Diane Colman-Fields and Katherine Zanin. Using electronic examples, Ms. Burkholder presented information on the delivery of the adopted curriculum to support teachers in math instruction.

Ms. Grijalva interjected that Mr. Hicks asked her to remind the audience that Board members were viewing agenda items using electronic devices and that they were not doing personal business on their tablets or phones while presentations were being made.

Ms. Burkholder responded to Ms. Foster's questions regarding how teachers can access the resources. She responded to Mr. Hicks' questions concerning access by the public to resources from New York State. Dr. Stegeman commented regarding the vetting of resources.

Dr. Menconi responded to Mr. Juárez' question and concern about how much time math teachers would be expected to contribute.

Dr. Menconi updated on Opening Minds Through the Arts and assessments designed for higher order critical thinking skills. Dr. Romero presented a timeline for the stages of development of the multicultural and culturally relevant curriculum, including the culturally relevant courses (CRC) to be offered in the 2013-14 school year in compliance with the Unitary Status Plan.

Dr. Romero responded to Ms. Grijalva's question about course sections and how often they were to be offered, and to Ms. Foster's inquiry on the status of current enrollment. In response to Dr. Stegeman's question about the ninth grade course being required for all students and how registration is being accomplished at this late date without Board approval, Dr. Romero responded the process is being accomplished now in

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ACTION

STUDY ITEM (continued)

2. Curriculum Instruction and Professional Development Update (continued)

order to meet deadlines in the USP. Dr. Menconi provided further information in the effort to meet USP obligations for the 2013-2014 school year for offering the CRC. Dr. Stegeman further commented on making the courses required for ninth grade students, and Dr. Romero and Dr. Menconi provided further explanation and rationale. In response to Mr. Hicks' comment that the course was not included in his daughter's ninth grade schedule, Dr. Morado explained the course would be required at Rincon, Sahuaro, and Santa Rita. Ms. Grijalva inquired about the length of the course (one semester), and Dr. Menconi responded to Mr. Hicks' inquiry regarding assessment data and if all CRCs will be required (no). Mr. Juárez expressed concern that the Board did not know of this sooner, but commented on the importance of collecting the data for the USP. Dr. Stegeman commented further that he found the process strange to require a course with no Board approval and no approved curriculum. Dr. Pedicone provided further clarification and indicated adjustments could be made if desired by the Board. Ms. Foster expressed concern about messaging to the community of a course being "required."

Dr. Romero presented further information concerning the CRC being offered at all high schools in 2014-2015, and preparation for the Common Core.

Mr. Hicks' questioned why development and implementation of the courses was delayed until the Unitary Status Plan was received when the Resolution adopted in January 2012 specified implementation by August 2012. Dr. Menconi responded that the increase in the number of courses (from multicultural only to the CRCs), the short time frame and a limited number of staff were responsible for the delay.

In a discussion by Dr. Stegeman concerning whether the District violated the USP requirement that the courses be offered in all high schools, Dr. Menconi indicated there was an understanding that the courses were being piloted

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ACTION

STUDY ITEM (continued)

2. Curriculum Instruction and Professional Development Update (continued)

at three high schools for a specific reason. Dr. Pedicone asked Sam Brown to provide information on the change in deadlines in the USP including this change. Mr. Brown indicated that the change in deadlines had been approved by the Special Master and the Parties and would be submitted by the Special Master to the Judge.

Dr. Stegeman provided further observations on actions he believed would have avoided the situation. Dr. Pedicone provided the rationale for moving ahead at this time. In response to Dr. Pedicone's inquiry if a delay to the second semester would present a problem with the USP, Mr. Brown responded second semester would still be in the 2013-2014 school year in accordance with the USP. It was clarified that the discussion related to the ninth grade course.

Dr. Menconi continued regarding implementation of the PARCC assessments.

Ms. Grijalva indicated she was asked to announce that the Power Point slides were not being broadcast via the video streaming on the Web due to a technical difficulty, and that the Power Point presentation was available as posted on the Web.

INFORMATION ITEMS

3. School Consolidation Plan Update

Information only. No action required.

