MINUTES -- 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 14, 2003

Regular Governing Board Meeting

Governing Board Room
215 North Carlisle Avenue
Somerton, Arizona

Attending Board	J. Scott Omer	Leticia Yepez	Martha Camacho
	Luis Heredia (6:11 p.m.)		
Absent Board	Dale Phillips		
Attending Public	Bob Cassidy	Frank Reed	Maureen Irr
	Paul Filby	Jerry Cabrera	Celine Fernández
	Jean Volpe	Mike Slawinski	Jody Attaway
	Maria P Vasquez	George Brick	Gerald Streit
	Jean Glover	Bill Rhodes	Elizabeth Merino
	Ann McBride	Bob Klein	Cathy Witmer
	Duane Sheppard	Judith Bobbitt	Rose Arévalo

1. OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Mr. Omer called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

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

Mr. Omer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Mr. Rhodes introduced himself as SEA President, Liz Merino, Vice-President, and Jean Glover, Past President. In addition, he announced that Juan Villafaña is Treasurer and Leah Hamilton, Secretary. Currently, SEA has 63 members. They submitted 78 signatures requesting SEA represent Certified staff on this year's Meet and Confer Committee. This item will be placed on September's Board Agenda..

Mr. Omer noted that the Board has received positive comments in regard to SEA's part as certified representatives for Meet and Confer.

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

Regular Session -- May 12, 2003

Mr. Omer noted that the date was incorrect on the Agenda for the Minutes to be Approved. He asked for the Motion to include the revisions of the date and entertained a Motion to approve the July 14 Minutes.

MOTION: Mrs. Camacho so moved, Mrs. Yepez seconded, Motion carried.

1.e. Call for Executive Session Mr. Omer 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 will be held at the end of the meeting in regard to A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A.4). No action will be taken as a result of the Executive Session.

2. REPORTS

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

Mrs. Bobbitt had administrators give their reports. All reported very smooth starts with average to high enrollment figures.

Orange Grove:	Grades 2, 3, 4, 5	mid-60s
	Grade 1	mid-40s
	Kindergarten	55

Dr. Reed said that they have received wonderful comments on the new playground equipment. He said when the gates were opened, the children ran toward the playground, stopped suddenly when they saw the new equipment, then ran to play.

Desert Sonora:	Preschool	48	Grade 3	63
	Kindergarten	64	ACHIEVE	10
	Grade 1	75	Grade 4	72
	Grade 2	62	Grade 5	73

Ms Fernández reported two hot first days. She gave students to the option of staying quietly in the library at recess time. Because the vaccine was not released from the Health Department for immunization needed to enroll, parents were upset because their children could not be registered. She thanked Sandy Morris, Orange Grove's Nurse, for her help with enrollment.

Tierra Del Sol:	Kindergarten	120	Grade 4	135
	Grade 1	101	Grade 5	111
	Grade 2	117	Life Skills	6
	Grade 3	130		

Mrs. Lopez reported their enrollment to be low, at this time. Their Open House is August 20. They will begin with a general session to explain parking rules and other school procedures She wants parents to understand that we are here to serve them. After the general session, parents will visit classrooms at half hour intervals, so that they are able to visit each of the children's teachers, if they have more than one. In addition, Mrs. Lopez is very excited about the fabulous staff that are returning and the high energy felt from new staff. She anticipates an excellent year.

Miss Fernández mentioned that Desert Sonora's Open House was held the first day of school from 8-9 a.m. This works well because rooms are decorated nicely, parents are able to meet teachers and see children's rooms and then class begins at 9:00 a.m.

Middle School: Grade 6 -- 310 Grade 7 -- 293 Grade 8 -- 274

Mr. Brick reported that the first day went well. Students were in class by 8 a.m. Attendance through the Power School Program is working well. Minor input errors should be corrected by next week. Construction is not interrupting class, there were minor traffic delays at the entrance, but otherwise everything went smoothly. Open House is will be in September.

