

## **NOGALES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 GOVERNING BOARD**

**Minutes of the Study Session held on September 12, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.**

### I. Attendance:

**The following Board Members were present:**

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

a. Call to Order

Dr. Varona called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

b. Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge was played by the DSMS Band.

Dr. Varona introduced the musicians:

Jimena Becerril, Charlize Cervantez, Vilma Valera, Daniela Del Grande, Florentina Siqueiros, Jacob Molera, Robert Naff, Pablo Centeno, Daniel De La Riva, Elias Rodriguez, and Brady Perez

c. Adoption of the Agenda

Superintendent Parra recommended approving the agenda as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Lucero and seconded by Mr. Orozco for approval of the Agenda as presented to the Board.

Motion carried unanimously.

### II. Study Session

a. Desert Shadows Middle School Presentations and Overview

**Agenda Schedule:**

**1) 4:00-4:05 p.m. - Dr. Molera Introduction/Overview**

Dr. Molera welcomed the Governing Board, the Administrators, and the parents present at the meeting.

**2) 4:10-4:40 p.m. - Introduction of Lead Groups/Classroom Visits**

Dr. Molera introduced the following groups and gave instructions of who would follow each group.

**Group 1– Purple - Governing Board and District Administrators:**

Luis Longorio, Jessica Lopez and Paulina Garcia

The Students first walked the Governing Board to Mrs. Muñoz and Mr. Gudenkauf's classroom where Mr. Gudenkauf explained the focus in Social Studies class and portrayed the major project of the year by eighth graders; Mrs. Muñoz explained they were working on getting the six graders started as newscasters to get them ready for high school.

Next was Mr. Mury, sixth grade math. Mr. Mury explained how the students work their math knowledge with an online Math Matching Game and he corrects their electronic answers making it easier for him to monitor each student's participation.

Ms. Romero and Ms. Martinez showed the students interaction in the computer class.

Ms. Smith, math teacher, explained about coding.

Ms. Pradham and Ms. Robles explained about the Smart-Room and how all the books available was for teachers' research.

Ms. Beach and Mrs. Bell explained about their science class and how the students find a topic and work together in groups.

**Group 2- Teal - Site Administrators:**

Laysha Esquer, Victoria Felix and Isabella Palomares

**Group 3- White - Parents:**

Jacqueline Aristiaga, Charlize Cervantes, Ximena Leon, and Giselle Mada

**3) 4:45 p.m. - Regroup**

School Presentations:

Superintendent Parra thanked the parents for being present and having walked to the classroom visits.

Dr. Molera thanked everyone for their classroom visit.

**- Life Skills Class- A Very Special Dance (Mr. Cruz and Ms. Bristol)**

Dr. Molera introduced Mr. Cruz.

Mr. Cruz gave an overview of his Life Skills class and introduced his students for a dance presentation.

A group of five special students from the Life Skills class danced "A Very Special Dance" and after one student did a solo dance.

Dr. Molera thanked the students for their performance and the teachers for their work.

**- Congressman Raul Grijalva's National Women's Month Essay Contest Winner (Miss Srishti Mitra)**

Dr. Molera gave an overview of the essay contest and DSMS' participants and introduced 8<sup>th</sup> grader Srishti Mitra the winner of Congressman Grijalva's essay competition last year.

Srishti Mitra read the essay she entered for the "Women in History" contest, which was about British Queen Laxmibai's Kingdom and her struggle to restore her kingdom.

Dr. Molera thanked Miss Mitra for her presentation and congratulated her for accomplishment.

**- Closing the Gap: Climate and Student Achievement (Five Dimensions) Teaching and Learning (Dr. Molera)  
Course Offerings-School-Wide Targeted Professional Development**

Dr. Molera introduced five of DSMS teachers and gave a Power Point presentation overview on the School's climate.

Dr. Molera continued with the Power Point presentation on Leadership Capacity & Training and Leadership.

**- Safety Prevention and Safety Committee (Mr. Miranda)**

A Power Point was presented by Mr. Miranda.

**- Interpersonal Relationships Project Wisdom (Dr. Molera)**

Dr. Molera gave a Power Point on Interpersonal Relationships/ Project Wisdom/PBIS.

**- Rachel's Challenge (Ms. Durazo)**

Mrs. Durazo talked about the Rachel Challenge Program and students' and teachers' participation spreading the program around the school campus.

**- Peer Tutors (Ms. Acosta)**

Ms. Maria Acosta, Resource Teachers, talked about Peer Tutors included in the Power Point presentation.

**- Institutional Environment**

**- Math Problem of the Week (Ms. Martinez)**

Ms. Martinez talked about Math problem solving included in the Power Point presentation.

