MINUTES

Regular Board Meeting - 6:00 p.m.
Thursday, November 13, 2003

SOMERTON MIDDLE SCHOOL
1011 North Somerton Avenue
Somerton, Arizona

Attending Board	Leticia Yepez	Dale Phillips	Luis Heredia	
Absent Board	Scott Omer	Martha Camacho		
Attending Public	Jeanie Volpe	Duane Sheppard	Terry Testerman	George Brick
	Gerald Streit	Paul Filby	Andi Martinez	Shelly Reed
	Lydia Rodriguez	Mike Slawinski	Liz Navarro	Frank Reed
	Marty Havran	Bill Rhodes	Celine Fernandez	Alan Delgadillo
	Olga Gilchrist	Jody Attaway	Maria P Vasquez	Bob Cassidy
	Pauline Bratt	Veronica Lopez	Jerry Cabrera	Francisca Carbajal
	Douglas Bobbitt	Merton Glass	Rose Arévalo	Judith Bobbitt

1. OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

1.a. Call to Order **Mr. Phillips**

Mr. Phillips called the meeting to order at 6:14 p.m.

1.b. Pledge of Allegiance **Mr. Phillips**

Mr. Heredia led the Pledge.

1.c. Audience with Individuals **Mr. Phillips** **Information**

None submitted.

1.d. Approval of Board Minutes **Mr. Phillips** **Action**

Regular Session -- 10/09/2003 Executive Session -- 10/09/2003

Mr. Phillips entertained a Motion to approve the Minutes as submitted.

MOTION: Mr. Heredia moved to approve Regular Minutes as submitted, Mrs. Yepez seconded, Motion carried.

Mr. Phillips entertained a Motion to approve the Executive Minutes as submitted.

MOTION: Mr. Heredia so moved, Mrs. Yepez seconded, Motion carried.

1.e. Call for Executive Session **Mr. Phillips** **Action**

A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A.1) Executive Sessions

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, except that, with the exception of salary discussions, an officer, appointee or employee may demand that the discussion or consideration occur at a public meeting. The public body shall provide the officer, appointee or employee with written notice of the executive session as is appropriate but not less than twenty-four hours for the officer, appointee or employee to determine whether the discussion or consideration should occur at a public meeting.

A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A.3) Executive Sessions

Discussion or consultation for legal advice with the attorney or attorneys of the public body.

A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A.4) Executive Sessions

Discussion or consultation with the attorneys of the public body in order to consider its position and instruct its attorneys regarding the public body's position regarding contracts that are the subject of negotiations, in pending or contemplated litigation or in settlement discussions conducted in order to avoid or resolve litigation.

Executive Session was not called.

2. REPORTS

2.a. Superintendent's Report Mrs. Bobbitt Information

• Certification Task Force/Highly Qualified Teachers Report

At the Certification Task Force Meeting, the committee recommended Arizona automatically issue a Reciprocal Certificate to teachers with current out-of-state credentials. Currently, the District has staff with Doctorate and Masters Degrees with Emergency Teaching Certificates (ETC). Because they hold ETCs, the Federal U.S. Department of Education does not consider them 'highly qualified teachers'. Mrs. Bobbitt announced that funds from a recently approved $15,000 grant can be used to assist applicants with exam fees for mandated AEPA and Arizona and U.S. Constitution exams.

2.b. Administrator's/Director's Report Information

No additional comments or discussion.

2.c. Board Member Report Information

• Yuma County ASBA Board Workshop

Mr. Phillips, Mrs. Yepez, and Mr. Heredia attended the Arizona School Boards Association County Meeting held at Antelope High on Thursday, October 30.

2.d. YUHS District Boundaries Follow Up Mr. Heredia Information

Mr. Heredia noted that no meetings had been convened. Mr. Heredia spoke with Superintendent Gus Headington and asked that all parties be informed throughout the process, including the Public. Mr. Headington said that boundary options may not be finalized until Foothills' new school is completed next year.

2.e. SMS Student Achievement Scores & Improvement Plan Mr. Brick Information

Mr. Brick thanked his staff for attending. The achievement score data was shared with the Board. An improvement plan will be implemented in areas of need. The plan of action needs to be consistent with the Eight Step Process. Proficiency categories are "Falls Far Below", "Approaches", "Meets", and "Exceeds".

Because of English deficiencies, Language Arts is the Middle School's area of greatest need. Math scores will improve with better reading skills. The Middle School plans to undertake these challenges with: the 8 step process; focus calendars; instructional focus; reading every day; a sound ELL program; electives; and, extracurricular activities. He added that Stanford scores will improve as AIMS scores improve. The Newcomers Program works well for English deficient students.

Mr. Phillips asked for a percentage of English deficient students at SMS. Mr. Brick had not prepared that data. Mr. Phillips' concern was that children were still English deficient after attending other Somerton schools. Mr. Brick explained that many SMS ELL students are new to the United States and District. Unfortunately, if a child enters the District on the day a test is being taken in English, they are given the test. This lowers test averages. Mrs. Bobbitt will gather ELL info for the Board.

Mr. Heredia requested data that integrates Stanford 9 and AIMS scores for students attending Somerton District from kindergarten through eighth grade. This information will help the District stay on top of moving from the 'approaches' to 'falls far below' category. Not knowing, could be detrimental to the District. Recently, Mr. Heredia spoke to several students at a GED training program who said they entered the U.S. in eighth or ninth grade, they felt it was very difficult change. Mr. Phillips complimented the SMS band for a recent performance he saw. Mrs. Bobbitt relayed Mr. Omer and Mrs. Camacho's apologies for being unable to attend the meeting.

3. CONSENT AGENDA -- PERSONNEL **Mrs. Bobbitt** **Action**

The following items may be approved in one motion under the Consent Agenda. If a particular item is to be discussed, it may be pulled from the Consent Agenda and taken as a separate agenda item. The Board may take action on the following items or defer them to the next regularly scheduled meeting.

3.1 HIRING

3.1.a.	Luna, Shelley	Teacher, Desert Sonora Elementary
3.1.b.	Florance, A. "Diane"	Music Teacher, Tierra del Sol Elementary
3.1.c.	Madrid, Ricardo	Long Term Sub Sports Program, Tierra del Sol Elementary
3.1.d.	Valdivia, Jenisse	Instructional Assistant, Desert Sonora Elementary
3.1.e.	Cabrera, Rosa	Cafeteria Monitor, Desert Sonora Elementary
3.1.f.	Villarreal, Angelica	File Clerk, Business Office
3.1.g.	Alvarez, Juan Carlos	Custodian, Somerton Middle School

3.2 RESIGNATION

3.2.a.	Lopez, Fausto	Custodian, Somerton Middle School
3.2.b.	Cordova, Claudia	Teacher, Tierra del Sol Elementary

3.3 SUBSTITUTES

3.3.a.	Belcher, Stephanie	**3.3.c**.	Woods, Karen "Kay"
3.3.b.	Reynoso, Shantal		

3.4 ADDITIONAL ASSIGNMENTS

3.4.a.	Various Staff	Title I, Orange Grove Elementary
3.4.b.	Various Staff	Title I, Desert Sonora Elementary
3.4.c.	Various Staff	Indian Education, Somerton Middle School
3.4.d.	Various Staff	Indian Education, Orange Grove Elementary
3.4.e.	Various Staff	Indian Education, Tierra Del Sol Elementary

3.5 CREDIT FOR EDUCATIONAL COURSE WORK AND SALARY INCREASE

3.5.a.	Gue, Rafaella	Teacher, Desert Sonora Elementary

3.6 Approval of Preschool Mentor Teacher Position

3.7 Approval of Preschool Parent Liaison ~~Teacher~~ Position

Mrs. Bobbitt mentioned that the Board Packet did not include job descriptions for Items 3.6 and 3.7. Item 3.7 should be the Liaison Position, not a teaching position. These positions are funded by the Preschool Grant the District collaborated with Gadsden District and Cocopah Head Start. Item 3.6 is a full time position and Item 3.7 is a part-time position(six hours a week). Mr. Heredia asked that job postings note when positions are 'grant funded'.

Mr. Phillips entertained a Motion to approve with the corrections.

MOTION: Mrs. Yepez so moved, Mr. Heredia seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Heredia suggested administrators begin heavy teacher recruitment January through March for next year's staff. He suggested stipends or some type of incentive for teachers recommending other teachers for hire. Mrs. Bobbitt said several administrators have attended recruiting sessions. Mr. Heredia asked for a benefit or informational packet to be prepared for the Board's review at their next meeting, that could be used when recruiting new staff.

4. BUSINESS AND FINANCE **Mrs. Bobbitt Action**

4.01. Signing of Vouchers

4.02. Acceptance of Student Activity Information

Mrs. Bobbitt reminded the Board that these items are on the Agenda, so the Board can discuss them as needed.

Mr. Phillips entertained a Motion to approve as submitted.

MOTION: Mr. Heredia so moved, Mrs. Yepez seconded. Motion carried.