Mrs. Bobbitt introduced Mr. Streit and Mrs. Vasquez, SMS and TDSs Assistant Principals, respectively. Mr. Sheppard was in attendance after attending a meeting in Phoenix, early in the day.

Mr. Sheppard stated that Reading measures have been revised to accommodate Reading First schools. Testing dates will include 3rd, 5th and 8th graders and 4th, 6th and 7th graders will be part of field testing. Results will not be distributed on the 4th, 6th, and 7th graders.

Mrs. Volpe has attended IPT training in regard to No Child Left Behind regulations. Additional trainings have included ways to contact parents to advise of new requirements. ELL testing information is almost ready to input to Power School Program.

Ms. Attaway, Special Programs Director, has six new special education teachers and one position still vacant. In addition, there are two new psychologists, a speech therapist that will be contracted to work a few days a week, and new teachers will be part of a mentoring program through NAU. This program gives new teachers $500 for classroom use.

Mr. Cabrera reported 48 preschoolers and number to grow by about 20 September 2, when the other program begins. Migrant Even Start has 13 families participating. There were about 150 people that tested for their GED in July, this number does not include prisoners tested. This year testing will be done on Saturdays only. There are new Chief Examiners. The adult education evening class currently has 142 enrolled, and the numbers are rising. In addition, the GED/Clase Comunitaria is a program for migrant families who came to the U.S. within the last 20 years, who did not receive their primary or secondary diplomas in Mexico. By attending our program, they will receive the diplomas from Mexico as well as learning English and earning their GED.

Mrs. Irr explained that she and Mr. Sheppard have worked hard on the Reading First Grant and believes, as a District One Board Member that it is a hot topic in education. The grant has helped fund Reading Coaches and Assessment Specialist throughout the District. at each school and assessment. Testing and training is on-going. The state held the Reading First Academy in Yuma, which facilitated Yuma County school employee's attending,.

Mr. Klein noted that in addition to his written report, deficiency projects are near completion. Construction crews are working well with schools and not interrupting instruction.

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

• Key Works of School Boards Improving Student Achievement

Mrs. Bobbitt commended teachers and administrators on a great beginning. Key Works information will be given to the Board little by little. Mrs. Bobbitt will give the Board a summary of Dr. Horne's accountability workshop in the near future. A disk of his presentation was given to those attending, in order to share the information. All testing is moving toward AIMS. Districts must show Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) showing every student being proficient by 2013-2014. This applies to schools, districts, and states. Data must be disaggregated by economic status, race, ethnicity, students with disabilities and English Language Learners and 95 percent of the student must be tested. If a district does not have 30 children in a certain ethnic group at a particular grade level, yet have 30 in the district, they will be tested as a district group.

If schools do not meet the AYP, there is a four year series for the improvement plan that a District would follow. If after the third year of being considered under performing with intervention, the school would be declared failing. At that time, personnel and leadership may have to be completely changed.

Parents are informed of their rights and available supplemental programs. Detailed reports cards must be provided which are similar to the ones the state utilizes. Classifications were changed to: Excelling, Highly Performing, Performing, Under-Performing. A school can be at Under-Performing for three years. The last classification is Failing to meet academic standards.

The Federal Government is looking for 95 percent of ethnicity and 95% of student enrolled to test on the given day. The Board will be informed as to the accountability system and what the District has done to keep on track.

Mr. Heredia would like to know the allocated time/effort and cost to fulfill No chld Left Behind is being monitored. They have not received what was intended, so keep ADE accountable as well. Mrs. Bobbitt said Governor Napolitano wants five percent of each dollar going to each classroom without the use of creative coding. She wants to see the districts conscientiously using funds in a correct manner. Arizona is the only state that did not take as hard a hit in education funding.

Tim Hogan sent word that the appeal was defeated in the SFB case. The Governor is trying to get a task force together to investigate whether renewal monies will be used for upkeep on school facilities. Board Packets will continue to be distributed on Fridays for the following Thursdays' meetings.

