

QUARTZSITE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 4

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MINUTES OF WORK SESSION MEETING QUARTZSITE SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD

April 22, 2025 at 5:00 PM
Quartzsite Elementary School
930 W. Quail Trail
Quartzsite, AZ 85346

1. OPENING ITEMS

A. Call to Order

Kianie King called the meeting to order at 5:02pm

B. Roll Call

Present: **Monica Timberlake
Kianie King
Brenda Burks
Sandra Ramsey**

Absent: **William Ponce**

C. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was led by Kianie King

2. OLD BUSINESS (DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION)

A. Discussion and possible action on the Quartzsite Elementary School campus.

Board President Kianie King reviewed the BLM Lease. She informed the board that there is a stipulation in the lease that the land must be used for public school purposes. The lease is good for 15 years and a payment of \$240.00 is paid on it every 5 years. A discussion was had regarding touring other schools that have a preschool on campus and ask how they are able to fund the program and if it's working. Board member Brenda Burks started the discussion regarding moving all students to the Quartzsite Elementary School because it's newer and upgraded. Monica Timberlake responded saying Quartzsite Elementary would not be able to house all the students with standalone classes. The district would have to go back to combo classes and that would be going backwards academically. Ehrenberg Elementary School is on a land patent and the district would lose the land if it's not being used as a public school.

Business Manager Kelly says on a budget perspective we work on ADM which is enrollment. The board can look at the budget and say we need a certain amount of students to enroll and commit to be able to afford to operate the Quartzsite campus. There was a discussion on revising the policy for renting the facility to the community on weekends or the evening when the building are not being used by the district to help offset costs.

Sandra Ramsey calculated an additional 15-20 students needing to enroll to be able to afford the opening of the Quartzsite School.

There was a discussion regarding having combo classes at the Quartzsite School with the community members present at the meeting.

Mrs. Sadie Grimes suggested to have an anonymous community survey and see the response they receive regarding enrollment and the configuration of the schools. Monica Timberlake informed the community of when the Auditor General's office did an audit on both campuses and we had 3 findings. First finding was regarding of the special Education hours, which was corrected. Second was of the safety of the Quartzsite campus, which was corrected but not the way the Auditor General's Office want it corrected with SFB funding. The last finding was the District did not have the students to operate the Districts and was needed to consolidate into one school. All the suggestions are great from the community and the board has had a lot of these discussions. With bare bones of not having a kitchen staff or a school secretary the District would need an additional \$67,000 in the budget in order to open the Quartzsite campus. When the board doesn't even know if the budget is there to even keep the other campus open. If the District goes into receivership it won't be what the community wants. They will come in and shut this school down and it never open again. The board is trying to have the conversation and do things the right way while looking at all the budget considerations, everything that's going on in the state and our district is on that list of 25% that is teetering on financial collapse because school aren't funded properly. Her kids attended the Quartzsite School. She fought for the SFB grant. She wants the Quartzsite Elementary School open. Her job is to do what's best for the District not what's best for Quartzsite or Ehrenberg. The challenge is the state already wants us to close this school and the board fought to not do that. We know we will be upside on the budget due to not having the ESSER funding that has kept the district a float the last few years. Board member Sandra Ramsey senses a lot of fear and scared of what could happen. No one will know what could happened if a decision isn't made. The board asked for Sadie to conduct a survey with the community to have the results to the board by the next board meeting.

3. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Motion: Monica Timberlake

Second: Brenda Burks

Vote: Unanimous


PRESIDENT


MEMBER


MEMBER

MEMBER

MEMBER

