

Business Meeting of the Governing Board

Tuesday, September 19, 2006

Time: 6:00 p.m. for General Meeting
Place: District Governing Board Room
33016 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

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES – approved at the 10/10/06 Meeting

1. OPENING

1.1 Meeting was called to order at 6:03 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 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. Dr. Ashby was not present. 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. Mr. Warren moved and Ms. Doche seconded. Motion to move item 3.3 Athletic Code of Conduct to before item 3.1 was made. Motion passed unanimously as amended.

1.6 President's Report – Attended the CSHS/Pinnacle High football game and spoke with parents from Pinnacle High. Pinnacle parents felt the community feel and parent support that rallies behind the young students. Complimented faculty, staff and students. Sonoran Trails Middle School officially opened its campus and had a ribbon cutting ceremony.

A. CCSOS – Susan Carlson spoke before the committee. Membership is growing. Next meeting is scheduled for October 19, at 4:00 pm.

B. Long Range Facilities Planning Committee – Mr. John Abram, co-chair brought the Board up to date on the work of this committee. They have structured 5 subcommittees. This is a community driven committee with 70 members. Charter is to make certain recommendations to the Superintendent by certain dates. Identify and recommend details of new high school, look at adequacy of current facilities, plan for future bonds and what it would entail, seek community partners and project what future needs will be, standards of school enrollment, when and why are areas of concern this committee is addressing. First deadline is for details for the new high school and the recommendation is due to the Superintendent by end of November. Next meeting is September 26, 7:00-8:30 at the media center at CSHS. Invited audience members to become involved. Minutes of the sub-committee meetings will available on the web site.

C. Legislative Update – Mr. Warren – nothing to report at this point. Attended the ASBA legal conference and will discuss at the Board retreat. Discussion of drug dogs and constitutional basis for using them will be discussed.

D. Board Comments – Nedda Shafir was published in the ASBA journal.

1.7 Superintendent's Report – Dr. Burdick reported on the Administrative Team training with Dr. McBiles. Worked on standards and rubrics that the State is using. We are going to adapt that information and use as part of school excellence program. Reminded Governing Board Members and Cabinet of the retreat this Saturday, September 23.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

2.1 Unscheduled Public Appearances – Mr. Mel Magers, 5118 East Tanglewood Circle – transportation bus driver. Over last several weeks the Republic has been running articles regarding lack of board members or those people willing to run for various school districts through out the state. Mr. Warren and Ms. Reese are campaigning for re-elections. CCUSD decisions are not made in a vacuum and Mr. Magers feels the greatest asset is open communication. Board members are giving this community the need for best educational experience possible for our kids. Thanked Board members for all of their efforts

Ms. Susan Crisante - 28245 N 55th Street – Addressed the Board for support of a stoplight at 56th Street and Dynamite. Read letter to Board that she sent to many people. Intersection is in the jurisdiction of Phoenix, Scottsdale and County. On September 14 an accident involving a student at STMS occurred. A determination of who needs to pay for the stoplight needs to occur. She requested the bond money be placed in this area instead of moving the power lines. Ms. Doche asked Administration to work with the two Montessori schools in the area to see where they were with this situation.

Jerry Chesler, 6137 East Quail Track Drive, Scottsdale – has STMS and CSHS students. Thanked Board for hearing concerns. Dangerous situation with the walking zone at STMS. New location of campus initiated a walking zone of 1 mile. His neighborhood is next to the school and he is concerned about the danger. See letter he provided. No sidewalks, no crosswalks, etc. Asking the School Board to provide transportation to these students. Wants a bus stop at 62nd Street for his son. Kids can be on existing buses – feels no additional cost. Mr. Warren asked for this to be added to a future agenda as safety for the southern site.

3. PRESENTATIONS/INFORMATION/REPORTS

3.1 EMF Update/Bond Expenditure – Consultants revisited the middle school and took additional readings on September 7. Goal was to find out the differences from February 13 to a warmer month of September. Dr. Frison showed the report from ETT with the survey results. Measurements were very similar to the readings received in February. Readings were taken every 10 feet. This was only factual data – no standards exist at the state or federal level. Questions: President Ledesma invited comments from public.

