CAMP VERDE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MINUTES
TAKEN DURING GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON FEBRUARY 10, 2026
WORK SESSION, 5:00 PM
AND
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.

WORK SESSION
5:00 PM

1. *WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER*
   Mrs. Petrie called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM.

2. ROLL CALL
   Board Members present were Sharon Petrie, Paul Hawk, Carol German, Steven Gresham, and Maraya Oothoudt.

3. *PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ MOMENT OF SILENCE*
   Community Member Mr. John Bassous led the Pledge of Allegiance. There was a moment of silence.

4. *INFORMATION, DISCUSSION AND WORK SESSION ON A POTENTIAL DISTRICT BOND WITH STIFEL EDUCATION GROUP*
   Mr. Hicks introduced Michael LaVallee, Managing Director of Stifel Public Finance, who presented an overview of a potential school improvement bond. The presentation included district bond capacity, financial scenarios, tax impact, and election timelines.
   Mr. LaVallee answered questions from Board members Petrie, Hawk and Gresham regarding bond success rates, municipal rates, bond sales, and costs for services. Mr. LaVallee said bond success is largely dependent on community engagement and understanding of district needs. There was discussion on the importance of forming a Political Advisory Committee to help with communication and outreach and the recommendation to hire a political consultant to assist, noting the specialized nature of election campaigns.
   Key Points Covered:
   - Review of bond capacity, financial options, and election timeline
   - Overview of bond election success rates
   - Estimated election-related costs, including county election services, and political consulting
   - Stifel charges no fee if a bond election is unsuccessful

   No action was taken.
   The Board took a recess at 5:56 PM.

REGULAR SESSION
6:00 PM

1. *WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER*
Board President Petrie called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

2. *ROLL CALL*
Board Members present were Sharon Petrie, Paul Hawk, Carol German, Steven Gresham, and Maraya Oothoudt.

3. *PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE*
High School Spanish Teacher Mr. Pabst led the Pledge of Allegiance. There was a moment of silence.

4. *A STATEMENT OF THE GOVERNANCE TEAM'S SHARED PURPOSE AND GOALS FOR THE DISTRICT*
Governing Board Administrative Assistant Mary Hudson reviewed the Board's governance role. In alignment with the NSBA (National School Board Association and ASBA (Arizona School Boards Association), the Boards role is to govern, set policy, direction, and oversight. The Board holds the administration accountable for adhering to the vision and strategic plan while leaving the day-to-day operations to the administration. She thanked the Board saying this balanced approach is contributing to positive progress in the District.

5. *AGENDA REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE*
Motion: Mr. Gresham moved, seconded by Ms. Oothoudt, to accept the agenda. The motion carried 5-0.
Ayes: Petrie, German, Gresham, Hawk, and Oothoudt.
Nays: 0

6. *PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/CALL TO PUBLIC*
None.

7. *STAFF/STUDENT/COMMUNITY RECOGNITION AND CELEBRATION OF Good THINGS*
Mr. Hicks said it was a pleasure to recognize School Nurse Megan Messick. Mrs. Messick provides exceptional care to both students and staff, bringing compassion, professionalism, and calm to every situation. She is great to work with and consistently manages the many administrative responsibilities that accompany her role. Mr. Hicks presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Mrs. Messick.

8. *SUPERINTENDENT/BOARD REPORTS*
A. Reports from attendees of the BOLTS (Board Operational Leadership Seminar) on January 30, 2026.

Mr. Hicks shared key takeaways from the seminar, highlighting a session on *The Speed of Trust* by Stephen Covey. He discussed the three levels of trust: rule-based, knowledge-based, and intrinsic. He said intrinsic trust, built on character and shared purpose, leads to stronger motivation, fewer rules, and more effective outcomes.

Mr. Hawk also identified the session on trust as a highlight and shared insights from a presentation on executive sessions, including the nine statutory reasons for convening them, noting the depth and complexity of the topic.

Mrs. Petrie reported enjoying a session on school finance, describing it as informative and easy to follow. She credited Business Manager Mrs. Witt and Mr.

Hicks for consistently providing clear financial information that helps the Board better understand complex budget matters.

