

Regular Meeting of the Governing Board

Tuesday, February 7, 2006

Time: 5:30 p.m.
Place: Fine Arts Center, Multi-purpose room 2
33606 N 60th St., Cave Creek, AZ 85331

Members of the Board

Javier Ledesma, President
Stephanie Reese, Clerk
Marvin Christensen, member
Lisa Doche, member
Mark Warren, member

ENTERTAINMENT PROVIDED BY: 5th Grade Band from BMES & DSES, Stacey Hiner instructor

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES (Approved at 3/7/06 Meeting)

1. OPENING

Meeting was called to order at 5.35 p.m. Board members present: Mr. Javier Ledesma, Board President, Ms. Stephanie Reese, Clerk, Board Members Dr. Marvin Christensen, Ms. Lisa Doche, and Mr. Mark Warren. Cabinet Members present Dr. Tacy Ashby, Superintendent, Dr. Debbi Burdick, Associate Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Dr. Kent Frison, Associate Superintendent of Operations and Finance and Ms. Patti Tussey, Executive Director of Human Resources. Pledge of Allegiance was said. Call to fill out forms for Unscheduled Public Appearances/Address Agenda Items was made. Call for Formal Adoption of the Agenda was made. Ms. Reese moved and Mr. Warren seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

1.6 President's Report - Mr. Ledesma reported both DAMS and STMS won their basketball championship and will be going to state. Mr. Ledesma would like a report from the high school on their athletic accomplishments. Mr. Ledesma thanked parents, principal and staff of BMES for their kind thoughts and support for a student who is currently hospitalized and read reflections written by classmates at BMES.

A. Job Embedded Professional Growth Committee Board Member Report - Dr. Burdick reported that the survey for this committee was developed and released to all Principals who were to send it to their community. The survey was posted on the web. Suggested options and demographics are called out on the survey. This information will be compiled and given to the Calendar committee.

B. Board Comments - Mr. Warren updated the community regarding a meeting with Senator Waring, President Ledesma, Dr. Ashby, Dr. Frison and himself and personnel from Deer Valley Unified School District on open enrollment and boundary changes. From this discussion, there are a couple of options that may occur which would allow students in the Whispering Hills subdivision to attend CCUSD schools under a tuition fee to be paid by Deer Valley. Mr. Ledesma thanked Mr. Warren for working on his matter.

1.7 Superintendent's Report - Dr. Ashby commented on and thanked the BMES staff and students for their compassion shown the past couple of weeks with challenges that have risen at the school. February 6-10 is National School Counselor Week. Dr. Ashby thanked the counselors for their hard work and dedication to students. *Counselors Changing Lives Building Futures* is this year's theme. Over 300 people attended Beyond Denial, our first safety forum. The next forum is February 21. At the February 16 work study, a number of safety issues will be brought to the Board. Also at that meeting, we will be preparing for the Education Summit which starts the strategic planning process. On February 13, ETT Environment Technology Testing of San Diego will conduct an electro magnetic field (EMF) inspection at Horseshoe Trails Elementary and the flex school. Testing data will be presented at the February 28th meeting. Mr. Roehler will follow up with WAPA and APS.

Dr. Ashby announced the outline that will be used for the Principal selection process for Cactus Shadows High School. The outline is consistent with components established previously when filling other high level vacancies. Dr. Ashby hopes to make a recommendation to the board in April or May.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Katie Rose - 2720 East Ridgecrest Road. She lives in Cave Creek and yet is not a part of our school district. Doesn't understand how school districts are zoned. Her family's desire is to be a part of CCUSD. A group of parents, of which she is a part, has worked since 2003 to be a part of CCUSD. These families are a part of Deer Valley Unified School District due to their location. Ms. Rose asked the board for the same consideration as Whispering Hills families receive. The town is continuously annexing land and she wants the district and town to work together. Her cross streets are 26th Street and Saddle Mountain Road.

Kevin McDavid - 6012 East Quail Track Road. Mr. McDavid spoke on sweeps class which is where students go when they are late. Students can be swept up to 4 times before a parent is notified. His son was swept 6 times before Mr. McDavid was notified. Mr. McDavid wants to know why a teacher can't tell him the first time. He wants to know why students are not in the class or why the teacher doesn't call. Mr. McDavid feels sweeps class is an utter waste of his student's time. He wants to know when he can expect an answer. Mr. Ledesma asked for a future agenda item to cover sweeps class.

