

CAMP VERDE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MINUTES
TAKEN DURING MEETING
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON
JANUARY 13, 2026
REGULAR MEETING
6:00 PM
AT THE CAMP VERDE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT MULTI-USE COMPLEX LIBRARY
280 CAMP LINCOLN ROAD
CAMP VERDE, ARIZONA 86322

Vision

*Providing students a safe and caring environment in which knowledge, skills, and attitudes enable learners to become productive citizens
Respect, Integrity, Positive Relationships, Accountability*

Mission

Our District will:

- *Foster confidence, excellence, integrity, and a sense of belonging.*
- *Ensure each learner studies a challenging, academic and relevant curriculum, which enhances social, emotional, physical and ethical development.*
- *Work in partnership with all families and the community as an organization of engaged, motivated lifelong learners.*

REGULAR SESSION 6:00 PM

1. **WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER**
Mrs. Petrie called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.
2. **ROLL CALL**
Board Members present were Sharon Petrie, Maraya Oothoudt, Paul Hawk, Carol German and Steven Gresham.
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ MOMENT OF SILENCE**
Student Payslee Armstrong led the Pledge of Allegiance. There was a moment of silence.
4. **A STATEMENT OF GOVERNANCE TEAM'S SHARED PURPOSE FOR THE DISTRICT**
Board Member Mr. Hawk shared a statement referring to Iowa Lighthouse research, which highlighted the Board's role in fostering a culture of continuous improvement by focusing on student achievement, collaborating with the superintendent, and setting clear goals, all while holding the system accountable.
5. **AGENDA REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE**
Motion: Mrs. German moved, seconded by Mr. Hawk, to accept the agenda as presented. The motion carried 5-0.
Ayes: Petrie, Hawk, German, Gresham, and Oothoudt
Nays: 0
6. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/ CALL TO PUBLIC**
None.
7. **STAFF / STUDENT / COMMUNITY RECOGNITION AND CELEBRATION OF GOOD THINGS**

Mr. Hicks introduced Special Olympics Coach Debbie Justus, who proudly recognized CVUSD student-athletes participating in the Special Olympics program. Mrs. Justus shared that this is a community-based program serving athletes from eighth grade through adulthood. Athletes train year-round and compete against teams from across Northern Arizona.

Mrs. Justus introduced student-athletes from Camp Verde High School and Camp Verde Middle School. Each athlete received a certificate of appreciation and was recognized by the Governing Board.

- Andrew Anduiza – Softball and basketball
- Jasiel Bassous – Swimming, basketball, and softball
- Payslee Armstrong – Bowling and bocce
- William Kirk – Bowling and basketball
- Paige Keely – Bowling
- Shawn Warburton – Bowling

Mrs. Justus led the athletes in the Special Olympics Oath:

“Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt.”

Board Member Gresham also recognized Coach Justus, sharing that he has known her for many years as a devoted member of the community. Her love and commitment for these athletes and their success is unwavering.

8. BOARD ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING 2026 -PER POLICY BDA- DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION

A. Elect Board President 2026

Motion: Mr. Hawk moved to nominate Sharon Petrie to serve as President for a one-year term. Mrs. Petrie accepted the nomination. Mr. Gresham seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Ayes: Petrie, Oothoudt, German, Hawk, and Gresham

Nays: 0

B. Elect Board Clerk 2026

Motion: Ms. Oothoudt moved to nominate Paul Hawk to serve as Clerk for a one year term. Mr. Hawk accepted the nomination, and Mr. Gresham seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Ayes: Petrie, Oothoudt, German, Hawk, and Gresham

Nays: 0

C. Statement of Meeting Notice 2026 – Meetings to be held on date at time at location.

Motion: Mrs. Petrie moved to hold the regularly scheduled meetings of the Governing Board at the Library, on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM, except October 2026, which will be held one week early on October 6, 2026, due to the District’s Calendar Fall Break schedule. Mrs. German seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Ayes: Petrie, Oothoudt, German, Hawk, and Gresham

Nays: 0

9. SUPERINTENDENT/BOARD REPORTS

A. Reports from ASBA Annual Conference Attendees

Mr. Hawk shared highlights from the three-day Arizona School Boards Association Annual Conference. He attended multiple breakout sessions focused on governance best practices, including data-driven decision-making, purposeful calendaring, tracking progress toward goals, understanding superintendent responsibilities, and cultivating leadership from within the district. He enjoyed the keynote speaker, Dr. John W. Hodge, who delivered an impactful address on resilience, emphasizing that “one caring adult can change the trajectory of a student.”

