

**DRAFT – Unofficial Until Approved**  
**Meeting Minutes 8/13/2015**

The Governing Board of the Tanque Verde Unified School District #13, Pima County, Tucson, Arizona held a Regular Session on August 13, 2015 in the Library, at the Tanque Verde Elementary School, at 2600 N. Fennimore., Tucson, Arizona 85749. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

**1. ROLL CALL**

Board Members present:

Dr. Peter Livingston, President

Mr. Jeffrey Neff, Board Member

Mr. Carlos Ruiz, Clerk

Augustine (Tino) Watson, Student Board Member

Mr. Steven Auslander, Board Member

Administrative Staff:

Ms. Kimberly C. Sharp, Superintendent

Mr. Adam Hamm, Business Manager

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Dr. Livingston made a motion to amend the agenda. He requested Information and Discussion item *B. New Building at TVES (tour included)* be moved prior to hearing Reports; his concern is there wouldn't be enough daylight in order to walk there safely and back. Mr. Neff seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

**3. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**B. New Building at TVES (tour included) – Ms. Susan Centers**

Ms. Centers led a guided tour to the new Motor Lab. Ms. Cindy Hodgeson Motor Lab Coordinator and Adaptive PE Specialist was waiting for board members and guests to see the new building and learn more about the district Motor Lab program.

Ms. Hodgeson spoke to the group about how the Motor Lab program functions and provided the group with a timeline:

The program began at TVES in 2005 as a pilot and at ACES in 2006

Initial funding came from Tanque Verde Foundation

In 2007, *Unsung Heroes* through ING, Inc. awarded Ms. Hodegson with \$2,000 for the Motor Lab program being the most innovative educational program in ARIZONA! She competed against 1500 applicants nationwide with 50 programs, one (1) per state being recognized.

In 2009 our districts Motor Lab program was published in the book *“More Best Practices for Elementary Classrooms.” – What Award Winning Teachers Do*, by Randi Stone. Ms. Hodgeson was a contributing writer.

At the beginning of the school year all students are screened on the 4 primitive reflexes and eye-tracking – the screening helps provide information as to student learning readiness and motor development. Kindergarteners through third grade students participate weekly in specialized movement centered on the “Ready Bodies, Learning Minds” program. The screening provides information about student learning readiness and motor development. Student participation in the Motor Lab helps improve reflex integration, rhythm, balance, eye-tracking, focus, motor planning and general sensory motor coordination.

Ms. Hodgeson expressed her thanks and appreciation to Ms. Centers, Ms. Sharp, Board Members and to the talented Maintenance crew led by Mr. Nicolas Barrios for their support and for creating the 'new' Motor Lab classroom.

#### 4. REPORTS

- **Superintendent's Report – Ms. Sharp**

Before making her reports, Ms. Sharp introduced the new Student Board Members. TVHS seniors, Augustine (Tino) Watson and Grace Gerbing. Tino will hold the position for the first semester, and Grace for the second semester. Ms. Sharp said an informal meeting will be scheduled with Student Board members, Dr. Livingston and the herself in the near future. Ms. Sharp explained our district is one of the only school districts that offers this opportunity to students. We believe this position helps students understand better how a school district operates and helps students demonstrate leadership skills, strengthen their public speaking abilities, and hone time management skills.

Dr. Livingston added this position serves a valuable service to the district as well; it develops relationships and connections between our students and our schools. Dr. Livingston also asked that both students, if their schedules permit, attend the Pima County Collaborative meetings as well as the ASBA meeting in December – by attending these meetings our students will learn about the political side of education.

Ms. Sharp pointed out to the students that this service should be added to their resumes.

- TVUSD Opening of School, an update

The first day of school for Tanque Verde Unified School District went well, as reported at every campus. We were highlighted on Channel 13 news at TVES, and Ms. Place will provide additional information about this. I spent most of my time at ACES, greeting the children and the parents. "I wish I could have been four places at one time!" The one area in need of attention is in Transportation. In particular, the bus stop at Kimberley and Tanque Verde Road. There are more students than in years past – over 30 students embark on the bus at this stop. There may be an opportunity to have the bus load the students by driving off the road; this will require the slight adjustment of an existing fence along the property. One of our School Resource Officers, Deputy Keith Barnes, is looking into this, and he will make additional recommendations to ensure safety of students.

