

NOGALES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 GOVERNING BOARD

Minutes of the Study Session held on August 25, 2016 at 3:00 p.m.

I. Attendance:

The following Board Members were present:

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

Not present: Greg Lucero, Clerk

a. Call to Order

Dr. Varona called the meeting to order.

b. Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Bonillas, Welty Elementary Principal, led all in the pledge.

c. Adoption of the Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Ruiz and seconded by Mr. Orozco for approval of the agenda as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

II. Study Session

a. Spring 2015 and 2016 Individual School Review AzMERIT Presentations Assessment Results-Percentage Scores/Academic Progress-Goals and Expectations

Dr. Varona stated the protocol for the presentations would be as follows: After the schools finish their presentations the Board will be directed to the Assistant Superintendent Angel Canto and Superintendent Parra for questions. Superintendent Parra and Asst. Superintendent Canto are the instructional leaders of presentations and the questions are to be directed to them.

1) Nogales High School – Cesar Miranda, Principal

Superintendent Parra introduced Mr. Cesar Miranda and reported that this was his first completed year as Principal of NHS. Furthermore, he gave a brief update on the high school accountability assessment and the expectations from Mr. Miranda.

Mr. Miranda gave a Power Point presentation on the AzMerit results, the Smart Goal SY16/17 Plan and Action Plan.

Dr. Varona thanked Mr. Miranda for his presentation.

2) Pierson Vocational High School – Berenice Rodriguez, Principal

Superintendent Parra introduced Ms. Berenice Rodriguez, new principal at PVHS. He gave a brief update of the school's future plans and changes to be made with the new principal. Furthermore, he congratulated Ms. Rodriguez in building a good relationship with her staff, her students, and with the principals at NHS, WCMS and DSMS.

Ms. Rodriguez gave a Power Point presentation on the AzMerit results, the SY15/16 Site Goals, the Goal Attainment, the SY16/17 Site Goals and the SY16/17 Action Plan.

Dr. Varona thanked Ms. Rodriguez for her presentation.

3) Wade Carpenter Middle School – Dr. Roman Soltero, Principal

Superintendent Parra introduced WCMS Principal Dr. Soltero and mentioned some of the highlights that were addressed last year when the Board visited the Wade Carpenter Middle School and they hosted the Governing Board Meeting. He further mentioned that Dr. Soltero had just finished his first year of service at WCMS and was doing a great job.

Dr. Soltero gave a Power Point presentation on the AzMerit Results; the SY15/16 Goal Attainment, the SY16/17 Site Goals, the SY16/17 Action Plan.

At Dr. Varona's request, Dr. Soltero introduced his staff present.

Dr. Varona made a comment about Dr. Soltero showing great leadership for even having his custodian be present to the presentation and making Carpenter a caring place and a great environment for the children.

Dr. Varona, on behalf of the Board, thanked Dr. Soltero for his presentation and his staff for caring to be present at the Board meeting.

4) Desert Shadows Middle School – Dr. Joan Molera, Principal

Superintendent Parra made comments about being glad that Dr. Molera has approached Dr. Soltero and stepped up to the plate to help him in his first year as principal of the WCMS. He introduced Dr. Joan Molera DSMS principal.

Dr. Molera gave a Power Point presentation on the AzMerit results. She started by giving a brief overview of her presentation and it included Academic Goals for SY16/17, an Action Plan for SY16/17 and additional activities supporting academic achievement.

Dr. Varona asked that Dr. Molera introduce her staff present.

Dr. Molera introduced the members of her staff present at the Governing Board Meeting.

5) Superintendent/Governing Board Questions and Comments

Superintendent Parra thanked the WCMS faculty for being present and Francisca Valenzuela, WCMS custodian, for having taken the time to also attend the meeting.

Superintendent Parra mentioned the expectations from each school and thanked the principals for their great presentations and leadership.

Asst. Superintendent Canto made some summary comments on the presentations.

Mr. Orozco made comments on the challenges the schools face. He asked for clarification, how the schools would benefit by letting students use iPhones for their classes. He thanked the teachers and the custodians for all their hard work.

Superintendent Parra and Asst. Superintendent Canto clarified that cell phone use is under the teachers' supervision and all their research on their iPhones has to do with the class' curriculum.

Mrs. Mendoza thanked everyone for their presentations and hard work. She asked if the district had reached a point where when it's testing time the schools have everything they need. She added that her main concern was in particular the areas with minimum proficiency.

Superintendent Parra explained that the District had a summer school program attended by a group of students going from middle school to the high school, but not a program for elementary to middle school. Furthermore, the district had in place the schoolwide intervention program throughout the school year.

He also mentioned that there were challenges from the lower levels to the high school, but that there were resources and instruction to provide opportunities as help and in addition, the District had programs that each school provides to the students to prepare them for the assessment test.

Asst. Superintendent Canto added a few comments on the additional instruction provided to the students. She further explained that this year the State was able to release the test results earlier to give schools an opportunity to provide their staffs the information before school started.

Mr. Ruiz made an observation and thanked all the teachers for their hard work considering the big load of paperwork they had. He mentioned that in order to be successful the schools needed to achieve a great deal. His observation highlighted the struggles the students have even by attending the afterschool programs and challenges the teacher have as well.

Mr. Ruiz thanked all the teachers and staff for everything they do on a daily basis with the students and in working together as a team to bring good instruction to the students.

Dr. Varona mentioned he had enjoyed their collaboration time at NHS and that as far as what he sees with STEM, he felt the District had made well progress in this area. He added that the leadership in the District is also working together with the principals. He mentioned that Mrs. Rodriguez, Principal at PVHS, needed to reach out to all the campuses not only at one school. Emphasize to students kindness. He also mentioned that he was still concerned about the low registration at PVHS and the cost effectiveness to the district.

Dr. Varona's observation was that during the presentations and based on Dr. Soltero's comments of "get it right", the District needs to clarify how it is "getting it right". He said that the average in the minimally proficient quartile should not exceed the percentage in the other three.

Finally, Dr. Varona reminded the Board Members that the next regular meeting would take place at Desert Shadows Middle School on September 12, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.

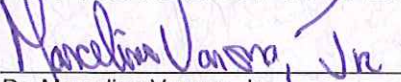
III. Adjournment of the Study Session

A motion was made by Mr. Orozco and seconded by Mrs. Mendoza for adjournment of the public meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Session was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary T. Lopez, Secretary
September 12, 2016

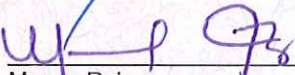
APPROVED BY THE BOARD



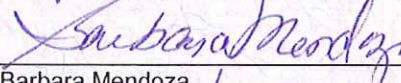
Dr. Marcelino Varona, Jr. President



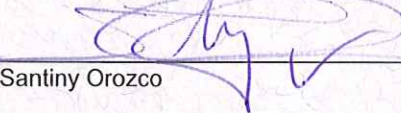
Greg Lucero Clerk



Manny Ruiz Member



Barbara Mendoza Member



Santiny Orozco Member

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