



FOUNTAIN HILLS

UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD FOUNTAIN HILLS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 98

"We Achieve and Celebrate Educational Excellence"

Wednesday, November 18, 2020

Regular Board Meeting

6:30 p.m.

I. Call to Order

Time: 6:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Board members present are Jill Reed, President, Nadya Jenkins, Vice President, Judith Rutkowski, Member and Wendy Barnard, Member.

Dr. Wright has passed away recently. His term will end in December and because he was not running again and Dana Saar ran unopposed, Mr. Saar will just assume Dr. Wright's position in January.

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion: Judith Rutkowski
Second: Nadya Jenkins
The board approved unanimously 4-0

IV. Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Reed called upon Dana Saar to lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

V. Informational Reports

a. Superintendent's Comments

- Happy Thanksgiving
- Erin Willis requested a public hearing and it is scheduled for November 25th at 9:30 am in the Learning Center and is open to the public. We have

an Independent hearing officer that will be present for the hearing, as well as our attorney and hers.

- AOI for 2021-2022 SY has been submitted and a new district website created for the program/school. You'll find a variety of information on this site and will have additional information as we move through the year. The site is under Student Services.
- ADE completed the ADM Audit which looks at attendance and enrollment procedures. We have not been consistently collecting proof of residency or out of district forms yearly. We are working through a review of all student files to ensure that all proper documentation is completed in all student files. Another area of concern was the full time equivalent for a high school student to receive full ADM (4+ classes at FHHS). We had students who did not have the proper documentation for independent studies or fewer than 4 classes. Because of this we will be reviewing and establishing processes, updates, and procedures.
- Online registration/enrollment has been up and running via Powerschool.
- We did receive the PBIS grant from ADE. It starts on December 15-16 with a 2-day initial training. The PBIS team will comprise of Rachel Collins, Allison Barbor, Val Reichler, Kris Alexander, Jeff Markle, Val Dehombreux, Juanita Smart.
- We have established a COVID Dashboard - under resources, you'll find a COVID-19 Dashboard that gives the information for all three schools as well as the MCPHD data. It is updated on Friday weekly.
- We will continue to monitor the COVID dash board from MCPHD to determine the move to hybrid or remote instruction following each holiday period. We did see an increase in COVID like symptoms after Fall break so each holiday period will be important to monitor. As you've seen several districts are closing schools or moving to a different instructional model due to the metrics.
- Winter Athletics started on Nov. 16th. We have followed all the guidelines presented from AIA. Even though AIA is recommending that no Maricopa county school start winter athletics, we have been given a green light by AIA due to the decrease of COVID numbers.
- Prop 208 - Tax collections will start 2021 but funds not available until January 2022. It is likely that funds will be available every year in January and May. Right now the funds will be distributed in the following manner:
 1. 50% for employees with certifications
 2. 25% for classroom support personnel
 3. 10% for mentoring and retention for new classroom teachers
 4. 12% for CTE
 5. 3% for Arizona Teachers Academy Fund
- We have many staff to congratulate for recognitions. We start with our newest board member Mr. Dana Saar who starts his term in January and Mrs. Reed who will be continuing for another term. Jill Cooper and Chris Peterson received the Fiesta Bowl Grant for STEM supplies to include iPads. The 4th grade team got the Golden Eagle grant for a pollination garden. And lastly to Dr. Paul McElligott for receiving the IEEE Region 6 Awards Committee to "Outstanding K through 12 Educator who made

significant contributions to STEM Education" award during the year 2020.

- November is National Native American Heritage month.

- b. Unaudited Financial Report
- c. Student Activity Accounts
- d. Auxiliary Account Funds
- e. Site Council Minutes/Principal's Report
 - High School will be starting their Site Council meetings tomorrow and they will be virtual.
- f. Current Enrollment/Withdrawals
 - 1310 Total students
 - 343 total at MMES with 7 new enrollments and 5 withdrawals
 - 460 total at FHMS with 7 new enrollments and 14 withdrawals
 - 507 total at FHHS with 5 new enrollments and 7 withdrawals

VI. Public Comments

- a. Call to the public: This is the time for the public to comment. Members of the Board may not discuss items that are not specifically identified on the agenda. Therefore, pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.01 (H), action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter, responding to any criticism or scheduling the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date.

VII. Consent Agenda

- a. Donations
 - Donations from private donors of sanitizing wipes and STEM supplies were received at the elementary school. Thank you letters were sent to all donors
- b. Accounts Payable Vouchers
 - October 1, 2020 through October 31, 2020
- c. Payroll Vouchers
 - October 13, 2020, October 27, 2020, October 29, 2020 and November 10, 2020
- d. Personnel Action
- e. Approval of Minutes for October 21, 2020
- f. FY20 School Level Reporting

Motion: Wendy Barnard

Second: Nadya Jenkins

The board approved unanimously 4-0

VIII. Information/Discussion Items

- a. None

IX. Action Items

- a. EVIT Intergovernmental Agreement
 - Per the IGA agreement with EVIT, we may terminate the agreement by delivering written notice of termination no later than thirty days prior to

the end of the semester. Upon written notice of termination, the agreement will terminate on June 30, 2021.

