APACHE JUNCTION UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 43
Governing Board
Minutes of Regular Meeting held September 12, 2017

A Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of the Apache Junction Unified School District #43 was called to order at 6:03 p.m. at the Apache Junction Unified School District Board Room, 1575 W. Southern Avenue, Apache Junction, AZ. President Ehrlich led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members in attendance were, Jodi Ehrlich, Dena Kimble, Cami Garcia, Christa Rizzi and Michael Weaver.

A motion was made by Mrs. Kimble and seconded by Mrs. Rizzi to approve the agenda. Motion was approved with a vote of 5-0.

A motion was made by Mrs. Kimble and seconded by Mrs. Rizzi to approve the August 22, 2017, Board meeting minutes as presented. Motion was approved with a vote of 5-0.

Governing Board Report: Mrs. Ehrlich commented on the unfortunate event with Mr. Weggoner at Four Peaks and commended Sheriff Lamb and the Farnel County Sheriff’s Office. She also commended Dr Anderson for her swift response and Mr. Cantrell for his leadership on the Four Peaks campus. There will be a debriefing session this week to review what worked and what we could do better. Mrs. Ehrlich also mentioned that Ms. Lucy Young passed away yesterday. She served the children of Apache Junction for many years. It was very sad and Mrs. Ehrlich said she wanted to have a remembrance for Mrs. Young for everything she has done for our children.

Mr. Weaver also reiterated this sadness of the passing of Ms. Young. This community will miss Lucy Young. She was a fixture and a driving force for a lot of good things in this community. He said he had the privilege last Saturday of attending an ASBA Governance delegate assembly. There were up to 100 school districts that weighed in and that effort resulted in a five-page document that ended up with voting 47 different agenda items that were voted on, so that people who work for ASBA, and those who advocate for children, have some direction and focus to make Arizona a better place to live and learn.

Mrs. Garcia said that Lucy Young was like a second mom to a lot of us and wanted to wish the family her thoughts and prayers. She watched Cactus Canyon baseball team and the High School football and volleyball teams. She said she always liked to see how our kids behave and they always represent the District very well; she attended the sixth grade leadership and they invited some of the council members to take part and were able to work with kids as a team. She said it was neat to see how the kids came together to accomplish a task of building a spaghetti noodle marshmallow tower. She was also asked to attend the Youth Empowerment Program Retreat with four students. The goals included addressing difficult situations and allowing students to understand there are valuable resources available to them.

Mrs. Rizzi attended an educational summit in Tucson, with a focus on making sure schools are preparing students to be ready for the workforce. Last week she attended a week-long legal conference that she said was very beneficial. Thursday the Superstition Mountain Republican Club is hosting a Special Education meeting about the Constitution. She said it would be great if more people could attend. She also offered her condolences to Lucy Young.

Mrs. Kimble: “My condolences also out to Lucy’s family and she will be missed”. She said the Leadership Program was amazing and also Volleyball girls have a record of 2 and 2. She would like to see everyone come out and support our volleyball girls.
Superintendent Report:
Four Peaks Elem. School: Dr. Anderson said that she received a phone call last week informing us that the Four Peaks principal was arrested. She would like to thank all the staff at Four Peaks for being so professional, and our Sheriff's department. Also thanks to Heather Wallace who went over to Four Peaks and made sure that everything was running smoothly on that day. The Sheriff's office complimented us on the way we handled everything. We found that we had a lot of support within the District and in the community. There were some things that we found that we need to do differently in that we did not have emergency numbers and e-mail addresses for all of our students. We are presently working on updating those at this time. She also extends her thank to Chad Cantrell for stepping up and taking the leadership role at Four Peaks at a moment's notice. Mr. Cantrell will be the Interim Principal and in the spring we will post notice for a principal position. Mr. Cantrell will be able to apply like everyone else if he is inclined to do so. In his favor, he will know everything that needs to be done and will have had the longest interview opportunity for the position.

Administrators Report: The Board loved and appreciates the Administrators' report.

Staff/Student Recognition:
The District recognized its students and employees-of-the-month for August, commending them for their hard work. Dr. Cruz introduced Mr. Larry LaPrise, Principal of Apache Junction High School. Mr. LaPrise recognized Certified Employee-of-the Month, Norm Hoefer; Classified Employee-of-the Month Carol Ballard; and Volunteer-of-the-Month Ken "Teton" Eddy; and presented them with plaques for doing an outstanding job.

Students-of-the-Month presentations were made by, Dr. Anderson, and Mr. Dennis Mack of Elks Lodge.
DVES: Ciara Anderson and Zane Langenbach; FPES: Logan Carney and Christilyn Trisoliere; PTES: Aidan Wright and Shana Morin; CCJH: Princesa Moreno De Santiago and David Tomazin; and AJHS: Kylee Cann and Gabriel Morris

Public Comment: None

- Consent Agenda: (documents are available during office hours)
A motion was made by Mrs. Kimble and seconded by Mrs. Garcia to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion was approved with a vote of 5-0.
  - Personnel Action – attached
  - Student Activities Accounts and Governing Board Budget Report

The Board was provided a copy of their self-evaluation with goal priorities: On September 26th they will meet and go over their individual evaluations and compile those into a singular board evaluation. The goals that were prioritized will be used as a tool for the evaluation.

Monthly Enrollment Report: Dr. Anderson said that we have received our numbers since the beginning of the year. We are looking at slightly over 3,800 students in the District, but we are working on a format to show the numbers for each of our campuses. Our monthly enrollment is about 95 students lower than last year.

