



## **Sedona-Oak Creek Joint Unified School District #9**

### **Regular Public Meeting September 7, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

#### **I. Call to Order**

Randy Hawley

Mr. Hawley called the meeting to order at 5:00.

#### **II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Randy Hawley

#### **III. Roll Call of Members**

Randy Hawley

Randy Hawley, Present

Lauren Robinson, Present

Karen McClelland, Attended Virtually

Barbara Trautwein, Attended Virtually

Hunter White, Present

#### **IV. Statement of Welcome**

Randy Hawley

Mr. Hawley welcomed attendees.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

The Governing Board will entertain a motion to go into a Public Hearing.

Motion made by Lauren Robinson/Randy Hawley to go into a Public Hearing regarding the budget.

There were no questions or comments on the budget.

A motion made by Lauren Robinson/Randy Hawley to return to the regular session carried by a vote of 4-0.

### **REGULAR SESSION**

#### **V. Call to the Public**

Randy Hawley

There were no public comments.

#### **VI. Governing Board Member Comments**

Board Members

Karen McClelland has been speaking with the advocacy coordinator at the state legislative conference about opportunities for students to get more involved in the legislative process. She will try to organize training for students in the near future and will contact Superintendent Dearden or Assistant Superintendent Deana Dewitt for assistance.

#### **VII. Student Representative Update**

Hunter White

Hunter White gave an overview of events. Student council has begun and is taking a more egalitarian view where students are able to propose legislation. SATs are approaching. Interact Club has begun and has had

tremendous growth. There has been a crackdown on cell phone usage in the classroom. Some students disagree with the policy, but it seems to be effective in increasing learning in the classroom. Hunter is working with the Governor's Council on mental health initiatives at schools.

### **VIII. Superintendent's Update**

Denny Dearden

Denny Dearden began by expressing thanks to Hunter for his work with the student council. He also thanked Barbara Trautwein for her service on the Board. This will be her last meeting. Three potential board members are running in November. The highest two vote earners will fill the four year seats and the third place finisher will fill the 2 year position. There will be one additional vacancy which will be filled by County Superintendent Tim Carter following an interview process. The Aggregate Expenditure Limit is again an issue. Superintendent Dearden signed a letter to the Governor along with superintendents from across the state urging the legislature to address the AEL through a special session. We have gained 154 new students, including 76 at the elementary school and 78 at the junior high/senior high school. We may lose some students who have not yet returned to school. Superintendent Dearden credits these gains to a positive PR campaign that promotes our excellent teachers and strong, unique programs. Wildcat Extended Day continues and will have some additional activities this year. The new coding class is off to a great start. Strive for 5 is back on track and will be headed by Deana Dewitt. Over 160 students will be represented. These are students with a 3.5 GPA or higher and students with a GPA improvement of at least .5. A parent night has been scheduled for the high school families.

### **IX. Approve Order of the Agenda Including the Consent Agenda and Minutes**

Randy Hawley

**Motion made by Lauren Robinson/Randy Hawley:** A motion to approve the order of the agenda including the consent agenda and minutes carried by a vote of 4-0.

### **X. Business Items and Presentations**

#### **A. Community Support Services in the Village of Oak Creek**

County Commissioner Donna Michaels  
Chief Deputy Jeff Newnum

County Commissioner for District 3 gave a presentation on partnership opportunities between the district and county on the Big Park campus. The project called 'Heart of the Village' is a proposed partnership between the County, Sheriff's Office, and local healthcare providers including Spectrum Healthcare and Verde Valley Caregivers to provide community services in the Village of Oak Creek. The first step would be a Search and Rescue station which would be able to provide enhanced services throughout the area. Challenges to the project include costs, ongoing maintenance, repairs, and buildout construction. Board Member Trautwein expressed concern regarding a decision about this partnership before speaking with the Sedona Fire Department. Chief Deputy Newnum stated that there is currently a good partnership between the groups, but that jurisdiction for the VOC lies with the Sheriff's Office. Superintendent Dearden suggested that the partnership would be the beginning of discussions between many different partners in the area. Hunter White stated that he feels this is a great initiative for the community. Board Member Karen McClelland agreed that this seems like a great opportunity and sees additional potential for partnership with the County in the future. Board Member Lauren Robinson asked about potential growth in the district and future potential needs for the campus as a school. Superintendent Dearden expressed that this level of growth is not expected as several hundred additional students can be accommodated on both campuses.

**ACTION ITEM:** Discussion and possible action for SOCUSD to endorse future potential partnership with Yavapai County to provide community support services at the 25 W. Saddlehorn property in the Village of Oak Creek.

**Motion made by Lauren Robinson/Randy Hawley:** A motion to endorse future potential partnership with Yavapai County to provide community support services at the 25 W Saddlehorn property in the Village of Oak Creek carried by a vote of 4-0.

**B. Final review and adoption of the proposed K-8 math curriculum** Deana Dewitt  
As required by Policy IJJ, enVision Mathematics by SAVVAS publishing has been properly displayed in the district office and placed on our website for public view for 60 days prior to this meeting.  
*Strategic Plan Alignment: High Student Achievement*

Deana Dewitt gave an overview of the proposed new math curriculum. The materials are much more engaging than our current curriculum and have a greater focus on skill building. There are also additional resources for gifted learners, struggling students and English language learners. Materials have been on display in the offices and communicated to families. No parent comments from current elementary school students were received. A survey was sent to teachers to solicit their feedback on the materials as well as needs for future training. Training on their specific requests is being planned. Teachers did not report specific comments from families regarding the curriculum change, but said they have responded positively to homework. Teachers expressed a need for consumable materials like workbooks for the younger grades. This materials would need to be purchased yearly. Older students have been utilizing more online resources and may not require the same yearly purchases. Students have been engaged in the new curriculum and have had positive or neutral feedback, but no negative comments. Assistant Superintendent Dewitt and Principal Tavasci both recommend a full curriculum adoption.

