

**Yuma Elementary School District Number One
Governing Board
Special Meeting**

The Governing Board for Yuma Elementary School District Number One held a Special Meeting on **July 15, 2020** at 4:30 pm. *(This meeting is Closed to the Public due to Health Emergency, but was available via WebEx on Facebook Live @ www.yuma.org)* in the District Administration Office, 450 West Sixth Street, Yuma, Arizona.

Members present: Mrs. Barbara Foote, President Cory Mayrant, Clerk; Mrs. Irene Montoya, Member Mrs. Karen Griffin, Member (remotely); Mrs. Theresa Fox, Member (remotely);

Others present: Mr. James Sheldahl Superintendent, and other Members of the Administrative Staff of Yuma Elementary School District Number One.

Call to Order: The Special meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. A motion was made by Mr. Mayrant, seconded by Mrs. Montoya to adopt the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Report - Nothing to Report

Superintendent's Report- Mr. Sheldahl reported that for the last 6 weeks District One has been planning to meet the challenge of returning to school even as the spread of COVID-19 seems out of control in our State. As a District we have been gathering information from parents and staff, studying guidance from various health and education entities and preparing our building to meet this challenge, which requires attending to three critical factors simultaneously: the health and safety of children, faculty and staff, the continuity of an instructional program that engages every student in meaningful, rigorous learning, whether that be in person, on line, or a combination of the two. The District One Return to Learning Taskforce has performed much of the heavy lifting. Members of the task force have organized and led committees that have sought input, examined guidance from experts and studied models from around the world. Committees have aggregated their work and provided recommendations to guide the District return to learning implementation. Mr. Sheldahl recognized all who chaired a committee on the Return to Learning Task force; Angela Logan, Matt Buckley, Kim Sweeny, Kevin Gettings, Christine McCoy, Frank Evenson, Erica Jimenez, Ron Schepers, Lisa Thrower, Dean Farar, Rob Monson, Matt Kaste, Rindy Ward, also highly engaged in this process Luciano Munoz, Duane Sheppard, Suzie Alka, Elizabeth Valenzuela. The communications committee worked with the technology department to develop a spreadsheet along with a script and contacted 6,131 families, 75% of our students. Mr. Sheldahl concluded his opening remarks by thanking the parents and community for being patient, communicative and supportive and commented "a strong spirit of collaboration runs through the District ONE Culture, and that will serve us well during this unprecedented time. The faculty and staff have been diligent, determined and innovative, the School Board has extended its trust and support throughout the process." Mr. Sheldahl also reminded the board that Thursday and Friday of this week all building administrators will be meeting to iron out all the details on returning to school.

Consent Agenda - *Approval of these items are of a routine nature and those that normally do not require deliberations on the part of the Governing Board. A board member may pull items, which will be discussed and voted on separately.* Mrs. Foote asked if there were any items that needed to be pulled for discussion. Mrs. Foote did ask to pull item 4.6, Approval of Competitive Grants to be pulled. A motion to approve all consent agenda items minus 4.6 was made by Mrs. Montoya, seconded by Mr. Mayrant. The motion passed unanimously. Mrs. Foote asked Mr. Sheldahl to elaborate on item 4.6 Approval of Competitive Grants. Mr. Sheldahl explained that two of the grants for the 21st Century Learning Communities which underwrite additional costs for the before and after school Programs at Carver and Gila Vista. The third grant was awarded to the Child Nutrition Department to underwrite the cost for our Summer Food Program for \$14,700. Mr. Sheldahl thanked Mrs. Terry Lowe for all her efforts in helping administrators gathering data

and writing the grants. A motion was made by Mrs. Montoya, seconded by Mrs. Fox. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Consideration to approve the minutes for the Public Hearing and Special Meeting held on June 23, 2020 for Yuma Elementary School District Number One.

Approval of Payroll Vouchers: Twelve (12) payroll vouchers totaling \$17,435 were submitted for signature.

Approval of Expense Vouchers: Six (6) expense vouchers totaling \$2,098,958.45 were submitted for signature.

Approval of Human Resource Items:

Approval/Ratification of Salary Adjustments/Coaching Contracts: Individual requests - (5) Classified Staff for additional duties during summer months. Group requests - District Communication Blitz School Teams and Castle Dome 21st Century Jump Start Program.

Approval/Ratification of resignations for certified, support staff and substitute personnel: Support Staff-Larsen, Lynda, Paraprofessional, Rolle, effective 7/6/20.

Approval/Ratification of Release of Contract: **It is the administration recommendation that the release of contract request be approved due to extenuating circumstances.* Green, Sonya, School Effectiveness Mentor, Learning Services request for release of contract for 2020-2021 school year effective July 17, 2020. Hayes, Melissa, Family Consumer Science, Castle Dome Middle School request for release of contract for 2020-2021 school year effective June 30, 2020. Wood Melanie, 2nd Grade Teacher, Desert Mesa Elementary request release of contract for the 2020-2021 school year effective July 15, 2020.

Student Activity and Tax Credit: Statement for the period of June 1-30, 2020 were submitted for approval.

