



**Regular Public Meeting  
Tuesday, February 4, 2025  
MINUTES**

- I. Call to Order** Randy Hawley  
President Hawley called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance** Randy Hawley
- III. Roll Call of Members**  
Randy Hawley, Present  
Lauren Robinson, Present  
Karen McClelland, Present  
April Payne, Absent  
Sam Blom, Present  
Emily Frey, Present
- IV. Statement of Welcome** Randy Hawley
- V. Recognition of Students, Athletes, and Staff Members** Tom Swaninger  
Site Staff
- Strategic Plan Alignment: High Student Achievement & Highly Performing and Supported Staff
  - Administrators recognized the following:
    - Sophia Mangarrez- West Sedona School Student of the Month
    - Lash Lupo- West Sedona School Student of the Month
    - Katherine Linden- West Sedona School Teacher of the Month
    - Emily Maher- Sedona Red Rock Middle School Student of the Month
    - Yonas Rahman- Sedona Red Rock High School Student of the Month
    - Karina Diaz Rodriguez- Sedona Red Rock High School Athlete of the Month
    - Lindsey Webb- Sedona Red Rock Teacher of the Month
- VI. Call to the Public** Randy Hawley
1. S. Vandermast spoke regarding executive orders on deportation of undocumented immigrants. Ms. Vandermast stated that the District has a duty to protect the privacy and safety of all students and to maintain a safe learning for all students regardless of their immigration status. She asked for the District to adopt the NEA Safe Zone Policy. The policy complies with the Constitutional law and includes plans the District could follow to ensure the privacy of all students and the protection of the campus as a safe place for learning.
  2. R. Myhre spoke in support of the NEA Safe Zone Policy. The policy contains reassurances for students, procedures for law enforcement, and information important to families and staff. He feels that it is our responsibility to protect young people and that the Safe Zone Policy gives us a way to do that.
  3. J. Myhre spoke in support of the NEA Safe Zone Policy, which provides a tangible way to care for our immigrant young people and their families. The policy lays out clear protocols for safety in a manner consistent with Supreme Court decisions guaranteeing educational rights.
  4. L. Lagorio spoke in support of the NEA Safe Zone policy to reduce ambiguity related to the District's policies, prohibit the collection of immigration status, provide protocols for staff interactions with law enforcement, give information to families regarding their rights, and ensures that due process will be

followed. These policies would show that the district values safety, inclusion, and educational rights of all students. Ms. Lagorio also emphasized the importance of clear communication with families.

5. J. Hovermill spoke in support of the NEA Safe Zone policy and its relation to FERPA. Mr. Hovermill stated that other districts have published their policies and shared Mesa Public School's statement. He encouraged the District to be explicit in how it will respond to any immigration issues, asked that parents have the opportunity to opt out of information sharing, and asked that the District protect students' right to privacy.

## **VII. Governing Board Member Comments**

Board Members

None

## **VIII. Student Representative's Update**

Emily Frey

*At President Hawley's direction, the Student Representative's Update was given after the Superintendent's Update (agenda item IX).* Student representative Emily Frey gave an overview of events at the high school, including Senior class fundraisers and the upcoming Mexican Fiesta Dinner, a recent Student Council talent show, NHS Valentine's Day grams, Interact Club volunteering activities, and plans for a teen activity with the City of Sedona.

## **IX. Superintendent's Update**

Tom Swaninger

Superintendent Swaninger gave an overview of District events. Dr. Swaninger noted that he has been in contact with the Board and site staff regarding immigration issues. If law enforcement officials come to campus regarding immigration issues, staff will request that the officers remain outside and contact Superintendent Swaninger who will ensure that proper processes are followed, documentation is reviewed, and legal counsel is contacted. His commitment is to educating students while following the law. Superintendent Swaninger also discussed a recent \$10 million gift to the Education Foundation and noted that the District will continue to focus on fiscal responsibility. Careful budgeting and additional cuts may be necessary for the long-term health of the District. Future Scorpion night will be held on March 4 at 6:00. Dr. Swaninger also highlighted excellent training at West Sedona School and the recent garden cleanup with in conjunction with the City.

## **X. Approve Order of the Agenda Including the**

Randy Hawley

**Consent Agenda and Minutes** The consent portion of the agenda is to expedite routine matters that must be acted on by the Governing Board of Education. All items approved will be done by one non-debatable motion passed unanimously. Any item may be removed for debate on request of any member of the board, staff, or public. Items removed from the consent portion of the agenda become the first item of business on the regular agenda.

### **Attachment 1: Consent Agenda**

1. Minutes for Governing Board meetings:
2. Payroll vouchers – 14, 15
3. Accounts Payable vouchers – 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528
4. Gifts and donations – N/A
5. Fund balance statements – Attached
6. Personnel – Attached
7. Approved Fundraisers – Attached

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

## **XI. Business Items and Presentations**

### **A. 2025-2026 Academic Calendar Review**

Tom Swaninger

- Strategic Plan Alignment: Effective Communication/Use of Resources
- Attachment 2: Proposed 2025-2026 Academic Calendar
- **ACTION ITEM:** Discussion and possible action to approve the proposed 2025-2026 academic calendar as presented.

- Superintendent Swaninger reviewed the proposed 2025-26 academic calendar, noting that District plans to continue with shortened Wednesday schedules to provide time for professional development for teachers on both campuses. Board member Karen McClelland asked about additional professional development dates. Dr. Swaninger noted that additional PD days have been eliminated due to calendar constraints, consistency with the Verde Valley, and robust weekly professional development.
- **Motion made by Lauren Robinson/Karen McClelland:** A motion to approve the proposed 2025-26 academic calendar as presented carried by a vote of 4-0.

#### **B. Update to the Permanent Food Service Agreement**

Stacy Saravo

- Strategic Plan Alignment: Effective Use of Resources
- Attachment 3: Permanent Food Service Agreement
- **ACTION ITEM:** Discussion and possible action to update the Permanent Food Service Agreement to include Tom Swaninger, Stacy Saravo, and Jennifer Chilton as authorized signers.
- Finance Director Stacy Saravo reviewed changes to the Permanent Food Services Agreement that will allow current administrators to sign documents related to the food service contract.
- **Motion made by Sam Blom/Karen McClelland:** A motion to update the Permanent Food Service Agreement to include Tom Swaninger, Stacy Saravo, and Jennifer Chilton as authorized signers carried by a vote of 4-0.

#### **C. Superintendent Performance Pay**

Randy Hawley

- Strategic Plan Alignment: Highly Performing & Supported Staff
- **ACTION ITEM:** Discussion and possible action to approve the Superintendent's Performance Pay.
- Board President Randy Hawley noted that the Superintendent's contract has already been extended. He is very pleased with the direction of the District, particularly in regards to Professional Development for instructors. Board member Lauren Robinson noted that educators are underpaid and feels that the performance pay is warranted as the District will continue to grow under Dr. Swaninger. Karen McClelland noted that the educational leadership, formalized professional development, staff integration, and community have been excellent. Board consensus is that the proposed performance pay is a way to reward excellence and retain talent.
- **Motion made by Randy Hawley/Lauren Robinson:** A motion to approve the Superintendent's Performance Pay of 6% carried by a vote of 4-0.
- Dr. Swaninger thanked the board for the kind words, prior Superintendent Denny Dearden for laying the foundation for the District's success, and the District leadership team.

#### **D. Second Reading of ASBA Policy Updates 801-808**

Tom Swaninger

- Strategic Plan Alignment: Effective Communication
- Attachment 4: Policy Advisory 801-807
- Attachment 5: Policy Advisory 808
- Superintendent Randy Hawley reviewed ASBA policy updates 801-808
- **ACTION ITEM:** Discussion and possible action to approve ASBA Policy Updates 801-808.
- **Motion made by Randy Hawley/Karen McClelland:** A motion to approve ASBA Policy Updates 801-808 carried by a vote of 4-0.
- Dr. Swaninger gave an overview of ASBA Policy Updates 801-808 and noted that the District has implemented procedures for people directly impacted by the changes to review and provide feedback prior to board review.

## **XII. Other Business**

Randy Hawley

Future board meeting dates and agenda items: The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 4 at 4:00 pm.

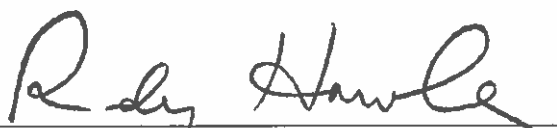
**XIII. Adjournment**

Randy Hawley

**Motion made by Sam Blom/Lauren Robinson:** A motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:05 PM carried by a vote of 4-0.

**Submitted by: Amanda Stanfield**

**Signature of Attendees:**



Randy Hawley



Lauren Robinson



Sam Blom



Karen McClelland