



Regular Governing Board Meeting with Executive Session
Peoria Unified School District No. 11
District Administration Center
6330 W. Thunderbird Road
Glendale, AZ 85306
February 23, 2023

Governing Board Members Present Mr. David Sandoval Mrs. Rebecca Hill Mrs. Melissa Ewing Mrs. Heather Rooks Dr. Bill Sorensen	Administration Dr. Jason Reynolds, Superintendent Mr. Kevin Molino, Chief Technology and Operations Officer Dr. Carter Davidson, Chief Student Services Officer Mrs. Danielle Airey, Chief Communications Officer Mrs. Laura Vesely, Chief Personnel Officer Ms. Michelle R. Myers, Chief Financial Officer Dr. Teresa Hernandez, Chief Academic Support Officer Mrs. Kim Kontra, Governing Board Secretary
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1. Call to Order

1.1 Governing Board President David Sandoval Calls the Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:31 pm. Dr. Sorensen was not present at convene; however, he arrived at approximately 5:00 pm.

2. Executive Session

2.1 Convene Executive Session Pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03 (A)(3) - Discussion or consultation for legal advice with the attorney or attorneys of the public body related to Title IX

President Sandoval read the agenda item language, explained the process that would be followed: 1) The board will listen to the district, 2) The board will hear public comment, 3) The board will discuss and ask any clarifying questions, 4) The board will vote whether to go into executive session or not.

He also added that any comments not tied to convening executive session would be heard during open call to the public at the regular meeting at 6:00 pm, reiterating that this agenda item was to determine whether to convene an executive session or not. President Sandoval then turned to Superintendent, Dr. Reynolds for further clarity.

Dr. Reynolds explained that we are here at the request of a board member to receive legal advice related to Title IX. He then introduced the Governing Board attorney, Mrs. Lisa Anne Smith, to further explain the purpose of executive session.

Governing Board attorney, Mrs. Lisa Anne Smith of DeConcini, McDonald, Yetwin, & Lacy, P.C., explained the purpose of this executive session, stating that it was only for legal advice around what the law restricts, allows, or requires. She stated that it was not a time for the attorney or the Board to discuss policy, what may or may not be done about the advice, nor is it a time to make any decisions. If there was a need for discussion and/or any action, that would occur at a later public meeting. She reiterated that this executive session was strictly for legal advice.

President Sandoval then read the expectations of decorum for public comment prior to introducing speakers.

Public Comment

- Corrine Haynes – Read an excerpt from a book entitled *Battle for the American Mind* by Pete Hegseth, which highlighted the author's views on subjects such as Black Lives Matter, the subsequent riots, and how the movement seemed to be intertwined with a rapid rise in topics such as Critical Race Theory and redefining gender. She shared that she thought the plethora of problems facing public education should be addressed, instead of who can use our children's restrooms. She thinks that the executive session should be in public, not behind closed doors.
- Tiffany Rivas - Graduate of Peoria Unified, moved from Desert Valley Unified School District to have her children attend Peoria Unified. She shared that she is scared about what her daughters will possibly be faced with and have to make decisions about in grade school or high school. She also related it to a recent interview with Olympic swimmers regarding what they face in the locker room. She does not want public dollars to be spent on building separate restrooms. She asked the board to listen to the parents here tonight.
- Diane Douglas - Former Peoria Unified board member, former Arizona State Superintendent of Public Instruction, read, in part, the Arizona Revised Statute that allows the Governing Board to go behind closed doors for legal advice. She said that this is a loophole that essentially allows the Board to go behind closed doors and receive legal advice on anything. She asked this Board not to be like many other Boards who use and abuse this clause.
- Mr. Yakov (no first name provided) - Asked why the district couldn't ask for a legal written opinion instead of an executive session; shared that he thinks this conversation should be held in public.
- Becky Smith - Agreed with what everyone has said up to now; thinks that the community should be informed of what the law is to help in their understanding; stated that she has researched and provided articles to the board around what has happened in gender neutral bathrooms and asked that they read prior to any decision making; suggested accommodations be nurses' restrooms for students.
- Mia (no last name given) - Wants executive session to be open to the public; stated that blurring lines can be dangerous, and that accommodations should be made for the few not the many. She also thanked Board Clerk, Heather Rooks, for trying to bring transparency and change the culture and challenged the other board members to follow along; read scripture from the Bible, Luke 8:17 – "For there is nothing hidden that will not be disclosed, and nothing concealed that will not be known or brought out into the open."

