

**REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
ARIZONA STATE SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND**

UNCONFIRMED BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 24, 2013

ASDB Tucson Campus

Berger Performing Arts Center (BPAC)

1200 W Speedway Blvd., Tucson, Arizona

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Board President Michael Williams called the meeting to order at approximately 5:16 p.m. and Board Secretary Sherri Collins conducted roll call.

Members Present: Michael Williams, Michael Gordon, Taralynn Petrites, Sherri Collins, Mark Syms, Kathy Jankowski (arrived approx. 5:20 p.m.).

Members Via Phone: Marv Lamer, Elaine Baldrige, Orlenda Roberts

Other Present: Superintendent Hill and Attorney General Representatives Dennis Carpenter, Michelle Kunzman (via speakerphone), and Kim Anderson (via speakerphone)

II. Public Comment on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items**

Michael Williams allowed comment on non-agenda items while awaiting the arrival of Board member Kathy Jankowski.

Public comment on non-agenda items:

Jane MacDonald, employee, thanked the Board for approving the issuance of a contract to serve as the Director of ASDB's NCR Cooperative, summarized her employment history at ASDB, thanked Robert Hill and Bill Koehler for making it possible to serve students with innovation, creativity, and invited Board to visit NCR programs.

Kathy Jankowski arrived at approximately 5:20 p.m.

Jeanne Hollabaugh, parent of 2 deaf children, spoke to A.R.S.15-1342 and the difficulty parents were having enrolling deaf students from charter schools in ASDB programs due to the omission of charter schools in the language of the student, and asked the Board to look into this matter.

Henry Garcia, spoke regarding his concerns with the audit report conducted during current Superintendent's employment.

III. Business Agenda Items

- A. Approval to Vacate Leah Morris-Towle's Employment Appeal Matter from the Board's Calendar for Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action

Robert Hill provided a brief explanation of this agenda item.

It was moved by Mark Syms, seconded by Elaine Baldrige, and unanimously carried that the Board of Directors vacate Ms. Leah Morris-Towle's employment appeal matter from the Board's calendar.

- B. Investigation into Complaints Filed with the Board, and Superintendent's Employment and Contract for Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action

Public Comment on agenda item III.B.:

Robert Voreck, parent, asked the Board to do what needs to be done, and expressed concern with repairing the damage.

Lisa Jackson, employee, expressed concern that the endless investigation has drawn attention away from students, stated that if the Superintendent did something illegal then immediate action was required under the laws, asked the Board to explain why no action has been taken with the Superintendent if he has done something illegal, and indicated that with the lack of action one can only surmise that the Superintendent did not do anything illegal.

Polly Brady Garcia, spoke on behalf of President of Alumni Association Beverly Hawkins, and the awareness of her 6 concerns, and her request of the Board to make the right decision.

It was moved by Mark Syms, seconded by Elaine Baldrige, and unanimously carried that the Board of Directors go into Executive Session, which will not be open to the public, pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(3) for legal advice and pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(1), for discussion and consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, demotion, dismissal, salaries, disciplining or resignation as it relates to this agenda item.

The Board went into closed executive session at approximately 5:46 p.m. and returned to public session at approximately 7:44 p.m.

Michelle Kunzman left the meeting at the completion of executive session.

At the request of Michael Williams, roll call was conducted by Sherri Collins. Present were Marv Lamer, Orlenda Roberts, Mark Syms, Elaine Baldrige, Kathy Jankowski, Michael Gordon, Michael Williams. Present also were Dennis Carpenter and Kim Anderson.

It was moved by Michael Williams, seconded by Mark Syms, and unanimously carried that the Board release in redacted form the September 10, 2013, ASDB grievance investigation report of findings and the September 10, 2013 summary of findings containing Superintendent Robert Hill's April 8, 2013 report recommending non-renewal of Dr. Nancy Amann's contract.

Michael Williams explained that this action will allow the release of two of the reports that were done by the law firm of Fennemore Craig in the investigation of allegations that were made since April. He announced the reports will not be available until Monday or Tuesday to allow the Attorney General's Office time to make one last review to ensure information be redacted as it relates to people who should not have their information put out to the public.