John Abrams & Elaine Adrian - Cave Creek and Anthem - They represent the education division of Foothills Community Foundation. This Foundation has pledged \$97,000 to Community Education for this school year and a portion of next to be used for financial assistance to qualified families for preschool and tutorial and financial support for artist in residence and tuition assistance for summer school. Mr. Abrams and Ms. Adrian wanted to make the board aware of and ask for support for an area golf tournament which is supporting this pledge. The golf tournament is scheduled for Monday, May 1st at Mirabel Golf Course. The total proceeds will be in support of education efforts in the community. They asked for support from the board and the administration for this opportunity.

3. PRESENTATIONS/INFORMATION/REPORTS

3.1 Preliminary Tax Credit Report for 2005 - Dr. Frison presented a preliminary report on tax credit funds collected for the 2005 calendar year. The amount collected so far is \$358K. This report is preliminary due to funds still coming in. A final report will be sent to the State by February 28, 2006. Dr. Ashby reported that the school's PTOs are meeting to organize and strategize on how to increase this fund.

3.2 Further Clarification/Information on Adoption of International Baccalaureate Program for 2006 2007 - Dr. Burdick introduced Mr. Bailey and Ms. Barrett to address further questions on the IBO Program which came out of the last presentation. Mr. Bailey introduced Mr. John Stollar, project director for the State Department for Advanced Placement and IBO. A chart was provided for clarification of course compatibility between IB and AP. A teaching and training schedule was provided which gives an indication of courses each teacher can teach. The master schedule and student request will drive what CSHS offers and how many teachers will actually teach the courses. They may not need all the teachers for each section. Students who are currently juniors will not be able to enter the certificated portion of the program. Clarification was asked as to where students will come from to fill this program. Size of school and size of class yields fixed number of students who are currently enrolled in programs, what courses will they not be in if they move to IB? Mr. Bailey can't predict where the students will come from. They predict about 1/2 of kids currently in accelerated programs may select IB, which will affect the elective programs. Without course work out there and students signed up, it is difficult to predict the impact IB will have on staffing needs and the master schedule. Many seniors take abbreviated schedules and may choose to increase their schedule. Concern was raised if classrooms will be able to teach both AP and IB? Adding IB gives CSHS the opportunity to fill or maximize some of the classes. Mr. Stollar reported he has seen schools of only 1000 students offer the program.

Per Mr. Stollar, of more importance than size is the fact that CSHS has the needed college going rate. The trend is showing that AP and IB programs are growing closer. CSHS staff has examined curriculum alignment between AP and IB for compatibility and feel confident with the alignment. Concerns were raised after reading the course program descriptions - AP and IB are very different. If a student takes the IB Biology course and is not in the diploma program chances are low that some colleges will give credit versus taking AP Biology. AP credit is more widely accepted right now. IB in our country is growing but it is not as expansive as AP. Mr. Warren relayed concerns of parents about the schedule with the challenges that occurred last year. Access to books and materials needed for summer work The initial proposal to IB stated only 9th graders with honors geometry would be allowed in the program. This was because CSHS used North Canyon's model and now feel an IB math methods course would allow students in algebra 1 as freshmen to enter as long as they can do well in honors algebra. Mr. Ledesma reported that kids at 7th and 8th grade need to be looking toward rigor. Mr. Bailey hopes this program raises expectations through the system. Dr. Christensen questioned if we are tracking student performance on advanced placement and wants to see this data and the level of success. A concern was raised over the unknown number of students that we are building this program for, 25 or 225. By having the data on AP, a base number of students who may be involved in IB could be predicted. Currently, one third of senior class participates in at least one AP class. Data needs to be collected from students to see if they were able to receive college credit and how much. As an example, Mr. Bailey's son received 18 credits. The board wants to know what percentage of juniors and seniors are taking all honors courses. The extended essay and creative community action outside the school day is a lot of the extra course work that is required to complete the 26 credit hours required by the IBO program. Theory of knowledge is one course that has to be built within the master schedule to complete the requirements of the program. Seniors who are not in the IB program will be able to sign up for the theory of knowledge class as an elective. The impact on the budget is difficult to determine in the planning stages. Mr. Bailey isn't sure the numbers provided in the handout are totally accurate; they may be a little heavy. Textbook dollars is unknown. CSHS might already have those textbooks. Approximately 6-7 more teachers need training at a cost of \$500-\$700 per teacher. Annual fees for the program are \$8000. After surveying the entire staff of CSHS, 81 % are supportive. This survey was managed through the department heads. Rationale for the 19% who didn't support: some don't believe in honors; curriculum should be the same for all kids. As far as the feasibility of a fall 2006 time table, Mr. Bailey said they were advised from other sites not to bring to IBO's attention that we haven't responded. There would be additional expenses (another site visit) that would occur if we delayed anything. Mr. Bailey biggest concern is the momentum that is already on the campus. Mr. Bailey reiterated his philosophy on inclusion versus exclusion - can be admitted to program - must meet program requirements. By first grading period it will become evident and other choices will have to be made. Mr. Ledesma senses that the teachers have spent a lot of time and energy on process and wants them to know that the board has to have questions answered. The CSHS Student Body President added that he personally likes the IB program - would have loved to have it a part of his program. Feels it would get CSHS name out to everyone. Students in the IB program will be responsible to pay \$90 per test. There are a total of 6 tests to take to get the full diploma.