**- Clubs, Music, Athletics and Organizations (Mr. Martin and Ms. Beach)**

Mr. Martin talked about the school clubs: Music, Drama, Student Council, MESA and 4-H, programs available for students who wish to sign up.

Ms. Beach talked about the athletic programs available at DSMS.

Ms. Notah added comments on the celebrations the school does for the highly proficient on the AzMERIT

**- Leadership Capacity (Dr. Molera)**

Training by NUSD Distributive Leadership at DSMS

**- Parent Perspective (Ms. Bennen and Mr. Naff)**

Ms. Bennen, parent, spoke about the education and the well-being of her daughter at DSMS.

Mr. Naff, parent, spoke via video about his experiences with his children attending DSMS.

Dr. Molera thanked the parents for their presentation.

**- Strike up the Band (Ms. Lugo)**

**- Poms (Ms. Bader)**

**- Cheers (Ms. Bustamante)**

Dr. Molera introduced Ms. Lugo, Ms. Bustamante and Ms. Bader and they introduced the performers to follow.

The Band, Poms and Cheers gave an entertaining presentation to the Board and parents present.

**- Closing (Dr. Molera and Mr. Miranda)**

Dr. Varona asked that Dr. Molera introduced her staff.

Dr. Molera asked that all teachers, staff and support staff to introduce themselves and their position/duties at the school.

**-CLOSING STATEMENTS BY THE GOVERNING BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT**

Dr. Varona asked Superintendent Parra if he had any additional comments.

Superintendent Parra stated this was the first school in the new fiscal year to be visited by the Governing Board. He thanked the teachers for their hard work and mentioned that the environment at the school is very pleasant all the time, even on his on and off personal visits.

He further thanked the parents who spoke greatly about the school, especially the parent who makes time to bring his kids from Rio Rico to attend NUSD.

Mrs. Mendoza congratulated the students and stated she had enjoyed their showcase. She added she saw a good climate every time she visited the school and was in hopes that the school continued with the same positive attitude.

Mr. Ruiz thanked Dr. Molera and Mr. Chris Miranda and congratulated them on the great presentations. He further thanked the teachers for their professionalism and their hard work. Moreover, he thanked Dr. Molera and Mr. Miranda for their great leadership.

Mr. Orozco thanked Dr. Molera, Mr. Miranda and the teachers for their presentations and stated he was grateful for letting the Board Members visualize what they expect to see in each school.

Mr. Lucero thanked Dr. Molera and Mr. Miranda for their impressive presentations. He further thanked the teachers for their media presentations of how it is used with the students. He also, congratulated the students for their wonderful dances.

Mr. Ruiz added thanks to the parents for their support and for being present at the meeting.

Dr. Varona thanked the students of the Purple, Teal and White groups for their enthusiasm in showing the Board, the Administrators and the parents around the campus and stated it was great to see the students in a happy work environment. He also mentioned he saw excellent climate and great student achievement. He further mentioned that he liked the "smart-room" in the school made available for the teachers to be able to check out books to help them with their educational information.

He thanked Dr. Molera and Mr. Miranda for the great emphasis and importance in the AzMERIT. He further congratulated Srishti Mitra the winner of Congressman Grijalva's essay competition.

He also thanked the parents for being present and the great comments by the two parents' presenters.

Dr. Varona, on behalf of the community, thanked Dr. Molera, Mr. Miranda, the teachers and staff for a job well done.


### III. Adjournment of the Study Session

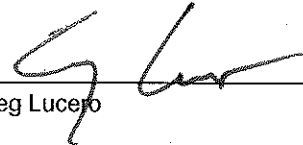
A motion was made by Mr. Orozco and seconded by Mrs. Mendoza for adjournment of the public meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Session was adjourned at 6:04 p.m.**


**APPROVED BY THE BOARD**

  
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Dr. Marcelino Varona, Jr. President

  
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Greg Lucero Clerk

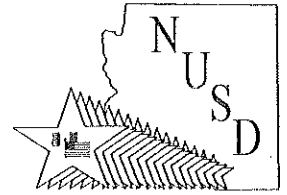
  
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Manry Ruiz Member

  
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Barbara Mendoza Member

  
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Santiny Orozco Member

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mary T. Lopez, Secretary  
September 26, 2016

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



## **NOGALES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 GOVERNING BOARD**

### **Minutes of the Regular Board Minutes of September 12, 2016 held Immediately After the Study Session**

#### I. Attendance:

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

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

##### a. Call to Order

Dr. Varona called the meeting to order at **6:15** p.m.

