



## NOGALES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 GOVERNING BOARD

Minutes of the Board Meeting of April 9, 2018 held at 4:00 p.m.,  
at A.J. Mitchell Elementary

### I. Attendance:

#### **The following Board Members were present:**

Barbara Mendoza, President, Santiny Orozco, Clerk; Members Manuel Ruiz, Dr. Marcelino Varona, Jr., and Greg Lucero

#### a. Call to Order

Barbara Mendoza called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

#### b. Pledge of Allegiance

Michelle Shuman, AJ Mitchell Elementary Principal, led all in the Pledge.

#### c. Adoption of the Agenda

Superintendent Parra recommended approval as presented to the Board.

Dr. Varona requested that Consent Item V-e be removed for discussion.

A motion was made by Mr. Ruiz and seconded by Dr. Varona for approval with the exception of consent agenda item V-e to be discussed separately.  
Motion carried unanimously.

### II. Approval of Governing Board Minutes

#### a. Approval of the Governing Board Special Meeting Minutes of May 8, 2018 and Regular Board Minutes of March 26, 2018

Superintendent Parra recommended approval of the minutes as presented to the Board.

A motion was made by Dr. Varona and seconded by Mr. Orozco for approval of the Governing Board Minutes as presented to the Board.  
Motion carried unanimously.

### III. Governing Board/Superintendent Information

#### a. Superintendent Report, Celebration, Recognition, Announcements

##### 1. Outstanding Teacher Award:

Congratulation to Ms. Edith Sarmiento, AJM Elementary Teacher

Superintendent Parra gave an overview of Ms. Sarmiento's educational background. He introduced Ms. Sarmiento and presented her with a certificate of appreciation. The Governing Board congratulated her for a job well done.

Ms. Sarmiento mentioned a few words of appreciation and thanked the Principal and her co-workers for all their support. She mentioned she received her certification from the U of A and she enjoyed working with the students and was very happy to be working for NUSD. She also thanked Ms. Mary Tachiquin-Lopez, her immediate supervisor at that time, for her support during the time she was attending school and working as the District's Receptionist.

Mrs. Mendoza thanked her for her hard work and for being an inspiration to the students of NUSD.

2. AJM Elementary parent Perspective – Principal Michelle Shuman, Ms. Irma Barraza and Ms. Reyna Salas

Superintendent Parra introduced Ms. Michelle Shuman, AJ Mitchell Elementary Principal, and thanked her for hosting and closing out the School Board Presentations held at school sites.

Ms. Shuman thanked the Board for being present and gave a brief overview of Ms. Barraza, who was giving the parent perspective, and introduced her to the Board.

Mrs. Barraza mentioned she was glad to have her children attend AJM and she was very happy with the principal and the teachers and the way they educated the students.

Dr. Varona thanked her for being present and showing her support for the school.

Ms. Shuman also introduced Ms. Salas, another parent perspective.

Ms. Salas spoke about the focus of her child at AJM and she mentioned that the teacher encouraged her daughter to do her work. She also mentioned that they came from a charter school from Tucson and were very happy to have chosen AJ Mitchel as their school.

Ms. Shuman mentioned that Mia was Ms. Salas' daughter and she was the student who had greeted everyone at the door as they came in.

Mrs. Mendoza thanked the parents for taking the time to give their perspective. She also thanked Mia for being at the entrance and mentioned that she was a very happy and smart student.

3. Outstanding Student Award:  
Congratulations Ramiro Castillo, Pierson High School

Superintendent Parra gave an overview of Ramiro Castillo and the advantage he is taking as a strong and committed student determined to graduate this year from PVHS. He added that Ramiro's next project was attending nursing school.

Superintendent Parra presented Ramiro with a Certificate of Appreciation. The Governing Board congratulated him for his hard work to finish his goals.

Ramiro mentioned he was grateful to be recognized and thanked the teachers, the staff and his family for all their support.

Mrs. Mendoza mentioned that all his hard work was paying off and congratulated him for a job well done.

4. Congratulation Ms. Aliceson Smith – National Board Certified Teacher update/Presenter at the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute in Berkeley, California

Superintendent Parra introduced Ms. Aliceson Smith and mentioned his personal experience working and later as being his son's teacher. He spoke about the National Board Certification she received. He further mentioned that she had also represented NUSD at the State level. He proceeded to read a letter of notice sent to her where it states that she will be receiving an award in phoenix.

Ms. Smith mentioned that students like, the previous student, Ramiro were the reasons that made teachers like her want to continue teaching. Ms. Smith gave an overview and what she experience going for the National Board Certified. She gave a power point presentation showing her students at work and she mentioned her students work very hard and always as a team.

