

## NOGALES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 GOVERNING BOARD

Minutes of the Study Session of November 9, 2020 held at 3:30 p.m.

### I. Attendance:

**The following Board Members were present:**

Dr. Marcelino Varona, Jr., President, Greg Lucero Clerk; Members Barbara Mendoza, and Robert Rojas

Member delayed: Manuel Ruiz

#### a. Call to Order

**Dr. Varona called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.**

#### b. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Lucero led all in the Pledge.

#### c. Adoption of the Agenda

Superintendent Parra recommended approval as presented.

Mr. Rojas made a motion and was seconded by Mr. Mendoza for approval.

Motion carried unanimously by members:  
Rojas, Mendoza, Lucero and Varona

### II. Study Session

Dr. Varona asked if superintendent Parra wanted to discuss his evaluation in private or publicly.

Superintendent Parra stated that as per district policy, he had received notice and he was fine with having his evaluation discussed publicly.

Mayra Zuniga, HR Director, added that Superintendent Parra had been previously notified and his agreement to discuss his evaluation publicly was on the record.

Mrs. Zuniga proceeded to give an overview of the process.

#### a. Evaluation of Superintendent

Ms. Zuniga reviewed the summary and individual rating of the Governing Board. The overall standing of his evaluation was outstanding.

Dr. Varona thanked Mrs. Zuniga for her efforts for the Board to follow all regulations.

Mrs. Mendoza stated that this has been a very hard year for everyone and congratulated Superintendent Parra for all the work he had done. She added that she considers he did the overall best he could based on the state trials and therefore, his performance was outstanding meeting all challenges.

Mr. Rojas thanked Ms. Zuñiga for doing an outstanding job in keeping the Board in a knowledgeable place to follow the process. He added she had also done an excellent job with the superintendent's summary.

He further stated that, the year that has been more difficult Superintendent Parra has done an outstanding job in being calm and that his leadership team had done a great job in supporting his decision-making.

He congratulated Superintendent Parra for an overall job well done.

Mr. Lucero mentioned that looking at the tallies there were only 2-3 items that were in the low average and it was in regards to the facilities, which were still pending.

He echoed his colleagues' comments adding the Superintendent's overall evaluation was outstanding.

He stated that the Superintendent along with his leadership team have known how to operate under stressful situations and know well how to use their great skills.

He further mentioned that it is a struggle to operate virtually but the District has been able to work it out well for the students under the Superintendent's direction.

Dr. Varona echoed his colleagues' comments. He mentioned the schools sites had some issues in particularly the demands on the security entrances. He also mentioned the needs the high school has especially in the Science Building. He also added his general concerns on all the schools' buildings.

He requested that these issues be placed on the future Board Training/Study Session Agenda.

He mentioned that Superintendent Parra had handle the Covid-19 great along with all the other issues that came with including, shutting down the schools and the provision of meals which was very meaningful for the families of NUSD.

His overall rating was also outstanding.

Superintendent Parra thanked the Board for the specific comments they made. He stated that he felt he had created a good environment with the Board earning their trust.

He mentioned that state funding with capital projects for buildings were limited. He gave a background of the previous override and the process that had taken place up to now. He mentioned that the current override increase does not compensate on providing funding for buildings or new construction.

Furthermore, he explained that the security entrances are being addressed including working with the State Facility Board (SFB) for funding that will include the blue button/handicapped doors with the security camera added to the infrastructure of all entrance doors.

He also explained that the process for new construction of any buildings must be state approved and that this includes enrollment increase for such funding to be allocated appropriately.

He added that the maintenance and operation of the buildings has been done accordingly including working with the SFB for support of capital projects and that this is the only way for state funds to be allocated to the districts. He added that the Board has recognized the District's positive approach and partnership with the SFB.

He thanked the Board for their comments and support they have given him.

He concluded by stating he had a great staff and was thankful for it as well.

Dr. Varona addressed the Board on the superintendent's contract and salary adding that this issue would be discussed during the months of March/April coming to a possible decision during the month of June and, furthermore, that Superintendent Parra will indicate/advise the Board twelve months ahead, if he plans to renegotiate his contract or if he plans to retire.

Mr. Lucero stated his concerns about the new Board Member to be, not attending these crucial meetings to get the proper input and guidance for upcoming events. Furthermore, he mention there was a need for general discussion regarding the facilities in order for the Superintendent to educate the Board on where the district stands financially and give a better understanding and options of what is the state of the facilities and what can be done reasonably to upgrade these. He later stated that a report on the facilities would be good.

At this time, 4:19 p.m., Board Member Manny Ruiz walked into the board meeting.

Ms. Zuniga summarized for Mr. Ruiz what the Board had discussed up to when he walked in.