Dr. Pedicone indicated this is the monthly report on consolidation efforts and asked Candy Egbert to provide a brief report. Using Power Point [available as an attachment to the agenda item on the TUSD web] Ms. Egbert provided an update to the Board on the Project Management and communication with parents. She reported that Court approval has been received and discussed the boundaries along with a comparison of data on student enrollment at closing schools prior to closing with enrollment at the receiving schools. She reported on the

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ACTION

INFORMATION ITEMS (continued)

3. School Consolidation Plan Update

Transition Workshops and next steps to closely monitor the Court order regarding distribution of resources, support for families, staffing, and organizational structure. She encouraged Board members to view information posted on the web. She reviewed plans for moving and communication, and projects remaining to be planned. She discussed the plan to identify areas that can be closed within campuses. She highlighted staff working on projects are doing so in addition to their regular duties. She assured cataloging and archiving of historical artifacts is taking place.

In response to Mr. Juárez' question concerning the percentage of employees at closed schools that have not been placed, Ms. Egbert provided information on those that have been placed and those remaining, and indicated a final report would be forthcoming. She also provided information on programs at Maxwell for students from closed schools at Menlo Park and Brichta.

Ms. Grijalva commented that there was a question of how many classes will be available at Maxwell. In response to her question about packing not being done at closing schools until after the end of the year, Ms. Egbert explained that some packing is being done that is not affecting classroom instruction and attention is being paid to keeping resources in classrooms.

Mr. Hicks also commented about not having packing being done in view of students in order to avoid disruption of the educational process.

Ms. Foster commented she volunteered to assist in packing and encouraged others to do so.

Ms. Egbert responded to Dr. Stegeman's inquiries that the process of assigning teachers was ongoing. She indicated there were some students affected by boundary decisions that were not at closing schools. And bus schedules would be a process depending on enrollment, eligibility and start times of schools, expected to be done by June.

ITEM

ACTION

INFORMATION ITEMS (continued)

Mr. Juárez asked for a personal point of privilege to recognize District staff for Administrative Professionals Day on April 24th.

4. Report on TUSD Preschool Programs – Requested by Board President Adelita Grijalva Information only. No action required.

Dr. Pedicone indicated report would provide an outline of details on preschool and highlights planned for changes in the next year. Maggie Shafer presented the team working with preschool programs: Pat Delaney, Grant Fund Preschool Coordinator for PACE and deseg funded preschools who is funded by Title 1; Janet Castillo, Community Education Program Coordinator who provides oversight for community education preschools and after school programs, funded by the tuition based programs at no cost to M&O; Monica Brinkerhoff, Public Preschools Instructional Supports Coordinator, funded by Great Expectations grant from United Way – a District employee who also serves other regions and other school districts; Laurie Dagostino, Program Coordinator, funded by a Helios grant from United Way; Dianette Placido, Project Development Specialist, Title 1 funded, provides oversight for brand new program called HIPPY – Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters; Brenda Hanna, Assistant Director in Special Education; Penni Natvig from the Exceptional Education office who assists Brenda Hanna and oversees Child Find; and Dr. Kendra Bell, who oversees summer Jump Start program.

Ms. Shafer began by responding to Mr. Juárez' concerns mentioned previously regarding Brichta enrollment at Maxwell, to which he commented additionally that his concerns arose from a delay in the facilities themselves, by indicating the issue of restroom placement within classrooms was being addressed by the project manager.

Using Power Point [available as an attachment to the agenda item on the TUSD web] Ms. Shafer continued her presentation on early childhood education. She and Pat Delaney presented information on evaluation of students and ongoing assessment programs including their effectiveness.

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ACTION

INFORMATION ITEMS (continued)

4. Report on TUSD Preschool Programs – Requested by Board President Adelita Grijalva (continued)

Ms. Shafer provided information on programs planned for the fall including split schedules and highlighted Grijalva Elementary School. In response to inquiries by Mr. Juárez and Ms. Grijalva, Ms. Shafer provided information on the split session proposed for Grijalva and the expansion of community preschools. She reviewed the progress on hiring a Coordinator for the Richey Charter School and new advertising for teachers. Deseg classrooms will be at three schools that have need - Blenman, Cragin and Rose, based on best practices for early childhood. In response to Ms. Grijalva's inquiry, she explained they will be free but application-based in order to be balanced to serve the needs of the deseg order and ensure the underserved population is served.