Mr. Hicks reported attending sessions including one about the Arizona Interscholastic Association covering ESA (Education Savings Account) students in athletics. He said there was some discussion about possibly splitting competitions into metro and rural divisions to help offset the advantages charters and privates currently hold. He also enjoyed Dr. John Hodge's keynote speech. Dr. Hodge shared a story about six friends from a challenging neighborhood, where the common factor among the three who succeeded was a fourth-grade teacher who made a meaningful difference.

B. Update/Reminder Work Session February 10, 2026

Mr. Hicks reminded the Board there will be a 5:00 PM work session on February 10 before the regular meeting in order to get more information from experts on school bonds.

10. PRINCIPAL REPORTS

A. The site leaders will give reports on happenings on the campuses.

Elementary Principal Ms. Campbell provided a handout demonstrating sample midyear student growth data from the NWEA assessment platform. One example highlighted growth and achievement in reading. These assessments help projections for student performance on the upcoming ELA assessment. A second example showed a student with low growth in math, prompting teachers to implement timely interventions. Teachers collaborate as teams to evaluate results and plan targeted support for students.

High School Principal Mr. Showers reported on efforts to modernize the high school weight room, which contains equipment originally donated in the 1990s. Temporary safety measures were added in 2014, and some equipment updates have occurred over time. This year, staff have taken an active role in revitalizing the space. Through private donations, the school has received new equipment, including racks, dumbbells, hex bars, and bikes. Mr. Showers said additional donations are available once new flooring is installed.

CVO/Accommodation School Director Ms. Rowley provided a handout outlining the block program designed to help students catch up and get on track academically. During the first semester, 356 classes were completed, and 11 students have graduated so far this school year. Attendance continues to be a challenge, and staff are exploring creative strategies to improve student engagement and participation.

11. POTENTIAL ACTION ON PERSONNEL MATTERS

A. Resignations/Retirements/Releases:

Rosalina Cortes Vega, Paraprofessional, resignation effective 1-2-2026

Elsa Stoneheart, Paraprofessional, resignation effective 12-30-2025

B. Hiring Recommendations 2025-2026:

Jenissa Stauffer, Bus Driver, additional part-time position pending verification

James Hardin, Bus Driver, additional part-time position

Olivia Van Hook, Paraprofessional

C. Hiring Recommendations 2026-2027:

Marissa Federico, Elementary Teacher

Trisha Eberlein, Middle School Principal, beginning June 1, 2026

D. Extra Duty:

Friday Camps Semester 2: Catherine McCormack, Thomas Vasta, Shelley Surber, Rolande Karn, Lindsey Lowman, Faith Catour, Denise Meyer, Azia Ekman, Jazmine Mayhew, Krista Lee, and Heather Gillman

CPR/First Aid: Megan Messick, Natalie Trahin, John Higley, Jasmin Brown, and Tony Graham

Additional Teaching Assignments on Prep: Brianne Buckley, Student Skills section 3

- E. CVHS Spring Coaches and Volunteers:
Boys Baseball Coaches: Luke Hicks, Chance Randall, and Britton Wilson
Boys Baseball Volunteers: Gavin Collins, Steve Hicks, and Taylor Mathews
Girls Softball Coaches: Danya Weir, Dan Durnez, Roque Parker, and Jenna Huey
Girls Softball Volunteers: Brielle Johnson, Garrett Cupp, Jon Huey, Carrie Durnez, Ariana Zeid, and Bristol Bickford
Track Coaches: Amy Wall, Brandon Messick, Mike Edgerton and Lori Showers
Track Volunteers: Shawna Williams, Mike O'Callaghan, Milfred Tewawina, Madeline Reay, Noah Zimmermann, and Zachary Cornelius
Golf Coach: Darrell Lewis
Golf Volunteer: John Capite
- F. CVHS Winter Coach Pay Amendments:
Girls Basketball: Alex Brewer
Wrestling Pay Amendments: Hank Kestenbaum, Calvin Bahe, Eli Lincoln, Sarah Stalcup, and James Stalcup
- G. Other Volunteers: Claudia Aranzamendi, Karina Cenicerros, Sheyenne Drazick, Chad Harris, Tyler Langmack, Stephanie Logan London, Shea Longfellow, Amanda Lozanilla, Coralei Marquez, Cindy Patton, Mayra Perez Zorrilla, Cassandra Presmyk, Roy Chase Smith, Janet Thompson, Hanna West, and Angelica Zorrilla