- School resource Officer at EGJH and at TVHS -

We have been assigned two SROs, one for EGJH and one for TVHS. These position placements are funded through the Sheriff's Department – no additional fees charged to the district. Deputy Keith Barnes is assigned to Emily Gray Junior High School. Deputy Elisha Caywood is assigned to Tanque Verde High School. "I've met with both of them individually, and they are eager to provide service to our district." The goals of the SRO program are to be present and visible on a regular basis on the campus and in the surrounding neighborhood. This includes school zones, bus stops, and after school events. They will investigate issues that need attention, and bring matters to an appropriate conclusion. Both SROs have met with the Principals, and already positive relationships are in place. They have both been provided with an office area. We are

very pleased with the officers assigned to our district. Deputy Barnes has made it a point to visit the elementary schools as well. He has introduced himself, and is available to assist when / where needed. Deputy Caywood is available to provide instruction on law-enforcement topics such as bullying prevention and interventions, internet safety and legal topics. This is a benefit to our entire community.

➤ The Hawklight in front of EGJH –

On July 29, the Superintendent received an e-mail from Bill Strickler the Department of Transportation - Traffic Engineering Division. In a message to Ms. Sharp, he said that the project did go out to bid, and was subsequently awarded to Contractors West. In the July 29th e-mail, TVUSD I was notified it could be up to two to three weeks.

Today marks two weeks. Ms. Sharp phoned Mr. Strickler and was able to speak with him today. They held the preconstruction meeting last week. They learned the components (poles, signals, materials) may take up to three (3) months. They've asked for the delivery date, and hope to have that information soon. Construction may be while school is in session – it spreads out over three (3) weeks; however, they are given up to 90 days for construction.

➤ Preschool Feasibility

Now that school is underway, this committee will be schedule to meet. There are currently twelve (12) names on the participant list. Most have volunteered, and a few have been recommended by the site Principal. The mission of this committee is to support Goal 3.4: Investigate the development of a district pre-school program. To do this, the Preschool Feasibility Committee will vet such questions as:

- where would it be located?
- what would it cost?
- how would this be staffed?
- what would be the curriculum?
- how would transportation be addressed?

This committee may have additional points of study to recommend. Ms. Sharp will serve as the organizer and the facilitator (it is a Superintendent's committee) and I will keep the Governing Board informed on progress as appropriate. The outcome will be a final report for the Governing Board to review.

• **Community Liaison Report – Ms. Claire Place**

Save the Date! Career Day 2015 will be held on Friday, September 25, 2015 on all campuses. Planning meeting scheduled with site principals on August 20, 2015 and conversations with Mr. Rocky Ferrell are ongoing. This year the Career Day will only be help on one ay

Community Engagement Efforts - Attended first day event with TVES PTG; Scheduled to attend first meetings of TVES and ACES PTG and TVF in August; Scheduled to speak at Tanque Verde Networking Group Meeting in September; Scheduled upcoming dates with Education Finance Reform Group (EFRG), Arizona School Public Relations Association (ASPRA) and Arizona Business and Education Coalition (ABEC).

Media Requests - The following requests were received: 1) Information related to Human Growth and Development Curriculum requested by Mariana Dale of Arizona Public Media (Response in progress) 2) Live Interview requested by Maria Hechanova of KOLD Channel 13 Morning News was on Aug. 5.

The focus of the interview request was the reversion of TVES to a traditional school from a district-sponsored charter school (DSCS) and the subsequent loss of DSCS funding. A POI (Point of Information) was developed and provided to Ms. Sharp and Principal Centers prior to the interview. Broadcast - August 5th at 8:00, 12:00 and 4:00.

District Logo – Ms. Kim Sharp, Ms. Claire Place and Mr. Steven Auslander met with the Mr. Frank Williams Design (FWD) team for (no-cost) consultation regarding the district logo and district marketing/branding. An independent graphic designer has also been contacted and her portfolio and fees have been received.

District Website Updates - The district is under contract with eSchoolView for website services through SY 2015-2016. The discounted rate under which we entered into the contract is no longer available, due to changes in the eRate program, according to Mr. Tony Blackwell, IT Director. Actions are under way to complete the following objectives: to evaluate the current utilization and appearance of the district website; to update the formatting of district website pages and menus to make them more efficient and intuitive for the user (within the confines of eSchoolView); to update the appearance of the website and make it more engaging; to improve formatting of school and district pages, and consistency of form and function of teacher pages. In addition, demonstrations of some websites/electronic communications tool options have been reviewed, including Edlio, BlackBoard and PeachJar. At this time, no recommendations are being made.