**III. Adjournment of the Study Session**


Mr. Lucero made a motion and was seconded by Mr. Rojas for adjournment of the public meeting.


Motion carried unanimously by members:  
Lucero, Rojas, Mendoza, Ruiz and Varona

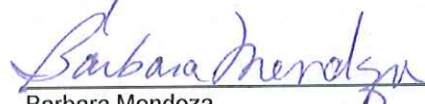
**Session adjourned at 4:22 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mary T. Lopez, Secretary  
December 14, 2020

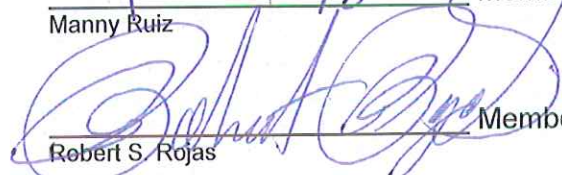
**APPROVED BY THE BOARD**

  
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Dr. Marcelino Varona, Jr. President

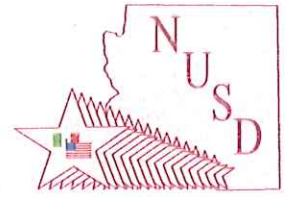
  
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Greg Lucero Clerk

  
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Barbara Mendoza Member

  
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Manny Ruiz Member

  
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Robert S. Rojas Member

(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 Meeting of November 9, 2020  
Held immediately after the Study Session

I. Attendance:

**The following Board Members were present:**

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

a. Call to Order

**Dr. Varona called the meeting to order at 4:22 p.m.**

b. Adoption of the Agenda

Superintendent Parra recommended approval as presented.

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

Motion carried unanimously by members:

Ruiz, Lucero, Mendoza, Rojas and Varona

II. Approval of Governing Study Session and Regular Board Minutes of October 26, 2020

Superintendent Parra recommended approval as presented.

Mr. Ruiz made a motion and was seconded by Mrs. Mendoza for approval.

Motion carried unanimously by members:

Ruiz, Mendoza, Lucero, Rojas and Varona

III. Governing Board/Superintendent Information

a. Superintendent Report – Discussion, Celebration, Recognition, Announcements

1. First Things First Presentation – Francisco Padilla, Regional Director Santa Cruz County

Superintendent Parra gave a brief overview and introduced Mr. Francisco Padilla of First Things First to explain the organization's program.

Mr. Padilla highlighted the programs funded for Santa Cruz County.

Dr. Varona asked to specify how this program started by Mr. & Mrs. Basha of Basha's Food Stores.

Mr. Padilla gave a brief overview of how Mr. Eddie & Mrs. Naydeen Basha started this in 2006 by obtaining funding from the Tobacco Tax.

Mrs. Mendoza stated the importance and critical these programs are to assist the community and thanked Mr. Padilla for his presentation. She added that it was important to see the funding expansion and get more people involved to add more benefit for the community.

Mr. Lucero thanked Mr. Padilla for being present at the board meeting, for his support and for a great presentation. On a personal basis, he asked him how his children/twins were doing.

Mr. Padilla mentioned that his children attend St. Andrews Preschool, which he was happy when they reopened back in October and they were doing very well.

Mr. Ruiz thanked Mr. Padilla for his report. He mentioned the importance for children to attend their early education. In addition, among the other programs he commended him for the program of children visiting the dentist because it was important that all children be exposed to good dental hygiene.

Dr. Varona thank Mr. Padilla for his presentation. He added that the more successful their program is the more successful the children are early in their life and through their school years.

Dr. Varona further mentioned that he had noticed Mr. Padilla had mentioned they had received 977 applications and asked him if that meant that up to now in the year 2020 there had been 977 born babies.

Mr. Padilla responded that he was correct, but that he would confirm the total and actual number and bring back the information to the Board.

Superintendent Parra thanked Mr. Padilla for the success of the program and added that thanks to their partnership the recruitment at NUSD has been very successful.

Mr. Padilla further mentioned that the Family Resources Center became this summer affiliated with the Diaper Bank and are doing regular distributions and that, any family in need is always welcome by contacting him or the Family Resource Center.

## 2. Superintendent Update

Superintendent Parra reported that the voters had approved Proposition 208. He mentioned that these funds would additionally, be allocated to a specific funding in the District's present budget. Furthermore, it will be an addition to the state funding already received and will go more directly to teachers' salaries, something not usually done. He added that 80% of the M&O funding already goes to salaries and this would be a great impact in a positive way. He also mentioned that, additionally, it will also be designated to other specific school areas where funding is usually not received. Furthermore, that this funding comes directly from the Income Tax and therefore, still not aware of when this will go into effect, but will certainly be welcomed and will help all District's across the state.