Barbara Moroney, 33967 N. 57th Way, Scottsdale – Expressed thanks to the Board for the opportunities to speak. Speaking against spending money on power lines. Most parents she spoke to felt EMF was a low risk, certainly compared to other things students are exposed to. Biggest exposure is computer monitors and kids were excited about the Apple computers. Cell phones give EMF. Blow dryers give you more exposure. Wants more information. Original presentation said more EMF was emitted was during the summer, morning and evening hours. Didn't engineers in the planning process address this. It is too late now; there has to be less costly alternatives. Taking money away from other projects students can use is not the answer. Give them other opportunities to attend other schools. Shielding is an alternative. Maybe we need monitoring stations and put in data recorders for a year before making a decision. So little of the school is over the impacted area – do we need to spend that much money? Do more research about the levels and data readings for a full year.

Rees Candee – 6964 East Red Bird Road, Scottsdale – Thanked the Board for talking about issue. Did Board members get the copy of his letter? Was happy that the numbers were not as projected. What was the ambient temperature that day and were air conditioners off? September is a little out of summer months. How much load was there and how much will be in future years? Would like less than 1.4 mG in occupied areas. Mitigation plans look good. Probably want to do a study to see what the outcome would be. Get a second or third opinion - not just one from these engineers. Why rush? Huge decision – continue to collect data. Take time to make sure you are right. Need to remove children from this health hazard. Studies indicate it does cause health hazard. This is an unnecessary hazard. Removed daughter from STMS.

Lonnie Wilbanks – 6635 East Lonesome Trail, Cave Creek - Licensed professional engineer who has worked for APS for 20 years. He designs 220 lines. District should not use money to move power lines. At best studies are inconsistent and no set guidelines. Do not spend our dollars on this issue.

Dawn Olson – 4370 East Rancho Tierra Drive, Cave Creek – Has a 7th grader at STMS; 4th grader at HTES. Thanked Board for allowing the public to speak. Children practice fire drills, lock down, etc. Every child deserves the opportunity to learn in a safe environment. If there is any doubt about the safety, then you need to spend it on the power lines. Schools should be focal point of community. Spend this money on student safety and it will put us back in positive. Guiding principle, "Students First...People Always" was quoted. All students should come first. Spend the \$1.4M to move the lines.

Lori Toomey – 29019 North 46th Way, Cave Creek. – Has children at CSHS/STMS/DWES – Agrees with Dawn Olson. Spend bond money first on the safety of the children and staff. Other issues for the money aren't as important. Building issues and landscaping issues can help to fix those areas. Money will be spent well on moving power lines

Mr. Clay Carpenter 4651 East Montgomery Road, Cave Creek – Has 3 students – If there is the slightest doubt, you need to move the lines. Even slightest chance of one student becoming sick – caused by EMF or not – you have opportunity to change that.

Al Paciora, 6110 East Cavedale Pass, Cave Creek – Every child deserves right to safety. His childhood home was 100 feet from power lines. His mother passed away from ALS a year ago. He has had tumors. Doesn't want wife and children exposed. \$1.4M for children safety is minimal.

Mike Barrett – 26808 North 46th Place, Cave Creek – Only takes one sick kid, teacher or parent for \$1.4M. Children that go there have a reasonable expectation of safety. Any doubt that harm can come from power lines, it should be done.

Karyn Cushing, 5999 East Lowden Ct., Cave Creek – please consider moving the lines.