##### b. Adoption of the Agenda

Superintendent Parra recommended approving the agenda as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Lucero and seconded by Mr. Ruiz for approval.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### II. Approval of Governing Board Minutes

Superintendent Parra made the recommendation for the Board's approval.

A motion was made by Mrs. Mendoza and was seconded by Mr. Orozco for approval of the minutes as presented to the Board.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### III. Governing Board/Superintendent Information

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

- 1) Notice of a Special Meeting on October 4, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. -  
FY 2016 Annual Financial Report

Superintendent Parra mentioned that this is for the Board's information and was accepted by the Board.

- 2) Pierson Vocational High School Alternative Education and Meeting the  
Needs of Our Students

Mr. Parra recognized Mrs. Rodriguez for her work at PVHS and in trying to meet the needs of the students and making a complete turnaround in just a few months. Further, he added that she has taken ownership of the assessment test scores that were not hers and that she already is making a difference at the school.

He also mentioned that the District is working on possibly providing transportation for those students who have no transportation from or to school.

Dr. Varona stated that everyone on the Board was in accord with his comments.

### 3) NUSD Drinking Water Testing Update

Superintendent Parra gave an update on the drinking water. He mentioned that tests and samplings were being done and that a letter had been sent to the parents with an update of the results and additional samples were being taken until this issue was completely resolved.

### 4) Student Activities/Auxiliary Operations Funds Extra Curricular Tax Credit

Dr. Varona made the recommendation that this item be placed, in future agendas, as a Consent Agenda Item in order that, if there is board discussion or comments, it is in compliance with the open meeting law.

#### b. Governing Board Report, Celebration, Recognition, Announcements

Mr. Orozco reported that he attended the ASBA Delegate conference and it had been very instructive and he was pleased that NUSD was well represented.

Mr. Lucero reported he had attended two meetings; one was Literacy Summit in Phoenix and the discussion had been on the impact of reading on 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and the interesting focus given on reading awareness. They also discussed the overall ranking of Arizona in education.

Furthermore, he reported they had talked about communities where students go to school and when they go home and ask homework questions their parents behavior is "we pay taxes for you to learn at school", and that they were trying to change their focus by working with the parents and trying to make partnerships with the schools, the parents, and local communities to educate the parents in order that they are able to help their children at home.

The other summit was the League of Cities and Towns, and the focus at this summit had been on the impact education has on the workforce development. He mentioned they had talked about the lack of teachers in the schools. He also mentioned that most of the focus of the meeting had been on partnerships with local institutions, teachers' salaries, and the decline in student enrollment, among other things.

Mrs. Mendoza reported she had attended the dedication of the JROTC Building to Col. Anderson at the Nogales High School. She further congratulated Mr. Miranda and his staff for doing a great job, adding that it had been an honor to hear Col. Anderson's family and all guest speakers repeatedly say what a great person he had been and the many people he had touched and had made a difference in their lives.

Mrs. Mendoza congratulated the District for having made the decision of dedicating the building to Col. Anderson, the beautiful arrangement, and for a job well done.



She also, reported that she had attended the Desert Shadows vs. Carpenter Middle Schools football game and congratulated DSMS for their win over WCMS. She mentioned she was very happy to see so many parents attending and supporting the teams.

She further reported she had attended the ASBA Pre-conference in Scottsdale and that she had learned that, all the frustrations many schools were going through right now were the same everywhere. She also learned about the Federal Government making some changes by giving some control back to the State. Furthermore, she mentioned that the State had no clue what direction they were taking on the funding, but that it was a work in progress.

Mr. Ruiz reported he had attended the dedication for Col. Anderson and that it had been a great celebration and Col. Anderson will always be remembered as a very caring person always committed to help the students.

He also attended the breakfast recognition for the AzMerit highly proficient students at Carpenter Middle School. It was a great event and he was happy to see the students with the support of their parents attend the event.

Finally, he reported he had attended the 30<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary of Challenger Elementary and that it had been a great event.

Dr. Varona complemented Dr. Soltero and Mrs. Silva and reported he had attended the Wade Carpenter MS breakfast for the highly proficient students and mentioned that it was a nice way to recognize and keep the focus on those students who are up on top quartile.

He also attended the 30 Year Anniversary celebration of Challenger Elementary School and everything was very well done and Mr. Arias had done an excellent job with the organization of the event.

He made a comment reminiscing back 30 years ago when the school was built and Mr. Febronio (Fini) Hernandez was the Asst. Superintendent and he was starting his administrative career.

He also attended the dedication of the JROTC building to Col. Robert Anderson. He stated that everything looked great and congratulated the Maintenance Department for doing a great job with the landscaping and Principal Miranda's for an excellent organization and attention to Col. Anderson's family.