In response to Ms. Foster's inquiry concerning the difference in job descriptions for teachers at Richey, Ms. Shafer explained there will be no support staff so teachers will be asked to assume extra duties in addition to working a longer day and having a higher number of students, for which they will receive a \$3,000 stipend.

Pat Delaney, an unidentified speaker, Ms. Shafer and Brenda Hanna provided information in response to inquiries by Ms. Grijalva, Ms. Foster, Dr. Stegeman, Mr. Juárez and Mr. Hicks on the ways parents are assisted in determining the best preschool programs for their children, how tracking will be done, and how the preschool programs are promoted.

ACTION ITEMS

5. Adoption of 2013-2014 High School Supplementary Materials – Sondag System 1, Sondag System 2

Dr. Pedicone recommended approval.

Ms. Foster inquired about the status of reviewing the policy for adoption of supplementary materials. Martha Durkin indicated that the review had been completed and revisions have been made to the Regulation.

Michael Hicks moved approval, Cam Juárez seconded. Approved unanimously in a voice vote.

ITEM

ACTION

ACTION ITEMS

6. Adoption of 2013-2014 High School Supplementary Materials – Princess Bride and 1997 Apocalypse

Dr. Pedicone recommended approval.

Adelita Grijalva moved approval, Michael Hicks seconded. Approved unanimously in a voice vote.

7. Administrative appointments, reassignments and transfers – Principal, Cavett Elementary School

Dr. Pedicone recommended Elsa Corral-Aguirre for the position.

Adelita Grijalva moved approval, Kristel Foster seconded. Approved unanimously in a voice vote.

8. Administrative appointments, reassignments and transfers – Principal, Fruchthendler Elementary School

Dr. Pedicone recommended Jon Ben-Asher for the position.

Michael Hicks moved approval, Kristel Foster seconded. Approved unanimously in a voice vote.

9. Schedule a Special Board Meeting on May 2, 2013, regarding the Desegregation Budget

Dr. Pedicone requested a special meeting to discuss the desegregation budget.

Michael Hicks moved approval, Kristel Foster seconded. Approved unanimously in a voice vote.

STUDY/ACTION ITEMS

10. Results of Budget Discussions with Employee Groups concerning Administration's Proposed Language to Reduce the District's Budget Shortfall as discussed in the March 12, 2013 Executive Session, as approved at the March 12, 2013 Regular Board Meeting

Ms. Grijalva requested that the Board recess into Executive Session. Martha Durkin provided legal advice that a motion would be required.

RECESS SPECIAL MEETING TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION – 9:35 p.m.

Kristel Foster moved approval, Mark Stegeman seconded. Approved unanimously in a voice vote.

RECONVENE SPECIAL MEETING – 10:24 p.m.

ITEM

During the discussion of Agenda Item No. 10, Consideration of extending the meeting beyond the 10:00 p.m. curfew in accordance with Governing Board Policy BDAA – *Procedures for Governing Board Members* was addressed.

STUDY/ACTION ITEMS (continued)

10. Results of Budget Discussions with Employee Groups concerning Administration's Proposed Language to Reduce the District's Budget Shortfall as discussed in the March 12, 2013 Executive Session, as approved at the March 12, 2013 Regular Board Meeting (continued)

Dr. Pedicone asked Yousef Awwad to make the presentation. Using Power Point [available as an attachment to the agenda item on the TUSD web] Mr. Awwad presented the current status of the budget, the remaining deficit, dollar amounts being proposed as result of changes approved to date, and agreements reached with bargaining units. He provided explanation of the medical insurance plans and responded to inquiries and comments by Ms. Grijalva, Mr. Juárez, and Dr. Stegeman.