2.c. Board Member Report Information

The Board welcomed Staff to the new year. Mr. Omer mentioned that he enjoyed greeting staff and parents on the first day and thanked them for being there.

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.	Ashmore, M. Dianne	Teacher, Tierra Del Sol Elementary
3.1.b.	Ashmore, William	Teacher, Somerton Middle School
3.1.c.	Bobbitt, Douglas	Student Advocate, Somerton Middle School
3.1.d.	Bratt, Pauline	Teacher, Somerton Middle School
3.1.e.	Espinoza, Claudia	Teacher, Somerton Middle School
3.1.f.	Gonzalez, Moné	Teacher, Somerton Middle School
3.1.g.	Oglesby, Bonnie	Teacher, Tierra Del Sol Elementary
3.1.h.	Poulin, Nicole	Teacher, Somerton Middle School
3.1.i.	Schifano, Linda	Teacher, Somerton Middle School
3.1.j.	Soto, Elisa	Instructional Assistant, Desert Sonora Elementary
3.1.k.	Testerman, Terry	Teacher, Somerton Middle School
3.1.l.	Uriarte, Leticia	Part-Time Food Service Worker, Child Nutrition
3.1.m.	Volenstine, Joseph	Dean of Students, Somerton Middle School
3.1.n.	Warren, Michael	Teacher, Somerton Middle School
3.1.o.	Zarate, Ana	Teacher, Orange Grove Elementary

3.1.p-u. ***Cafeteria Monitors, District***

3.1.p. Afable, Cecilia	**3.1.s**. Rios, Rosario
3.1.q. Carrasco, Sonia	**3.1.r**. Rodriguez, Elva
3.1.r. Lopez, Maria De Lourdes	**3.1.u**. Valle, Paula

3.2 WITHDRAWAL OF CONTRACTS

3.2.a.	Karwoski, Kurt	Teacher, Tierra Del Sol Elementary
3.2.b.	LePage, Tammie	Teacher, Desert Sonora Elementary
3.2.c.	Ludwig, Jamie	Desert Sonora Elementary

3.3 APPROVAL OF RESIGNATIONS / TERMINATIONS / RETIREMENTS

3.3.a.	Caiazzo, Maria	Teacher, Orange Grove Elementary
3.3.b.	Cavanaugh, Barbara	Teacher, Tierra Del Sol Elementary
3.3.c.	Cassidy, M. Lupita	Migrant Program Liaison, Migrant Title 1
3.3.d.	Fabien, Pierre	Teacher, Somerton Middle School
3.3.e.	Knox, G. Dina	Teacher, Desert Sonora Elementary
3.3.f.	Thompson, Martina	Nurse, Tierra Del Sol Elementary

3.4 SUBSTITUTES

3.4. a. Isla, Jesus	**3.4. i.** Collenberg, George	**3.4. p.** Deverse, Richard
3.4. b. Ehler, Paul	**3.4. j.** Garcia, Modesto	**3.4. q.** Hall, Richard
3.4. c. Hernandez, Henry	**3.4. k.** Ibbetson, Ronald	**3.4. r.** Mohindra, Vijay
3.4. d. Turley, Thad	**3.4. l.** Zinzun, Jose	**3.4. s.** DeOchoa, Leonora
3.4. e. Andre, Rosary	**3.4. m.** Alvarez, Edmma	**3.4. t.** Madrid, Ricardo
3.4. f. Lopez, Armida	**3.4. n.** Zarate, Martha	**3.4. u.** Ramirez, Adriana
3.4. g. Gonzalez, Marta	**3.4. o.** Ruiz, Mercede	**3.4. v.** Kelly, Darin
3.4. h. Veloz, Vicky		

3.4. w. Cabrera, Francisca — Food Service Substitute, District

3.5 ADULT EDUCATION STAFF

3.5. a. Arevalos, Maria	**3.5. d.** Curiel, Gerardo	**3.5. g.** Montano, Maria
3.5. b. Morales, Juan	**3.5. e.** Moreno, Javier	**3.5. h.** Rodriguez, Lydia
3.5. c. Valentin, Gloria	**3.5. f.** Williams, Alanna	