4.03. Approval of Intergovernmental Agreements (IGAs) and Memorandums of Understanding Between Somerton School District; and,

- **a.** Chicanos Por La Causa and Arizona Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Program
- **b.** Southern Yuma County Interscholastic Association
- **c.** City of Somerton Resource Officer
- **d.** Yuma County (IGA)
- **e.** City of Somerton for Joint Facility Use (IGA)
- **f.** Healthy Kids Dental Program (IGA)

Mrs. Bobbitt explained that Ms. Witmer has asked the community/agencies to bring any IGAs and Memorandums of Understanding to the Board in March, so she can sign them with the Board's prior approval. The District's Attorney will review and she will sign upon his approval. Mr. Heredia felt that if the agreements were not time sensitive, the Board should have a chance to review and approve.

MOTION: Mr. Heredia asked to table item to next meeting, Mrs. Yepez seconded, Motion carried.

4.04. Review of Schedule of Fees for Community Use of School Facilities

Mrs. Bobbitt explained that the Community Use fee information provided by Mr. Klein shows that fees varied from district to district. Yuma District One's fees showed differences according to the facilities' size/age.

Mr. Klein refigured and reduced some fees for the Immaculate Heart of Mary's youth group. The cost quoted before was $1656 and is now $1219. This takes in to consideration time when custodians would not be needed or not working during different times through the holiday.

The Board recognized Luis Delgadillo, representative for the Arco Iris Youth Group. He restated his group's request for the fees to be lowered for their use in December.

Mr. Heredia said that he spoke to Mrs. Prado, who is in charge of the group and she explained that they needed an additional classroom, the entire multi-purpose room, and showers. He recommended a three-tiered fee and if a group is using the facility for more than a day, subsequent days should be charged at 50 percent of daily fee. Mr. Heredia prepared a Recommendation to Amend Fees and Policy of Community Use of School Facilities/Equipment as follows:

I. Divide Fees into three classes depending on the applicant –

Class I - **No Charge**

School sponsored activities, school clubs, boosters clubs, Teacher Organizations, and PTA Organizations.

Class II - **Established Fees for the First Day, 50% of the established fee per day for subsequent days**

Community college, community concerts, churches, recitals, cultural organizations, government organizations, services organization

Class III - **Commercial or Profit-Making Organization**

Established fees

II. Amend custodial/school employee fee to $13.00 per hour

III. Allow school employees the opportunity to be considered for employment as the assigned school official. This action required the approval of their immediate supervisor and the Director of Facilities.

20-Dec	***21-Dec***	***22-Dec***	***23-Dec***	***Total***
50	25	25	25	125.00
15	7.5	7.5	7.5	37.50
80	40	40	40	200.00
		Total Facility Charges		$362.50
34 hours	13.00 p/h			$442.00
				$804.50

Mr. Heredia suggested having an employee as the assigned school official when facilities are being used by an outside group. Mrs. Bobbitt reminded Mr. Heredia that because of Fair Labor an employee must be paid time and a half when work exceeds 40 hours. Mr. Heredia suggested adjusting employee's work hours to incorporate the additional duty or having an employee assigned to another duty different from their normal assignment. Mr. Heredia suggested $13 an hour instead of $18 for custodians. Mrs. Bobbitt added that the minimum payment for staff would have to be their current salary.

Mr. Heredia explained that the fees charged off the current fee scale was $580 and the new scale charges would be $362. Mr. Heredia mentioned that policy may have to be changed to accommodate a change in the fee schedules, but community groups should not feel that the fee schedule is a barrier when requesting facilities use. He encouraged the District and Board to consider his recommendation.

Mr. Phillips entertained a Motion.

MOTION: Mr. Heredia moved to accept what was presented, Mrs. Yepez seconded. Motion carried.

4.05. Second Reading and Adoption of Policy Advisories:

- #231 KF -- Community Use of School Facilities
  KF-RA -- Community Use of School Facilities
  KF-RB -- Community Use of School Facilities
  KF-EA -- Community Use of School Facilities
  KF-EB -- Community Use of School Facilities
  KF-EC -- Community Use of School Facilities
- #232 JLF -- Reporting Child Abuse/Child Protection
  JLF-R -- Reporting Child Abuse/Child Protection
  JLF-E -- Reporting Child Abuse/Child Protection

Mrs. Bobbitt said that staff recently attended an impressive Child Abuse Reporting presentation at Orange Grove for DSS/OGS staff. A second session is scheduled in December for SMS/TDS staff at TDS. Mrs. Bobbitt recommended Item 4.05 for approval.

Mr. Phillips entertained a Motion to approve as submitted.

MOTION: Mr. Heredia so moved, Mrs. Yepez seconded. Motion carried.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Phillips entertained a Motion to adjourn.

MOTION: Mr. Heredia so moved, Mrs. Yepez seconded. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.