Board members had questions regarding the usage of workbooks and Spanish resources. Dewitt explained that the workbooks may be used in grades K-2. Spanish materials have been helpful, especially as our district Spanish translator has taken on additional responsibilities within the district. Online grading and lesson planning resources have also been very helpful to our teachers.

**ACTION ITEM:** Discussion and possible action to adopt the proposed math curriculum for grades K-8.

**Motion made by Lauren Robinson/Randy Hawley:** A motion to adopt the proposed math curriculum for grades K-8 carried by a vote of 4-0.

**C. Delegate to the ASBA Legislative Assembly** Dennis Dearden  
*Strategic Plan Alignment: Effective Communication*

Superintendent Dearden noted that the ASBA conference this Saturday. Karen McClelland is scheduled to attend the event and has volunteered to act as our district delegate.

**ACTION ITEM:** Discussion and possible action to certify Karen McClelland as SOCUSD's Delegate to the ASBA Legislative Assembly on September 10, 2022.

**Motion made by Lauren Robinson/Randy Hawley:** A motion to appoint Karen McClelland as SOCUSD's Delegate to the ASBA Legislative Assembly on September 10 carried by a vote of 4-0.

**D. Dual Enrollment IGA with Yavapai Community College** Dennis Dearden  
*Strategic Plan Alignment: High Student Achievement*

Dennis Dearden explained that this IGA will allow us to continue our partnership with Yavapai Community College to offer dual enrollment classes.

**ACTION ITEM:** Discussion and possible action to approve the IGA with Yavapai Community College to provide dual enrollment courses in SY 22/23 and 23/24.

**Motion made by Randy Hawley/Lauren Robinson:** A motion to approve the IGA with Yavapai Community College to provide dual enrollment classes in SY 22/23 and 23/24 carried by a vote of 4-0.

**E. Presentation of Revised 22/23 Budget**

Stacy Saravo

*Strategic Plan Alignment: Effective Communication*

Stacy Saravo gave an overview of the proposed budget revision. This revision is necessary as the auditor general required updated forms. Base level support was increased resulting in an estimated budget capacity of roughly \$300,000. Special Education spending is budgeted at a higher amount due to the needs of current students. ADM has increased by approximately 62, but final amounts will not be known until the 40<sup>th</sup> day count and may reflect additional allowances later in the year. Superintendent Dearden and Board President Randy Hawley expressed thanks for conservative budgeting.

**ACTION ITEM:** Discussion and possible action to approve the revised 22/23 fiscal year budget as presented.

**Motion made by Lauren Robinson/Randy Hawley.** A motion to approve the revised 22/23 fiscal year budget as presented carried by a vote of 4-0.

**F. Review of Classified Goal Template and Scoring Tool**

Stacy Saravo

*Strategic Plan Alignment: Highly Performing & Supported Staff*

(5 minutes)

Stacy Saravo gave an overview of the classified goal template and scoring template which has the support of the leadership team. The goal is to retain highly performing employees. Smart goals aligning with our strategic plan would be developed, reviewed and scored. Randy Hawley expressed that he feels developing appropriate, powerful goals and having meaningful feedback would be key. Stacy Saravo agreed that supervisor input when developing goals is important. Dennis Dearden feels this will echo his beliefs that every position is vital and impacts students' success. Board member Robinson asked how many teachers and staff members each administrator is responsible for evaluating. Randy Hawley expressed that this is not just about evaluating, but is also about mentoring and creating opportunities for growth. Stacy Saravo explained that this is an extension of our current evaluation process that will apply only to our certified staff. The leadership team feels that the evaluation workload has been spread effectively among administrators.

**ACTION ITEM:** Discussion and possible action to approve the Classified Goal Template and Scoring Tool for all classified staff for the 2022/23 school year.

**Motion made by Lauren Robinson/Randy Hawley:** A motion to approve the Classified Goal Template and Scoring Tool for all classified staff for the 2022/23 school year carried by a vote of 4-0.

**XI. Other Business**

Randy Hawley

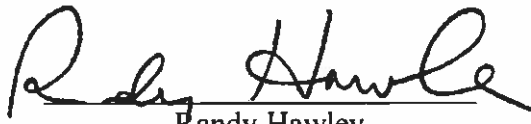
Future board meeting dates and agenda items: Next board meeting will be on Tuesday, October 4 at 5:00. Karen McClelland requested an update on CTE courses and asked about upcoming policy advisories. Karen McClelland will send a list of key advisories to be considered for the next agenda.

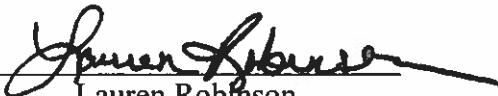
## **XII. Adjournment**

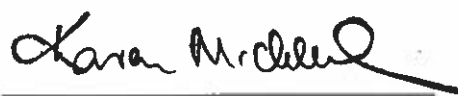
Randy Hawley

Motion made by Lauren Robinson/Randy Hawley to adjourn the meeting carried by a vote of 4-0 at 6:40.

Submitted by: Amanda Stanfield

  
Randy Hawley

  
Lauren Robinson

  
Karen McClelland