Strategic Plan and Calendar Committee updates: Dr. Anderson reported that we sent out invitations to join the Strategic Plan committee and we have received responses from two individuals who would like to participate. October 4th will be the first focus group based on business leaders and our focus will be to identify the skills they need from our graduates. The next couple of focus groups will be at the elementary schools with our 5th & 6th grade students to find out what they want for the next stage of their education. Our Junior High and High School will also be part of the future focus groups. We will also meet with community leaders and parents so we will have a wide range of input throughout our stakeholders.
Our Calendar Advisory Committee had spaces for 38 members and 51 people signed up for it. We have identified numbers of participants from each campus to represent on the calendar committee. There will be links on our website so that the agenda and all the information from the meeting are available. Our goal for the Calendar Advisory Committee is to bring it to the Board in December and have the Board make a decision in January. We want to make sure parents know our calendar so they can make a decision for open enrollment. Our first meeting is September 18th and anyone on the Committee will be notified very soon.

- **Specific items of District business:** *(as listed for consideration, may include various categorical areas as the business of the District necessitates Board discussion, deliberation, and action)*
  - A motion was made by Mrs. Ehrlich and seconded by Mrs. Rizzi to approve the bylaw amendments as presented without change. Motion was approved with a vote of 5-0.

  - B. A motion was made by Mrs. Kimble and seconded by Garcia to approve Policy GCCA-Professional/Support Staff Sick Leave as presented. Motion was approved with a vote of 5-0.

Discussion: According to Dr. Cruz, for those employees who do not require substitutes, they will be able to take sick days by the hour. For those who require substitutes, they will be required to take sick day by the half day or a full day. If we pay people out and they come back within nine months the amount of paid sick time will available to them as sick time. Mr. Weaver asked if it is in compliance. Dr. Cruz responded yes, we received the policy from the ASBA and was submitted to the attorney for approval.

  - C. A motion was made by Mrs. Kimble and seconded by Mr. Weaver to approve subcontracting substitutes through ESI for 2017-2018 school year. Motion was denied with a vote of 5 Nays.

Discussion: Dr. Cruz introduced Mr. Tom Hancock from ESI to answer any technical questions about taxes and fees. If the board chooses to head in this direction, we would work with any number of vendors and bring you back contracts for you to review and make a decision.

  - Q. Mrs. Ehrlich asked: Is the school district paying for the taxes on your employees?
    - A. Yes these taxes are what you are presently paying for your substitutes.
  
  - Q. Are we going to actually see a contract in order to make a decision?
    - A. We will hopefully be able to bring you multiple contracts before you make any decisions.
  
  - Q. What are the cost savings to us – do your employees have a retirement plan that they will be able to opt into?
    - A. We offer a 401K that our employees are able to opt into.

  - D. A motion was made by Mrs. Kimble and seconded by Mrs. Garcia to approve the East Valley Institute Technology Intergovernmental Agreement for 2016-17 through 2018-19 school year. Motion was approved with a vote of 5-0.

Discussion: Dr. Anderson said that the EVIT tour was an amazing tour. She is looking forward to continue with the EVIT program both at school and on the EVIT campus.

  - E. A motion was made by Mrs. Kimble and seconded by Mrs. Garcia to approve purchasing BoardDocs LT program effective 2018-2019 school year in the amount of $3,700.00 for the first year and $2,700.00 for the consecutive years. Motion was approved with a vote of 5-0.

Discussion: Dr. Anderson said that because of where we are in the school year, we need to look at this being for 2018-2019 school year and get training in the spring and making it live as of July 1st.
F. A motion was made by Mrs. Rizzi and seconded by Mrs. Garcia to enter into Executive Session at 7:10 p.m., to discuss the sale of property. Motion was approved with a vote of 5-0.

The regular meeting reconvened at 7:50 p.m.

**Action on Recommendations:**

G-1. A motion was made by Mrs. Kimble and seconded by Mrs. Garcia to approve the sale of Gold Canyon Elementary School building. Motion was approved with a vote of 5-0.

Discussion: Mrs. Ehrlich said that first and foremost we need to reduce the amount of funds that are being expended out of our M &O budget currently for teacher’s salaries into our Capital budget; this is something that would help alleviate that issue and provide funds for teachers’ salaries on a long-term basis. This is a decision that is people over bricks and mortar. This is in the best interest of our kids and our staff.

G-2. A motion was made by Mrs. Kimble and seconded by Mrs. Rizzi to enter into contract with Land Advisors, real estate broker to market for the sale of school property, in accordance with RFP#04-01-22 as recommended by the Finance Committee. Motion was approved with a vote of 5-0.

**Request for future agenda items**

1) Special Meeting on September 13 at 5:00 p.m. and October 4 at 5:00 p.m.

At 7:54 p.m., Mrs. Kimble moved to adjourn the meeting; Mrs. Rizzi seconded the motion. Motion was approved with a vote of 5-0.

Respectfully submitted by:
Edna Goff, Board Secretary
September 26, 2017

**APPROVED BY THE BOARD:**

[Signatures]

President

Vice-President

Member

Member

Member
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
September 12, 2017

Recommendation to Hire:
Certified: Shelley Forbes, Teacher, Peralta Trail Elementary
Classified: Gladys Mercurio, Cafeteria Asst I, AJHS/Food Service

Resignation: Debra Botel, Para Educator, Transitional Learning Community
Allison Deal, Cafeteria Asst I, DVES/Food Service
James Fenwick, Custodian, CCJH/Maintenance
Tiffany Milkey, Registrar, Cactus Canyon Junior High
Melodie Oscay, Bus Driver – On Call, Transportation