- Christina Rogers - Wants executive session to be open and legal advice be given in the public; taxpayers pay for that legal advice, and the public should be able to hear the advice. Asked what will happen if we open the doors at school, what would happen at football games.
- Devon Updegraff Day - called but not present
- Eric Hayes – Shared that he grew up in this district, and that he is disgusted and disenchanted. The decision to allow transgender kids to use the opposite restrooms is immoral. He wants to bring transparency to PUSD & to the state of AZ.

Prior to introducing the next speaker, President Sandoval reminded the community once again that this line item is centered around whether or not to convene executive session for legal advice. He asked that the community please hold their comments to that particular subject.

- Jenna LiBrandi – Former Frontier Elementary student, spoke in favor of the conversation being in public; wants transparency and wants something done when there are concerns brought forward; suggested that just because issues are not brought forward does not mean they do not happen
- Cornel Moca - In support of Board Clerk Heather Rooks and everyone else in the room who has spoken to have these discussions in public; wants transparency with no manipulation; the government is for the people by the people
- Benjamin Larrabee – Thanked the Board for addressing these issues; is In support of having this conversation in public, not in executive session; last year, shared a report of assault from Loudon County; urged public conversation around protection of all students
- Tiffany Benson - Discussions for Title IX should be out in the open; read bill information related to parental rights; requested policy be enacted that would keep boys from girls' bathrooms and vice versa

Prior to introducing the remaining speakers, President Sandoval noted that the 30-minute speaking limit had expired; however, he would allow the remaining speakers to address the board since there were so few left.

- Josh Gray - Supported going into executive session; not against transparency but board should be able to understand its legal options before being expected to explain that to the public; this cannot happen in public due to liability issues
- Brian Hooper - spoke in support of protecting our kids, and of the board being clear and open with the community
- Sara Jarrell - keep open to the public for legal advice; wants safety for all students; keep transparency and an open mind

Board Discussion

Dr. Reynolds reminded the Board that their attorney, Mrs. Lisa Anne Smith, is present if they have any questions.

Board Clerk Heather Rooks stated that she has thought a lot about this, and she has to provide transparency. She said that it is the public's attorney, not the board's. She wants the conversation open to the public.

Board member Melissa Ewing said that it is prudent for the Board to get expert legal advice from the

attorney, in order to make the best decisions. This is that opportunity to be able to get that legal advice.

Board member Rebecca Hill said that she thinks it is great to have transparency. She shared that it has been difficult to go into executive sessions over the last couple of years to discuss sensitive issues, and then be unable to share anything with the public. She also said that she thinks we need to involve the community and set some sort of policy to include the public in these decisions.

President David Sandoval said that he values the opinions and perspectives of everyone and supports a safe and supportive environment for all of our students. He reiterated that no decisions are made in executive sessions, but they do allow the board to have conversations with their attorney(s) that will help keep the district out of harm's way.

President Sandoval then asked for a motion to convene the executive session. Board Clerk Rooks stated that she would like to motion not to go into executive session. President Sandoval asked if Clerk Rooks was suggesting an alternative motion, to which she stated that she would like to keep the meeting open to the public. Dr. Reynolds sought to clarify for the Board that if it was voted upon not to go into executive session, this did not mean that the conversation could continue in open session this evening.

Motion to convene Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03 (A)(3) - Discussion or consultation for legal advice with the attorney or attorneys of the public body related to Title IX

Prior to votes being cast, Dr. Sorensen asked for clarification on what a "yes" vote versus a "no" vote meant on this item, stating his understanding that a "yes" vote meant that we would convene executive session for legal advice with the attorney and a "no" vote meant we would not go into executive session and continue on with the regular meeting. Dr. Reynolds stated that the Board would recess until 6:00 pm if the motion failed.

Mrs. Hill then sought to understand if there could be an open meeting with the lawyer if there was no executive session. President Sandoval called for order, as there were attendees shouting from the audience. He then responded to Mrs. Hill that the agenda did not have a line item where the topic could be discussed. Dr. Reynolds clarified Mrs. Hill's question, and said that the executive session did not preclude further discussion, just not this evening. Dr. Sorensen stated his understanding that there could be a future discussion around Title IX in public. Dr. Reynolds responded that his statement was correct.

Mrs. Rooks recalled that former Board member, Representative Beverly Pingerelli, had voted not to go into executive session, and that she also knew that a similar instance had occurred at a West-Mec Board meeting. According to information that the attorney shared, there could be an opportunity to have the conversation in public. She asked why the Board was not made aware of this by the attorney or the superintendent. Dr. Reynolds apologized for any confusion and reiterated that the Board cannot discuss a topic that is not on the agenda, and that this was a matter of law. Mrs. Lisa Anne Smith was then asked by Mrs. Rooks if there were any other situations across the nation or within other school districts where an executive session had moved to open session. Mrs. Smith responded that there were none that she was counsel on, and that she was unsure if that had happened anywhere else, nor what the justification would have been. She also stated that there was an exception to that law; however, that exception did not apply in this case.

President Sandoval asked if he understood the attorney correctly when she said that it was up to the District or the Governing Board to communicate information shared in executive session publicly with respect to the legal advice provided. Mrs. Smith replied that this was not up to any individual board member but to the board as a whole. She further clarified that the board could ask the attorney to write a memo meant to share with the public, or the board could ask the attorney to give a legal presentation that would provide the information the public was looking for as to the law. President Sandoval stated that knowing this information, he would support having a conversation with the attorney presentation on a future board agenda. Dr. Reynolds shared that there are executive sessions that can be moved to the public meeting. Mrs. Smith stated that if it was a personnel executive session, and the person being discussed requested that the meeting be held in public, that it could be moved to the open session at that point. The other instance where an item that was scheduled for executive session could be discussed in public is when that topic was agendaized later in that same meeting.

Dr. Sorensen asked Mrs. Smith if receiving legal counsel in public could put the district at risk for litigation. Mrs. Smith responded that there is a difference in providing a presentation on the law versus legal advice where there are specifics being discussed. She shared that she is comfortable giving a presentation on the law but not comfortable giving legal advice in a public setting.

Mrs. Hill reiterated her understanding that a presentation on the law would not include a question and answer session but would allow the board to receive all the pertinent information and act on it accordingly. Mrs. Smith responded affirmatively.

Motion remained on the floor from earlier, which was:

Motion to convene Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03 (A)(3) - Discussion or consultation for legal advice with the attorney or attorneys of the public body related to Title IX

Motion by Melissa Ewing, second by David Sandoval.

Final Resolution: Motion Fails

Yea: Melissa Ewing

Nay: David Sandoval, Bill Sorensen, Rebecca Hill, Heather Rooks

3. Return to Regular Session

3.1 Return to Regular Session

The Governing Board recessed at 5:35 pm until the regular meeting start time at 6:00 pm, as the vote to go into executive session failed.

4. Opening Exercises

4.1 Moment of Silence

Prior to the moment of silence, President Sandoval asked for thoughts and prayers for one of students who recently passed away.

4.2 Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board Clerk Heather Rooks.

5. Address Agenda

5.1 Address Agenda and Consider Adoption or Recommend Changes

Motion to adopt this agenda as presented as to the order of business and approval of consent agenda.

Motion by Heather Rooks, second by David Sandoval.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: David Sandoval, Bill Sorensen, Rebecca Hill, Heather Rooks, Melissa Ewing

6. Recognitions

6.1 Recognitions

Mrs. Danielle Airey, Chief Communications Officer, recognized the following:

- Ava Wells Student Body President, Centennial High School
Ava thanked the board for having her and appreciates the opportunity to represent the students of Peoria Unified. The Board shared their congratulations and their thanks to Ava for her attendance.
- Mr. Justin Davis, Engineering Teacher, MET Professional Academy, received the Engineering Teacher of the Year from the Arizona Society of Professional Engineers.
Mr. Chris Lemka nominated Mr. Davis, as he has worked with him for 3 years at the MET Academy. Mr. Lemka shared that he excels at creating a curriculum that rivals college level engineering courses. He then read excerpts from nomination letters from students, parents, and staff. Mrs. Airey then introduced Mr. Davis and his students. Mr. Davis said that it really is all about the kids standing behind him. The board shared their congratulations and their thanks to Mr. Davis and to his students.