Any additional information needed from Cabinet: Regarding monitoring of EMF, what is the cost and how long to get good information? The data on the report presented tonight came from 10:00 to 3:00 on September 7. No greater load at one time or the other. Extended data log – electronic device is there for monitoring. No discussion on number of places of monitoring. Tests were taken both inside and outside of the buildings to replicate same information as was taken in February. Ms. Doche asked if by moving lines away from property we would be able to get a written guarantee if we used option 1 or 2? Mr. Roehler responded that APS sent comments to him and won't acknowledge EMF as an issue, therefore, will not help in paying or providing a written guarantee. It is not certain that the setbacks offered in option 1 and 2 meet California standards. Difference is setback from building versus property line. Buildings will offer no shielding what so ever. Option 1 requires purchasing private land and submitting to right of way easements that don't belong to the State. Option 2 stays on district property. Board inquired on cost to purchase private land? Cost for private land was called out at \$100K an acre. Questions were raised as to why WAPA costs more to move. APS gave District a break because of being a customer. Board asked for a second opinion. If we spend the money, will we get enough reduction? Clarification: Board is asking for a 2nd opinion. Will discuss next Tuesday, whatever recommendation administration brings forward.

3.2 Technology Update – Tonight, a plan to develop a District Technology Plan was being presented. Target date is December for the plan to be presented to the Board. This plan will have a significant impact on initiatives to the District. Areas to be addressed are curriculum integration; professional development for all staff; equitable use of technology; infrastructure/telecommunications; administrative needs (SAIS, transportation (business functions)). The Taglet Survey is being used to obtain data on use of skills. Teachers and students are being surveyed. Interviews will be conducted with directors and principals. A needs assessment will be done by September 22. Items which were most repeated were provided on the PowerPoint. Equity; video announcements; training; data warehouse and intranet for District; interfacing between databases; online grades; e-learning opportunities name a few. Ms. Morgenthal is using the Arizona State Technology Plan Template for goals so that Title II.D funding can be used. Major goals were provided. Technology committee will consist of those people from 2005-2006; forum participants and past members. Will have 4 physical meetings. Weekly virtual meetings and regular email communications will occur. Will post progress and updates. Once adopted, committee will continue meeting twice a year due to the nature of technology changes. Questions: Comprehensive and aggressive program. Working to contact people.

3.3 Athletic Code of Conduct – Mr. Bailey and Ms. Barrett presented the draft of the Athletic Code of Conduct. Last several months a committee has been working at Cactus Shadows to establish an Athletic Code of Conduct at a minimum level. Many coaches and parents have contributed to this effort. This information is being provided now so that they can apply for Pursuing Victory With Honor. The team captains will go through this program and training in January. This information was presented to over 500 student athletes at the beginning of the year. Believe we need a minimum standard for students. Discussion: President Ledesma invited community members who requested time to speak.

Kaitlin Simpson, captain of varsity cheer – A Cheer Constitution and Code of Conduct was put into effect by their coach. It improved the program and reputation and affected the lives of 60 girls. A cheerleader was pulled over by police recently and had one sip of alcohol. She was suspended for 2 weeks from cheer because of the Cheer Constitution. Members of the football team were charged with theft, alcohol and running from officers. This young man was given only a one-week suspension. Why was the cheerleader given a harsher sentence?

Mr. Curt Vaughn, 10275 East Winter Sun Drive, Scottsdale – Has a son and daughter at CSHS and DAMS. Concerned that the Athletic Code of Conduct doesn't give right standard. He attended the meeting where it was explained. Concerns over drug and alcohol and setting wrong picture for students. Consequences need to be given and a zero tolerance policy needs to be followed. That is not what he sees in the Code of Conduct. Comments like "We are not trying to ruin people's lives" when explaining the Athletic Code of Conduct were made. First offense should be zero tolerance (kicked off team for rest of year). Doesn't think kids should be given a first chance because drugs and alcohol are illegal and we are sending the wrong message by giving a second chance when illegal items are involved.

The previous Code of Conduct left discipline decisions to the individual coach. Each was different and some didn't give rules up front. There were many hours of debate before this information was brought forward. Mr. Bailey's direction to committee was to build character on teams and changing behaviors. Not totally concerned about the punishment that would get the behaviors changed. Coaches can toughen the policy. This Code of Conduct set a minimum for discipline. Ms. Barrett added that this is about how to educate and change behaviors. This is aligned with the Secondary Code of Conduct. This Code of Conduct gives at least a starting point. There are other policies in place that would take precedence over the Athletic Code of Conduct, which would cover the drug issue. Nothing that is in the Athletic Code of Conduct trumps State statute. Kids represent the District 24-7 when they are involved in outside activities. Mr. Bailey is hoping parents don't interpret the first offense as weak. Ms. Reese, all kids should realize that no matter who you are, it is about doing the right thing. Don't mess with rules because there are consequences and it should be consistent across the board. Asked for clarification of the 40% violation. Forty Percent Violation occurs when the violation occurs (beginning season or end of season). Are the punishments carried forward to the next sport? It is watered down if the violation doesn't move forward to the next sport or season. Discussion didn't occur about the violation extending into the next year. Ms. Reese would like to see a carry over – Mr. Bailey can appreciate that and will go back and look at it. He yielded to the issue of not micromanaging every sport – behaviors need to change and change quickly for those who want to represent school. On the first offense, if 3 infractions occur, it considered as one. Mr. Bailey will make the final decision on punishment with recommendations from coaches and Ms. Barrett. Other coaches are looking at having their own constitution. This document is considered part of their regulations at the high school and doesn't come before the Board for adoption. This evening we were looking for input and questions. It is remaining a draft and will reconvene later for review. This is going to attorney for review. Board Member Warren wants policy reviewed; feels this should come to Board for approval. Other Board Members raised concerns over consistency as it relates to other coaches being allowed to have their own constitution. Inconsistencies will still be out there with this being just a minimum. Suggested if it is 40%, take it on the whole season regardless of when the infraction occurs. Rebel rousing tends to occur at the end of the year and if the 40% punishment is on remaining games, punishment is not consistent. Mr. Bailey said they will look at that. The end games are typically the most important games. Coaches feel you pay a higher price at the end of the season. Each parent and student signed the handbooks before the season started and it is stronger than the Athletic Code of Conduct. The Accord spells out positive things versus the Athletic Code, which states thou shall not... Board would like the good things that students can do noted versus the negative things. Wants the positive expectation spelled out. President Ledesma commented that this is a great start and there is a need for consistency. This is a working document and it can go back to be refined. Mr. Bailey reported that the opinions that have come forward tonight were also brought forward from the coaches. Basketball has 22 games, Football 12 – if a certain number is given, it will hurt some sports more than others. Some sports would receive harsher punishment if it was said they had to miss 3 games.

3.4 Improvements to new Black Mountain Elementary School Facility – Ms. Sitton presented a slide show sharing before and after photos of improvements made to their campus. Playground is currently being moved. Gave a glimpse of improvements made over the summer.

4. ACTION CONSENT - Motion to approve consent agenda was made. Ms. Reese moved and Mr. Warren seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

5. OLD BUSINESS

5.1 Adoption of Mission, Vision, Beliefs and Goals – The Administrative Team, as well as the community through forums, provided input to the proposed Vision Mission, Beliefs and Goals. Community asked for things to make this information a little more succinct and not use educational jargon. Appreciated allowing the administrative team and community to allow feedback. Administration recommends Governing Board approve the proposed Mission, Vision Beliefs and Goals. Ms. Reese moved and Mr. Warren seconded. Discussion: Governing Board had no comment on a keeping the existing guiding principle or adopting the proposed Mission or Vision. Minor changes to the proposed Beliefs were made by changing the word “deserves” to the word “will” in the second stated Belief. The proposed statement “All students can learn and teachers make the difference” will revert back to the original statement made by the Board. An additional statement will appear below that statement that states, “All students can learn and inspired teaching makes the difference.” Goal #5 will remain as it was stated in the original statements created by the Board in January 2005. Motion was amended to reflect the previous stated changed. Motion passed 4-1.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Donations –Dr. Burdick read the list of donations. Mr. Warren moved and Ms. Reese seconded.