He also reported that a bus driver had tested positive for Covid-19 and that all protocols had been followed, furthermore, all precautions were taken care of to test all other bus drivers and everything had gone well.

He further reported that he had great news for the auditors had found minimal findings with the exit report and had congratulated Mr. Sandoval for such achievement. He stated that the chief auditor had mentioned to him personally that out of all the Districts, NUSD was one of the best when it came down to transparency and providing documentation and overall financial performance. Furthermore, NUSD was one of the Districts who requests that they do an exit report to the Governing Board and they welcomed it.

He congratulated the District and Mr. Sandoval for a job well done.

He also reported that food and meals were back to "meals on wheels" with buses reaching out to families providing breakfast, and lunch, and that they will continue to do so until further notice.

He also mentioned a few stories of families of how they are making it during these challenging times, but that they are working together with NUSD to provide each family their accommodated needs.

Dr. Varona inquired about the football team.

Superintendent Parra explained that two students had tested positive for the virus, that they had cancelled the first game and were hoping that for the next game they would all be fine.

Furthermore, he reported the Volleyball Team had been doing well enough to play at regionals, Golf had finished their schedule well, and that Cross-Country had also cancelled their season.

In addition, he reported they continue to test students, families and staff and was happy that this service was being provided free of charge.

He concluded reporting that on the girls' basketball one girl had tested positive before they started the season, and they were following protocol to start the winter season.

Dr. Varona requested that Mr. Colgate notify and confirm with Board Members on the upcoming game this Friday.

b. Governing Board Report, Celebration, Recognition, Announcements

No reports

IV. Call to the Public

None

V. Consent Agenda

Superintendent Parra recommended approval as presented and highlighted on the list the building renewal project.

Mr. Ruiz made a motion and was seconded by Mr. Rojas for approval.

Motion carried unanimously by members:

Ruiz, Rojas, Lucero, Mendoza, and Varona

- a. Ratification of Expense/Payroll Vouchers
- b. Ratification of Student Activities/Auxiliary Operations Vouchers
- c. Student Activities/Auxiliary Operations Funds Extra Curricular Tax Credit
- d. Approval of the School Level Annual Financial Report for FY20

- e. Approval & Acceptance of School Facilities Board (SFB) Building Renewal Grant (BRG) Funding for Pierson High School HVAC Repair Project
- f. Approval of Personnel Agenda Summary
- g. Approval of Addenda

VI. Action

- a. Approval of Evaluation of Superintendent

Dr. Varona made the recommendation of approval of Superintendent's Evaluation.

Mr. Rojas made a motion and was seconded by Mrs. Mendoza for approval as presented.

Mr. Lucero requested a roll call vote.

Motion carried unanimously by a roll call vote of "aye" by members:  
Rojas, Mendoza, Lucero, Ruiz and Varona

VII. Information and Discussion – None

VIII. Requests for Future Agenda Items

Mr. Rojas requested updates on the erosion of the plum sidewalk and the Boy Scouts' building.

Dr. Varona clarified that the erosion of the sidewalk, the agreement had already been approved with the City of Nogales and the Boy Scout's building had some damages but was discussion in process.

Superintendent Parra mentioned the update had previously been given and he had no recent updates at this time. He further clarified that the agreement with the city was to start the construction on the sidewalk within the next month.

Mr. Rojas also mentioned that he had received some calls regarding a concern on how schools are handling students' grades and asked if an update could be done.

Dr. Varona mentioned that this was a parent/teacher issue and did not want to interfere too much into the grades, but that at Mr. Rojas' request that a general overview on grading be given at the next board meeting.

Superintendent Parra mentioned that the next meeting and study session were scheduled for 3pm on December 14, 2020.

Dr. Varona directed Superintendent Para that the December meeting begin at 2pm

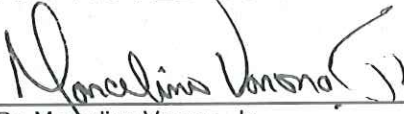
IX. Adjournment

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

Motion carried unanimously by members:  
Ruiz, Lucero, Mendoza, Rojas and Varona

Session adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

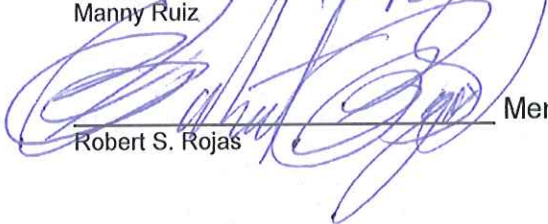
**APPROVED BY THE BOARD**

  
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Dr. Marcelino Varona, Jr President

  
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Greg Lucero Clerk

  
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Barbara Mendoza Member

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

  
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Robert S. Rojas Member

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mary T. Lopez, Secretary  
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