

**SUPERIOR UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT #15**  
1500 W. Panther Drive, Superior, AZ 85173

**MINUTES OF GOVERNING BOARD MEETING**

**Date:** Wednesday, December 4, 2024  
**Time:** 6:00 P.M.  
**Location:** 1500 W. Panther Drive, Suite 101, Superior, AZ 85173, Room 106

**REVISED AGENDA**

**Call to Order** 6:00pm

**a. In Attendance:**

Jon Nathan Duarte	Present
Henry Gutierrez	Present
Augie Hing	Present
Ericka Vasquez	Present via telephone

**b. Pledge of Allegiance**

**c. Approval of Agenda**

*Board member Gutierrez motioned to approve agenda as presented. Board member Duarte seconded. All in favor 4-0, motion carried.*

**d. Presentation: JFK Students of the Month for November:** Kindergarten- Timber Lopez, Justin Smith; 1<sup>st</sup> grade – Ezra Barrientos, Miley Fox; 2<sup>nd</sup> grade – Jayden Alindog, Elainna Hernandez; 3<sup>rd</sup> grade – Ellieanna Torres, Enoch Bribiescas; 4<sup>th</sup> grade – Kaylee Denogean, Alexandra Bogenschutz; 5<sup>th</sup> grade – Carona Jolley, Jayde Mendez; 6<sup>th</sup> grade – Abigail Campos, Julian Caillouette

SJSHS Students of the Quarter: 7<sup>th</sup> grade student of the quarter – Sade Sinteral, Hardest Worker – Avery Arroyos, Panther Award – Jade Serrano; 8<sup>th</sup> grade student of the quarter – Eugene Griego, Hardest Worker – Jamez Gonzales, Panther Award Celestina Gonzales; 9<sup>th</sup> grade student of the quarter – Lily Navarro Page, Hardest Worker – Krista Jo Gomez, Panther Award – Madison Cardenas; 10<sup>th</sup> grade – student of the quarter – Noah Jimenez, Hardest Worker – Payton Gibson, Panther Award – Adam Ayala; 11<sup>th</sup> grade – student of the quarter – Monet Coleman, Hardest Worker – Stephanie Lopez, Panther Award – Richard Montgomery; 12<sup>th</sup> grade – Student of the Quarter – Felix Garcia, Hardest Worker – Emily Parson, Panther Award – Alexandra Traylor.

**e. CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

**Patricia Talley Garcia -**

Would like to address some comments made at last months meeting by some community members. First, I would like to address a Facebook post made by a community member who wrote. The Jr/Sr High School does have a school library, and I oversee the library. However, as a small school all the teachers wear several hats. The library is one of the many that I wear. The library recently received a makeover, and we are slowly updating the books. I welcome anyone qualified to work in school library to reach out to me and possibly volunteer time. It should also be noted that each student has a tablet, thus needing the need for computers in the library. Music, Arts, Drama and Debate are elective classes that we currently do not offer. Based on student surveys there are minimal interest in those types of classes. However, if a community member would like to donate their time to incorporate Music, Art, Drama or Debate as an afterschool activity, I know the administration would be willing to listen to their proposal, see if there is an interest by students and see if it is a viable program. We do have computer and technology classes at the Jr High level. We offer a variety of CTE classes including Early Childhood Education I & II, Culinary Arts I – IV, Hospitality Management I & II, Education Professions I & II, Business Management I – IV. Students are also able to obtain

certifications through programs offered through CVIT as well as Welding here in Superior. Our district was rated a "B" by the Arizona Department of Education which speaks volumes of the hard work the District, Administrators, Staff and students are putting in each and every day. Second, I have to speak about the "secret" 900 thousand dollars from Resolution Copper that was also written in the post. This is not a secret; the information has been available at board meetings. As teachers we met with Resolution Copper to voice our ideas on how the funding should be allocated. Third, towards the end of the community members post she wrote "some of us don't run as she suggested is because she has no idea what is going on other's people lives." I find this statement extremely ironic. Every teacher, parent, board member, community member and so on, all have something going on in their lives. If community members want change for the District, then those members should stop complaining and start doing. It was heart wrenching to hear community members speak about our District, Superior Unified School District. At some point the division between the community members and the school district must end, and personal differences must be set aside. We are here for one goal, to educate students, so they become critical thinkers and productive citizens of society.

#### Consent Agenda

1. Approved of Governing Board Minutes – November 6, 2024.
2. Ratified Expense Vouchers #2517 - #2520 = \$148,579.80.  
and Payroll Vouchers #13- #14 = \$245,983.98.
3. Approved Auxiliary accounts for October 2024.
4. Approved Student Activity accounts for October 2024.
5. Approved Disposals and Acceptance of Donations for November 2024.
6. Approved Pinal County Technology Consortium.

Board member Duarte motioned to approve consent agenda as presented. Board member Vasquez seconded. All in favor 3-1 (Gutierrez)

7. Reports: **Superintendent/JFK Principal Stephen Estatico**  
**Enrollment** – Total district enrollment is 329.

**Projects** – We don't have any projects out right now. I was told by our consultant, the School Facilities board is out of monies right now. We don't know if they will fund some more. We do have a couple of projects that are in the design phase, but nothing is moving forward until there is funding for those projects. The cooling towers are up and running.

**JFK** - Benchmark testing is currently taking place during the next two weeks. We Benchmark test three times a year. This is our Winter test. We see if we show growth, the testing gets harder as we go on. We will test again in the Spring. For the next two weeks our student council is having a Kids Corner Gift Shop. The students are able to purchase small gifts for family members.

**Superintendent Events** - Training on Thursday with Cognia, about the K-12 accreditation. There is also a school resource officer training that administrators have to attend along with our SRO

**Celebrations & Recognitions** – We had a Special Ed audit, we had 60-day items that we had to complete. We finished ahead of time; we are ahead of schedule. I am happy with our Special Ed department.

**Upcoming Events** – Last day before Winter Break is December 19<sup>th</sup>.

**SJSHS Principal William Duarte**

**Academics** - Most of the high school student body met with a representative from Northern Arizona University on November 5, 2024. This was a presentation of the campus, programs, and overall culture of the university.

On November 13, 2024, we took several students from the high school on a trip to Arizona State University for a tour for interested future students and exposure to the university.

On November 15, 2024, our FBLA students and sponsors hosted the annual Fill-A-Bowl. The organization raised \$2,230.00 towards Superior's Food Bank. A huge thank you to all who participated.

On November 19, 2024, Superior Junior/Senior High School took several students to the Globe High School Career Fair.

Also on November 19, 2024, we participated in Cognia's Candidacy Review for District Accreditation and were approved to move forward with the process with flying colors. This was an all day visit and represented all stakeholder groups in the process.

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Benchmark assessments will take place in the first week of December.

Second semester intervention is taking place once final 1<sup>st</sup> semester grades are calculated. A schedule is being formulated and will be populated with teachers who will work on standards needed to strengthen our students' gap deficiencies. Credit recovery, filling gaps, and project-based learning will be taking place during this time. Progress goals related to Personal Learning Plans derived from MAP testing will be a focus.

High Student Council is working on room beautification projects at the Superior Junior/Senior High School.

Junior High School Student Council is participating with local entities for Miracle on Main Street (Booth, Parade, Clean-up) and wrapping presents at the Superior Fire Department as well as riding along, selling Santa's Reindeer feed.

**Athletics** - We are currently in the beginning stages of the winter season with many games to come. Updates will be available later.

**Fall Sports Football Recognition for the 1A East Conference**

**1<sup>st</sup> Team**

Adam Sandoval, Defensive Line, Ryland Duarte, Linebacker, Gabriel Ochoa, Offensive Line, Ryland Duarte, Offensive Utility/Flex, James Henriquez, Receiver/TE, Andrew Blair, Running Back

**2<sup>nd</sup> Team**

Nicholas Rabago, Defensive Back, Joel Romero, Defensive Line, Noah Jimenez, Defensive Utility/Flex, Adam Sandoval, Kickoff Return, Andrew Blair, Linebacker, Christian Hollenbeck, Linebacker, Raiden Sommer, Offensive Line, Joel Romero, Offensive Line, Antonio Lopez, Offensive Utility/Flex

**Fall Sports Volleyball Recognition for the 1A East Conference**

**Honorable Mention**

Faith Denogean, Lilianna Fritz, Leia Jimenez, Stephanie Lopez, Kaydynce Toner

**Celebrations & Recognitions**- We will be celebrating our students of the quarter this week and at this board meeting for each grade level. Staff is participating in Secret Santa during the week of December 16-19, 2024. We celebrate each other on December 19, 2024, during the half-day with a potluck. I want to thank our outstanding, outgoing board members and the rest of the board a Happy Holiday!

