

**MINUTES-DRAFT**  
**GOVERNING BOARD MEETING-THATCHER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 4**  

---

**Thursday, December 12, 2024 5:30 p.m.**  
**District Administrative Center, 3490 West Main Street, Thatcher, Arizona**

*Dr. Gary Sorensen, President*  
*Kate McCluskey, Member*

*Dr. Debbie Chapman, Clerk*  
*Kenny Smith, Member*

*J. Travis Smith, Member*  
*Matt Petersen, Superintendent*

The meeting was called to order by Board President, Dr. Gary Sorensen at 5:30 p.m. All board members are present with exception of Dr. Debbie Chapman & J. Travis Smith. Pledge of allegiance led by Kenny Smith.

Dr. Sorensen praises the administrative staff for the monthly reports and the many positive things happening in the district.

**Approval of the Agenda and Minutes of November 14, 2024**

Motion by Kenny Smith to approve the agenda and minutes as submitted.

Second by Kate McCluskey.

Voted, passed, unanimous.

(Ayes: Kate McCluskey, Kenny Smith, Dr. Gary Sorensen)

**Summary of Current Events & Activities**

Superintendent Petersen advises-

- Staff recognition-Shiloh Ray
- Enrollment to date:
  - JDPS 424, last year 429
  - TES 548, last year 540
  - TMS 271, last year 293
  - THS 506, last year 504
  - EOA 57, last year 47
  - Total: 1806, last year 1813
- “Straight A’s” celebration continuing
- School Security
  - Raptor app has been rolled-out to all staff. Will continue to review emergency response protocol
- 25/26 academic calendar has been sent to staff for review and feedback
- Facilities
  - Painting of TES KC building
  - THS track
  - Transportation road repaving during Spring Break
- Recognition to retiring board member, Kenny Smith for his dedication to Thatcher Schools

**Call to the Public**

N/A

**Approval/Ratification of Financial Matters**

Motion by Kate McCluskey to approve/ratify payroll and expense vouchers dated (November 15, 2024 thru December 12, 2024) & budget balance reports ending (November 30, 2024).

Second by Kenny Smith.

Voted, passed, unanimous.

(Ayes: Kate McCluskey, Kenny Smith, Dr. Gary Sorensen)

**Approval of Staff Changes (\*Contingent on file clearance, as applicable)**

Motion Dr. Gary Sorensen to approve staff changes as submitted.

- Classified: Inclusion Aides: Dallas Huish/TMS, Bailey McCray/TES
- Other: Jamee Payne/Business Office Specialist-HR, Frank Fox/Skilled Maintenance, Vanessa Waldron/Bus Driver (Sub), Aaron Davis/Bus Driver, Brandon Larson/Crossing Guard
- Transfers: Jenni Bryce/Transfer from TMS Counselor to THS Counselor
- Certified: Jenny Stevens/JDPS 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teacher Emergency Substitute
- Resignations: Shiloh Ray/School Counselor, Kalynn Crosby/JDPS Inclusion Aide-Self Contained, Sherry Brady/Bus Driver
- Extra-Curricular: Game Help: Nick Orr, Brik Skousen, Spencer Lamoreaux, Ashley Zaragoza
- THS Wrestling: James Green/Volunteer, Jesse Green/Volunteer, Gage Heap/Volunteer, Alec Judd
- SY25/26 THS Vball: Marcie Lopeman/Head Coach, Ashtyn Ochoa/JV Coach, Raynee Norton/Freshman Coach, Ellen Robertson/Volunteer
- SY25/26 THS Fball: Dan Jones/Head Coach, Russ Jones/Assistant, Danny Batraw Assistant, Bret Hunt/Volunteer, Billy Farris/Assistant, Kody Taylor/Assistant, Ethan Estes/Volunteer, Jacob Robbins/Assistant, Michael Romney/Volunteer

Second by Kate McCluskey.  
 Discussion by Kenny Smith.  
 Voted, passed, unanimous.  
 (Ayes: Kate McCluskey, Kenny Smith, Dr. Gary Sorensen)

**Discussion/Information-TMS Football Lights**

Superintendent Petersen provided updated information. Discussion by board members.

**Approval of Revised FY25 Expenditure Budget**

Motion by Kate McCluskey to approve the revised FY25 expenditure budget.  
 Second by Kenny Smith.  
 Voted, passed, unanimous.  
 (Ayes: Kate McCluskey, Kenny Smith, Dr. Gary Sorensen)

**Approval of GIFTED Scope & Sequence**

Motion by Kenny Smith to approve the GIFTED scope and sequence.  
 Second by Kate McCluskey.  
 Voted, passed, unanimous.  
 (Ayes: Kate McCluskey, Kenny Smith, Dr. Gary Sorensen)

**Approval of ASBA Policy Advisories 801-807—SECOND READING—**

Motion by Dr. Gary Sorensen to approve the ASBA policy advisories 801-807.

- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Policy Advisory No. 801---Policy BAA  | Evaluation of School Board / Board Self-Evaluation              |
| Policy Advisory No. 802---Policy DJE  | Bidding / Purchasing Procedures                                 |
| Regulation DJE-R                      | Bidding / Purchasing Procedures                                 |
| Policy Advisory No. 803---Policy GCFC | Professional Staff Certification and Credentialing Requirements |
| Exhibit GCFC-E                        | Professional Staff Certification and Credentialing Requirements |
| Policy Advisory No. 804---Policy GDFA | Support Staff Qualifications and Requirements                   |
| Exhibit GDFA-E                        | Support Staff Qualifications and Requirements                   |

Policy Advisory No. 805 ---Policy IGA	Curriculum Development
Policy Advisory No. 806---Policy IMG	Animals in Schools
Regulation IMG-R	Animals in Schools
Policy Advisory No. 807---Regulation JLCD-R	Medicines / Administering Medicines to Students

Second by Kate McCluskey.  
Voted, passed, unanimous.  
(Ayes: Kate McCluskey, Kenny Smith, Dr. Gary Sorensen)

**Approval of Superintendent’s Evaluation and Awarding of Performance Pay**

*(Pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431-03(A)(1) to discuss or consider the employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, demotion, dismissal, salaries, disciplining or resignation of Superintendent)*

Motion by Kenny Smith to dismiss into executive session.  
Second by Kate McCluskey.  
Dismissed into executive session 5:45 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion by Dr. Gary Sorensen to reconvene regular session at 6:03 p.m.  
Second by Kate McCluskey.  
Motion by Kenny Smith to approve the Superintendent’s evaluation and awarding of performance pay.  
Second by Kate McCluskey.  
Voted, passed, unanimous.  
(Ayes: Kate McCluskey, Kenny Smith, Dr. Gary Sorensen)

**UPCOMING EVENTS/CALENDAR REVIEW/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Next regularly scheduled board meeting: January 9, 2025 @ 5:30 p.m.  
District Administrative Center  
3490 West Main Street  
Thatcher, Arizona 85552

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, motion by Dr. Gary Sorensen to adjourn at 6:04 p.m.  
Second by Kate McCluskey.  
Voted, passed, unanimous.

---

Dr. Gary Sorensen, President

---

Dr. Debbie Chapman, Clerk