

## DRAFT – Unofficial Until Approved

Meeting Minutes 12/17/2013

The Governing Board of the Tanque Verde Unified School District #13, Pima County, Tucson, Arizona held a Regular Session on December 17, 2013 in the Board Room, at the Tanque Verde Unified School District Administrative Office, 2300 N. Tanque Verde Loop Rd., Bldg. #1, and Tucson, Arizona 85749. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

### 1. ROLL CALL

Board Members present:

Mrs. Claire Place, President

Mr. Jeffrey Neff, Board Member

Dr. Peter Livingston, Clerk (arrived @ 7:55)

Mr. Carlos Ruiz, Board Member

Mr. Steven Auslander, Board Member (absent)

Amanda Grimshaw, Student Board Member

Administrative Staff:

Dr. Doug Price, Superintendent

Mr. Marty O'Shea, Business Manager (absent)

### 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**MOTION:** Mr. Ruiz made a motion to approve the Agenda. Mr. Neff seconded; the motion carried with Mrs. Place, Mr. Ruiz and Mr. Neff all voting unanimously.

### 3. REPORTS

#### • Superintendent's Report –

- **Capturing Kid's Hearts Training** – Dr. Price updated Board Members regarding the recent training that Mr. Greg Miller, Mrs. Sherri Rosalik and Ms. Susan Centers attended. The Capturing Kid's Hearts training was a three day off-site learning experience where the administrators, learned how to build and promote positive, productive, trusting relationships among themselves and with their students. Dr. Price announced we have signed a contract with the Flippen Group, for subsequent training for staff and ongoing leadership training. This is one of the unique and defining elements for TVES becoming a charter school, as well as their very strong Science program.
- **Ben's Bell and Ben's Bell Kind Kid's Update** – Dr. Price shared with Board Members that Tanque Verde Elementary School has established protocols for Ben's Bell Kind Kid's awards as they continue to work toward a kind kid's campus. They have begun recognizing and awarding students for their acts of kindness.

Dr. Price added, ACES teacher Ms. Della Thompson was recognized and honored with a Ben's Bell award. Mrs. Angie Donelson nominated Della Thompson for her compassion, creative teaching methods, and community service. Mrs. Kim Sharp represented the district for the surprise presentation.

- **Enrollment** – Dr. Price reported the current enrollment is 1977. TVHS is at 493, EGJH is at 367, TVES is at 633 and ACES is at 484.
- **District Report Card** - Dr. Price briefly discussed the District Report Card. Dr. Price pointed out the balance sheet - we are waiting for ADE funding.
- **Legislative update** – Mrs. Place asked fellow Board Members to comment on the ASBA conference sessions they attended:

Mr. Neff said he came away from the conference thinking the board should focus an upcoming Board workshop session on the competitive market place for education here in Arizona. Mr. Neff asked if the board could schedule a study session, in January, to discuss in detail what they learned at last week's ASBA Conference. In particular, Mr. Neff wanted to discuss the ASBA Communications session; all agreed. Neff added, "There were so many good sessions at the conference that we should discuss." The board decided to extend the January 23 Board meeting by two hours. The work session meeting will start at 5:00 p.m. at the district office.

Dr. Price added, discussions at all levels have been ongoing regarding district-sponsored schools. Legislators, ADE, the State Board of Education and other public and private agencies are looking closely at the charter school landscape. Each year there are proposals for prospective legislation and this year is no different.

It looks as though funding for 'some, not all' 9th grade JTED classes will be reinstated.

Dr. Price said the State will fund the 1.4% inflation factor, and there may be some new funds for successful student performance.

ASBA and others are predicting the 2014 Legislative session to be a short one with a great deal of attention paid to education matters.

Mr. Neff announced our Student Board Member, Amanda Grimshaw received the Jack Peterson Scholarship Award. Peterson is a former ASBA Executive Director and the Scholarship is for students planning to be teachers.

