

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

MINUTES OF SPECIAL GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Date: Wednesday, October 15, 2025
Time: 5:00 P.M.
Location: 1500 W. Panther Drive, Suite 101, Superior, AZ 85173, Room 106

AGENDA

Call to Order

- a. In Attendance: Called to Order at 5:00pm
- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| Jessie Arroyos | Present |
| Nick Cruz | Present |
| Monica Denogean | Present |
| Henry Gutierrez | Present |
| Martin Navarrette | Present Telephonically |

b. Pledge of Allegiance

c. Approval of Agenda

Board member Gutierrez motioned to approve agenda as presented. Board member Cruz seconded the motion. All in favor 5-0, motion carried.

Arroyos: Aye Cruz: Aye Denogean: Aye Gutierrez: Aye Navarrette: Aye

d. CALL TO THE PUBLIC: Terry Villaverde, William Duarte, Madeline Bennet

Terry Villaverde- Has been part of the community for many years. Expressed concern over growing divide between town and school district. Highlighted negative impact of constant superintendent turnover on school stability. Stated teachers support Mr. Estatico but feel board does not provide adequate support. Noted lack of board support affects teacher morale, trust, and school stability. Called for prioritizing decisions that benefit students, staff and community.

William Duarte – I am speaking tonight to express my strong and sincere support to Mr. Steve Estatico. Mr. Estatico led district to maintain a “B” rating per Arizona Department of Education. Expanded mental health services and implemented social-emotional learning programs for students. Maintained staff morale and retention despite lower salaries; filled hard to staff positions. Ensured fiscal responsibility with financial stability, grant acquisition, and minimal audit finding. Upgraded technology, digital leaning platfors, and school facilities for improved safety and accessibility.

Madeline Bennet- Praised Mr. Estatico for creative leadership and staff motivation despite funding and limited resources.

1. Discussion/Action: **EXECUTIVE SESSION – SUPERINTENDENT/PRINCIPAL**

The Governing Board may vote to convene an executive session pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(3) and (A)(4) for discussion or consultation with the Board’s attorney for legal advice and/or to consider its position and instruct its attorney regarding the Superintendent/Principal’s Contract renewal and related Contract matters.

Board member Gutierrez motioned to enter executive session regarding Superintendent/Principal consult with board attorney for legal advice. Board member Cruz seconded the motion. All in favor 5-0, motion carried. Entered Executive session at 5:12pm

Arroyos: Aye Cruz: Aye Denogean: Aye Gutierrez: Aye Navarrette: Aye

Board member Gutierrez motioned to reconvene into open session. Board member Arroyos seconded the motion. All in favor 5-0, motion carried. Entered open session at 5:55pm

Arroyos: Aye Cruz: Aye Denogean: Aye Gutierrez: Aye Navarrette: Aye

2. Discussion/Action: **EXECUTIVE SESSION – SUPERINTENDENT/PRINCIPAL**

The Governing Board may vote to convene an executive session pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(1) for discussion or consideration of the Superintendent /Principal’s Contract and related matters.

Board member Gutierrez motioned to enter executive session regarding Superintendent/Principal Contract and related matters. Board member Arroyos seconded the motion. All in favor 5-0, motion carried.

Entered executive session at 5:56pm.

Arroyos: Aye Cruz: Aye Denogean: Aye Gutierrez: Aye Navarrette: Aye

Board member Gutierrez motioned to reconvene into open session. Board member Cruz seconded the motion. All in favor 5-0, motion carried. Entered open session at 6:17pm.

Arroyos: Aye Cruz: Aye Denogean: Aye Gutierrez: Aye Navarrette: Aye

3. Discussion/Action: **SUPERINTENDENT/PRINCIPAL**

Board member Gutierrez motioned to not approve Superintendent Contract for 2026-2027. Board member Curz seconded the motion. All in favor 4-1, motion carried.

Arroyos: Aye Cruz: Aye Denogean: Aye Gutierrez: Aye Navarrette: Nay

4. **NEXT MEETING DATE**

November 5, 2025

5. **ADJOURNMENT**

Board member Gutierrez motioned to adjourn the meeting. Board member Arroyos seconded the motion. All in favor 5-0, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:17pm

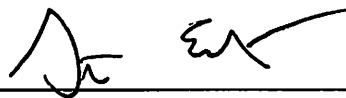
Arroyos: Aye Cruz: Aye Denogean: Aye Gutierrez: Aye Navarrette: Aye

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES:

I, by signing below, certify that these are the Official Minutes of the Superior USD #15 Governing Board Meeting held October 15, 2025, as approved at a legally noticed Superior USD #15 Governing Board Meeting held on November 12, 2025.



Monica Denogean, President



Stephen Estatico, Superintendent