B. Community Support Highlights

Mr. Hicks talked about the importance of community partnerships, noting that district success depends on relationships with local organizations and businesses. He reported on several recent contributions, including:

McDonald Brothers: Provided support and low costs for athletic fields and road improvements.

Durney Concrete: Donated concrete and labor for sidewalk improvements at no cost to the District.

Tierra Verde: Recently donated three days of labor to replace the flooring in the weight room.

Quintus: Has consistently supported the District. In the past five years they have contributed to several major projects and improvements, totaling $78,300.00**.**

Mr. Hicks expressed appreciation for the generosity and commitment of these community partners. Our district depends on them.

C. Food Service Update

Mr. Hicks gave an update on the district's food service program saying three years ago we transitioned to a contracted provider, Southwest Food Services Excellence. This change significantly reduced administrative workload while improving food quality, nutrition, and student meal options. There were initial concerns going in about the financial impact. But there is a positive balance. The food is great and student meal participation has increased each year. Mr. Hicks said the transition has been a success operationally and financially.

D. High School Letter Grade Update

Mr. Hicks reported that CVHS went from a B to an A Letter Grade after the appeal. This is the third year in a row the school has received an A Letter Grade from the State. The reason for the appeal was the graduation rate being affected by three students graduating early or late under varying circumstances. The High School is doing a great job, working for the good of the students.

9. <u>PRINCIPAL REPORTS</u>

The site leaders will give reports on campus happenings.

Middle School Principal Mrs. LeBeau provided a handout and reported on the work of the teachers in Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) on early release days. They are analyzing student data to guide instruction. While math growth has exceeded English Language Arts growth so far this year, the next six weeks will focus on targeted ELA instruction, including reteaching, enrichment, and the use of informational text. Teachers have been provided with instructional plans, and are preparing students for the upcoming AASA assessments. She shared that both teachers and students are enthusiastic.

High School Principal Mr. Showers reported on a successful 8th Grade Orientation Day, welcoming 132 visiting students from Camp Verde Middle School, Beaver Creek, and the United Christian School. The Student Council played a key role in organizing tours, activities, and communication, helping incoming students feel welcome. The event included campus tours, introductions to elective programs such as CTE, drama, music, weights, and Spanish, and concluded with a BBQ lunch.

Mr. Hicks reported for Camp Verde Online/Accommodation Schools, saying they are at full capacity and not accepting new enrollments at this time. He reported that the Camp Verde Elementary School is working with the incoming curriculum director to find a new math curriculum. They are also in need of a new English Language Arts curriculum for the new school year.

10. *POTENTIAL ACTION ON PERSONNEL MATTERS*

A. *Resignations/Retirements/Releases:*
Callie Strode, Bus Driver resignation effective 1-14-2026
Leslie Stewart, ES and MS English Language Learners Teacher, resignation effective 5-21-2026
Lois Warren, HS Special Education Teacher, retirement effective 5-21-2026

B. *Hiring Recommendations 2025-2026:*
Sarah Sandoval, Paraprofessional
Jennifer Hinkle, Paraprofessional

C. *Hiring Recommendations 2026-2027:*
Rebecca Johnson, MS Special Education Teacher 2026-2027

D. *Extra Duty:*
MATforce Mentor: Rolande Karn
CPR/First Aide: Megan Messick, Olivia VanHook, Vanessa Herrera, Michael Conerly, Christana Berrelez, Jenissa Stauffer, James Hardin, Mariela Casillas and Clarisa Chaves

E. *Hour/Pay or Position Changes:*
Denise Consalvo, Bus Aide, hour decrease
Luhana Chelsey, Paraprofessional, from Part-time to Full-time

F. *Coaches and Volunteers:*
Middle School:
Baseball: Kevin Thornhill
Volunteer: Heather Risk
Softball: Anna Zagoya
Volunteer: Lakin Dodge
Track: David Hutsel
Volunteers: Donnie Shanks, Brianna Johnson, and Bianca Melendez
Soccer: Marco Lozanilla
Volunteers: Amanda Lozanilla, Walter Orellana, and Anyssa Pineda
High School:
Track Volunteer: Ashlee Buler, and Logan Kurowski