6.2 Board Comments

Board member Rebecca Hill thanked everyone who attended the meeting today, and for sharing their comments.

Board Clerk Heather Rooks read from Scripture, Proverbs 22:6: "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Mrs. Rooks then highlighted Liberty High School Varsity Cheer, and also thanked Sunrise Mountain High School and Cheyenne Elementary for the tours this week. She also shared that she has had concerns brought to her regarding the parking lot at Sunrise Mountain. Mrs. Rooks then went on to thank Peoria Flex Academy and Principal Cybil Jacobs for the invitation to Unity Day. Clerk Rooks also shared that she wants support for aides and School Resource Officers, and wants everyone included in the decision with relation to the SRO grant.

Board member Melissa Ewing asked about the order of board comments, and what should and could be stated during board comments. Mrs. Ewing then shared that she visited and toured Peoria Flex Academy, as well as attended Unity Day. She shared that she also toured Raymond S. Kellis High School and Alta Loma Elementary. Lastly, she spoke about attending the Maricopa County New Board Orientation.

President David Sandoval thanked the U.S. Navy for coming out to Ironwood High School and sharing with our students potential career opportunities that are available post high school. He also shared that our basketball teams and soccer teams all doing well and gave a shout out to all coaches and their staff who support our student athletes. President Sandoval also attended Unity Day at Peoria Flex Academy for the fourth year in a row. He said that this day showed what our staff does on behalf of the students on a daily basis.

6.3 Superintendent Comments

Superintendent, Dr. Jason Reynolds, shared the following recognitions:

- Ethan Greenwood, Coyote Hills student, won the Regional Spelling Bee and will be competing in the State Spelling Bee in March
- Alex Ammerman & Alexys Steen, sophomores at Sunrise Mountain High School, were chosen to have their student film called “Dream Paradox” shown at the Phoenix Film Festival on April 1. We wish them the best of luck as we know this is an exciting event for aspiring filmmakers.
- Congratulations to the following teams and student athletes:
 - Liberty High School Girls’ Division I Wrestling Team won the state championships. Individual winners include: Taylor Colangelo, Bella Bocanegra, 3x State Champion, and Bridgette Sotomayor.
 - Liberty’s Cheer Team was also named the Arizona Varsity Show State Champions.
 - Ironwood High School Boys’ Division II Wrestling Team won the State Championships. Individual winners include: Markell Rivera-Cain, 3x State Champion, Pablo Macias, 2x State Champion, and freshman Julian Macias.
 - Other Peoria Unified Wrestling Individual State Champions include Raymond S. Kellis athlete Colby Ryan and Peoria High School athlete Nylease Yzagere.
 - Centennial High School were named the 2022-23 Division II All Girls Stunt State Champions for the third consecutive year.
 - Sunrise Mountain High School was selected to receive this year’s 5A Girls Soccer Sportsmanship Award. This is given out annually to a school that exhibits the highest level of sportsmanship throughout the season. They will be recognized by the AIA on Feb. 25.

This week, Dr. Reynolds shared that he had the chance to attend the Peoria Independent’s Hometown Heroes Luncheon, where two of our incredible staff members were honored. Congratulations to Mr. Elmer Cobos and Mr. Skinny Hill for all they do to support our students at Peoria High School.

7. Public Comment

7.1 Request to Address the Governing Board Regarding Matters Not Included on the Agenda

President Sandoval read the expectations of decorum prior to introducing the public comment for this evening. Additionally, he asked for concerns shared be focused on the issue at hand and not a person.

