

**Grand Canyon Unified School District #4**  
**April 02, 2020**  
**Special Board Meeting**  
**6:00 p.m.**

**Pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.02**, notice is hereby given to the public that the Governing Board of the Grand Canyon Unified School District #4 will convene for a **Special Meeting**.  
The Meeting will be held Wednesday, March 18, 2020, at 6:00 p.m., in the Grand Canyon Unified School District Board Room #405, 100 Boulder Street, Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023.

Members of the Governing Board may attend either in person or by telephone conference call.

The Governing Board reserves the right to move into Executive Session for discussion and consideration of employment, assignment, promotion, demotion, salaries, etc., and/or legal advice with its attorneys for any item listed on the agenda, in person or telephonically, pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(1) or (A) (3).

***All items on the agenda may be discussed or considered at this meeting.***

Minutes are recorded as annotations of the agenda, as indicated in gray background and left paragraph bars (bars have been added because the gray background may not copy).

**\*\*\* NOTE \*\*\***

In compliance with social distancing and stay-at-home recommendations issued by the Center for Disease Control and directions from Federal and State governments in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, this Board meeting was held virtually by phone/web conference.

Designation of "present" indicates these members were identified as active members in the conference call.

The Board Meeting phone/web conference information was provided for the public in the meeting posting. At one point the meeting included 27 attendees. Only Board Members and district staff who reported are identified in the roll-call.

## **1. Opening Items**

### **A. Call to Order**

Motion by Mr. Kevin Hartigan at 6:09 p.m.

Motion: Call to order.

Second: Mr. Joe Rabon

Vote Tally:

Board Member	Yes	No	Abstain	NA
Kevin Hartigan	X			
SuZan Pearce	X			
Joe Rabon	X			
Pete Shearer				X
Kathryn Morris				X

Board Member Ms. Kathryn Morris joined at joined at 6:11.

## B. Roll Call

Board members present:

- Mr. Kevin Hartigan
- Ms. SuZan Pearce
- Ms. Kathryn Morris; Ms. Morris joined at joined at 6:11.
- Mr. Joe Rabon
- Mr. Pete Shearer; Mr. Shearer joined at 6:19 by phone. See note on technical difficulties.

District staff members present:

- Ms. Tosca Henry, JD, Legal Council
- Dr. Shonny Bria, Superintendent
- Mr. Matt Yost, Principal
- Mr. Ivan Landry, Maintenance and Operations Director
- Mr. Thomas O'Connor, Program Director, Acting Board Secretary
- Ms. Lori Rommel, Dean of Students
- Ms. Barbara Shields
- Mr. Derrick Tutt, IT Director
- Ms. Judy Beckerleg, Assistant Business Manager
- Ms. Cyndi Moreno, Athletic Director

### \*\*\* Note on Technical Difficulties \*\*\*

This was the first Board Meeting held entirely virtually. Because of the fairly large attendance, for example with 27 participants in the conference at one time, control mechanisms were instituted to minimize background noise, including the web conference host muting all phones, with directions as to how un-mute individual lines for the Board members. As a new process, this caused some confusion and delays.

Board Member Mr. Shearer, for example, joined at some point before the noted 6:19 p.m. above, and was able to hear in the meeting, but was not able to participate actively until his line was unmuted at 6:19 p.m.

There may also be variances between the times noted here, and times, for example when the Executive Session convened because of delays in joining the separate executive meeting session.

**C. Pledge of Allegiance**

**D. Approval of the Agenda**

Motion by Mr. Kevin Hartigan at 6:12 p.m.

Motion: Approval of the Agenda as presented.

Second: Ms. SuZan Pearce

Vote Tally: (See previous note on technical challenges with regard to MR. Shearer)

Board Member	Yes	No	Abstain	NA
Kevin Hartigan	X			
SuZan Pearce	X			
Joe Rabon	X			
Pete Shearer				X
Kathryn Morris	X			

**2. Arizona Department of Education (ADE) Graduation Guideline**

Mr. Yost walked the Board through the Letter issued by the Arizona State Board of Education on March 31, 2020, regarding awarding of academic credit and high school diplomas.

See Attachment A; ASBE-Ruling-March31, 2020.

**3. Updates from Administration**

**A. Academics**

Matt Yost/Thomas O'Connor

Portals/Student Packets K-12 – Thomas O'Connor/Matt Yost/Lori Rommel

Communication with Parents and Community – Matt Yost

Mr. O'Connor briefly described, and demonstrated the Academic Resources web page on the school's web site.

Mr. Yost described the work teachers have been doing to provide these links to resources, and described the work of being done in collaborative team meetings of the faculty. He also described his direction to the faculty that they reach out to students, and their families, ideally daily, or as much as practical.

Ms. Rommel described the effort which has gone into putting together, and distributing school packets for our students.

