



**Special Public Meeting- October 10, 2023, 4:00 p.m.  
MINUTES**

- I. Call to Order** Randy Hawley  
Board President Randy Hawley called the meeting to order at 4:05.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance** Randy Hawley
- III. Roll Call of Members**  
Randy Hawley, Present  
Lauren Robinson, Present  
Karen McClelland, Present  
April Payne, Present  
David Price, Present
- IV. Statement of Welcome** Randy Hawley
- V. Governing Board Member Comments** Board Members  
There were no comments from Governing Board Members.
- VI. Approve Order of the Agenda Including the Consent Agenda and Minutes** Randy Hawley  
**Attachment 1: Consent Agenda**  
1. Minutes for Governing Board meetings: October 3, 2023  
**Motion made by Lauren Robinson/Karen McClelland** to approve the Order of the Agenda including the Consent Agenda and Minutes carried by a vote of 5-0.
- VII. Business Items and Presentations**
- A. Annual Financial Report Overview, including information on the bond and override** Stacy Saravo
- Strategic Plan Alignment: Effective Communication/Use of Resources
  - Attachments 2-4: AFR Information
  - Finance Director Stacy Saravo gave an overview of the AFR including overall spending trends, transportation maintenance expenditures, and a 7% carryover. Technology expenses included classroom AV improvements, student attendance software, and a new server. Most grant funds were used for salaries and benefits, allowing us to provide additional programs and small sizes. M&O Override funds were spent on full day kindergarten, counselors, and fine arts classes. There were no bond expenditures. Due to higher enrollment numbers, spending was higher at SRR than at WSS. Per pupil spending was similar. Covid funds have been used to provide a Social Emotional Counselor, technology enhancements, to address learning loss, and to support our food service program. Covid assistance is winding down. The district is planning to ensure that the remaining funds are spent wisely.
  - Board Member David Price verified that general education expenses have risen due to salary increases, higher benefit expenses, and additional instructional positions at both campuses.
  - David Price asked about transportation costs. Stacy Saravo noted that the district has explored utilizing public transportation systems to transport students, but this has not been a viable option.

Transportation expenditures may reduce maintenance expenses on our aging fleet in the future.

- David Price asked about expenses that would be cut should the override fail. Stacy Saravo noted that those decisions would be made in the FY25 budgeting process. Superintendent Swaninger added that revenue would be phased out over the next few years. Financial decisions and cuts would take time. He noted that raises are crucial to retain and recruit teachers and that the purchase of new buses is important since maintenance expenses have been high.
- Lauren Robinson noted that administrator expenses and positions are reasonable. She agreed that raises have been necessary and that important programs will be cut if the override fails.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Discussion and possible action to approve the 2022-23 Annual Financial Report.
- **Motion made by Lauren Robinson/Karen McClelland** to approve the 2022-23 Annual Financial Report carried by a vote of 5-0.

**B.** The board will entertain a motion to go into executive session per ARS §§ 38-431.03(A)(1) (personnel) and 38-431.03(A)(3) (advice from legal counsel).

**Motion made by Randy Hawley/Lauren Robinson** to enter executive session per ARS §§ 38-431.03(A)(1) (personnel) and 38-431.03(A)(3) (advice from legal counsel) carried by a vote of 5-0.

**C.** The board returned to regular session at 4:50 PM

**D.** Possible staff termination

Tom Swaninger

- Strategic Plan Alignment: Effective Communication
- **ACTION ITEM:** Discussion and possible action to accept an administrative recommendation to terminate Teacher Audra Betzer.
- **Motion made by Randy Hawley/Lauren Robinson** to accept an administrative recommendation to terminate Teacher Audra Betzer subject to a due process hearing carried by a vote of 5-0.

#### **VIII. Other Business**

Randy Hawley

Future board meeting dates and agenda items: Next board meeting on Tuesday, November 7 at 4:00 PM.

#### **IX. Adjournment**

Randy Hawley

**Motion made by Karen McClelland/David Price** to adjourn the meeting carried by a vote of 5-0 at 4:57.

Submitted by: Amanda Stanfield

Signature of Attendees:



Randy Hawley

Lauren Robinson



Karen McClelland



April Payne



David Price