

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
WINSLOW UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
GOVERNING BOARD**

CALL TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the Governing Board of Winslow Unified School District No. 1 was called to order by Mrs. Sharon Greenwood, President, at 6:00 p.m. September 19, 2019, in the District Board Room, 800 Apache Avenue, in Winslow.

PRESENT: Mrs. Sharon Greenwood
Mr. Joey Hartnett
Mrs. Josephine Montoya
Mrs. Marilee Ervien
Mr. Allen Leonard

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Mr. Leonard made a motion to approve the agenda. This motion was seconded by Mr. Hartnett and carried with a vote of “aye” from members present.

AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS: There were no awards presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mrs. Montoya made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular and Special Meeting on August 29, 2019. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leonard. Members present voted “aye” and the motion carried.

CALL TO PUBLIC: Mrs. Greenwood invited public comments on any listed items on the agenda at this time. She requested that anyone speaking should state their full name for the record and confine their remarks to three minutes or less. She stated that no action will be taken as a result of public comments. She reminded the public that the Board expects citizens who address the Board to present concerns regarding the activities in question rather than make personal attacks upon board members, staff or others present or absent according to Governing Board Policy BEDH. In addition, questions or comments on matters that are currently under legal review will not be accepted per Board Policy BEDH, Public Participation at Board Meetings. Anyone wishing to discuss an issue with the Governing Board that is not on the agenda should complete form WPS 511 located on the entrance table. Copies will be distributed to all board members for their consideration.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. A request was made for ratification of expense and payroll vouchers per Ratification List No. 837 totaling \$1,872,523.03. Mrs. Lomeli said This is a routine procedure to allow the District to submit vouchers to the County School Superintendent between board meetings.

Mrs. Montoya made a motion to approve all vouchers on Ratification List No. 837. Mrs. Ervien seconded the motion. All members present voted "aye" and the motion carried

- B. Mrs. Mattox recommended that Board adopt the Statement of Charges recommending (1) dismissal of certificated teacher, Tabatha Nez; (2) notification to Ms. Nez regarding the Board's action; (3) placement of Ms. Nez on administrative leave with pay or take other employment action.

Mrs. Greenwood stated that according to state law, Ms. Nez is not entitled to a hearing at this time but is entitle to a hearing at a later time if she requests it within ten days.

Mrs. Sharon Vasquez ask to speak on behalf of Ms. Tabatha Nez. She spoke as the President of the Winslow Education Association (WEA). Mrs. Vasquez indicated that Ms. Nez's attorney recommended she not attend the meeting, as the attorney was not able to attend. She stated Ms. Nez has filed a "good cause" application with the Board of Fingerprinting and entered into a plea agreement agreed upon by all parties. She will plead guilty to the offense and that will allow her to get her fingerprint back. Mrs. Vasquez asked to the Board to take into consideration that Ms. Nez will not be charged with a felony and can get her fingerprint card back. The Board thanked Mrs. Vasquez for her input.

Mr. Hartnett made a motion at 6:08 p.m. to go into executive session regarding personnel matters, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03.A.3 and §38-431.03.A.1. Mrs. Ervien seconded the motion and the motion carried.

The executive session concluded and the regular meeting resumed in open session at 6:23 p.m.

Mrs. Mattox reviewed a Statement of Charges in Support of Dismissal of Tabatha Nez, 4th grade teacher at Bonnie Brennan Elementary School:

Charge 1 - Violation of Employment contract
Charge 2 – Violation of Policy GBEA: Staff Ethics Policy

Mr, Hartnett made the following motion: "I move that the Governing Board of the Winslow Unified School District No. 1 dismiss certificated teacher Tabatha Nez from employment with the school district at the expiration of ten (10) days from the date of service on her of notice of

this Board's action based upon charges for dismissal as set forth in the charges presented to this Governing Board, which are incorporated in this motion by reference; that the charges be made a part of the minutes of this meeting; that Tabatha Nez be placed on administrative leave of absence with pay until the effective date of the teacher's dismissal; that Tabatha Nez not be re-employed by the school district for the next year for the reasons set forth in the charges; and that the Superintendent be authorized to provide notice of these charges and the Board's action to Tabatha Nez. Further, that the Superintendent file a complaint with the Arizona Department of Education regarding the alleged unprofessional conduct that has been set forth in the charges presented to the Governing Board."

Mr. Leonard seconded the motion. A vote was taken and all members voted "aye".

C. Mrs. Mattox recommended that the Governing Board approve the following personnel:

- Tierra Jishie – Athletic Trainer – High School
- Joy Renfro – Substitute Custodian– District
- Carl Turner – Substitute Teacher – District
- Reanna Walton – Emergency Substitute Teacher - District

Mrs. Mattox recommended that the Governing Board approve the resignation of the following personnel:

- Kristen Hess – ELA Teacher – Jr. High

A motion was made by Mrs. Montoya to approve the hirings and resignation listed on the memo. Mrs. Ervien seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and members present voted "aye." The motion carried.