Mr. Kevin McDavid - 6012 East Quail Track Road. Mr. McDavid asked the Board what they would be doing for kids that don't go the IB route. The program costs \$8,000 a year; what about those kids who will be mechanics.

Recessed at 7:20 - reconvened at 7:27

3.3 Construction Update on Flex School - So far, \$11.9 has been expended on Horseshoe Trails. It is almost 100% done. There are minor punch items to fix. Flex school expenditure is \$17.3M. Only have about \$9M left so we will have to sell bonds to pay the contractor. Estimated completion date is July 17, 2006. Expenditures were provided to the board. Power line location was pointed out. Gym and cafeteria are closest to the lines. The parking lot is exactly 80 from the center of the main high power line. Building is 18 feet outside the easement. Construction is continuing while research is being done.

3.4 Whispering Hills Update - A meeting with Senator Waring, CCUSD, DVUSD and Whispering Hills subdivision members occurred. Senator Waring is proposing a bill which would allow unlimited boundary changes to districts. Discussion is occurring between Deer Valley and Cave Creek to calculate a tuition payment to be paid by Deer Valley for students from Whispering Hills subdivision. It would not involve open enrollment of these students. A consultant will be utilized to make sure we are able to maximize the calculation so that the cost of educating these students would be covered regardless of any handicapping conditions. The assessed evaluation of the property would stay with Deer Valley. Boundary change would be more advantageous; tuition would be second and open enrollment gets us the least. Tuition program doesn't necessarily guarantee the student to stay in CCUSD their entire school career. DV could pull plug on this program at any time. Our policy on tuition and open enrollment will have to be reviewed and possibly revised to address various situations that arise out of these programs. Board will ultimately have to approve this tuition policy.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA** - Motion to approve consent agenda as presented was made. Mr. Warren moved and Ms. Doche seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

5.1 2nd Reading of the Grievance Policy - Clarification of the policy and additions are included. Page 4 contains new language from feedback from 151 reading and legal counsel. This item can be brought back at a business meeting for final reading, can be brought to an executive session with legal counselor can be accepted tonight as presented. No vote was taken. Board members asked for a 3rd reading with legal counsel for more clarification. Board would like a hearing officer to review grievances before they come to the board.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

6.1 Donations - Dr. Ashby read an extensive list of donations. Ms. Reese moved and Mr. Warren. Motion passed unanimously.

6.2 Revision to North Valley Education Consortium Intergovernmental Agreement Addendum - Dr. Ashby presented the IGA on NVEC. Consortium focuses on legislation and professional development. Dysart has approached NVEC for membership. Administration recommends the Governing Board to approve item as presented. Mr. Warren moved and Ms. Doche seconded. Mr. Warren questioned if this group pooled together for insurance purposes and if so, are we eligible to be apart of consortium. Currently we are out for a RFP to see if these groups will accept us. Motion passed unanimously

6.3 Community Education Preschool Fees for 2006-2007 - An increase in preschool time will occur in August. The increased time for students will result in additional time costs for staff. As a result, Community Education is requesting an increase in fees. Mr. Warren moved and Ms. Reese seconded the motion. Board had many questions. How do we compare with other preschools? Our schools are very competitive. How many are on waiting list? Are we turning any away? Do we need to expand? Private preschools are the only preschools in our area.