Mr. Neff added, and Mr. Ruiz agreed, that guest speaker ASU President, Michael Crow's presentation was very informative; Mr. Ruiz commented that "it changed my perception of that Institution." According to Dr. Crow, ASU's goal is to have 10% of the students in STEM majors (Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics) to be qualified and certified for teaching.

Mrs. Place, shared that ASU is able to determine students who need remediation and from which schools/districts they come. She continued, at one point we asked if we could receive this information from the U of A, NAU and Pima CC. Dr. Price said, he just heard back from the U of A, and they were unable to provide this information at this time.
- **Facilities report** –
  - Security Update Dr. Price reported he has received four proposals from various security companies for possible security surveillance on each campus. The quotes are average cost per campus are coming in at \$20,000 to \$30,000 per campus. Some of the companies offer

different licensing fees, maintenance agreements and for others it's a one-time annual fee within their program offerings. Dr. Price said he would be reviewing the proposals with Mr. O'Shea at the end of the month.

- **Board comments** – Mrs. Place reviewed the Board Self-Evaluation documents with the Board Members present. Board Members present agreed with the 'satisfactory' summary evaluation scores for each of the areas. Mrs. Place talked about the Board Self-Evaluation review cycle, which is back on the correct timeline. Attached is the Board Self-Evaluation summary.

#### 4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There was no call from the Public

#### 5. CONSENT AGENDA *(see attached)*

Please note there is a correction on the FTE for Felicia Pena. Her FTE should be .875 not 1.0 as reported.

**MOTION:** Mr. Neff made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Ruiz seconded; the motion carried with Mrs. Place, Mr. Neff and Mr. Ruiz all voting unanimously.

#### 6. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. TVHS Teacher, Mrs. Trudy Slanina – Community Based Instruction (CBI) Tower Garden Update. Dr. Price introduced Mrs. Slanina, she addressed the Board and showed a PowerPoint presentation which highlighted the different elements of the Tower Garden project and the student engagement and learning as a result of this program. Mrs. Slanina shared with the Board that her students monitor, care for, and maintain the Tower Gardens. Her students are learning skills and gaining self-confidence which translates to real life, according to Mrs. Slanina. As the instructor, Mrs. Slanina is promoting and teaching students to give back to the community. As they harvest their crops, donations will be made to local soup kitchens and she is hopeful that students will have the opportunity to volunteer to serve the food they grow at these local soup kitchens.

Mrs. Slanina also talked about the Student Ambassador program, involving regular education students tutoring CBI students. Mrs. Slanina says she witnesses on a daily basis TVHS student tutors demonstrating respect, patience and understanding as they genuinely and caringly work with the CBI students.

- B. U of A Students Alison Burton, Isaac Hung, Aaron Tirado made a presentation regarding the construction of an Aquaponics system at TVHS this year. Dr. Livingston introduced students Alison Burton, Isaac Hung, Aaron Tirado all are seniors from the U of A; also in attendance was Dr. James Ebling. As part of their senior project, students have to design an Aquaponics system in the first semester and in the second semester they have to build the system. Each student thoroughly explained each design step. Aquaponics systems are completely organic and involve the use of fish and their waste product. Fish waste in this

system runs through a filtering system and used to nourish plants. Also, as part of their assignment, the U of A student designers are required to develop a systems manual which they will give to TVUSD at the end of the school year.

Dr. Price asked if TVHS students could be involved through the implementation and construction. U of A students encourage this participation and Student Board member Amanda Grimshaw will help involve TVHS students.

C. Review Performance on Current Year Goals – Mrs. Place briefly discussed the Board goals, adding this would be a good topic to add to the study session in January.