D. Mrs. Mattox recommended that the Governing Board accept the donation of a Pace American enclosed trailer, valued at \$8,000, from Winslow Schools Music Booster Club to the Winslow Unified School District.

A motion was made by Mrs. Montoya to accept the donation of a trailer to the Winslow Unified School District. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leonard. A vote was taken and members present voted "aye." The motion carried.

E. Mrs. Mattox recommended that the Governing Board approve Mr. Greg Schalow as the district hearing officer for the 2019-20 school Year.

Mrs. Montoya made a motion to approve Greg Schalow as the district hearing officer for the 2019-20 school year. Mr. Allen seconded the motion. A vote was taken and members present voted "aye." The motion carried.

- F. Mrs. Mattox recommended that the Governing Board designate the following qualified evaluators for the 2019-20 school year per policy GCO. This is a routine annual procedure:

To evaluate certified staff:

Dr. James Donner
Ms. Debra Lopez
Mrs. Amber Martinez
Mr. Sal Hernandez
Mrs. Jodie Garner
Mr. Troy McReynolds
Mrs. Larissa Richards
Ms. Amanda Leonard
Mrs. Cyndie Mattox

To evaluate classified staff:

Mrs. Shirley Lomeli
Mrs. Connie Gover
Mrs. Denise Estudillo
Mr. Steve Henling
Mr. Charlie Hancock
Mr. Jack Hanno

- G. Mrs. Mattox recommended that the Board approve Arizona Comfort Systems as a sole source provider for HVAC services for the district. The district HVAC needs are varied throughout the district and this company has been very efficient and fast.

Mr. Leonard made a motion to approve Arizona Comfort Systems as a sole source provider for HVAC services in the district. Mr. Hartnett seconded the motion. A vote was taken and members present voted "aye." The motion carried.

- H. Mrs. Greenwood led a discussion regarding the Arizona School Board Association (ASBA) update of superintendent search criteria. Mrs. Greenwood met with a representative at the recent law conference and was able understand the process better.

The Governing Board confirmed the ASBA representative will be in Winslow to conduct an open meeting on Friday, October 18, 2019, starting at 1:00 p.m.

There will be a search agreement on which the Governing Board will agree. All members agreed to start as soon as possible.

Components of the position will be reviewed and an advertising document will be discussed.

The Governing Board discussed the people they believe should make up the hiring committee and the process they would like to follow.

The Governing Board agreed to include three community members (chosen from lists that will be provided by the principals); one staff member from elementary, Jr. High, and High School; and four members of the leadership team.

The Governing Board talked about requesting interview questions from staff. The secretary to the Board, Jennifer Sanderlin, will send out an email to all staff asking for possible questions. Staff will have until Friday, October 4, 2019 to respond. Mrs. Sanderlin will then compile questions for the Board, indicating sites without identifying the staff members.

REPORTS:

A. Financial Reports

Mrs. Shirley Lomeli, Business Manager, reported on the August 2019 financial report. The district is at 17% of the year completed and expenditures are at 10.5%.

B. Annual Report

Mrs. Lomeli discussed the status of existing bonds and debts. Her report shows the override and impact aid funds. The impact aid bond is due to expire 2024. The district currently has a debt of \$1,200,000. The override is from November 2014. The override is at \$1,181,000. This is going before voters in November 2019. Voting in favor of the override in November will continue the existing tax which voter previously approved, it will not establish a new tax.

C. Superintendent's Reports

Mrs. Mattox shared a picture from 2002 of her son as the Homecoming King. She expressed that Winslow School District has been a wonderful place to work and it is nice when you work in the same district that your children attended.

D. Board President's Reports

Mrs. Greenwood spoke about her time at the law conference. One presentation was about open meeting law best practices. She asked that the presentation be emailed to the other board members. The presentation could be helpful for the Board's self evaluation and to possibly make improvements. The presentation would be useful to compare what the board is doing and what they should or could be doing.

Mrs. Greenwood spoke about a presenter, Jessica Langley, who spoke at the conference. She stated she was inspired by her message.

**BOARD
COMMENTS:**

Mr. Allen thanked the administration and shared that he has had several people come up to him and state what a great school year this has been. Mr. Allen spoke about the openings left due to the resignation and the termination of two teachers. He stated the administrators are master teachers and could be very helpful in the classrooms that have been left without a regular teacher.

Mrs. Montoya spoke about the upcoming hiring of the new superintendent. She stated that she is relying heavily on the administration to be a part of the process, as they work closely with that person.

Mrs. Ervien thanked Mrs. Lomeli in regards to her monthly and annual reporting and she appreciates her being there to explain her reports.

Mr. Hartnett stated that the hiring of the new superintendent is an important job and he wants the community to know that the Governing Board does not take it lightly. They are committed in finding the right fit.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:15 p.m., Mrs. Montoya made a motion to adjourn and Mrs. Ervien seconded it. All members present voted "aye" and the meeting was adjourned.

President

Vice-President

Clerk

Member

Member

Cyndie Mattox, Superintendent