Are we competitive financially? Increasing the time of service by 1/2 (20%) and increasing the fees by 20%. This is a great service to constituents. Purpose of preschools is to provide service to community and to break even. Employees get a decreased rate and used as a tool to attract staff. Motion passed unanimously.

- 6.4 Enrollment Projections and 2006-2007 Open Enrollment Recommendation – Current enrollment as of January 20, 2006, and projections from Applied Economics were reviewed and a projection was made based on this information. The projection includes the current open enrollment students. Cactus Shadows is forecasted for 1694 students, a growth of 110 students. K-5 is allowed to accept open enrollment, both inside and outside. DAMS and DWES should be closed. STMS can accept additional students. CSHS can accept open enrollment. Mr. Warren moved and Ms. Doche seconded the motion. After discussion, Mr. Warren motioned to table this item until discussion on item 6.4 occurred. Ms. Doche seconded - motion passed unanimously. Item was tabled to another meeting.

Ms. Lynn Ward - P. O. Box 7726, Cave Creek, AZ - Ms. Ward was invited to speak. She applauds the advancement in open enrollment/tuition program made so far. She wants the Board to consider all of west Cave Creek with the tuition program, not just Whispering Hills subdivision. Three years ago, that area had over 130 signatures to become a part of CCUSD. Board at that time, was willing to accept them. Deer Valley would not allow de-annexation. Mr. Warren pointed out that one of the other addendums being worked on is to define boundaries between two districts and a zone around districts. If you were on a common boundary within a certain range you would be considered (1 mile - tuition zone).

- 6.5 1st Reading of Open Enrollment Policy, JFB – Dr. Burdick pointed out all changes being brought forward and discussed reasons for revision. No vote was being taken. Discussion Ms. Doche for better control over open enrollment numbers, students would have to reapply to middle and then again to high school is how she remembers this being discussed at the strategic planning session. Capacity was questioned, particularly at DAMS - what is the physical capacity. This information can be brought back at next board meeting. Physical capacity and staffing has to be reviewed. Ms. Reese remembers the retreat the same way as Ms. Doche but feels we have to take into account what Dr. Burdick presented as the transition challenges. Mr. Warren asked about the number of open enrollment - how many do we have? The unorganized area has 260 but we have to do research for the total number of open enrollment. Depending on what the Legislature does, the unorganized territory may be incorporated into our district. Due to many unanswered questions, Ms. Doche feels we should step this policy in, until we get a better idea on the tuition, unorganized, open enrollment, etc. Mr. Warren would like to set policy now. Ms. Doche said we don't have any idea how the Legislature will vote. How does the tuition program fit with this program? Are they given preferential treatment or what? Possibly add an addendum to this regarding the tuition program. We have raised additional questions - capacity - two types of open enrollment students (in district and out of district) - kindergarten, strong opinion to not do open enrollment at K so we can see where we are. Dr. Burdick said if we are trying to attract students to our district, parents are interested in starting their students at K. If we don't open enroll at K, they will typically stay where they first enrolled. If issues arise from attendance or discipline, that caveat is available. Original intent of board was K-5; 6-9 and 9-12. If policy stays as board wishes, can students in special programs and feeder schools be given preference? The policy presents a good philosophy. Dr. Burdick asked for clarification on what board is asking. Member Reese suggested keeping the policy as written until we have time to adjust once figures on open enrollment are provided. Ms. Doche requested site capacities, how many total students, students in unorganized, students using inside/outside open enrollment and projections on tuition students.

7. UPCOMING CALENDAR EVENTS - Dr. Ashby covered the three sections of the upcoming calendar. Thursday, February 16 is next meeting. Two items currently called out for the February 28th meeting will have to be rescheduled. Mr. DiCello is scheduled for a legislative update meeting for March 14. Any specific legislation you want discussed, please let Dr. Frison know. Calendar Dates: NSBA National Convention for April 2006 in Chicago. Please let Ms. Schaner know by end of week if you are going. Education Summit is Saturday, March 11. Principles and self assessment will be moved. IGA Tuition Agreement response will be TBA. Ms. Reese moved and Mr. Ledesma seconded to convene into Executive Session at 9:20 p.m. Motion passed unanimously

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION –

9. ADJOURNMENT

Dated this 7th day of February 2006

By Linda Schaner

Ms. Linda Schaner
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Governing Board
Cave Creek Unified School District