6.2 RFQ for Architect – A request for qualification for architect and architect services was made and usually covers a 5-year period. If a project is started when the contract runs out, you can continue; however, new projects cannot be started unless they are under contract. Evaluation committee met, interviewed, scored and ranked seven firms. Administration is award the RFQ to (see the form for the 3 companies). Ms. Reese moved and Mr. Warren seconded. Discussion: No scope of work has been determined for any of these firms yet. Motion passed unanimously.

6.3 Apple Lease Purchase Agreement – Dr. Frison introduced Ms. Orlando, Dr. Beasley and Ms. Morgenthal to answer questions. Both of these schools are utilizing their allocation of soft capital to purchase/lease these items. All schools receive a soft capital allocation. It will be a part of the technology plan. There is no plan in place and these are simply a replacement of tools for the teachers and students. They will replace the outdated Tangent computers. Dr. Beasley: Technology opens doors and equalizes students. Without technology in classrooms they have to unplug and learn the old fashion way. Today's kids need a different set of tools. Those with learning differences need tools. When students are given tools they express themselves above pencil and paper. Last year STMS and DAMS did a pilot study to determine benefits and struggles with technology. Measurement of the impact of student engagement and manageability and results were significant. Engagement skyrocketed. Students were engaged even to the very end of the year. Learned they could manage. Next logical step was to increase those tools. Research shows students today with routine access to computers, score high, engage more and leads to higher student achievement. STMS and DAMS determined they wanted to commit more than 50% of their soft money to get more tools. Details of the lease/purchase were provided. Administration recommends the Governing Board approve the agreement as presented. Mr. Warren moved and Ms. Reese seconded. Discussion: This lease/purchase involves buying 96 laptops at each middle school and associated site licenses, server support, etc. Dr. Christensen has concerns about buying this i-book, which is at the end of its production cycle. Expected to use for these laptops for three years and has concerns with doing so. He was the big supporter in bringing the Apple project in last year. A little dismayed that it is coming forward at this time without a technology plan. We have operated too long in the district in a field of dreams operation. Doesn't work that way. He is torn and has some serious reservations. Expenditure of \$350K over three years and this being a major portion of their soft capital – not sure it is a good choice. Has reservations but will support. Dr. Beasley responded that without this purchase STMS has 675 students and only 48 student computers. Doing nothing at this point is not an option. We need a plan and he agrees. This is consistent with plan and ability to move forward with the pilot will be great. If the ultimate goal is to provide 1:1 computers, this will be a good way to learn to manage and make sure students handle in proper way. Ms. Morgenthal stated that in interviews with principals and directors, this is the way it seems to be going. The idea of static rooms with hard wiring is an old method. The portability is best practice. Is there a down side in purchasing these specific laptops? No, she feels the District would be crazy to not purchase this on this scale. It will be used as a model. This will be a test prior to possible purchase of computers 1:1. These will be integrated 100% into the network. Thinks it is a small step into a good learning opportunity for the future. Ms. Orlando provided background on DAMS decision to use their soft capital in this way. Both Administration and staff are in total agreement. There will be a cart in each grade level. Credited Dr. Ashby with talking to her about ordering 96 versus 32 she originally was going to order. This is the best opportunity to step up to meet the kids' needs. The kids are ahead of the teachers. Platform issues are in the past. Most of the software being used today is web based so it will work with both. Alignment can be achieved with both platforms. There was no learning curve for the students when they were using both Mac's and PC's. Motion passed unanimously

7. UPCOMING CALENDAR EVENTS – Added the safety issues at south campus, walking zone and light, athletic code of conduct, entertaining looking at an ending time for board meetings to the upcoming agenda. Mr. Warren asked about issues on IB rollout and would like the Pets on Property issued addressed soon. Executive session for Dr. Ashby's summative evaluation will be rescheduled. Where are with bus advertising – Dr. Frison will check with Transportation Director on the bus advertising.

8. ADJOURNMENT = Motion to adjourn. Mr. Warren moved and Ms. Reese seconded. Motion passed unanimously at 9:31 p.m.

Dated this 19 Day of September 2006

By Linda Schaner

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