It was moved by Michael Williams, seconded by Taralynn Petrites, and carried with a vote of 8 in favor and 1 opposed (Orlenda Roberts) that the Board work with its attorneys to formulate a notice of allegations and a notice of possible employment action to be approved by the Board and presented to Superintendent Robert Hill.

Marv Lamer proposed an amendment to the motion that Robert Hill will be placed on administrative leave during this process.

Michael Williams indicated that another Board member will make that motion and asked Marv Lamer to consider withdrawing this motion so that each item may be voted on separately. Marv Lamer withdrew his amendment and reserved the right to make a motion later. Michael Williams announced that Kathy Jankowski will be making a motion.

It was moved by Kathy Jankowski, seconded by Taralynn Petrites, and carried with a vote of 8 in favor and 1 opposed (Orlenda Roberts) that the Board place Superintendent Hill on administrative leave during the time that we go through this process.

Michael Williams explained that the Board will work with its attorneys to have questions answered by next Board meeting. Mr. Hill will be given time to review the questions or accusations and will be given appropriate time to respond to the allegations by the next Board meeting.

Michael Williams was not sure how to move forward so Superintendent Hill recommended Bill Koehler provide input to the Board regarding the policies since he has been involved.

Robert Hill left the meeting.

Public Rob Voreck shouted from the audience to Michael Williams requesting a point of clarification stating that Bill Koehler was not approved by Board to serve as Assistant Superintendent.

Michael Williams responded by explaining that Bill Koehler's current job is to fill in when Superintendent Hill is on any leave, including medical leave or anything else, so at this point, on the advice of counsel, there is no need to appoint a different Superintendent. The hope is that any action regarding Superintendent Hill will be resolved in a week or two. The Board will be setting up another Board meeting.

C. Second Reading of Revisions to Board Policy ACA, Sexual Harassment, for Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action

Bill Koehler provided a brief explanation of this agenda item. Michael Williams reiterated this policy needs to be in place due to a federal agency agreement, and Mark Syms clarified the policy revisions were a result of a complaint resolution.

It was moved by Sherri Collins, seconded by Marv Lamer, and unanimously carried that the Board of Directors rescind Board Policy ACA, Sexual Harassment, adopted November 2, 2006, and adopt revisions to policy ACA effective this date as recommended by the Superintendent and reviewed by the Office of Civil Rights.

D. Second Reading of Newly Proposed Board Policy JBB, Student Sexual Harassment, for Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action

It was moved by Sherri Collins, seconded by Taralynn Petrites, and unanimously carried that the Board of Directors adopt newly proposed Board Policy JBB, Sexual Harassment (Students) effective this date as recommended by the Superintendent and reviewed by the Office of Civil Rights.

- E. First Reading of Revisions to Board Policy IJNDB, Use of Technology Resources in Instruction, for Discussion Only

Orlenda Roberts noted this was only a first reading and did not require any action by the Board.

Spoke to the Issue: Bill Koehler, Sherri Collins, Mark Syms

IV. Consent Agenda for Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action

- A. Approval of August 29, 2013, September 19, 2013, September 24, 2013, and October 9, 2013 Board Meeting Minutes
- B. Approval of Contracts and/or Agreements with Sanders Unified School District, Window Rock Unified School District, Mountain School, Inc, Tucson International Academy, Blue Alley Productions/iCare for Autism, Old Pueblo Brass Band, Catalina United Methodist Church, American Immigration Council, Congregation Bet Shalom, AZ Blind and Deaf Children's Foundation, Pima County School Superintendent, Healthy You Network, Inc., Kids Unlimited, Brigham Young University Alumni Association, Sons of Orpheus.

It was moved by Sherri Collins, seconded by Taralynn Petrites, and unanimously carried that the Board approved the consent agenda items A and B.

Michael Williams announced to the Board that he would like to schedule a Special Board meeting a week from Tuesday and asked Board members to keep that Tuesday and Wednesday available.

Spoke to the Issue: Kim Anderson

V. Adjournment

It was moved by Sherri Collins, seconded by Mark Syms and unanimously carried that the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:03 p.m.