

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

Tuesday, December 9, 2025 5:30 p.m.

District Administrative Center, 3490 West Main Street, Thatcher, Arizona

Dr. Gary Sorensen, President
Kate McCluskey, Member

Dr. Debbie Chapman, Clerk
Susan Hancock, 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 the exception of Board Clerk, Dr. Debbie Chapman and Board Member J. Travis Smith. Pledge of allegiance led by Dr. Gary Sorensen.

Approval of the Agenda dated December 9, 2025

Motion by Susan Hancock to approve the agenda as submitted.

Second by Kate McCluskey.

Voted, passed, unanimous.

(Ayes: Susan Hancock, Kate McCluskey, Dr. Gary Sorensen)

Approval of the Meeting Minutes dated November 13, 2025

Motion by Susan Hancock to approve the meeting minutes from November 13, 2025 as submitted.

Second by Kate McCluskey.

Voted, passed, unanimous.

(Ayes: Susan Hancock, Kate McCluskey, Dr. Gary Sorensen)

Summary of Current Events & Activities

N/A

Call to the Public

N/A

Approval/Ratification of Financial Matters

Motion Kate McCluskey to approve/ratify payroll and expense vouchers dated (November 14, 2025 thru December 9, 2025).

Second by Susan Hancock.

Voted, passed, unanimous.

(Ayes: Susan Hancock, Kate McCluskey, Dr. Gary Sorensen)

Approval of Employment Matters-Staff Changes (*Contingent on file clearance, as applicable)

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

Classified:	Substitutes:	Anastassiya Ionova, Audrey McNeill, Lee Ann Woodward, Charlie Allred, Tiffany Smith, Katelyn Rocko
	Other:	Ashlynn Oliver/Custodian, Elaina Estrada/Custodian, Lexi Lopez/Janitorial
Resignations:		Sandy Porter/TES Inclusion Aide, Clara Carl/JDPS Inclusion Aide
Extra-Curricular:	TMS Game Help:	Dallin Kartchner, Hank Garrison, Sherman Stafford, Jejdrique Chavez

Second by Kate McCluskey.

Discussion by Susan Hancock.

Voted, passed, unanimous.

(Ayes: Susan Hancock, Kate McCluskey, Dr. Gary Sorensen)

Approval of Early Graduation for THS Student Z.T.

Motion by Kate McCluskey to approve early graduation for THS student Z.T.

Second by Susan Hancock.

Voted, passed, unanimous.

(Ayes: Susan Hancock, Kate McCluskey, Dr. Gary Sorensen)

Approval of Early Graduation for EOA Student B.G.

Motion by Kate McCluskey to approve early graduation of EOA student B.G.

Second by Susan Hancock.

Voted, passed, unanimous.

(Ayes: Susan Hancock, Kate McCluskey, Dr. Gary Sorensen)

Approval of New/Updated ASBA Policy Advisories 909-914, 915-916, 917-958 & 959

---SECOND READING---

Motion by Dr. Gary Sorensen to approve the new/updated ASBA policy advisories 909-914, 915-916, 917-958 & 959.

PA 909-914

Policy Advisory No. 909
Policy Advisory No. 910

Policy EB
Policy GCQF

Environmental and Safety Program
Discipline, Suspension and Dismissal of
Professional Staff Members

Policy Advisory No. 911
Policy Advisory No. 912
Policy Advisory No. 913
Policy Advisory No. 914

Policy IKF
Policy JLC
Policy JLCD
Policy JLF

Graduation Requirements
Student Health Services and Requirements
Medicines/Administering Medicines to Students
Reporting Child Abuse/Child Protection

PA 915-916

Policy Advisory No. 915
Policy Advisory No. 916

Policy GDFA
Policy IKF

Support Staff Qualifications and Requirements
Graduation Requirements (*Additional language
for Accommodation Schools Only*)

PA 917-958

Policy Advisory No. 917
Policy Advisory No. 918
Policy Advisory No. 919

Policy EA
Regulation EB-R
DELETED Policy EBAA

Support Services Goals/Priority Objectives
Environmental and Safety Program
Reporting Hazards/Warning Systems

Policy Advisory No. 920

DELETED Regulation EBAA-R
NEW Policy EBAB

Reporting Hazards/Warning Systems

Policy Advisory No. 921

NEW Regulation EBAB-R
Policy EBBB

Hazardous Materials
Hazardous Materials

Policy Advisory No. 922

Regulation EBBB-R
Policy EBC
NEW Regulation EBC-R

Accident Reports
Accident Reports
Emergencies
Emergencies: Response Plans and School
Closings

Policy Advisory No. 923

DELETED Policy EBCD
DELETED Regulation EBCD-R

Weather – Related and Emergency Closings
Weather – Related and Emergency Closings