He also reported he had attended the Law Conference, and mentioned the classes he attended, noting that it had been very informative and educational. He provided the conference flash drive to the Board Secretary, Mary Lopez, to keep in the file if anyone was interested in reviewing the information provided at the conference.

Dr. Varona also reported he had received phone calls from the community on the Friday Night Spectacular and they had been very happy and positive comments. He congratulated the DSMS band for doing a great job.

He finally asked what had happened to the "Be Kind" sign that was posted at PVHS, because it was gone.

Superintendent Parra explained that the sign was being redone for repairs.

#### IV. Call to the Public

There was no call to the public.

V. Consent Agenda Items

Dr. Varona asked Superintendent Parra if there were any changes to the Agenda.

Superintendent Parra recommended approval of the agenda as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Ruiz and seconded by Mrs. Mendoza for approval of the Consent Agenda as presented to the Board.

Motion carried unanimously.

- a. Ratification of Expense/Payroll Vouchers
- b. Ratification of Student Activities/Auxiliary Operations Vouchers
- c. Approval/Acceptance of Donation by Nogales Debutante Cotillion (\$2,500.00 to be Used by the NHS Cheerleaders #2275)
- d. Adoption/Resolution Recognition of Booster Organizations
- e. Intergovernmental Agreement with NUSD and Santa Cruz County for Use of Facilities
- f. Intergovernmental Agreement with Santa Cruz County and NUSD for the Use of Equipment
- g. Approval of Request to Travel to the Brustein and Manasevit, PLLC Fall 2016 Forum in Las Vegas, Nevada on 11/30/16 through 12/2/16 for administrators: Adelmo Sandoval, Angel Canto and Kathy Scott.
- h. Approval of Personnel Agenda

VI. Information and Possible Action

- a. Arizona School Boards Association (ASBA) Bylaws Amendments

Superintendent Parra explained the item and asked if the Board had any suggestions or changes.

Dr. Varona asked the Board if they wanted to make any suggestions/amendment to the Bylaws.

The Board had no changes or suggestions.

VII. Information and Discussion

- a. First Read of July 2016 Policy Advisory from Arizona School Boards Association for Recommendation of Policy Changes

Superintendent Parra introduced Mayra Zuniga, Human Resources Director. Mrs. Zuniga explained with a Power Point presentation the changes being suggested to be made to the policies.

Superintendent Parra added some comments on Policy IKE and stated they were working diligently on it.

Mrs. Zuniga continued to explain the Policies.

There were no questions by the Board.

Dr. Varona thanked Mrs. Zuniga for the presentation and mentioned they would have their questions at the policies' final presentation.

#### **VIII. Requests for Future Agenda Items**

Mr. Lucero made the announcement that the Arizona School Board was having a meeting on the AzMerit at the Santa Cruz County courthouse, tomorrow (9/13/16) from 7:00- 9:00 p.m., if anyone was interested in attending and give their opinion of what they thought about the AzMerit standards.

Mrs. Mendoza requested an updated report on the sizes of the classrooms in the elementary schools, how many students there were per classroom, and whether or not there is a certified teacher in each classroom; further, she asked for an updated total of the District student enrollment.

She also requested that Mrs. Zúñiga present a report on how many highly qualified and long term subs are in the classrooms.

Superintendent Parra mentioned there would be a follow-up report at the 40<sup>th</sup> day attendance count.

Mr. Ruiz requested information on the future Governing Board retreat.

Dr. Varona explained that he and Superintendent Parra had been discussing the item and that it was going to be scheduled sometime in December. Further, it would be in the agenda at the next Board meeting and it would include the consideration of a Saturday retreat. He further mentioned that Ms. Scott should do the arrangements.

Dr. Varona requested a presentation on the final Lion's vision screening at NUSD.

Dr. Varona reminded the Board the next regular meeting would be at Challenger Elementary School.


#### **IX. Adjournment of the Study Session**

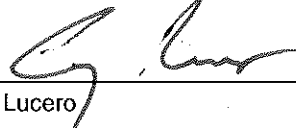
A motion was made by Mr. Orozco and seconded by Mr. Ruiz for adjournment of the public meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.


Session was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

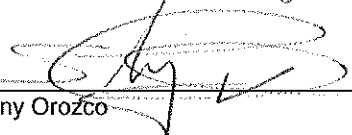
**APPROVED BY THE BOARD**

  
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Dr. Marcelino Varona, Jr. President

  
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Greg Lucero Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Manny Ruiz Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Mendoza Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Santiny Orozco Member

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mary T. Lopez, Secretary  
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