- Courtney Seabert – teacher and parent in the district and wished to speak about the good things going on at Desert Valley: the afternoon pick up line and the ladies who are in charge are amazing; 2nd grade teachers playing with students during recess and then teaching
- Marcy Robb - encouraging people to talk about things respectfully; thank you to the school resource officers who are being mentors; spoke in support of counselors and social workers on elementary campuses
- Danielle Padia - thanked the board, the superintendent, the administration, staff, and teachers; highlighted the MET Programs, CTE Programs, coaches, and club sponsors; and shared that when there is a shortfall, staff works to find a solution
- Becky Smith - supports referrals to counselors and therapists; three officers in the boardroom but not in elementary schools; would like to see the Title IX conversation on the next agenda
- Christina Rogers – pass
- Mr. Yakov - likes the positivity but also thinks that staff should be held accountable; student who had evidence that a teacher may have been engaging in illegal behavior and when brought

forward to administration, the student was told to delete; teacher then tried to bully the student into getting rid of it; offered to follow up with the board

- Elizabeth Fisher – pass
- Josh Gray - spoke about bigotry against transgender students that is rooted in transphobia; called out a board member for inviting anti-LGBTQ persons to these board meetings; supports ethics training on an upcoming agenda
- Tressa Rappold - gave her pronouns as she/her; stated that PUSD should be a place where everyone is welcome and feels safe; called on PUSD to be a leader and have a clear on
- Matt George - not present when called
- Kyle Fray - father of 3 kids in the district; thinks that school resource officers should be second to social workers/counselors; wants everyone to approach issues from a place of kindness; thinks the board should have a conversation around creating non-gender assigned bathrooms
- Laura Teposan – spoke in reference to the Title IX conversation, don't give to one by taking from the others; admin at school level should receive the proper training to address problems; focus must be the students; many students do not like school; disconnected and disappointed at the last board meeting
- Chad Fisher - not present when called
- Trina Berg – shared that she loves Desert Valley's teachers and administration, and that we have some of the most amazing schools; spoke about Ironwood's yearly activities; said that she can never stop talking about all the positives; she also reminded the board that one of our State Representatives voted no on resolving the Aggregate Expenditure Limit

8. Consent Agenda

The following items were approved under the consent agenda, as voted upon in agenda item 5.1:

- Minutes from the February 9, 2023 Governing Board Meeting
- Human Resources Report
- Staff Travel Requests
- Student Travel Requests
- Donations Report
- Stewardship and Capital Asset Disposals
- Approval to Issue an Invitation for Bid for HVAC Equipment, Parts, Tools, and Related Supplies
- Approval to Add Cooperative Contract – 1GPA 23-06P – Gymnasium/Athletic Equipment & Spectator Seating
- Ratification of New Cooperative Contract – State Contract CTR060746 – Auctioneering Services
- FY 2023 Request for Proposal Multi Year Award Contract Extensions
- Arizona Interscholastic Association (AIA) and Media Rights Agreement for Ironwood and Sunrise Mountain High Schools
- Deer Valley Unified School District (DVUSD) - Telephone System Disposal and Sale
- Grand Valley State University - Health-Related Academic Program Affiliation Agreement
- Project Lead the Way Program Participation Agreement for the 2022-2023 School Year
- Special Olympics Arizona Facility Rental

9. Items Removed from Consent

No items were removed from the consent agenda this evening.

10. Action Items

10.1 School Social Worker/School Counselor-Mental Health Updated Job Description and Initial Salary Schedule

Chief Personnel Officer, Mrs. Laura Vesely, presented information on the initial pay schedule and updated job description for School Social Worker/School Counselor - Mental Health. She shared that there are currently 22 employees paid through a grant that needs to be renewed. Three years ago, the Arizona Department of Education grant made school districts choose social worker, counselor, or School Resource Officer. Now it has been expanded to include all positions. Mrs. Vesely clarified that this item is not related to considerations as to whether we have social workers or not.

Public Comment

There were public requests to speak on this item. The Board listened to public comment prior to their discussion and subsequent vote.

- Jenna LiBrandi - spoke against hiring more social workers for PUSD; asked why we are looking at hiring more when they have not helped the bullying issue
- Matt George – shared his opinion on the lack of transparency on this agenda item; wants SRO's, not school counselors
- Ronda Wong - supports SRO's at schools; daughter confronted by a student in restroom and student later hit her daughter during lunch; don't take away officers

President Sandoval clarified that this agenda item is about job description and salary schedule, not hiring of social workers.