D. Governing Board Organization – Mrs. Place said this item will be on the January 9 board agenda.

## 7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive session pursuant to:

A.R.S. 38-431.03 A. (1) Discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, demotion, dismissal, salaries, disciplining or resignation of a public officer, appointee or employee of any public body, except that, with the exception of salary discussions, an officer, appointee or employee may demand that the discussion or consideration occur at a public meeting. The public body shall provide the officer, appointee, or employee with written notice of the executive session as is appropriate but not less than twenty-four hours for the officer, appointee or employee to determine whether the discussion or consideration should occur at a public meeting.

A. Superintendent's Evaluation

**MOTION:** Mr. Neff made a motion to adjourn into executive session pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03 A. (1) Discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, demotion, dismissal, salaries, disciplining or resignation of a public officer, appointee or employee of any public body, except that, with the exception of salary discussions, an officer, appointee or employee may demand that the discussion or consideration occurs at a public meeting. The public body shall provide the officer, appointee, or employee with written notice of the executive session as is appropriate but not less than twenty-four hours for the officer, appointee or employee to determine whether the discussion or consideration should occur at a public meeting. The discussion topic is the Superintendent's Evaluation. Dr. Livingston seconded; the motion carried with Mrs. Place, Mr. Neff, Dr. Livingston, and Mr. Ruiz all voting unanimously.

Board Members adjourned into Executive Session at 8:47 p.m.

Board Members reconvened at 9:44 p.m. from Executive Session.

## 8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

## 9. FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

## 10. ADJOURNMENT

**Dr. Livingston** made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Ruiz seconded; the motion carried with Mrs. Place, Dr. Livingston, Mr. Ruiz and Mr. Neff all voting unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Judy Bower, Board Secretary

---

Claire Place, Board President

---

Peter Livingston, Board Clerk

**ABSENT**

---

Steven Auslander, Board Member

---

Jeffrey Neff, Board Member

---

Carlos Ruiz, Board Member

TVUSD  
Governing Board Self Evaluation Summary  
November 2013

Evaluations received from Steven Auslander, Claire Place, and Carlos Ruiz

- A. Board Relationship with the Superintendent – **Satisfactory** (Score: 12/12)
- B. Board Relationship with the Community – **Satisfactory** (Score: 9/9)
- C. Board Relationships Between Members During Meetings – **Satisfactory** (Score: 8/9)
  - 1. Respect – Continue to work on use of appropriate language and remarks during meetings
- D. Board Relationships with Staff and Personnel – **Satisfactory** (Score: 7/9)
  - 2. Continue to increase effort to become acquainted with district personnel.
- E. Board Relationship to the Instructional Program – **Satisfactory** (Score: 5/9)
  - 1. Request more frequent progress reports. Continue site visitations – positive feedback from board members.
  - 2. Increase effort to gain information from community about instructional program needs
- F. Board Relationship to Financial Management – **Satisfactory** (Score: 12/12)
- G. General Statements:
  - 1. Four Major Problems Board Faces:
    - Need for adequate funding for programs and competitive salaries/Closely monitor status of district sponsored charter funding
    - Dependence on overrides/inability to pass overrides due to voter hostility/decision on override for 2014-15
    - Ability to recruit and retain teachers/Inability to offer competitive salaries
    - Dependence on Open Enrollment
    - Focus on fiscal survival rather than on depth of curriculum
    - Preparation for Arizona Standards for College & Career Ready Standards and Assessments/Implementation of One to One Technology Initiative
  - 2. Weaknesses in operation of the school system:
    - Increasing reliance on Open Enrollment/Need to increase retention of in-district students
    - Perennial recruitment Issues- timing and salary/effect on teacher quality
    - Need for greater depth in our counseling operation to enhance students' college and career outcomes
  - 3. Significant accomplishments made by the school system in the past year:
    - Successful collaborations with our community, PTG's and TVF brought significant assets to district facilities and operations: Technology Initiative/Make a Difference Day/Baptist Church Park/Etc.
    - District sponsored charter – achieved with support of our community stakeholders
    - Completion of Climatec Energy Efficiency Upgrades and Solar Power projects - will bring significant energy savings to the district