Mrs. Mendoza thanked her for her hard work and her commitment to become a better teacher.

b. ASBA Update by Governing Board Clerk Barbara Mendoza  
1. Update ASBA Legislative Report

Mrs. Mendoza mentioned what the Legislature is doing, and said there are committees all over; they are now focused on budget going up 3.2 % - Governor's Ducey's next step are with the focus on education, any money coming in is good, as long as it's to help education.

c. Governing Board Report, Celebration, Recognition, Announcements

Mr. Lucero thanked Ms. Shuman and staff for putting together the set-up for the Board meeting. He also thanked the parents for their parent perspectives and mentioned that it was always good to hear what parents have to say about the schools. He congratulated Ramiro Castillo for his great effort to attain his goals. He concluded by congratulating Ms. Smith for the extra effort to get National Board recognized.

Dr. Varona congratulated the NHS Administration. He mentioned he saw the high school baseball game played against the Canyon del Oro High School team and it had been a great game with excellent sportsmanship and always a pleasure to see these teams play. He attended together with Mrs. Judith Mendoza-Jimenez, Mr. Mehta's first robotic competition in Phoenix and it was very inspiring seeing the students compete. He added that first time competing were the Phoenix Coding Academy, Queen Creek High School, Nogales High School, Family Community Charter School from Mesa, Arizona and Marana High School, it was a great event and great cooperation working together and getting things done.

He proposed to Superintendent Parra looking into obtaining sponsors by big corporations and financial help from possibly the City of Nogales to support the robotics program locally. He thanked Ms. Shuman for her leadership and for hosting the meeting. He also thanked the parents for their well-spoken perspectives. He thanked Ms. Smith for making the school district shine at the U of A. He concluded by thanking the IT department, Alex Lopez, Juan Cervantes and Gabriel Castillo, for moving all the equipment and getting everything ready for the Governing Board Meeting.

Mr. Ruiz attended the book signing with Ronnie Rivera-Capin-Ashford of her companion book to Coco and it was a wonderful experience and a great reception. He congratulated Ms. Sarmiento for following her education and making the decision of staying at NUSD. He further thanked Ms. Smith for her nomination and commitment. He concluded by stating that it was great to see Ramiro achieving his dreams and thanked all teachers and principal for their support of the students.

Mrs. Mendoza thanked Ms. Shuman for hosting the meeting and added that the campus looked great. She also thanked her for her hard work.

#### IV. Call to the Public

Jennifer Toombs, NUSD teacher, spoke about the #REDFORED movement and she read the list of demand from the movement for the record. She also mentioned they would be doing their first walking march Saturday April 14, 2018, in downtown Nogales.

#### V. Consent Agenda Items

A motion was made by Mr. Lucero and seconded by Mr. Ruiz for approval as presented to the Board with exception of item "e" previously requested to be discussed separately. Motion carried unanimously.

- a. Ratification of Expense/Payroll Vouchers
- b. Approval of Out of State Travel for NHS - Zulema Fragoso to the Rocky Mountain Association for College Admission Counseling in Denver, Co. on 4/16-18/2018
- c. Approval of Out of State Travel for NHS Cross Country Team to 5K Foam Glow Run in Pomona, Ca. on 5/11-13/2018
- d. Acceptance of Donation from Mike Moore (\$3,000 value in backpacks to NUSD to provide students in need)

#### e. Approval of Personnel Agenda Summary

A motion was made by Dr. Varona and seconded by Mr. Orozco for approval.

Dr. Varona recognized Mr. Arias for his leadership and commitment to education excellence and for having a good and positive team. He wished him a future great success and also thanked him for his service in the U.S. Military.

Mr. Orozco mentioned that he was grateful for Mr. Arias' services at NUSD and mentioned the meaning he had in the winter play "The Nutcracker" lead and the confidence he had for Challenger. He congratulated him and wished him best of luck.

Mrs. Mendoza thanked Mr. Arias for his service and wished him all the best in his future endeavors and further thanked him for the years of service at Challenger Elementary.

Motion carried unanimously.

f. Approval of Salary Schedules for School Year 2018-2019

g. Renewal of Employees for School Year 2018-2019

**VI. Action Items**

a. Amendment of Principal Evaluation 2017-2018 Handbook

Superintendent Parra recommended approval as presented to the Board.

A motion was made by Dr. Varona and seconded by Mr. Lucero for approval as presented to the Board.

Motion carried unanimously.