@TVUSDSchools - District Twitter account - Updates and increased engagement efforts are underway! Followers have increased from approx. 375 to 402 as of August 6, 2015.

Tax Credit Campaign - Survey of district tax credit communications under review. School Tax credit contributions have changed they are now allowing standardized testing fees for college credit or readiness (SAT and ACT) offered by a widely recognized and accepted educational testing organization now qualify for tax credit. Another change: *“beginning in 2016, credit eligible fees paid and contributions made to a public school from January 1 through April 15 of a calendar year may be used as a tax credit on the prior year’s tax return. For example, qualifying contributions made to a public school January 1, 2016 to April 15, 2016 may be used as a tax credit on either your 2015 or 2016 Arizona income tax return.”* The contribution limits remain the same, married filing jointly is \$400, and single is \$200. All district employees are eligible to make Tax Credit donations through payroll deduction.

- **Legislative Update – Mr. Neff**

Mr. Neff reported the State Land Trust initiative will be coming on the November 2016 ballot. It’s been a legal fight over whether the state can divert trust land proceeds away from public schools. Increasingly communities, nationwide, are recognizing public schools are underfunded.

Mr. Ruiz shared that he'd attended a lunch at the Arizona Chamber where the focus is on a project A for Arizona in support of big business.

Mr. Ruiz mentioned hearing discussions about dividing Tax Credit donations among schools. There are also conversations in progress about the empty schools, and how they can be used. Mr. Ruiz added it is important we define and message 'who we are' and 'what we offer.' Ms. Sharp added right now we have a waiting list at every school site.

Discussions relating to partnering school leaders, with an 'A'-grade from the state, to help serve very low-income and low performing schools are in progress.

- **Facilities Report – Mr. Hamm**

Mr. Hamm announced by noon on, August 21, the field lights should be operational at TVHS. There were minor delays because of the rain earlier this week; all indications are the job should be completed on time. With the construction, digging holes and trenching in the fields, there was some damage to the field – all will be repaired at the conclusion of the project.

The Church outdoor bandstand is to be torn down and something else put in its place.

Signage is in place to encourage people to stay off of the stage.

There are Tarantula Wasps on the North West side of the Administrative building. We've diverted students away from the Milk Weed plant that is attracting the Wasps. Dr. Livingston helped problem solve with this issue. The Milk Weed plant attracts the Monarch Butterflies and we are a registered Monarch Butterfly Way Stations so we were reluctant to remove these plants.

Student Board members, Tino Watson and Grace Gerbing were asked how the high school students are reacting to the field enhancement projects underway at the high school. Tino said Mr. Johnson is very excited, he is hopeful the community will attend more of the home football games. Grace Gerbing, who is also the Spirit Line Captain, said they are very excited about the lights and bleachers.

- **Board Comments – Dr. Livingston**

Discussions regarding Bus safety, specifically Buses with scissor opening doors may be deemed unsafe. Mr. Hamm stated in our current Bus fleet we have potentially 11 buses with the 'scissor doors' – these buses are our Standby Buses. We will be looking for new 'used' buses. Mr. Neff added the Arizona Department of Safety is overseeing School Bus Safety. A Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is seeking public input concerning the issue of scissor doors or butterfly doors on buses.

Ms. Sharp added she is working with Mr. Robert Cannon, Director of Dragonfly Village, to help identify ways the district can best support the students and families.

The three candidates vying for the School Board vacancy were invited to attend the Board meeting tonight and they are in attendance:

Ms. Susan Fry, Mr. Dave Culbertson and Carrie Radomsky. Each candidate briefly introduced themselves. Interviews are scheduled for Friday, August 14. Ms. Sharp wished all candidates good luck.

**5. CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

There were no comments from the public during this session.

**6. CONSENT AGENDA** *(see attached personnel report)*

**MOTION:** Mr. Neff made a motion to approve the Consent agenda. Mr. Ruiz seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

**7. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS****A. Community Programs update – Ms. Marie Benson and Ms. Mary Dee Miller**

Ms. Marie Benson provided the Governing Board with her work history; she has been Director of the *Before and After Care* program for 24 years. Currently there are 25 students in the Before Care program and 95 students in the After Care program. At ACES there are 30 students being transported from ACES to TVES for the After Care program. Unfortunately, it is taking approximately 1 hour to transport students from ACES to TVES, this is taking too long. Ms. Sharp said she would contact Transportation and work with Ms. Lindflott to help look for solutions. Ms. Sharp added Ms. Lindflott is all about problem solving.