- Becky Smith - shared on behalf of current teacher, thinks the district should bring veteran certified staff up to the same level as new hires, or in this case, social workers
- Shiry Sapir - addressed the job description of social workers, read from a national publication regarding what is taught to school psychologists: anti-racism, diversity and inclusion, equity
- Mr. Yakov – spoke regarding the current job description for social workers that includes education on drug abuse, bullying, etc. Thinks this sounds like former programs such as DARE and GREAT; also asked why we are paying social workers more than we are paying teachers; shared that we already have behavioral health interventionists & school psychologists; thinks district wants social workers because they bring in more money
- Janelle Bowles - clarified that this grant is to support school safety; wants to use it train our teachers; thinks we need more SROs

Board Discussion

Mrs. Hill asked how much we are paying from this year to last year in social worker salaries. Mrs. Vesely clarified that the pay schedule presented this evening is not an increase. It is taken from our certified professionals. We did not increase any salaries. Social workers must have a masters level degree, and this pay schedule brings them in at that dollar amount. Teachers that have masters also come in at the same pay. Mrs. Hill recommended that everyone look at the fine print, as these are often not the final earnings. She thinks that when you take God out of everything, this is what you get. She also said she finds it difficult to give more money to social workers because this is not the fix to the problem. Mrs. Vesely clarified again that this is the level, per Board policy, that we must give for incoming masters level social workers or teachers.

Mrs. Rooks shared that she spoke with Mrs. Vesely yesterday and she appreciated the information; however, she accused administration of leaving the board out of the process of applying for these grants. She stated that she cannot approve something unless she has more information beforehand. She also accused the district of leaving the community out of these conversations, and she questions the numbers.

Dr. Reynolds asked Mrs. Vesely to clarify again why the job description and the salary schedule were presented for consideration this evening. Mrs. Vesely stated that the grant allows the district to apply for funding to cover the cost of the social workers salaries that we have on board right now. She also shared that schools are currently working through a process to apply for the SRO grant. Administration is bringing this forward so that the district doesn't lose the monies that have previously paid for the 22 social workers we now have, as that grant is ending and a new one is open for applications at this time.

Mrs. Ewing clarified that the grant funds were specifically for social workers, not training for teachers, as a community member previously suggested.

Mrs. Vesely clarified that if the salary schedule was not approved this evening, we would move forward funding the current 22 social workers out of Maintenance & Operations, costing the district unnecessarily.

Dr. Reynolds stated that if these grants were not approved, we would work through a process to fund; however, this item is simply to approve a salary schedule and job description specific to social workers.

President Sandoval said that if this was not approved, this could be detrimental to our students, including those McKinney Vento homeless students.

Dr. Sorensen asked if the board voted no on this, if it meant that they would be placed on a certified salary schedule. He sought to clarify that the vote is not whether we are going to go for this grant, but that they would have a separate salary schedule. Mrs. Vesely stated that this was correct. It is a communication tool and an attraction tool.

Mrs. Rooks said that she thinks we are taking the focus away from academics.

Motion to approve the updated job description for School Social Workers to include School Counselors-Mental Health and to approve the new Initial Salary Schedule for Mental Health Professionals as presented.

Motion by David Sandoval, second by Melissa Ewing.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: David Sandoval, Bill Sorensen, Rebecca Hill, Melissa Ewing

Nay: Heather Rooks

10.2 Second Read of Policy Section IKF

Motion to approve changes to Policy IKF as presented.

Motion by Heather Rooks, second by David Sandoval.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: David Sandoval, Bill Sorensen, Rebecca Hill, Heather Rooks, Melissa Ewing

11. Discussion Items

11.1 Facilities Master Planning Program

Mr. Kevin Molino, Chief Technology and Operations Officer, presented an update on the Facilities Master Planning Program. The entire presentation can be found online. Below are highlights:

Agenda

- Current and Next Steps
 - Lake Pleasant Elementary School
 - Liberty High School
 - Peoria eCampus
 - Operational

Need for Square Footage

We have space and/or capacity, just not in the locations or type of space that we need.