Policy Advisory No. 924

Policy ECA
Regulation ECA-R

Security

Policy Advisory No. 925

Policy ECAC
Regulation ECAC-R

Security
Vandalism

Policy Advisory No. 926

Policy ECB

Vandalism

Policy Advisory No. 927

DELETED Policy ED

Building and Grounds Maintenance

Policy Advisory No. 928

Policy EDB

Materials and Equipment
Maintenance and Control of Materials and
Equipment

Regulation EDB-R

Maintenance and Control of Materials and
Equipment

Policy Advisory No. 929

DELETED Policy EDBA

Maintenance and Control of Instructional
Materials

Policy Advisory No. 930

Policy EDC

Authorized Use of School - Owned Materials and
Equipment

Policy Advisory No. 931

Policy EE

Transportation Services

Policy Advisory No. 932

NEW Policy EEA
NEW Regulation EEA-R

Student Transportation

Policy Advisory No. 933

DELETED Policy EEAA

Student Transportation

Policy Advisory No. 934

Policy EEAE
Regulation EEAE-R

Walkers and Riders

Exhibit EEAE-EA

Bus Safety Program

Exhibit EEAE-EB

Bus Safety Program

Policy Advisory No. 935

Policy EEAEA

Bus Safety Program

NEW Regulation EEAEA-R

Bus Driver Requirements, Training and
Responsibilities

Policy Advisory No. 936

DELETED Policy EEAEAA

Bus Driver Requirements, Training and
Responsibilities

Drug and Alcohol Testing of Transportation
Employees

	DELETED Regulation EEAEAA-R--Drug and Alcohol Testing of Transportation Employees	
	DELETED Exhibit EEAEAA-E--Drug and Alcohol Testing of Transportation Employees	
Policy Advisory No. 937	Policy EEAEB	Bus Purchasing and Maintenance
Policy Advisory No. 938	DELETED Policy EEAEC	Student Conduct on School Buses
Policy Advisory No. 939	DELETED Policy EEAF	Special Use of Buses
Policy Advisory No. 940	DELETED Policy EEAG	Student Transportation in Private Vehicles
	DELETED Regulation EEAG-R--Student Transportation in Private Vehicles	
Policy Advisory No. 941	Policy EEB	Business and Personnel Transportation Services
Policy Advisory No. 942	DELETED Policy EEBD	Business Transportation Records and Reports
Policy Advisory No. 943	Policy EF	Food Services
	Regulation EF-RA	Food Services
	NEW Regulation EF-RB	Food Services
Policy Advisory No. 944	DELETED Policy EFC	Free and Reduced – Price Food Services
	DELETED Regulation EFC-R--Free and Reduced – Price Food Services	
Policy Advisory No. 945	NEW Policy EFD	Pricing of and Payment for Food Services
Policy Advisory No. 946	DELETED Policy EFDA	Collection of Money/Food Tickets
Policy Advisory No. 947	DELETED Policy EFE	Competitive Food Sales/Vending Machines
Policy Advisory No. 948	DELETED Policy EG	Office Services
Policy Advisory No. 949	Policy EGAD	Copyright Compliance
Policy Advisory No. 950	Policy EGAE	Mail and Delivery Services
Policy Advisory No. 951	Policy EGAEA	Electronic Mail
	NEW Regulation EGAEA-R	Electronic Mail
Policy Advisory No. 952	Policy EGD	Use of Technology in Office Services
Policy Advisory No. 953	Policy EHB	Data/Records Retention
	Regulation EHB-R	Data/Records Retention
Policy Advisory No. 954	Policy FA	Facilities Development Goals/Priority Objectives
Policy Advisory No. 955	Policy FCB	Retirement of Facilities
Policy Advisory No. 956	Policy FEA	Educational Specifications for Construction
Policy Advisory No. 957	Policy FF	Naming Facilities
Policy Advisory No. 958	Policy GBEB	Staff Conduct
PA 959		
Policy Advisory No. 959	DJE	Bidding/Purchasing Procedures

Second by Susan Hancock.

Discussion by Superintendent Petersen and Susan Hancock.

Voted, passed, unanimous.

(Ayes: Susan Hancock, Kate McCluskey, Dr. Gary Sorensen)

Discussion/Information Bond Election November 2026

Superintendent Petersen briefed the board members as to project costs and tax rates. Discussion by board members, Susan Hancock, Kate McCluskey, and Dr. Gary Sorensen. Discussion to continue on this matter in upcoming months.

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 Susan Hancock to dismiss into executive session.

Second by Kate McCluskey.

Dismissed into executive session at 5:53 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Dr. Gary Sorensen to reconvene regular session at 6:21 p.m.

Second by Kate McCluskey.

Motion by Dr. Gary Sorensen to approve the Superintendent's evaluation and awarding of performance pay.

Second by Susan Hancock.

Voted, passed, unanimous.

(Ayes: Susan Hancock, Kate McCluskey, Dr. Gary Sorensen)

UPCOMING EVENTS/CALENDAR REVIEW/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Next regularly scheduled board meeting:

January 8, 2026 @ 5:30 p.m.
District Administrative Center
3490 West Main Street
Thatcher, Arizona 85552

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, motion by Susan Hancock to adjourn at 6:22 p.m.

Second by Kate McCluskey.

Voted, passed, unanimous.

Dr. Gary Sorensen, President

Dr. Debbie Chapman, Clerk