## **B. Computer Distribution and Technology**

Computer Distribution and Technology - Derrick Tutt/Matt Yost

Mr. Yost described the effort which has been completed, specifically to ensure our seniors have computing devices to enable them to complete any requirements for their senior year, with the goal of ensuring that all seniors meet all college readiness requirements for the fall.

Mr. Yost also described additional activity, including collaboration with the Town of Tusayan to provide additional computing devices to ensure all high school students have access to complete current on-line coursework.

## **C. SPED (testing, compliance, academics)**

SPED (TESTING, COMPLIANCE, ACADEMICS) - Karen Lehman

Dr. Lehman described the work in progress for special education, including regular team meetings, and ongoing Individual Education Plans (IEPs) using our GoTo Meeting platform.

## **D. Food Services**

Food Services - Barbara Shields

Ms. Shields described current activity in support of providing free breakfast and lunch for all of our students Monday through Thursday. She pointed out that we are having difficulty procuring supplies, and are being very resourceful by conserving resources that we have and deconstructing and reusing lunch bags which go unclaimed.

Ms. Shields did point out a concern regarding safety of the people distributing meals, including the process of leaving food bags at drop-off locations, and not interacting directly with students or parents. Part of the issue of safety was addressed by Mr. Landry below.

## **E. Transportation**

Transportation - Ivan Landry

Mr. Landry addressed the Board with specific information on ozone generators the school acquired recently specifically for the purpose of daily sterilization of the busses.

**F. Business Office**

Business Office - Judi Beckerleg

Ms. Beckerleg addressed the Board with specific information on how the school will continue to make payroll during this crisis in compliance with the guidelines of the Governor and AZ Department of Education.

**4. Executive Session**

The Board may vote to enter Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. Section 38-431.03 (A) (3) for consultation or discussion for legal advice with the District’s attorney, regarding the District’s emergency preparedness plan.

Motion by Mr. Kevin Hartigan at 7:09 p.m.

Motion: Enter Executive Session for consultation or discussion for legal advice with the District’s attorney, regarding the District’s emergency preparedness plan.

The Board requested the following staff members and legal council join the Executive Session: Dr. Bria, Ms. Beckerleg, Dr. Lehman, Mr. Yost, Ms. Henry JD.

Second: Ms. SuZan Pearce

Vote Tally:

Board Member	Yes	No	Abstain	NA
Kevin Hartigan	X			
SuZan Pearce	X			
Joe Rabon	X			
Pete Shearer	X			
Kathryn Morris	X			

The Board entered Executive session after a five minute 7:19 p.m. the delay involved sharing dial in numbers for additional staff, and addressing some technical challenges.

**5. Reconvene to Regular Session**

A. Reconvene to Regular Session and possibly take action

The Board Reconvened to regular session at 8:08 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Kevin Hartigan at 8:10 p.m.

Motion: Adopt Resolution 2020-004 (attached).

Second: Ms. SuZan Pearce

Mr. Hartigan read aloud the resolution to the public meeting. There was no discussion.

Vote Tally:

Board Member	Yes	No	Abstain	NA
Kevin Hartigan	X			
SuZan Pearce	X			
Joe Rabon	X			
Pete Shearer	X			
Kathryn Morris	X			

## 6. Adjournment

Motion by Kevin Hartigan at 8:21 p.m.

Motion: Adjourn.

Second: Ms. SuZan Pierce

Vote Tally:

Board Member	Yes	No	Abstain	NA
Kevin Hartigan	X			
SuZan Pearce	X			
Joe Rabon	X			
Pete Shearer	X			
Kathryn Morris	X			

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by, \_\_\_\_\_  
Board Secretary

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kevin Hartigan  
Board President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pete Shearer  
Board Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joe Rabon  
Board Clerk/Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathryn Morris  
Board Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
SuZan Pearce  
Board Member

Attachments:

1. Attachment A: ASBE-Ruling-March31, 2020.
2. Attachment B: Resolution 2020-004



## Arizona State Board of Education

1700 W. Washington Street  
Executive Tower, Suite 300  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007  
Phone: (602) 542-5057  
Website: azsbe.az.gov



**March 31, 2020**

The Board held a special meeting to implement measures prescribed in HB 2910; signed by the Governor in response to COVID-19.

### **Awarding Academic Credit and High School Diplomas**

The Board adopted emergency rules regarding the issuance of academic credit and high school diplomas for the 2019-2020 school year. The entire rule can be viewed [here](#) and a summary is below.

When deciding how to award academic credit and high school diplomas, schools should first base the decisions on the entire school year, including any educational opportunities provided during closures. School districts and charter schools determine what the educational opportunities are and how they are delivered. Examples may include independent study and online instruction.

If schools are unable to provide educational opportunities during the closure, then schools may look to the student's progress prior to the closure. Specifically, if the student already met the competency requirements for the course or was on track to graduate prior to the closure, then the school may award the credit or diploma. How to make this determination is at the discretion of the school district or charter school.

