



**LIBERTY SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 25  
GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA - REVISED**

**TIME:** March 5, 2018 – 6:30 PM

**PLACE:** Las Brisas Academy Theatre, 18211 West Las Brisas Drive, Goodyear, AZ 85338

**I. OPENING MEETING**

1. Mr. Paul Jensen, Governing Board President, called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. Governing Board members constituting a quorum were present; Mr. Mark Aguire, Mrs. Connie Krogulecki-Crowley, Mrs. Yolanda Lopez-Bearden and Mrs. Kathy McNamara.
2. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mrs. McNamara
3. A motion by Mrs. McNamara/Mr. Aguire was entered to approve the Regular Agenda form and temporarily suspend Governing Board Policy with which this agenda may be inconsistent.  
Approved **UNANIMOUS**
4. School Reports / Presentation / Recognitions
  - Freedom presented on their invention convention; Soraya presented on the recycling of tires and how they are bad for the environment, Carson was inspired to create a reusable bandage because of his sisters seat, Zoey created Cozy Coze blanket with arms so it wouldn't keep falling off, Michelle attached a basket to a bowl to hold her drinks, Caleb created a backpack hook because it fell off from his chair, and Kayla created models of Save a Life Fencing. The student leader Emilio presented on STEM awareness and a maker space. A maker space is an area that students can learn Science and Social Studies by a hands-on technique. Next year they are hoping to build the maker space. Ms. McShane spoke briefly about the catapults the children built while Esteban, Adilene, and Cadince showed the Governing Board.
  - Westar performed a sneak peek of *The Pirates of Penzance Junior*, which will be performing January 16<sup>th</sup>.

**II. CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

- Megan Blackburn stated that she appreciates how the Governing Board has made the time and effort to attend the meetings which has changed the environment and made the atmosphere feel more productive. She is also appreciative how the Interim Superintendent is more approachable as before.
- Cindy Berrelez spoke on behalf of Sheri Lauritano regarding Ms. Marine from Estrella, she stated that through the guidance of Ms. Marine her children have excelled both in school and socially. She further stated her traits are comparable to Dr. Ella Foreman and believes she is doing an outstanding job and it would be a disservice if she was not renewed for the following year.
- Robin Johnson a Westar parent stated she thanked the Governing Board for the transparency of the process of the Superintendent search. She understands we have a long way to go but thanks the Board for taking those steps.
- Kimberly Bertel is a kindergarten Westar teacher and is concerned of the lack of teacher representations on the Superintendent Interview Panel. She wants to believe that the Board values teacher voices but fears it is not evident when you look at the makeup of the panel. She respectfully asks the board to reconsider the composition of the Interview Panel to address the inequity.
- Steve Pond spoke in regards to Ms. Marine. He stated as an educator his first perception of her made him feel comfortable with the idea of his children attending Estrella. He also stated the school has grown in the last 7 years with her being the principal and she has also helped the IB program grow. He further stated the school has a big parent involvement with 36% of their parents being involved which is compared to Desert Edge with having only 20% of parent involvement with a parent liaison. She deals with two different cultures in Elementary and Junior High and is able to bring them into a community centered involvement through afterschool programs.
- Stacy Ruiz stated Ms. Marine has been a driving force for the PYP and MYP program through the International Baccalaureate and is leading them through the A+ achievement. Her contract will save the District money and she is an asset without her she feels the school will go in a direction that will not be successful. She hopes they consider retaining her.
- Nancy Odin she is a grandparent of two students going to Estrella. She attended the work study program in January 2018 and found it interesting there is sizable amount of students moving into the area but choosing Charter schools. She believes the IB program was difficult to establish and

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requires a great deal to maintain and questions why a principal would take on such a program. The answer is simple to benefit the students. Ms. Marine know the outcome is worth it and the junior high was established in August 2017 and has attracted a lot of student outside of the boundaries and has made a 20% increase in student population. She stated we must work as a District to support and respect each of the campuses because the success of the programs starts at the top. Due to her support and Susanne there are approximately 50 volunteers and she has fostered a sense of community within the school. She has been instrumental in the success of the IB program, volunteer program, and qualifying as a finalist for an A+ school. An obtained the highest spring test scores in the District and hopes they renew her contract.