Lake Pleasant Elementary School

- Short-Term
 - Program Changes
 - Space Utilization and Design
 - Permanent Building - Estimated Cost \$4-5.5 Million
- Long-Term
 - New Elementary School in Area 4
 - Estimated Cost for new school construction \$30 Million
 - * These costs do not include furniture and equipment*

Liberty High School

- Short-Term
 - Program Changes
 - Space Utilization and Design
 - Permanent Building - Estimated Cost \$10-15 Million
- Long-Term
 - New High School in Area 4
 - Estimated Cost for Land: \$15 Million
 - Estimated Cost for new school Construction: \$125 Million
 - * These costs do not include furniture and equipment*

Facility Utilization Needs

Peoria High School

1. Peoria eCampus
2. Peoria High School
3. Peoria Flex Academy
4. MET Professional Academy

Peoria eCampus

- Currently located in Peoria High School
- Relocating to Kachina Elementary School
 - Addressing Needs

- School Front Office and Signage
- Office Space
- Conference Room Space
- Classrooms
- Technology labs for testing

Kachina Elementary School

21-22 100th Day Enrollment:

Kachina: 351

22-23 100th Day Enrollment

Kachina: 325

Enrollment Capacity:

Maximum: 952

Recommended: 703

Operational Needs

- Copy Center
- Textbook Storage
- Furniture Surplus

Pioneer Elementary School - considering moving Copy Center here

21-22 100th Day Enrollment:

Pioneer: 412

22-23 100th Day Enrollment

Pioneer: 407

Enrollment Capacity:

Maximum: 856

Recommended: 598

Public Comment

- Bob Gonzalo - does not want Peoria Flex Academy to leave the campus; thinks that Peoria High School is used as a dumping ground to solve the problems of the district; thinks Centennial should be used; also shared that he thinks the best counselors are teachers

Board Discussion

Mrs. Hill thinks that it would be a great mistake to move Peoria Flex Academy from Peoria High School.

Dr. Sorensen said that he thought this was about moving eCampus. Mr. Molino responded that he is correct. Meetings are to convene next week to determine the vision, goals, and needs of Peoria Flex Academy, and then we will look at the best location for it. Dr. Sorensen asked that the site leaders have a significant voice in the conversation, and that no decisions had been made yet. Mr. Molino said yes, they would definitely be a large part of the conversation. Dr. Reynolds clarified that the Board has received updates along the way, and that the purpose of tonight was for the Board to hear the most current thinking.

President Sandoval stated that he would add to that sentiment, in that we should also include student voice when it affects them.

Mrs. Rooks said that she, too, could not support moving Peoria Flex Academy. She also reiterated that she hoped everyone would take part in making that decision. She also asked what was being displaced to move the copy center to Pioneer, and if there was something there, where are we moving it to. Mr. Molino responded that this was one of two technology labs at Pioneer. Since going almost one to one with laptops, many of our schools have opted to have only one technology lab. In order to utilize the resources we have, the computers in the lab to be repurposed at Pioneer would then be moved to Kachina for use by eCampus. Mrs. Rooks then asked if staff had been given the opportunity to share thoughts on moving. Mr. Molino said that discussions had occurred with every site principal involved, making sure that they were on board, as well as having walked the site with them.

Mrs. Ewing stated that she appreciated the inclusion of all effected individuals in these conversations. She recommended asking students who are potentially being moved what about their home campus did they like best and use those responses to bring over those things to the possible new campus to make them feel more at home. Mr. Molino responded that he was always up front with Mrs. Jacob, Principal at Peoria Flex Academy, and that he is a big supporter of this school. He also shared that in his time at Peoria, he had seen many versions of Peoria Flex Academy, and in many different spaces. He said that he really wanted to find Peoria Flex Academy their “forever home.” He also said that he knew future administrations and boards could make different decisions, but that his wish not only to find a permanent place for PFA, but also to look at the future of alternative education. Dr. Reynolds reminded the Board that any of these possibilities also impact Peoria High School, MET Academy, and eCampus. He said that all of these would have a voice in the process.

11.2 District Culture and Climate Surveys

Mr. Mike Maas, Director of Research and Planning, presented the information on District Culture and Climate Surveys.