Ms. Mary Dee Miller, Assistant Director and Coordinator of CC club spoke to Board Members regarding their class offerings, enrollment and finances. Open enrollment families have had a positive impact on enrollment in the CC club. Ms. Miller talked about an employee benefit she negotiated with Dr. Price; district employees are offered 2 free classes per year, one per semester. Both Ms. Benson and Ms. Miller talked about the challenge of space availability on the campuses. Ms. Miller complimented the Elementary staff in both offices for being very helpful and attentive to their needs.

**8. ACTION ITEM**

A. Approval of Qualified Evaluator, TVHS Principal Mr. A.J. Malis

**MOTION:** Mr. Neff made a motion to approve TVHS Principal Mr. A.J. Malis. Mr. Ruiz seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

**9. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

TVHS – Open House ~ August 13 at 6:00 p.m.

ACES – Open House ~ August 18 at 6:15 p.m.

EGJH – Open House ~ August 19 at 6:00 p.m.

TVES – Open House ~ August 24 at 6:30 p.m. (Kindergarten and Sixth grade only)

August 25 at 6:30 p.m. (First grade – Fifth grade only)

**10. FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEMS**

Policy Advisories and Alerts

Dr. Livingston described how the Governing Board reviews policies; each board member is given an assignment to review and study policies and present to the other board members.

AzMerit

Safety Initiative update

New Board Member update

Amity

Website

Transportation

Writing Audit/Writing skills – Writing Assignment (high school and junior high)

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Neff adjourned the meeting at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Judy Bower, Governing Board Secretary

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Peter Livingston, Board President

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Carlos Ruiz, Board Clerk

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Steven Auslander, Board Member

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Jeffrey Neff, Board Member

## Personnel Items - Board Meeting - August 13, 2015

<b>Administrator Contracts</b>	Position	Reason	Site	FTE	Salary	Date
<b>Certified Contracts</b>	Position	Reason (Replace / New)	Site	FTE	Salary	Date
<b>Certified Resignations</b>						
<b>Classified Contracts</b>	Position	Reason (Replace / New)	Site	FTE	Wage	Date
<b>Classified Agreements</b>	Position	Reason (Replace / New)	Site	FTE	Wage	Date
Nancy Richards	Paraprofessional I	Replace Rachel Tapia	ACES	0.25	\$8.86	8/4/2015
Connie Gibbons	Paraprofessional I	Replace Sam Baires	ACES	0.70	\$9.04	8/4/2015
Rebecca Shockley	Food Service Assistant/Crossing	Replace Karen Barnes/Debby Black	EGJH	0.56	\$9.22	8/4/2015
Jeanne Stewart	Paraprofessional I	Replace Sandra Stewart	TVES	0.43	\$9.56	8/10/2015
Meara Lesho	Paraprofessional I	Replace Elena Marshall	ACES	0.674	\$9.56	8/4/2015
<b>Other Continuations</b>	Position	Reason (Replace / New)	Site	FTE	Wage	Date
<b>Classified Resignations</b>	Position	Reason	Site	FTE	Wage	Date
<b>Other Discontinuations</b>	Position	Reason	Site	FTE	Wage	Date
Doug Rotolo	Volunteer Baseball Coach	Resign	TVHS	Varies	\$0.00	8/3/2015
<b>Other New Hires</b>	Position	Reason	Site	FTE	Wage	Date
Llewelyn "Sam" Smyth	Classified Sub	Rehire	Varies	Varies	Sub Pay	8/3/2015
Jeremy Samoy	Assistant FB Coach	Replace Jonathan Prellwitz	TVHS	Varies	\$2,008.00	8/3/2015
Michelle Malis	Head Volleyball Coach	Replace Matt Cox	TVHS	Varies	\$2,868.00	8/3/2015
Miki Pimienta	Classified Sub	New	Varies	Varies	Sub Pay	7/23/2015
Melissa Hadinger	Certified Sub	New	Varies	Varies	Sub Pay	8/3/2015
Karen Barnes	Certified & Classified Sub	New	Varies	Varies	Sub Pay	7/23/2015
Janis Pridans	Certified Sub	New	Varies	Varies	Sub Pay	8/13/2015