- We are working to develop our own career technical program based on the specific needs of our students.
- Canceling this agreement will not affect the CTE classes that are held on other campuses such as the fire fighter and Pulmonary classes.

Motion: Nadya Jenkins

Second: Judith Rutkowski

The board approved unanimously 4-0

b. EVIT Lease Termination/Four Peaks Plan

- As EVIT is no longer utilizing the Four Peaks Campus, we would like to terminate the agreement, negotiate leases with the existing tenants, and continue the work with the town of Fountain Hills to further the business accelerator model for new business owners.
- The lease will terminate at the end of December.

Motion: Jill Reed

Second: Judith Rutkowski

The board approved unanimously 4-0

X. Governing Board Reports

- Wendy Barnard – Mrs. Barnard Will miss C.T. No one loved our town like C.T. He was larger than life and he will definitely be missed. She offers congratulations on all the grants received. She shared that all the work we have done to get information on the website is very exciting as well as the funding coming in for prop 208 even if we have to wait until 2022. She appreciates the processes and communication for the shutdown to do what is best for our kids. It does break her heart to hear the parents. We are a small district which is the reason most of us stay here when a lot of us have kids that can go over the hill, but this is just not the Fountain Hills way or the Falcon way. We have the flexibility and as a small town we have to do better. We have to do what is best for our kids. We appreciate that Dr. Glass is meeting with everyone but it's disheartening to hear that in some cases we go ten steps forward then twenty back and to hurt our kids is not ok. Hopefully we can figure out a way to make this right.
- Judith Rutkowski – Mrs. Rutkowski spoke for the board at Dr. Wright's funeral. There were so many representatives there including David Spelich with Fountain Hills Town Council and the Republican Club. They mentioned that he was a very big influencer on the national day of prayer. She made sure to include Mrs. Reed's comments which were "FHUSD has lost a strong leader and student advocate. We were truly blessed to have Dr. CT Wright as a Governing Board Member in our district for 14 years. Dr. Wright was a kind and compassionate man with a passion for education and we will miss hearing him say that he was part of "The best school district in the world, Fountain Hills" She also shared at the service that he was the FHUSD cheerleader. She also talked about the national day of prayer and shared when her kids were in school, everyone would gather around the flag at the High School. The community was involved and we had a beautiful national day of prayer.

She shared that it was very well taken and everyone was happy to hear from the school board. She was also our delegate for the ASBA county meeting. Brian Garcia was elected. They had a virtual breakout session with four other district members. Everyone talked about how we are all experiencing the same issues with COVID. She shared that she won the Copper Star award at the county meeting. She will also be the delegate for the ASBA business meeting in December.

- Nadya Jenkins – Mrs. Jenkins echo sentiments regarding C.T. He will be dearly missed. He was such a warm man with so much pride for our community. She shared that they will miss C.T. greatly.
- Jill Reed – Mrs. Reed echoes the sentiments to the teachers that put in the hard work to receive the grants. Being a small school any grant that we get is so helpful. We have the most amazing teachers and writing grants is hard work and usually comes in their off hours if they actually ever have those and they work really hard. She echoes Dr. Barnard's sentiments that we are a small district and it's really important that we make it work here. It is disheartening to hear these kids having things taken away from them especially in their last year. She sympathizes with the seniors, she has a senior and she is hopeful for baseball season. She doesn't know if we'll have it but this is his last year and she will be extremely disappointed if she were a senior as well. And for those kids that are seniors I'm disappointed that senior night wasn't done the first home game. She had recommended that and is disappointed that it didn't happen. She has also asked for seniors to get their sports uniforms if they are going to play winter and spring sports because she knows they like to have their pictures taken in them. Having a senior herself he missed his junior baseball pictures last year, she has none and he has played since he was five so she does feel for you. As a Board member there is only certain things that they can do but she shared that your voices are heard and their hearts go out to you. And to emphasize again what Dr. Wright said "this is the best school district in the world, Fountain Hills, Arizona!" and that's why these kids stay here and that's why we want them to stay here. We are a small town, hometown, small school, let's make this work.

XI. Future Action

XII. Dates of Upcoming Meetings

Wednesday, December 9, 2020– Executive Session at 5:30 p.m. and the Regular Board Meeting @ 6:30 p.m. in the FHUSD Learning Center

XIII. Adjournment

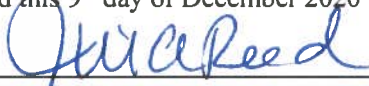
Time: 7:12 p.m.

Motion: Nadya Jenkins


Second: Judith Rutkowski

The board approved unanimously 4-0

Dated this 9th day of December 2020




Jill Reed, President



Nadya Jenkins, Vice President

C.T. Wright



Judith Rutkowski



Wendy Barnard