- **All district surveys are anonymous.**
- **The number of questions on each survey.**
 - Parent 36 Questions Average completion time 6 minutes
 - Staff 54 Questions Average completion time 8 minutes
 - Students 27 Questions Average completion time 5 minutes
- **Question types:**
 - Open response
 - 5-point Likert scale (Strongly disagree-Strongly agree)
- Survey is open for minimum of two weeks with extensions provided to improve participation. Principal and District will encourage completion, but participation is not required.
- **2022 Participation**
 - Parents - 4,088
 - Staff – 1,966
 - Students- 9,984

SURVEY RESULTS

- District level information
- Disaggregated by High School and Elementary, and by each school or department.
- Consistency of responses across all groups, and comparison to past results.
- Integral part of Continuous Improvement Plan
- Shared with District administration and site administration for future goal setting

COMMUNICATION PLAN

- Parents will be notified of opening of surveys with encouragement to participate.
- Parents will be notified of beginning of Student Surveys.
- Copies of surveys will be posted to District Web site for review

Board Discussion

Mrs. Hill asked about the responses for guidance counselors being low. She also noted that parents are taking note of this fact. She also pointed out that academic support levels are in the 50's and the 60's. She said that she found this is telling of where we were through last year, and will be interested to see where we fall in this area this year, noting that we have made strides.

Dr. Sorensen continues to support less questions and being more intentional with the questions. He asked Mr. Maas if he had any thoughts on staff exit surveys. He responded that he is working closely with Human Resources to review the data

Mrs. Rooks highlighted the 40s ranges in staff professional development. She suggested using the lower range questions to see if we have improved. She also said the higher responses could be removed and make the lower percentages a starting point from which to look. Mr. Maas responded that this is the exact conversation administration has with principals. It becomes part of the improvement plan and goals of the principals.

Mrs. Ewing highlighted student results of "My teacher accepts student suggestions," and "Where do I go to get help?" both responses being in the lower range. She suggested that social media is not always the best way to communicate with our parents. Mrs. Ewing then asked for the trending responses over the years. Mr. Maas said responses were declining as far as how many respond.

President Sandoval thanked Mr. Maas for his work on this. He asked for future executive summaries of what they are seeing as board members.

Mrs. Hill found it interesting that the parents who took the survey rated everything higher than the students. She pointed out student responses and how low they were, and then suggested we take next steps and find out why they are low and how we can make it better.

Dr. Reynolds thanked the board for their feedback and comments. He noted that when we get these results in, they are shared with the principals and they take it very seriously.

12. Informational Reports

12.1 Report on Upcoming Meetings and Events

Mrs. Airey highlighted the Spring Field Trip on March 14. She extended an open invitation to our community to come and see what great things are going on in Peoria Unified. Please let Mrs. Kontra know if you will be going.

12.2 Legislative, State and Local Updates

Ms. Myers reported that the Aggregate Expenditure Limit has been overridden for another year. Additionally, the FY2024 \$17.1 billion budget passed, as well as \$15.8 million skinny budget, but Governor Hobbs vetoed the skinny budget on Feb. 16.

12.3 Budget, Facilities Planning and Construction Report

Available online

12.4 District Enrollment Reports for the Months of November 2022, December 2022, and January 2023

Available online

13. Other Business

13.1 Board Member Opportunity to Readdress Agenda Items

No items were readdressed this evening.

13.2 Request for Agenda Items for Future Governing Board Meetings

Mrs. Hill requested a legal counsel presentation on Title IX, seconded by Mrs. Rooks. It was also requested to remove study session from the previous request and indicate for a board meeting.

Mrs. Rooks requested an SRO Grant discussion as an agenda item, Mrs. Hill seconded.

Mrs. Rooks also requested a Friday Report on priorities in the budget, and where reading interventionists and aides fit into the budget; Mrs. Hill seconded

Dr. Reynolds clarified that we have a process in place to notify the board of budget updates, and Mrs. Rooks asked for a more detailed presentation and public discussion.

Dr. Sorensen requested a board report on exit surveys from the end of last year and this year; President Sandoval seconded.

14. Adjournment

14.1 Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn @ 8:49 pm

Motion by Rebecca Hill, second by Melissa Ewing.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: David Sandoval, Bill Sorensen, Rebecca Hill, Heather Rooks, Melissa Ewing

X

David Sandoval
Governing Board President

X

Heather Rooks
Governing Board Clerk