Motion: Mrs. German moved, seconded by Mr. Hawk, to approve the personnel matters A-G. The motion carried 5-0.

Ayes: Petrie, Oothoudt, German, Hawk, and Gresham

Nays: 0

12. POTENTIAL ACTION ON BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

- A. Payroll Vouchers in the amount of \$ 1,175,771.37
B. Accounts Payable Vouchers in the amount of \$ 380,522.30
C. Financial Updates
D. Student Accounts

Motion: Mrs. German moved to pay the bills, seconded by Ms. Oothoudt, approving the business and financial matters. The motion carried 5-0.

Ayes: Petrie, Oothoudt, German, Hawk, and Gresham

Nays: 0

13. POTENTIAL APPROVAL OF GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES

- A. Minutes taken during December 9, 2025, Regular Minutes

Motion: Mrs. Petrie moved, seconded by Mr. Hawk, to approve the Board Minutes taken December 9, 2025. The motion carried 5-0.

Ayes: Petrie, Oothoudt, German, Hawk, and Gresham

Nays: 0

14. POTENTIAL ACTION ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Potential approval of Grant Pursuit by Morgan Dubs, Elementary PE Teacher, for the Yavapai County Education Foundation Classroom Teacher Grant to be used for PE Equipment in the amount of \$438.00.
B. Potential acceptance of donation from Quintus Inc., in the amount of \$3,300.00 to be used for equipment for Camp Verde High School Weight Room.
C. Potential approval of an additional full-time teacher at Camp Verde Elementary School to support Preschool and Kindergarten Special Education students, including the hiring of Hannah Daley and internal staff transfers and workload adjustments for Cheyenne Ferlazzo and Sally Roer.

- D. *Potential approval of a part-time temporary Student and Family Support Specialist for Camp Verde Accommodation School.*
- E. *Potential approval of grant pursuit by Michelle Warburton for the ADE GETSET grant for teacher tuition reimbursement toward an advanced degree in Special Education.*
- F. *Potential approval of a fundraiser for the school library through Literati Book Fairs, for gift cards for books for students and classrooms.*

Motion: Mrs. German moved, seconded by Mr. Gresham, to approve the matters on the consent agenda A-F. The motion carried 5-0.

Ayes: Petrie, Oothoudt, German, Hawk, and Gresham

Nays: 0

15. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

- A. *Information and discussion on the Integrated Action Plan.*

Mr. Hicks provided a handout showing data from the Arizona Department of Education's required Integrated Action Plan (IAP). He explained that while the District's vision, mission, and commitment to continuous improvement represent an ongoing mindset, the IAPs help each school set goals tailored to its specific needs. These site-based plans align with the District's strategic plan and support student success.

Mr. Hicks noted that with significant business items scheduled for next month, this report was intended to refocus the Board on the District's vision. The data presented reflected the District's high poverty rate while also demonstrating student growth despite those challenges. He explained that the IAP process requires school-level stakeholders to analyze guiding questions, compare performance with similar schools, identify gaps, and set improvement goals. Once completed, individual school plans are compiled into a District Integrated Action Plan to support continuous improvement.

No action was taken on the item.

16. INFORMATION ONLY

- A. *Policy BCB – Conflict of Interest for review*
- B. *Enrollment Report*

17. BOARD REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

18. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Mr. Hawk moved, seconded by Ms. Oothoudt, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 5-0.

Ayes: Petrie, Oothoudt, German, Hawk, and Gresham

Nays: 0

The meeting adjourned at 6:49 PM.

19. SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS