

CASA GRANDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

220 West Kortsen Road
Casa Grande, Arizona

The Governing Board of the Casa Grande Elementary School District No. 4 met Tuesday, March 9, 2021, at 6:00 p.m., in the Governing Board Room, Elementary Administration Building, 220 West Kortsen Road, Casa Grande, Arizona.

1.01 Call to Order:

Mr. Mendez called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1.02 Administration of Oath of Office

Mr. Thomas Ramsdell was sworn in by Mr. Steve Miller.
Mrs. Blanca Varela was sworn in by President Mendez.

1.03 Roll Call:

Present:

Jerry Stabley
Adelphia Sisson
Gilberto Mendez, President
Thomas Ramsdell
Blanca Varela

JoEtta Gonzales, Ed.D., Superintendent
Tom Wohlleber, Chief Financial Officer
Lisa Bradshaw, Director
Jennifer McClintic, Director
Joseph Leon, Director
Andrea Baker, Director
Robert Quiñones, Director
Stacy Howell, Director
Mike Cruz, Communications & Marketing
Sherrie Gill, Executive Assistant

Also Present:
See Exhibit 1

Reporter: Gabrielle Olivera
Casa Grande Dispatch

Jessica Quiñones, Principal
Barbara Wright, Principal

Azure Sullivan, Principal
Chris Laughland, Principal

1.04 Mr. Stabley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.05 A moment of silence was observed.

2.01 **Agenda Adoption:**

Mr. Stabley moved that:

"The agenda be accepted and adopted, as presented."

Mrs. Sisson seconded the motion. Board members voted as follows and the motion passed:

Board member	In Favor	Against
Tom Ramsdell	X	
Gilberto Mendez	X	
Adelphia Sisson	X	
Jerry Stabley	X	
Blanca Varela	X	

3.01 Mr. Mendez called for objections from Board members, staff, and the public regarding consent agenda items.

Mr. Stabley asked that item 3.02 be removed from the consent agenda.

Mr. Stabley moved that:

"The agenda items marked with an asterisk be approved and/or ratified with the exception of item 3.02."

Mrs. Sisson seconded the motion. Board members voted as follows and the motion passed:

Board member	In Favor	Against
Tom Ramsdell	X	
Gilberto Mendez	X	
Adelphia Sisson	X	
Jerry Stabley	X	
Blanca Varela	X	

3.02 Mr. Stabley noted that a correction needs to be made on item 2.01 in the minutes. It should state Mrs. Sisson seconded the motion.

Mr. Stabley moved that:

"The minutes of the February 9, 2021 Regular Meeting be approved with the noted correction."

Mrs. Sisson seconded the motion. Board members voted as follows and the motion passed:

Board member	In Favor	Against
Tom Ramsdell	X	
Gilberto Mendez	X	
Adelphia Sisson	X	
Jerry Stabley	X	
Blanca Varela	X	

*3.03 The minutes of the February 9, 2021 Study Session were approved by the Governing Board.

*3.04 The following certified personnel actions were approved/ratified by the Governing Board:

Request for Leave of Absence – Carlos Sosa Ramirez, MSI Teacher, Evergreen, May 25, 2021-October 1, 2021, to complete military training.

Authorization to Employ a Digital Learning Coach at CGESD Online Learning Academy (SY 2021-2022) – Title I Funds

Authorization to Establish/Approval to Issue a Stipend for Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) Certification - \$2,000 annually

Authorization to Employ Two Occupational Therapists and to Reduce Contracted Occupational Therapy Services – effective 2021-2022 school year.

Authorization to Approve an Increase to Stipends for Lead Nurse and Lead Counselor Beginning (SY 2021-2022) - \$2,000 annually

Approval of Stipend for Career Camp Director - \$2,500 paid upon completion of duties using Title I funding

Professional Growth Supplemental Agreement – Mrs. Pani McKenzie contract change from column 2 to column 3 effective 2020-2021 SY

Ratification to Renew Contracts for Certified Directors, Assistant Directors, and Principals, FY 2021-22 – Lisa Dempsey, Director of ECLC; Andrea Baker, Director of Teaching & Learning; Cassandra Goldberg, Assistant Director of Learning Support; Jennifer McClintic, Director of Learning Support; Robert Quinones, Director of Leadership & Engagement; Rebecca Romo, Principal; Christopher Laughland, Principal; Azure Sullivan, Principal; Melissa Pieper, Principal; Scott Raymond, Principal; Robin Rosales, Principal; Jessica Quinones, Principal; Julie Holdsworth, Principal; Joanne Kramer, Principal; Celie Downey-Foye, Principal