8. Public hearing to review Revised FY 2024-2025 December Budget

9. Revised FY 2024-2025 December Budget

Arizona school districts are funded on “current year funding” for the general fund. This means that the District must estimate its enrollment the summer prior in order to adopt the budget. For the proposed budget, the enrollment was maintained at the FY24 levels (flat). Current FY25 ADM levels were used for the Revised budget noted below:

- Group A – Proposed 314.0802
- Group A – Revised 290.1010

Decrease in Maintenance and Operation Fund from Proposed	\$(206,218)
Decrease in Maintenance and Operation Fund from FY24	\$(434,577)

- This decrease is primarily due to a decrease in ADM of approximately 24 students.

Increase in Unrestricted Capital Outlay Fund from Proposed	\$18,234
Increase in Unrestricted Capital Outlay Fund from FY24	\$268,114

This increase is primarily due to the following factor:

- Budget Balance Carryforward Increase \$17,778
  - Est carryforward \$33,071 proposed
  - ACTUAL carryforward \$50,849

Board member Gutierrez motioned to approve the Revised Annual Financial Report FY 2024-2025. Board member Duarte seconded. All in favor 4-0, motion carried.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION-PERSONNEL

- a. 301 Pay – Addison, Angela
- b. 301 Pay – Alindog, Jean
- c. 301 Pay – Bennett, Madeline
- d. 301 Pay – Cabais, Dennis
- e. 301 Pay – Chaidez, Carmen
- f. Minimum Wage Increase – Denogean, Brittney
- g. 301 Pay – Denogean, Tiffany
- h. Minimum Wage Increase – Dozal, Marris
- i. 301 Pay – Garcia-Denogean, Valerie
- j. 301 Pay – Graza, Gienemay
- k. Minimum Wage Increase – Gutierrez, Veronica
- l. 301 Pay – Hill, Sandra
- m. 301 Pay – Jimenez, Richard
- n. Minimum Wage Increase – Lopez, Ike
- o. Minimum Wage Increase – Lopez, Kristina
- p. Minimum Wage Increase – Macias, Veronica
- q. 301 Pay – Major, Kale

- r. 301 Pay – Major, Ken*
- s. 301 Pay - Major, Lora*
- t. 301 Pay – Martinez, Christine*
- u. Minimum Wage Increase – Montoya, Rachel*
- v. Minimum Wage Increase – Montoya, Stephanie*
- w. Minimum Wage Increase – Munoz, Jennifer*
- x. 301 Pay – Navarro, Irene*
- y. 301 Pay – Ortega, Manuel*
- z. 301 Pay – Pablo, Genevieve*
- aa. Minimum Wage Increase – Palafox, Saritza*
- bb. 301 Pay – Rodriguez, Julian*
- cc. 301 Pay – Simon, Leo*
- dd. 301 Pay – Talley-Garcia, Patricia*
- ee. Minimum Wage Increase – Tucker, Chantel*
- ff. 301 Pay – Uy, Mae*
- gg. 301 Pay – Villaverde, Terry*
- hh. 301 Pay – Vines, Cameron*

No motion was made to enter executive session.

11. **Personnel**

Board member Vasquez motioned to approve Personnel item 10 a-hh. Board member Duarte seconded. All in favor 4-0, motion carried.

12. **SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS**

Board member Vasquez – Would like to thank everyone on the board it has been a good run. I wish the new board members good luck as they take on in January.

Gutierrez – Would like to thank the audience for coming to the board meetings. Have a light parade next weekend on Main Street.

Hing – Will be conducting interviews at the HS with Ms. Vines.

Duarte – Have been attending basketball events and would like to thank the staff for keeping the fans in line. Would like to say thank you to the board and wish the best for the new board members.

13. **RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS**

14. **NEXT MEETING DATE**

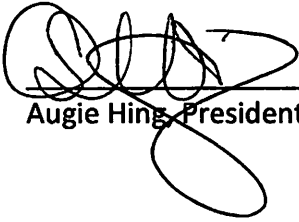
January 8, 2025

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

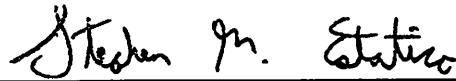
Board member Gutierrez motioned to adjourn meeting. Board member Duarte seconded. All in favor 4-0, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:48pm.

**CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES:**

I, by signing below, certify that these are the Official Minutes of the Superior USD #15 Governing Board Meeting held December 4, 2024, as approved at a legally noticed Superior USD #15 Governing Board Meeting held on January 8, 2025.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Augie Hing', written over a horizontal line.

Augie Hing, President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Stephen M. Estatico', written over a horizontal line.

Stephen Estatico, Superintendent