Approval of Competitive Grants:

George Washington Carver School has been awarded a new 21st Century Community Learning Center grant that will allow the school to continue and expand its extended-day and summer school programs for another five years. The five-year total of the grant is \$518,400, with each grant year dependent upon the school documenting compliance with grant requirements for the previous year. Partners in this grant include: SHINE Center of the City of Yuma Housing Authority, Yuma Family YMCA, Children's Museum of Yuma County. It is the administrative recommendation that the Governing Board accept the five-year \$518,400 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant for George Washington Carver Elementary School, contingent upon its approval by the State Board of Education.

Gila Vista Junior High School has been awarded a new 21st Century Community Learning Center grant that will allow the school to implement extended-day and summer school programs for the next five years. The five-year total of the grant is \$540,000, with each grant year dependent upon the school documenting compliance with grant requirements for the previous year. Partners in this grant include:

- Arizona Business and Education Coalition (ABEC)
- City of Yuma Neighborhood Services
- SHINE Center of the City of Yuma Housing Authority
- Arizona Western College Talent Search
- Yuma Family YMCA
- Alpha Delta Kappa Sorority
- Kids at Hope
- Yuma Boys Baseball League (YBBL)
- Yuma Heat Swim Team
- Yuma Catch and Go Football
- Yuma American Youth Football
- Mei Wong Yoga

It is the administrative recommendation that the Governing Board accept the five-year \$540,000 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant for Gila Vista Junior High School, contingent upon its approval by the State Board of Education.

Through the efforts of Lisa Thrower, District Child Nutrition Director, the District has been awarded a \$14,700 grant from the Arizona Food Bank Network to support the District Summer Food Program. It is the administrative recommendation that the Governing Board accept the \$14,700 grant from the Arizona Food Bank Network.

Approval/Ratification of Terms and Conditions for Acceptance of Monies from Building Renewal Grants (BRG) Fund: This approval/ratification is for the following request for funds:

148 BRG- Replace 5 Ton Heat Pump HVAC Unit- 2020

The School Facilities Board (SFB) has implemented a new fast track approach to approving BRG applications that are less than \$50,000. The districts submit the application and it is generally approved within 24 hours. Larger projects must go before the SFB for approval and this process is rather cumbersome and time consuming when equipment has failed and needs to be repaired quickly. Terms and Conditions must be signed by the Governing Board President for each application. Since these approvals are routine in nature, they have been placed on the consent agenda.

Approval of Donations: Renewal of the MENTA Group Lease Agreement: MENTA is a nonprofit company that provides services to students with autism. Yuma Elementary is renewing the lease agreement for services. The agreement is available upon request for view.

Consideration to Approve First Things First Scholarships Program: The purpose of this agreement is to outline YESD in administering the First Things First's (FTF) Scholarships Program to NorthEnd PS, Desert Mesa and O C Johnson for the 2020/2021 School Year. The agreement is available upon request for view.

Action Items:

Consideration to Authorize Elizabeth Valenzuela, Chief Financial Officer as the Designated Applicant to Apply for FEMA-4525-DR, Arizona Disaster Declaration (FEMA-3442-EM-AZ): The Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs (AzDEMA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) requires that the governing body of an eligible entity designate an applicant agent to act as an authorized district representative to obtain public assistance funds from a major disaster declaration.

Background: On April 4, 2020, President Trump approved the Major Disaster Declaration FEMA-4524-DR, Arizona Disaster Declaration (FEMA-3442-EM-AZ) for the Arizona COVID-19 Pandemic with an incident period commencing on January 20, 2020, and continuing. The approval of the FEMA-4524-DR authorizes the FEMA Public Assistance to process reimbursement for emergency protective measures related to COVID-19. Federal funding is available to state, tribal, eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency protective measures (Category B), including direct federal assistance under Public Assistance, for all areas affected by COVID-19 at a federal cost share of 75 percent. **Recommended Action:** It is recommended that the Governing Board delegate authority to Elizabeth Valenzuela, Chief Financial Officer of Yuma Elementary School District #1, as the designated applicant's agent to obtain federal and/or state emergency, major disaster, or public assistance funds, as presented. Hearing the recommendation, a motion to approve the recommendation was made by Mr. Mayrant, seconded by Mrs. Griffin. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion and Possible Action on Return to School Scenarios and Parent Options:

Background: The District #1 Return to Learning Task Force has developed a range of scenarios to accommodate student learning when it is deemed safe for students and staff to return to school. The scenarios include two hybrid models and two fully remote models. Each model was outlined for the Board at a recent study session.

The District will open school August 3, 2020, in a fully remote model, and remain in that model until at least August 17, 2020, as a result of Governor Ducey's emergency declaration. The range of options will be in effect after state and local health officials and the Yuma Elementary School District #1 Governing Board have determined that it is safe to open schools in accordance with guidelines established by the Center for Disease Control.

The situation regarding the COVID-19 pandemic is fluid and unpredictable. The scenarios presented to the Governing Board and the community represent options for parents as well as flexibility to accommodate potential changes in the impact of COVID-19 within the community.

Recommended Motion: Superintendent recommends the approval of the scenarios developed by the Return to Learning Task force as presented to the Governing Board with the understanding and acknowledgement that conditions could change, resulting in modifications. Hearing the recommendation and considering all the information that was discussed in the presentation a motion to approve the presented scenarios was made by Mrs. Griffin, seconded by Mrs. Montoya. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment: Special Meeting adjourned at 5:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Quintero, Secretary to the Board

Barbara Foote, President

Cory Mayrant, Clerk

Karen Griffin, Member

Irene Montoya, Member

Theresa Fox, Member