Subsequent to the motion to accept the tentative agreements approved by the employee groups, Martha Durkin provided legal advice that a motion would be required to approve the custodial allocations and the medical insurance.

Adelita Grijalva expressed appreciation to the employee groups and the negotiating team for their work on the difficult decisions that were required. She pledged to work with the employee groups if the District received additional funding.

As a member of the Employee Trust Board, Mark Stegeman commented concerning the medical insurance plans and the accommodations being made to keep the cost as low as possible.

Cam Juárez commented on the difficulty in making these decisions and expressed appreciation to the employee groups for their respect and working with the negotiating team.

ACTION

Kristel Foster moved to extend the meeting until done, Cam Juárez seconded. Approved 4-0 in a voice vote. Michael Hicks was not present for the vote.

Adelita Grijalva moved to accept all the tentative agreements approved by the employee groups in order to address the deficit in fiscal year 2013-2014, Cam Juárez seconded. Approved 4-0 in a voice vote. Michael Hicks was not present for the vote. [For specifics of the agreements, see the Power Point attached to the agenda item on the TUSD Web.]

Mark Stegeman moved approval of the custodial allocations as presented by staff and approval of the medical insurance plans as approved by the Trust Board and presented by staff, Kristel Foster seconded. Approved 4-0 in a voice vote. Michael Hicks was not present for the vote.

ITEM

ACTION

STUDY/ACTION ITEMS (continued)

10. Results of Budget Discussions with Employee Groups concerning Administration's Proposed Language to Reduce the District's Budget Shortfall as discussed in the March 12, 2013 Executive Session, as approved at the March 12, 2013 Regular Board Meeting (continued)

Dr. Pedicone responded to Kristel Foster's inquiry regarding the potential receipt of an additional \$1.8m from the State, by providing information on the legislative process and how the funds could be utilized by the District if received. He further expressed his appreciation to the employee groups and his hope for a stronger relationship in the future. Ms. Foster also expressed her appreciation for the work of all to reach agreement.

11. Minimum Classroom Spending – Requested by Board Member Mark Stegeman No action taken.

Mark Stegeman suggested postponing action in order to have a breakdown of where the District is with the current budget proposals. He provided explanation of his continued commitment to increasing the amount of spending in the classroom.

12. Governing Board Policies

Approved policies may be viewed on the District web page – www.tusd1.org

Action

a) Policy Code BG – *Board Policy Process* (revision)

Dr. Pedicone asked Martha Durkin to provide information on the proposed revision. Ms. Durkin explained Policy BG defines the way policies are presented to Board.

A discussion of both Policies BG and BEDBA was held at this time. Board members Mark Stegeman, Adelita Grijalva, Kristel Foster and Cam Juárez commented; Michael Hicks was not present for the discussion.

Kristel Foster moved approval to adopt the recommended process to include a footnote to be added to BG Exhibit 1, Cam Juárez seconded. Approved 4-0 in a voice vote. Michael Hicks was not present for the vote. **[See approved Policy BG and Exhibit 1 posted on the TUSD web.]**

Martha Durkin provided information on the lack of an Agenda Committee in the ASBA model for BEDBA. In response to Dr. Stegeman's concern about Agenda Committee violating Open Meeting Law and no minutes being published, Ms. Durkin provided legal advice that

ITEM

ACTION

STUDY/ACTION ITEMS (continued)

12. Governing Board Policies (continued)

Action (continued)

- a) Policy Code BG – *Board Policy Process* (revision)
(continued)

minutes are not required for subcommittees and Open Meeting Law requirements have been followed for Agenda Committee meetings. Dr. Pedicone commented in response to Dr. Stegeman’s concern about violations of Open Meeting Law. Ms. Durkin commented on provisions contained in BEDBA that provide protection for board members to place items on agendas.

Dr. Pedicone commented on the flow chart for development of policies regarding Policy BG. Ms. Grijalva and Ms. Foster commented.

