

**Notice of Public Meeting  
Sedona-Oak Creek Joint Unified School District #9**

**Strategic Development Team Committee  
Hispanic Community Forum  
Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

**1. Welcome**

Jay Litwicki

Mr. Litwicki welcomed the audience of citizens and introduced Mr. Groves as the facilitator for our fourth and final forum. Maria Ortega was present to interpret in Spanish. Groves explained the purpose of the forums and the importance of gathering input from our Hispanic population. Mr. Groves introduced Governing Board president, Randy Hawley. Mr. Hawley spoke on the board's desire to expand communications with our Hispanic population, as they are an important part of our district and community.

**2. Call to Order**

Don Groves

Mr. Groves called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

**3. Members Present**

Don Groves	Jennifer Chilton	Randy Hawley
Karl Wiseman	Cindy Ramirez	Katie Chorlton'
Carolyn Fisher	Debbie Jones	Heather Minter
Jay Litwicki	Susan Bailey	Darrin Karuzas
Cindy Hauserman		

**Members Excused**

Deana Dewitt	Scott Keller	Kathy Featherstone
Heather Isom	Melissa Cristallo	Clair Ramos
Shalimar Rodgers	Kate Furnish	

**Board Members Present**

Randy Hawley      Karl Wiseman      Karen McClelland

**4. Approval of Minutes from December 6, 2017**

Don Groves

**Motion made by Jennifer Chilton/Seconded by Katie Chorlton:** A motion to approve the minutes from December 6, 2017 carried unanimously.

**5. Overview of the Strategic Planning Process**

Don Groves

Mr. Groves explained that the purpose of the strategic planning process is to best prepare our students for the rapidly and ever changing future. He explained the SWOT process and asked participants to identify what they perceive as the district's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats.

**6. Public Input and Discussion**

All

Results of the SWOT process were summarized. Threats included: DACA, ICE, decreasing community population and enrollment, cost of living in Sedona, budget cuts and funding, and the cost of keeping two elementary schools open. Opportunities included: more cultural activities,

more help for struggling students, STEM, more after school activities, a bilingual school, and more communication to parents in Spanish. Weakness included: only one interpreter, math tutoring, inequality in funding for Hispanics, outdated curriculum, healthier lunches, salaries, after school study groups, and lack of communication. Strengths included: Maria, good teachers and facilities, caring administration, ELL services, parental support, and the reading program.

Discussion ensued on: the need to support struggling Hispanic students, need for more support staff at the junior high, benefits of bilingualism, best means of communicating, parental involvement at school, feelings of intimidation due to language barrier, increased socialization, community building in the classroom, and the addition of Hispanic representation on the SDT Committee.

#### **7. Summary Remarks**

Don Groves

Mr. Groves explained next steps. Information included: three sub groups that will be evaluating 1) general data, 2) community input obtained from the forums, and 3) education forecasting, development of goals and objectives, board review and adoption, and implementation of the plan by the incoming superintendent. Mr. Groves noted that all data obtained from the forums is valuable, and will be used to drive our ultimate plan. Anyone interested in joining the committee was directed to contact Maria. Mr. Groves shared the upcoming meeting schedule.

#### **8. Adjournment**

Don Groves

The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Submitted by:  
Sally Cadigan