Authorization to Issue Certified Assistant Principal and TOA Contracts, FY 21-22 – Mary Slaydon, Assistant Principal; Peter Quinn, Assistant Principal; Samantha Sarnowski, Assistant Principal; Malcolm Young, Assistant Principal; Donald Nusbaum, Assistant Principal; Stephanie Sander, Assistant Principal; Gabriel

Cheavers, TOA; Mandy Curry, TOA; Jeffrey Groh, TOA; Denia Lopez, TOA; Marcy McCue, TOA; Stephanie Rice, TOA; Taryn Tijerina, TOA; Gabriel Wong, TOA

Authorization to Accept Notice of Retirement - The Governing Board is asked to accept the notices of retirement and payment of retirement benefits for which staff is eligible. It is further recommended that the Governing Board consider approving retirement notices/requests for benefits after the March 1 deadline established in Board policy. Provided in policy is the ability to "unanimously" approve late requests which will be the recommendation in April.

Authorization to Release Certified Counselor from Contract – Kimberlee Myers, Villago, effective February 26, 2021, with prorated contractual liquidated damages

Ratification to Issue FY 2021-22 Certified Personnel Contracts

Authorization to Convert a 1.0 FTE Classroom Teacher to EL-Gifted Specialized Support Teacher – McCartney Ranch

Ratification of Certified Personnel Resignations, 2020-21:

Employee	Position	Campus/Dept.	Effective
Arnst, Evelyn	on Leave of Absence 2020-2021		5/20/2021
Balkow, Alice	TOA to Psychologist	Learning Support	5/24/2021
Carter, Shadeene	Kindergarten	CGOLA	5/20/2021
Corriero, Aurora	School Counselor	CGMS	5/27/2021
Molina, Lourdes	Science	CGMS	5/20/2021
Myers, Kimberlee	School Counselor	Villago	2/26/2021
Okerblad, Deanna	ELA	CGMS	5/20/2021
Phillips, Courtney	2nd	Ironwood	5/20/2021

Ratification of Certified Personnel Reclassification, 2020-21:

Employee	New Position	Campus/Dept.
Love, Jonathan	8th Grade Science	Cactus

*3.04 The following classified personnel actions were approved/ratified by the Governing Board:

Authorization to Accept Notice of Retirement - I recommend the Governing Board accept the notices of retirement and payment of retirement benefits for which staff is eligible. I further recommend that the Governing Board consider approving retirement notices/requests for benefits after the March 1 deadline established in Board policy. Provided in policy is the ability to "unanimously" approve late requests which will be my recommendation in April.

Request to Extend Leave of Absence – Stephanie Branum, McCartney Ranch, until March 22, 2021, to complete student teaching assignment

Approval of Rate of Pay for Educational Support Professionals, Grants Paid - \$15/hr for Educational Support Staff, for activities funded through grants during off contract time

Ratification to Renew Contracts for Classified Directors, FY 2021-22 - Joseph Leon, Stacy Howell, Dennis York, Darla Johnson, David Lawrence, and Alysia Ruelas

Authorization to Issue FY 2021-22 Classified Personnel Work Agreements

Authorization to adjust the Days/Hours for Classified Office Staff for FY 2021-2022 – All school Administrative Assistants, Registrars, Office Specialists and Attendance Assistants will work 215 days

Authorization to Restructure Health Services Delivery, Salary Schedule and Workday Hours for Health Technicians

Authorization to Employ Campus Monitor at Cactus Middle School

Authorization to Restructure Talent Acquisition and Employee Services (TAES)

Authorization to Reclassify Student Advocate to Campus Monitor at Villago Middle School

Ratification to Increase Health Tech Hours – Cassie Garcia, increase hours from 8:00-1:30 to 7:15-3:15

Authorization of Pay Increase for Accounting Specialist – Alicia Pelaez, \$16.98/hr, for taking on vacated Accounting Assistant position duties

Authorization of Temporary Pay Increase for Payroll Specialist – Tiffany Guevara, \$18.67/hr, March 1-21, 2021 for temporary increase of responsibilities

Authorization to Adjust Work Agreement Days for Router/Bus Driver Position

Authorization to Adjust Work Agreement Days for Lead Dispatcher & Special Needs Coordinator Positions

Ratification of Classified Personnel Resignations:

Employee	Position	Campus/Dept.	Effective
Coopple, Robert	Campus Monitor	CGMS	5/20/2021
Culver, Annette	Payroll Coordinator	Financial Services	3/3/2021
Ponce de Leon, Alejandro	Bus Driver	Transportation	2/21/2021

Schantz, Alisa	Education Specialist-Inclusive Specialist	ECLC	5/20/2021
Schroeder, Debbie	Custodian	Facilities	6/30/2021

Ratification of Classified Personnel Employment:

Employee	Position	Campus/Dept.
Cowsar, Stephanie	Transportation Assistant-Van Driver	Transportation
Decker, Destiny	Education Specialist-Inclusive Education	ECLC
Decker, Sharon	Early Education Assistant	ECLC
Felix, Serina	Education Assistant-Special Education	Cottonwood
Goff, Katherine	Crossing Guard	Cottonwood
Waller, Cindy	Van Driver	Transportation

Ratification of Reclassification of Classified Personnel:

Employee	New Position	Campus/Dept.
Acuna, Samantha	Education Specialist-Early Childhood	ECLC
Chavez, Tiffany	Education Specialist-Early Childhood	ECLC
Draper, Wade	Maintenance Work Leader	Facilities
Garcia, Gabriela	Extra Duty: Associate Instructor	District
Klug, Kimberly	Digital Literacy Assistant	Ironwood
Salazar, Aryana	SLPA	Saguaro
Santa Ana, Yurico	Education Assistant-Special Education	Cholla

- *3.06 The student activities report for February, 2021, had been provided to the Board prior to the meeting.
- *3.07 The financial report for February, 2021 had been provided to the Board prior to the meeting.
- *3.08 The vehicle inventory report for February 2021 had been provided in the Board's information.
- *3.09 The vehicle maintenance report for February 2021 had been provided in the Board's information.
- *3.10 The weekly enrollment summaries for February 10, February 17, February 24 and March 3, 2021 had been provided to Board members prior to the meeting.
- *3.11 The vouchers presented at the meeting were approved by the Governing Board.
- *3.12 Revised Policy GCO – Evaluation of Professional Staff Members; GCO-RA; and, GCO-E, was presented for a second reading. Board members approved Policy GCO, as proposed. Revisions for GCO-RA and GCO-E were presented for information only, no action was required.

- *3.13 A copy of the 2022-2023 school calendar was included in the Board's information. The Board adopted the 2022-2023 modified year round school calendar as proposed.
- *3.14 The Winter holiday for 12-month employees designating Thursday, December 23 as a floating vacation day, Friday, December 24 as the Christmas holiday and December 20-22 as Board-approved paid vacation days was approved.
- *3.15 A memorandum from Mr. Wohlleber regarding Award RFQ for Mechanical Engineering Services was provided prior to the meeting. The Board authorized the award of RFQ of mechanical engineering services to Kelly, Wright and Associates, PC as proposed.
- *3.16 A memorandum from Mr. Wohlleber regarding Authorization for Recycling of Scrap Metal was provided prior to the meeting. The Board authorized the recycling of scrap metal, as proposed.

4. Audience with Groups or Individuals:

- 4.01 Dr. Gonzales recognized Annette Romero and Amy Flasher for completing the Grow Your Own Program.
- 4.02 Dr. Gonzales recognized Andrea Baker, Lisa Bradshaw, Lisa Dempsey, Celie Downey-Foye, JoEtta Gonzales, Jennifer McClintic, Scott Raymond and Robin Rosales for completing the Beat the Odds School Leadership Academy.

5.01 Call to the Public

There were no requests from the public.

6.01 The Superintendent recommended the Board accept the following donations:

Walmart Distribution Center donated \$200 for the 2021 District Maker Showcase.

Fry's Food and Drug on Florence Blvd. donated 5,000 individual bottles of hand sanitizer valued at approximately \$5,000. The bottles were distributed amongst all schools.

Mr. Laughland of CGMs had a Donors Choose project funded in the amount of \$802.00. The project will purchase video cameras for a new program at CGMS in videography and broadcasting.

Read Better Be Better donated 200 reading kits for second and third grade students at Cholla..

Mrs. Cordova at Desert Willow had a Donors Choose project funded in the amount of \$200.24. Her project will purchase for her classroom a replica of the constitution poster and books about the United States Constitution and branches of government.

Mrs. Cordova had a second Donors Choose project funded in the amount of \$229.29. The project will purchase for her classroom simple machine experiment kits.

Quiltz for Kidz donated 295 face masks to Palo Verde.