Motion: Mr. Gresham moved, seconded by Ms. Oothoudt, to approve the personnel matters A-F. The motion carried 5-0.
Ayes: Petrie, German, Gresham, Hawk, and Oothoudt.
Nays: 0

11. *POTENTIAL ACTION ON BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL MATTERS*

A. *Payroll Vouchers in the amount of $ 1,121,378.30*
B. *Accounts Payable Vouchers in the amount of $ 650,967.00*
C. *Financial Updates*
D. *Student Accounts*

Motion: Mrs. German moved, seconded by Mr. Gresham, to approve the business and financial matters A, B, C and D.
The motion carried 5-0.
Ayes: Petrie, German, Gresham, Hawk, and Oothoudt.
Nays: 0

12. *POTENTIAL APPROVAL OF GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES*

A. *Minutes taken during January 13, 2026, Regular Meeting*

Motion: Mr. Gresham moved, seconded by Mrs. German, to approve Item 12.A., the Minutes taken January 13, 2026.
The motion carried 5-0.
Ayes: Petrie, German, Gresham, Hawk, and Oothoudt.
Nays: 0

13. *POTENTIAL ACTION ON THE CONSENT AGENDA*

A. *Potential approval of Optimum proposal for Wide Area Network after request for proposals, dependent upon E-Rate funding approval.*

B. *Potential approval of CVES SAC (Student Advisory Council) fundraiser Valentine's Day through Saint Patrick's Day selling chocolate coins and clovers to raise money for teachers supplies.*

C. *Potential approval of fundraiser for the Missoula Children's Theater, selling tickets for the play.*

D. *Potential approval of donation from Donors Choose for Lindsey Lowman's class project Helping to Enrich All Students.*

E. *Potential approval of donation from Donors Choose for Azia Ekman's class project Building Confident Readers Through Play.*

F. *Potential approval of donation from Donors Choose for Vicki Bleaks class project Teacher Supplies.*

G. *Potential approval of Memorandum of Understanding with NAU Center for Service and Volunteerism AmeriCorps Seniors Program effective March 13, 2026, through March 13, 2029.*

Motion: Mrs. German moved, seconded by Mr. Gresham, to approve the items on the Consent Agenda, A through G. The motion passed 5-0.
Ayes: Petrie, German, Gresham, Hawk, and Oothoudt.
Nays: 0

14. *DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS*

A. *Discussion and possible action to approve the list of certified teachers returning for the school year 2026-2027.*

Mrs. Petrie said the next few items pertained to the employees who intend to return to work next school year. (Mr. Gresham made a motion that encompassed Items 4. A, B, C, and D.)

B. *Discussion and possible action to approve the list of classified personnel returning for the school year 2026-2027.*

C. *Discussion and possible action to approve the list of ancillary personnel returning for the school year 2026-2027.*

D. *Discussion and possible action to approve the list of returning administrators for school year 2026-2027.*

Motion: Mr. Gresham moved, seconded by Mr. Hawk, to approve the lists of employees returning for the school year 2026-2027 under Items 14. A, B, C, and D. The motion passed 5-0.
Ayes: Petrie, German, Gresham, Hawk, and Oothoudt.
Nays: 0

E. *Discussion and possible action to approve policies as First Read from Policy Advisory 960: DIE, and DIE-R – Audits/Financial Monitoring.*

Mr. Hicks explained there were a few changes in the wording in the policy, but the substantial change was financial, raising the single audit threshold for federal grants expenditures from $ 750,000.00 to $1,000,000.00. However, this increase does not specifically affect our district.
Motion: Mr. Gresham moved, seconded by Mrs. German, to approve Policy Advisory 960 and Policy DIE and DIE-R – Audits/Financial Monitoring as First Read. The motion carried 5-0.
Ayes: Petrie, German, Gresham, Hawk, and Oothoudt.
Nays: 0

15. INFORMATION ONLY

A. Enrollment Report

16. BOARD/ADMINISTRATIVE REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
Mr. Hawk asked to have some follow up discussion on the bond issue.

17. ADJOURNMENT
Motion: Mrs. German moved, seconded by Mr. Hawk, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 6:32 PM.
Ayes: Petrie, German, Gresham, Hawk, and Oothoudt.
Nays: 0

18. SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS