



1525 W. Frye Road  
Chandler, Arizona 85224

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Minutes of a Regular Board Meeting of the Governing Board

Office of the Board  
Maricopa County, Arizona  
December 9, 2020  
7:00 p.m.

**1. Executive Session (closed) - 5:00 pm**

1.01 Adjourn to Executive Session-Supt Eval

**Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session per A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(1), for 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.**

**Motion by Lindsay A Love, second by Karen M McGee.**

**Final Resolution: Motion Carries**

**Aye: Barb R Mozdzen, Lara E Bruner, Lindsay A Love, Karen M McGee**

**Not Present at Vote: David F Evans**

1.02 Adjourn from Executive Session

**Motion to Adjourn from Executive Session.**

**Motion by Lindsay A Love, second by Karen M McGee.**

**Final Resolution: Motion Carries**

**Aye: Barb R Mozdzen, Lara E Bruner, David F Evans, Lindsay A Love, Karen M McGee**

**2. Opening Items - 7:00 pm**

2.01 Roll Call

Barb Mozdzen, Board President; Lara Bruner, Board Vice President; David Evans, Karen McGee and Lindsay Love, Board Members, were present.

Dr. Camille Casteel, Superintendent; Lana Berry, Chief Financial Officer; Frank Fletcher, Associate Superintendent for Support Services; Sandy Cooper, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Craig Gilbert, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education; Dr. Wendy Nance, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Frank Narducci, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education; Larry Rother, Senior Executive Director of PK-12 Educational Services; and Terry Locke, Director of Community Relations; were present.

2.02 Pledge of Allegiance / Moment of Silence

**3. Routine Business**

3.01 Approve the Minutes of the November 18, 2020 Regular Board Meeting

**Motion to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2020 Regular Board Meeting as presented.**

**Motion by Lindsay A Love, second by David F Evans.**

**Final Resolution: Motion Carries**

**Aye: Barb R Mozdzen, Lara E Bruner, David F Evans, Lindsay A Love, Karen M McGee**

### 3. Routine Business (cont'd)

- 3.02 Approval and Ratification of Payroll and Expenditure Vouchers  
**Approve and Ratify Payroll for November 19, December 3, 2020 and Current Expenditures.**

**Motion by Karen M McGee, second by Lindsay A Love.**

**Final Resolution: Motion Carries**

**Aye: Barb R Mozdzen, Lara E Bruner, David F Evans, Lindsay A Love, Karen M McGee**

- 3.03 Correspondence  
No correspondence presented.

### 4. Consent Agenda

- 4.01 Out of State Student Travel Preplanning  
Out of state field trip pre-planning forms for BHS and CCHS were provided. Following Governing Board pre-approval, the Superintendent (designee) will monitor trip arrangements before providing final approval. Final trip approval will be determined on a case by case basis and will be contingent upon current health guidelines.
- 4.02 Monetary Gifts  
Requested approval of the monetary gifts generously donated to Chandler Schools totaling \$27,588.36.
- 4.03 Donations  
Requested approval of the items generously donated to Chandler Schools totaling \$185,530.00.
- 4.04 2021-2022 Junior High Course Catalog  
The draft 2021-2022 Junior High School Course Catalog and a summary of the recommended additions were presented for approval.
- 4.05 2021-2022 High School Course Catalog  
The draft 2021-2022 High School Course Catalog and a summary of the recommended additions were presented for approval.
- 4.06 Human Resources  
Employment, Separation and Compensation.

**Approve the Consent Agenda as presented by Dr. Casteel.**

**Motion by David F Evans, second by Karen M McGee.**

**Final Resolution: Motion Carries**

**Aye: Barb R Mozdzen, Lara E Bruner, David F Evans, Lindsay A Love, Karen M McGee**

### 5. Action Items

- 5.01 School District Annual Expenditure Budget Revision #1  
In accordance with Arizona Statute ARS 15-905E, a school district must revise its budget prior to December 15, 2020. Revision of the 2020-2021 budget is necessary to adjust for ADM, fund balances and COVID-related expenses. Chief Financial Officer, Mrs. Lana Berry, summarized the items that must be adjusted, explaining the rationale. Enrollment has decreased and the budget is based on current year enrollment. Distance learning has not been funded yet.

**Adopt the 2020-2021 district annual expenditure budget revision #1.**

**Motion by Karen M McGee, second by Lindsay A Love.**

**Final Resolution: Motion Carries**

**Aye: Barb R Mozdzen, Lara E Bruner, David F Evans, Lindsay A Love, Karen M McGee**

## 5. Action Items (cont'd)

### 5.02 HS #7 - ACP Furniture and Equipment

Requested board approval on furniture and equipment to be purchased for HS#7 - ACP in the amount of \$1,436,014.15.

**Approve the furniture and equipment purchase for the new high school, AZ College Prep, for a total of \$1,476,185.40.**

**Motion by Karen M McGee, second by Lindsay A Love.**

**Final Resolution: Motion Carries**

**Aye: Barb R Mozdzen, Lara E Bruner, David F Evans, Lindsay A Love, Karen M McGee**

### 5.03 In-person and Virtual Instructional Options

**CUSD Board directs the administration to develop a plan and communicate the details to temporarily expand the virtual connect (through Google Meets) in-person classes for students in grades 7-12 beginning January 5-15, 2021 and that teachers are able to work virtually on January 4, 2021 to prepare for this modification.**

**Motion by David F Evans, second by Karen M McGee.**

Board members acknowledged that families may be traveling over the holiday break and discussed offering the option to connect virtually through Google Meets for a limited period of time, January 5-15, 2021, if in-person students would like to quarantine for two weeks. David Evans acknowledged this is not an ideal situation, but just an option and would be a ton of extra work for teachers and more challenging for students as well. This is the same instructional model currently offered to quarantined students, but the instruction is not the same as in-person.

Lindsay Love asked why this was proposed for only students in grades 7-12 when yesterday's numbers had increased significantly? David responded that in his discussions with principals, mitigation strategies are more possible in elementary schools and the younger students need more teacher in-person interaction.

Lindsay asked the teachers in the room to speak to the proposal. Katie Nash, Chandler Education Association president, explained that teachers are not able to interact the same with a student on-line as opposed to in the classroom. She understands that some students are fearful of coming to school, but teachers keep being asked to do "one more thing". Some teachers are okay with doing this for 2 weeks, but not beyond. The more students are virtual, the less teachers can manage the classroom - it does not replace being in-person. She asked families to stay home over the holidays and wear masks.

Barb Mozdzen noted that teachers are exhausted and becoming burnt out, but with the numbers of people traveling over the holidays, this option gives families a choice for their students.

Karen asked if this was a benefit or would it cause more problems?

Larry Rother responded that it would be beneficial for the short-term, but most of the community want to be in-person and he does not believe teachers would support more than two weeks.

Lara Bruner disagreed that parents want to be in-person stating they made their decisions based on metrics and now feel the district has pulled the rug out from under them. CUSD is not following the County, has not surveyed parents lately and no one is impressed with COA. She warned about being careful about making assumptions of people's intent. She likened the current proposal as a crumb of a big, beautiful cake, and said we are putting our community at risk. She is disheartened that we are not following the science.

David acknowledged this proposal is not sustainable, but at least it's a crumb.

Lindsay asked why this was put on the agenda if there was no plan, stating we just need to get it done. She acknowledged Mr. Evans did his best, but she expected more. The administration has done nothing and now the new board has to carry out a plan when there isn't even a plan. She feels the families who choose this option are the ones that will gather over the holidays. This does not do anything to mitigate harm to our teachers.

Barb Mozdzen called for a vote.

**Final Resolution: Motion Carries**

**Aye: Barb R Mozdzen, Lara E Bruner, David F Evans, Karen M McGee**

**Abstain: Lindsay A Love**

## 6. Information Items

- 6.01 Student Activity, Auxiliary Operations and Tax Credit Reports  
Student Activity (SA), Auxiliary Operations (AUX), and Tax Credit (TC) Reports for the months ending July through November 2020 were provided.
- 6.02 CUSD Board Agenda Roadmap  
Board members discussed upcoming events and activities.

## 7. Comments

- 7.01 Citizen Comments  
Kurt Rohrs, parent, addressed the board regarding keeping schools open. He asked the board to listen to experts, including the American Pediatrics Association, and science in support of keeping students in schools. Science shows seniors, 65 and up with health risks are more vulnerable - not children. Mental health and emotional challenges have increased with virtual learning. One year ago, emotional learning was the topic of conversation of this board; and social justice seems to have been discarded by a small vocal group of activists trying to shut down schools. He challenged the Board to do what is best for the children in their care and encouraged them to let teachers teach - that is what is best for our children.

Katie Nash, CEA President, addressed the board representing educators of CUSD stating they are talented, hardworking individuals with grace and excellence, showing love for students with a smile hidden behind a mask. However, the staff is exhausted, worried about families, students, themselves, working overtime, cleaning to mitigate the spread of COVID and subbing for each other. CEA brought their concerns to administration and presented recommendations in July. The district responded by allowing teachers onsite to bring their children with them; provided equipment, Leaves of Absence, hired more staff; put cap on class size, and worked with the sub coordinator to help fill vacancies. In recent months, they asked for changes to the dashboard and modifications were made. She thanked the District for improved and increased communication.

Terry Locke, Director of Community Relations, summarized and presented 708 Public Comments submitted online. The comments were provided in their entirety to board members as well as posted on the CUSD website.

Barb Mozdzen appreciates all the comments submitted to help inform the board.

- 7.02 Superintendent Comments  
Dr. Casteel acknowledged that a lot of people are disappointed with every decision the District has made since March. Some are frustrated, some are scared, some are happy. Board members are well-intentioned - we don't all agree and there is not consensus; but all are well-intentioned. She is sorry that we have disappointed and upset some families. People complain that "things keep changing"; Dr. Casteel acknowledged that things above us keep changing. The State Health Dept and ASU contacted us to be part of a pilot for a mobile saliva test unit and possibly two locations for the antigen test. Teachers and students will be the priority and there will be no cost for either of these. We will send a communication regarding a central location to report if someone tests positive over the holidays. People say we are not being transparent on the dashboard and I'm sorry if you think we are less than transparent. We were the first district to post a dashboard to eliminate rumors; we were taught how to do contact tracing; we have expanded the dashboard - and will do so again. Beginning in January, we will have another column to record any case reported, even if they have not been on campus. The Center for Disease Control recently changed the mask mandate stating face shields are no longer approved unless a medical exemption is provided by a licensed healthcare provider. Yes, things keep changing, and we try to adjust accordingly. Quarantine guidelines are also changing, and we are trying to make adjustments in January. I do believe the light at the end of the tunnel is brighter with the vaccine coming; educators are being moved up in priority.  
Dr. Casteel thanked Katie Nash, Chandler Education Association President, for her work stating that her contribution has been helpful to all of us.  
Dr. Casteel presented outgoing board members David Evans and Karen McGee with gifts, acknowledging their years of dedicated service to all of Chandler's students and families. They will be missed.

## 7. **Comments (cont'd)**

### 7.03 Board Member Recognition / Comments

Karen McGee expressed her appreciation for the gift stating it has been her honor to serve on the governing board for the last 10 years. She is grateful for the opportunity to work with an amazing superintendent and staff. Karen wished the new board members much success. Happy Holidays and thank you again for the gift.

David Evans thanked the superintendency, administration, and staff, acknowledging their years of longevity, stating everyone has made a difference. Many have kids in this district and stated that this staff prepared his son and his friends to make choices. This is a great community for many families. David promised to be around. Thank you for an amazing, learning opportunity.

Barb Mozdzen thanked Karen and David for their experience, expressing their views, for serving on this board and putting children first. They made decisions in the best interest of kids. Their dedication to the mission of our school district has been exemplary. Thank you and we will miss you. Barb closed by wishing everyone a happy holiday season.

## 8. **Adjournment**

### 8.01 Adjourn the Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.