Mrs. Sisson moved that:

“The donations be accepted, as read.”

Mr. Ramsdell seconded the motion. Board members voted as follows and the motion passed:

Board member	In Favor	Against
Tom Ramsdell	X	
Gilberto Mendez	X	
Adelphia Sisson	X	
Jerry Stabley	X	
Blanca Varela	X	

6.02 Americorps VISTA Project Update – Presentation of Thrive Curriculum –Members of the Casa Grande Alliance, Americorps VISTA Project presented the curriculum being used in the THRIVE program for 8th graders. The lessons taught are useful for dealing with difficult situations that come up and helps students gain the confidence and knowledge they need to make positive decisions.

6.03 With the Board’s recent approval to repurpose Evergreen Elementary School, the EMP Task Force reassembled with the task of analyzing school boundary changes specific to those students currently living in the Evergreen attendance area.

Three attendance boundary scenarios were reviewed at the March 1st Task Force meeting. The task force concluded that Scenario B2 provided the best option to address the reallocation of the existing Evergreen Elementary attendance boundary. Students will be reassigned to Cottonwood, Palo Verde, and Mesquite, leaving room for students who may return to their home school from online or other educational options.

Mr. Stabley moved to:

“Approve the Attendance Boundary Changes for the 2021-2022 school year as recommended by the Enrollment Planning Task Force.”

Mrs. Sisson seconded the motion. Board members voted as follows and the motion passed:

Board member	In Favor	Against
Tom Ramsdell	X	
Gilberto Mendez	X	
Adelphia Sisson	X	
Jerry Stabley	X	
Blanca Varela	X	

6.04 Mr. Wohlleber provided an update on the 2021-2022 budget planning process.

Planning assumptions have not changed. ESSER 3 has passed the senate. Arizona will receive \$12 billion for K-12 education to be distributed to all school districts.

There will be benefit increases to ASRS contributions, health insurance, and dental insurance – overall 21% increase of benefits tied to salaries.

The capital budget did not change.

6.05 Information pertaining to the revision of the 2020-2021 Expenditure budget had been included in the Board’s information. The public hearing provides the general public an opportunity to provide input with regard to the proposed revisions.

Mr. Mendez declared that the public hearing for the proposed revision of the 2020-2021 budget be opened at 7:18 p.m.

Mr. Wohlleber presented information regarding the 2020-21 Budget Revision #2 which utilizes data from the March 3, 2021 ADMS 46-1, SPED and ELL reports from ADE.

The district is down approximately 600 in unweighted ADM. Weighted ADM in group A is down 676 and Group B weighted is down 96, a total weighted ADM of 772 from the adopted budget.

The M&O expenditure budget has been reduced by \$2,349,861 to reflect the decrease in the General Budget Limit. Budget adjustments reflect projected fiscal year-end expenditures and reallocation of approximately \$1,100,000 in instructional salary expenditures to the ESSER 2 grant.

Other Federal Projects were adjusted to account for the actual ESSER 2 grant allocation of \$7,072,935. Total federal funding for this year amounts to \$11,055,185.

There were no questions or concerns from the public. Mr. Mendez closed the public hearing at 7:24 p.m.

6.06 Authorization to Revise the 2020-2021 Budget

It is recommended that the Board approve the revision of the 2020-2021 budget, as presented.

Mr. Stabley moved to:

“Approve Revision #2 to the 2020-2021 budget.”

Mrs. Sisson seconded the motion. Board members voted as follows and the motion passed:

Board member	In Favor	Against
Tom Ramsdell	X	
Gilberto Mendez	X	
Adelphia Sisson	X	
Jerry Stabley	X	
Blanca Varela	X	

7.01 The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 13, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

8.01 **Superintendent’s Report**

Students returned to in-person learning last week. It was a very successful week. Dr. Gonzales, Mrs. McClintic, Mr. Quinones, Ms. Baker and Mrs. Bradshaw were able to get out to all the schools. We saw classroom instruction occurring, CGMS rolled out the red carpet. There was lots of fun reading as it was Read Across America Week. Middle school students return to full schedule March 22nd. We have had about one COVID case per day.

Technology for the Board room will hopefully be working in April.

9. **Executive Session:**

9.01 Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session

Mr. Mendez moved that:

“The Board adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03.”

The meeting was closed to the public at 7:28 p.m.

At the conclusion of the executive session, the open meeting was reconvened at 9:02 p.m.

10.01 Mr. Mendez adjourned the meeting at 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Date Approved: 04/13/2021

President