**VII. Information and Discussion- None**

a. Update ASBAIT Renewal for School Year 2018-2019

Superintendent Parra gave a brief update of the recommendation that had been presented to the administration to cover the insurance 100% for the employees.

He introduced Mayra Zuniga, HR Director, to give a presentation.

Mrs. Zuniga gave a Power Point presentation and overview of the reason for the insurance raise for school year 2018-2019.

Superintendent Parra mentioned that this would go in effect for next year and explained that there was a committee that would review bids for next year.

Mrs. Zuniga clarified that the last time the district went to bid was almost five years ago and the District will always go for what is best for the employees.

Ms. Monica Zook of ASBAIT gave a power point presentation and explained the new benefits going in effect and also about the Insurance Trust.

Dr. Varona asked how NUSD was in comparison with Rio Rico's benefits.

Mayra Zuñiga, HR Director, mentioned Rio Rico is different from NUSD, that their coverage was lower than NUSD and further that their district does not pay 100%. Employees pay about \$20.00 for their personal insurance.

Mrs. Zuñiga also stated that the amount paid by the district was very competitive.

Dr. Varona asked for clarification on why a hospital was allowed by the insurance in Tucson instead of our local one.

Mrs. Zuñiga explained that the insurance has been very responsive when it comes down to doctors that fall out of network and that our local hospital was covered.

Mr. Lucero expressed his view that the insurance was a bonus for the employees and was glad to see the district was working on making it work the best possible.

Mr. Ruiz mentioned that it was a good thing to continue to be able to serve the employees with insurance and thanked Mrs. Zuñiga for the hard work in this matter.

Mrs. Mendoza mentioned that ASBAIT was doing a good job trying to sustain the insurance.

Mrs. Mendoza mentioned the movement from Blue Cross Blue Shield to AETNA and the cost continuing to rise and the districts looking into options. She added that the bottom line was cost and asked for Ms. Zook's view on what she had to say about the change.

Ms. Zook explained that the coverage had been compared with others and they all fall around the same on both networks, B/C B/S & AETNA. She added that with AETNA, the District gains more providers and that only a handful may need to look for new providers that presently fall inside the network due to theirs becoming out of network.

Mrs. Mendoza, on behalf of the Board, thanked her for her informative report.

b. Presentation of Classroom Dollar Spending Report FY17

Superintendent Parra mentioned the District received the Audit Report and introduced Mr. Sandoval to give a report.

Adelmo Sandoval, Business Director, gave a Power Point presentation explaining the Report for Fiscal Year 2017.

Dr. Varona mentioned that overall he saw the district going in the right direction. He added that he needed to work on the plan for Operations, that old buildings needed to be restored.

He mentioned about the assessed value and that in comparison to other district's NUSD had the best school bus fleet in the state of Arizona.

He concluded by stating that the spending was going in a conservative manner. Superintendent Parra made the comment the parents still choose to take their children to school in the mornings and that left many buses empty.

Mr. Ruiz mentioned that issues are going to happen with new and old buildings and that the schools need to work out Operations with what is given.

He made comments about the District trying to maintain a stable tax rate.

He concluded by stating that hopefully the state will put their money in funding, especially in helping the teachers.

Mrs. Mendoza thanked Mr. Sandoval for his report. She mentioned that it had been very thorough and clear and that they all were doing a good job in providing safety to the children.

**VIII. Request for Future Agenda Items**

Dr. Varona requested that the NHS principal, at a future Board Meeting, give a report on Mr. Mehta's robotics program.

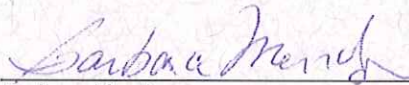
**IX. Adjournment of the Governing Board Meeting**

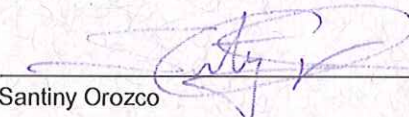
A motion was made by Mr. Ruiz and seconded by Mr. Lucero for adjournment of the public meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

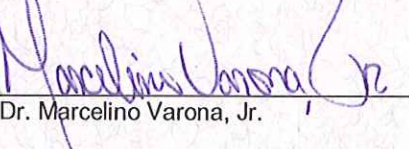
**Session was adjourned at 6:08 p.m.**

**APPROVED BY THE BOARD**

  
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Barbara Mendoza President

  
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Santiny Orozco Clerk

  
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Manny Ruiz Member

  
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Dr. Marcelino Varona, Jr. Member

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Greg Lucero Member

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mary T. Lopez, Secretary  
April 23, 2018

(For exact statements made during the Board Meeting, you may request a copy of the DVD)