- b) Policy Code BEDBA – *Board Meeting Agenda Preparation* (revision)

The discussion begun above continued. Ms. Durkin corrected her previous advice to say that the Agenda Committee does provide a summary of its meetings, which are not posted but are available for public inspection and therefore complies with the Open Meeting Law. In response to Dr. Stegeman’s question concerning a violation of the Open Meeting Law if two of the three members of the Committee confer outside of the committee meeting, Ms. Durkin said that is not likely to happen since there is an Agenda Committee but any such complaint would be reviewed.

Ms. Foster and Mr. Juárez. Dr. Pedicone commented on other options for agenda preparation if the Board desired. Ms. Grijalva commented that the Agenda Committee was formed initially to ensure accountability to all board members on how agendas were determined.

Kristel Foster moved approval to adopt Policy BEDBA dated 6-22-10, Cam Juárez seconded. Approved 3-1 in a roll call vote. Mark Stegeman voted no. Michael Hicks was not present for the vote.

ITEM

ACTION

STUDY/ACTION ITEMS (continued)

12. Governing Board Policies (continued)

Action (continued)

- c) Policy Code GCBC – *Professional Staff Supplementary Pay Plans* (new)

Dr. Pedicone recommended approval as submitted. Ms. Durkin provided information that proposed policies are posted on the TUSD web for comments, and she relayed a comment received via the web. In response to Mr. Juárez' inquiry, Ms. Grijalva explained that any actions resulting from this policy would come to the Board for approval when a situation arose.

Kristel Foster moved approval, Cam Juárez seconded. Approved 4-0 in a voice vote. Michael Hicks was not present for the vote.

Study

- d) Policy Code GCOA – *Inadequacy of Classroom Performance* (new)

Ms. Durkin explained this policy is for study only, it has been published for comment, and has been approved by all interested parties. She advised that it will come back for study again in a different format and be included in model policy GCO which defines the new law and aligns with language in the law.

Studied only.

Ms. Foster commented.

- e) Policy Code IIB – *Class Size* (new)

Ms. Durkin explained this policy is based on the ASBA model with the inclusion of high school class sizes requested by Michael Hicks. Comments have been received including one from Sam Brown concerning class sizes to be included in the Unitary Status Plan.

Studied only.

Kristel Foster and Mark Stegeman commented. Dr. Pedicone and Dr. Morado provided information on how new courses might be offered for a lower number of students than established courses.

ITEM

ACTION

STUDY/ACTION ITEMS (continued)

12. Governing Board Policies (continued)

Study (continued)

- f) Policy Code IKE – *Promotion, Retention and Acceleration of Students* (revision)

Studied only.

Ms. Durkin advised the policy is on for study, that Academic Leadership and the cabinet have reviewed it, and it is posted on the TUSD web for comments. Jimmy Hart provided information concerning the development of a Committee comprised of elementary and middle school educators and other experienced individuals to address concerns expressed by the Board at the June 12, 2012 board meeting. Concerns included the need for consistent promotion/retention criteria, when to begin the retention process, educating families, eighth grade promotion, a clear process for intervention, and the impact of the Move On When Reading legislation. The result of the Committee's work is this policy which supports the needs of students, describes what is required to go to next grade level, and provides clear criteria that can be articulated to internal and external constituents. The primary difference is in the Regulation where specific criteria and expectations are outlined.

In response to Ms. Foster's concerns about vague language, inconsistent timelines, documentation, parent participation, bullet points concerning acceleration being appropriate for retention consideration, and English Language Learners meeting requirements for promotion, Mr. Hart provided information that the section on Acceleration has not been revised - only the retention process, that the Director of Language Acquisition participated on the Committee concerning promotion criteria for ESL students, and when intervention should begin for students in jeopardy of being retained.

Mark Stegeman expressed appreciation for the work done in response to community and Board concerns. Mr. Hart responded to Dr. Stegeman's comments.

Ms. Grijalva reminded Board members this is a Study item and comments can be submitted through the Director of Staff Services or via the TUSD web.

ITEM

ACTION

SPECIAL MEETING ADJOURNED – 11.27 p.m.

Approved this 10th day of December, 2013.

TUCSON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. ONE

By _____
Kristel Ann Foster, Clerk
Governing Board

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Minutes\04-23-13Special