Regarding the Civics Test Graduation Requirement, students are still required by statute to receive a 60% or better on the Civics Test. As a reminder, students may take the assessment in a form and manner determined by the school district or charter school. Schools should not withhold diplomas from a student that is unable to take the assessment due to barriers created by the public health emergency.

These rules are intended to clarify pathways to award credit and diplomas as the result of the closures. Schools retain the authority to decide whether to issue diplomas or credit to students. However, schools may not base these decisions solely due to missed instructional time as the result of the closure.

### **Remote School Learning Opportunity Plan Form**

HB 2910 requires local education agencies (LEA) to offer educational opportunities, as determined by the LEA, during the school closure in order to receive continued formula

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*President: Lucas Narducci*

*Vice President: Dr. Daniel Corr*

*Superintendent of Public Instruction: Kathy Hoffman*

*Calvin Baker • Jill Broussard • Christine Burton • Dr. Rita Cheng • Janice Mak • Michele Kaye • Armando Ruiz • Patricia Welborn*

*Executive Director: Alicia Williams*





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funding. The Board and ADE are required to adopt the manner in which LEAs attest to providing educational opportunities.

To accomplish this, LEAs must do the following by April 15, 2020:

- Fill out a [form](#) for each school or LEA.
- On the form, LEAs will attest to the educational opportunities they are providing to students via a signature by the LEA's superintendent, school leader or their designee.

The Remote School Learning Opportunity Plan form can be accessed here: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1dz39okbrFIGckwXDRB7hzoquqfayYbc-eyq0Bw\\_ZltM/edit](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1dz39okbrFIGckwXDRB7hzoquqfayYbc-eyq0Bw_ZltM/edit).

Following the end of the school year, the Board will follow-up with schools on the Plans submitted.

### **Assessment and Accountability**

Pursuant to HB 2910:

- Statewide assessments are cancelled for the 2019-2020 school year. This includes AzM2, AIMS Science, MSAA, and AZELLA. Additional information will be provided regarding the Menu of Assessments in the 2019-2020 school year. Please contact assessment at the Arizona Department of Education for more information: <https://www.azed.gov/assessment/>
- For the 2019-2020 school year, schools will receive the same letter grade as they received in the 2018-2019 school year. Notably, schools are not subject to the 3D = F statute.

The Board also approved requests to the federal government to waive requirements regarding assessment and accountability and expect a prompt response.

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**ESOLUTION NO. 2020-004**  
**GRAND CANYON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT #4**

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Arizona has extended the closure of all Arizona schools through the end of the 2019-2020 school year; and

WHEREAS, Grand Canyon Unified School District #4 of Coconino County, Arizona (“District”) has determined that it is in the District’s best interest to extend the prior closure of its school(s) to assist in the containment of COVID19; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board has authority pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-806(B) to authorize school closure due to widespread illness; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent has authority pursuant to Governing Board Policies EBCD, its accompanying regulation and Governing Board Policy ID to close schools in an emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board finds as that it is in the best interest of the District and its community to close the schools and to carry out the actions listed below in order to prevent the spread of a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board finds that it is in the best interest of the District and serves a public purpose to continue to pay its employees for the time period of the school closure in order to maintain order in the community, reduce employee turnover, allow employees to care for the needs of their families, meet its contractual obligations and increase morale for District employees during a time of national crisis.

NOW, THEREFORE be it resolved by the Governing Board of Grand Canyon Unified School District #4 of Coconino County, Arizona that:

Section 1. The Governing Board authorizes the closure of all District schools.

Section 2. The Governing Board intends to close all District schools through the end of the 19-20 school year, at which time the Board authorizes the Superintendent to reassess the potential outbreak of COVID19 and any public safety concerns.

Section 3. The Superintendent is authorized to continue regular payroll expenses for employees. Employees may be reassigned to different duties. Wherever possible, employees shall remain on call and available to report to work.

Section 4. The Governing Board has adopted, and directs the Superintendent to implement, the updated graduation requirements contained in the Arizona Administrative Code Section R7-2-302.11.

Section 5. The Governing Board authorizes the Superintendent to execute all requisite documents to apply to the Arizona Department of Education for excuse of students from school attendance because of school closure pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-806(B).

Section 6. The Governing Board authorizes the Superintendent execute any further documentation to effectuate this resolution, including but not limited to any requisite notices required by the Arizona Department of Education or local/state health authorities.

Section 7. The Governing Board authorizes the Superintendent to make those decisions reasonably necessary to continue the daily operations of the District and to make those decisions necessary to do so until the COVID19 public health concerns have passed, while keeping the Governing Board informed through regular updates.

Passed and adopted this 2nd day of April, 2020.

GRAND CANYON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT #4

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kevin Hartigan, Board President

Attested by:  
\_\_\_\_\_