3.6 CREDIT FOR EDUCATIONAL COURSE WORK AND INCREASE IN SALARY
3.6. a. Valladares, Adriana Teacher, Adult Education

3.7 ADDITIONAL ASSIGNMENT
3.7. a. Morales, Martin Food Service Worker, Tierra Del Sol Elementary

Mrs. Bobbitt explained that Item 3.1c. was advertised more than usual, including fliers in Certified staff's payroll envelopes. Item 3.1.p-u was placed on the Agenda in error. These parents were hired for one year as the Family Literacy Program dictates, so that they have work skills that hopefully qualify them for a permanent position in the future. This year different parents will be chosen.

Mr. Omer entertained a Motion for approval with the exception for items mentioned.

MOTION: Mr.Heredia moved to vote separately on Item 3.1.c and to remove Items 3.p-u, Mrs. Yepez seconded. Motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Heredia moved to approve Item 3.1 through 3.7. with the exception of those stated above, Mrs.Camacho seconded, Motion carried.

MOTION: Mr.Heredia moved to approve 3.1.c, Mrs.Camacho seconded, Mr. Omer mentioned that this item is separated so that a conflict of interest is not suspect. Mr. Heredia asked the District to refrain from last minute hiring, so that it doesn't look like an individual is being chosen. Motion carried.

4. BUSINESS AND FINANCE — Mrs. Bobbitt — Action

4.1. Signing of Vouchers
4.2. Approval of Additional Sole Source Vendors
4.3. Ratification of Accounts Payable Encumbered Vouchers for June
4.4. Acceptance of Student Activity Information

Mrs. Bobbitt recommended Items 4.1 through 4.4 for approval.

Mr. Omer entertained a Motion. **MOTION:** Mrs. Camacho so moved, Mrs. Yepez seconded. Motion carried.

4.5. Approval of Adoption of Resolution authorizing the Execution, delivery and performance of a ground lease and a sublease in connection with the financing of new school facilities by the Arizona School Facilities Board through a lease-to-own transaction

Mr. Klein explained that basically it's a requirement to ground lease property to state and bank so they have the money to pay for those. When they are paid off, we get the title and own the property. During this time, we do not have control. This is the way we can finance. The money was advance for the middle school additions. Fortunately, interest rates have been good. This lease to own package will be about 2 million dollars. Mrs. Bobbitt submitted this Item for approval because the District is not financially able to fund these projects.

Mr. Omer entertained a Motion. **MOTION:** Mr. Heredia so moved, Mrs. Camacho seconded. Motion carried.

4.6. Approval and Signing of Conflict of Interest Form

No action was taken as no Board Members met the criteria to sign the form.

4.7. Approval of *Power Up!* Reading Intervention Program for 7th and 8th Grade

Mrs. Bobbitt explained that this is a supplemental reading program for students at the middle school level. This program was chosen because you can narrow in on areas needing assistance.

Mr. Sheppard explained that the four level program moves students through basic study levels quickly. This enables students to master the upper level strategies when reading. It's possible for students to move two grade levels in reading in one year. The McDougall Littel Program will be used to augment the program as needed.

Mr. Omer entertained a Motion. **MOTION:** Mr. Camacho so moved, Mrs. Yepez seconded. Motion carried.

Call for Executive Session **Mr. Omer** **Action**

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.

Mr. Omer entertained a Motion to go in to Executive Session. **MOTION:** Mr. Heredia moved to go in to Executive Session, Mrs. Camacho seconded, the Board went in to Executive Session at 7:24 p.m.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:09 p.m. Mr. Omer entertained a Motion to return to Regular Session. **MOTION:** Mr. Heredia so moved, Mrs. Yepez seconded, Motion carried.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Omer entertained a Motion to adjourn.

MOTION: Mr. Heredia so moved, Mrs. Yepez seconded. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

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Signature of Board President/Clerk Date