

**MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING BOARD WORK STUDY SESSION
FOR THE FOWLER SCHOOL DISTRICT #45
1617 SOUTH 67TH AVENUE
PHOENIX, ARIZONA
August 15, 2026**

Members Present: Ms. Francisca Montoya, Ms. Lisa Perez and Mr. Joe Montoya were present

Others Present: Dr. Michael Halpert, Superintendent, Ms. Jessica Larsen, Chief of Schools, Mx., Andrea Barrera, Barbara Gill to record the minutes.

The work study session began at 10:05 a.m. The setting was informal and open to the public. Dr. Halpert, Superintendent and his staff Ms. Jessica Larsen, Chief of Schools and Mx. Andrea Barrera, Chief of Public Relations provided the Governing Board Members (Ms. Montoya, President, Ms. Perez and Mr. Montoya) with their Mission, Vision and Goals for the Fowler Elementary School students, community and the staff.

The Governing Board participated in a work study session focused on reviewing and discussing the District's current mission, vision, and goals. The discussion provided an opportunity for Board members to reflect on Fowler Elementary School District's identity, values, history, and aspirations for students and the community.

The Board reviewed the District's current vision and considered whether it adequately reflects what the District aspires to provide for its students beyond meeting Arizona academic standards. Discussion centered on identifying what distinguishes Fowler and how the District's mission and vision can more fully represent its commitment to students, families, staff, and the community.

The presentation identified four pillars that have emerged as part of the FESD identity:

- Relationship-Centered Community
- Whole-Child Empowerment
- Collaborative Accountability – *We Are Fowler*
- Forward-Thinking Growth – Growth Mindset

Board members considered how these pillars could be reflected in the District's future mission and vision. The discussion also emphasized Fowler's history, traditions, commitment to continuous improvement, and responsibility to prepare students for the future.

As part of the work session, the Board explored the distinction between the District's mission, vision, and goals. The mission was considered in terms of why the District exists, what it does each day, and what Fowler is uniquely committed to making possible for every child. The vision discussion focused on what the District aspires to become and the desired long-term impact on students, schools, and the community. Goals were discussed as the priorities and measures that will help move the District toward achieving its vision.

The presentation also included consideration of mission, vision, and goal statements from other local school districts to identify common themes and determine what may distinguish Fowler. Board members were encouraged to identify meaningful words and phrases and brainstorm concepts that could help shape future mission and vision statements.

The session concluded with discussion regarding the District's public identity and its responsibility to maintain the community's trust, provide psychologically and physically safe environments, and create opportunities for students through a well-rounded education. The presentation concluded with an opportunity for Board member questions and discussion.

Ms. Montoya, President of the Governing Board took the opportunity to requests to discuss future goal setting with Dr. Halpert, Ms. Perez, Mr. Montoya and Ms. Denise Lowell-Britt, Udall Shumway.

BOARD TRAINING: Board Governance, Roles and Responsibilities, and Social Media

Board Governance, Roles and Responsibilities, and Social Media

The Governing Board participated in a work study session presented by Ms. Julie Bacon, Director of Leadership Development for the Arizona School Boards Association (ASBA), and Ms. Denise Lowell-Britt of Udall Shumway Law Office. The presentation focused on effective governance, the respective roles and responsibilities of the Governing Board and Superintendent, Board member ethics and responsibilities, District policy, and appropriate use of social media.

The presenters reviewed the authority of the Governing Board as a collective body and emphasized the importance of a collaborative Board-Superintendent governance team. Discussion included the Board's responsibility for establishing District vision, goals, policies and oversight, while the Superintendent is responsible for managing day-to-day District operations and implementing Board direction.

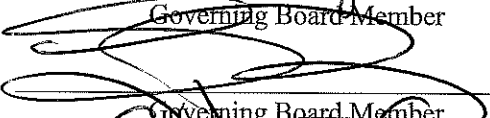
The work study also addressed legal and ethical considerations related to Board member communications and social media, including Arizona Open Meeting Law, executive session confidentiality, public records, copyright, FERPA and student privacy, defamation, contractual obligations, litigation, and due process. Board members were encouraged to exercise care in their communications, comply with Board policy and applicable law, protect confidential information, and maintain fairness and impartiality in matters that may come before the Board.

The presentation concluded with an opportunity for Board member questions and discussion.

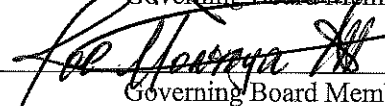
The work study session ended by 2:09 p.m.



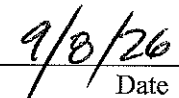
Governing Board Member



Governing Board Member



Governing Board Member



Date