- Suzanne Wolf stated she is a stakeholder at Estrella, was a Site Council Member, and is a Cougar Community Volunteer. She hopes all Board Members are willing to listen to the community when they state they need to keep Ms. Marine and vote for what is best for the students. She further stated that when the State cut the funding Ms. Marine figured out ways they could stretch their budget to continue to keep the commitments to the students. It became a Spring ritual that she would create budgets and explain the options to the Site Council who would vote the best way to support their budget within their constraints. 5 years ago she was a supporter for the volunteer program and to date there are 65 volunteers who are putting in at least 37 hours per school day. There is reading interventions for K-5 and math intervention in third grade and expanded to second grade in the fall. Ms. Marine has brought an innovative thought process with the IB program, by hand she has inputted the student electives because she states "if it is good for our kids that is what we will do". Estrella had the highest test scores because of its volunteer/tutoring program. Last August the Junior IB academy opened boosting the population by 20% and most of the students came from outside the attendance area. We need her next year to continue the work she has been doing since she has arrived. This won't happen without the leadership of Ms. Marine.
- Art Odin is a Cougar Volunteer and is reading on behalf of Justin Odin, in support of Ms. Marine. In Mr. Jensen's bio it states "I believe the parents are a critical part in children's education and the school should do what they can to encourage and invite parent participation". He couldn't agree more with his sediment and encourages them to find an administrator who has done more for parent participation than Ms. Marine. She has spearheaded the Cougar Volunteer Program at EMS that has parents and grandparents volunteering and has allowed them to help student learning. After hearing about it from Ms. Marine he has started helping with Math. The fight she carries for our students is driving the progress at EMS. The test scores are a reflection of her through parent participation to ensure no child is left behind. This has changed the course of untold student academic careers. Lastly you also state "it is important every child to learn the fundamentals at a young age when their excitement for learning is high". Ms. Marine is encouraging every child to see success early in their education when others would like write them off or not have the resource to help each child. He cannot find stronger words of support for Ms. Marine then that of his son who recently told him "dad Ms. Marine is so fun she came to the class and was silly when Mr. Haggens was acting out our creative writing project. I always thought the principals were supposed to be scary, we have the best school ever". As a parent there is nothing more I can ask than that of a child who comes home excited for the next day of learning. She has created a true atmosphere of learning and he would be ecstatic to see her return next year.
- Andreas Paulick he is a LT Colonel of the German Air Force training squadron. They have about 20 permanent parties and about 50 dependants with about 1/3 of the kids go to Estrella. The school has a good reputation, it is the only school with the IB program and they will have the proper learning skills when they return to Germany. Ms. Marine does an outstanding job for the school and he highly recommends them retaining her.
- Kim Novak spoke on behalf of Megan Olin is a proud parent, volunteer, and Site Council Member at Estrella. With all the change that has occurred within the school board, EMS is growing thanks to Ms. Marine. In addition to her contract saving us money she continues to steer our school in a positive direction. She has innovated several tutoring programs which is shown in our testing scores. She brought the Junior IB program to life drastically increasing our enrollment. In the last month EMS recertified its Primary Years Program (PYP), if the A+ rating is received it will be null in void if she does not return next year. The A+ certification board feels the principal is invaluable representation of the school and would therefore remove the A+ rating without the same principal leading the way. The most unique asset Ms. Marine has brought is the Cougar Volunteer Program which allows diverse fingerprinted volunteers to work within the community throughout various areas freeing up teachers to work one on one with the students. The volunteer program has helped her sons reading scores and is forever grateful for her support. Ms. Marine's

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does not stop there she has already begun the preparation for next year's Middle School IB program certifications which holds the school accountable for very high standards making our school a better place. The school will never be the same without her. She hopes and pray the School Board does what is best for the district at large.

- Pam Davis spoke about the recent event at the schools. She appreciated the hard work that was conducted but felt that had Ms. Marine been there it could have been done differently. She believes she is invaluable to the school and would like to see more safety measures. She would like them to be a demo school by adding bulletproof screens to the windows and also look at metal detectors at all the entrances. She also wants to speak about Ms. Marine being a beacon of light for her family. Ms. Marine helped get her child into the right program and has been more beneficial than the Gifted program. She feels as a parent safety wise if they remove her they would be more vulnerable.
- Some of the Governing Board members addressed these concerns – Mrs. McNamara stated she was approached by an angry parent stating that there were two Board Members not in support of Ms. Marine however Dr. Rundhaug reassured the community that she is on the agenda to be approved for next year. Mr. Aguire stated the district is trying to make the schools a high performing school and further stated to remove an A+ principal is not on the agenda. Mrs. Krogulecki-Crowley stated she did research and if a school gets an A+ rating it cannot be taken away from the school for 3 years. She received information that is reflecting negatively on the Governing Board and she wants them to know they are there for the good of the students. Mrs. Lopez-Bearden stated that she as well is surprised because she has met Ms. Marine and is not aware of them removing any of the principals.

### III. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. Tax Credit – Mrs. Baysinger gave a brief summary of the tax credits and explained that the funds donated will assist in the different programs the District has to offer for the children.
2. Student Discipline – Dr. Rundhaug presented a PowerPoint on Legal Principles Supporting Student Discipline. Due process deals with the administration of justice and thus the due process clause acts as a safeguard from arbitrary denial of life, liberty, or property by the government outside the sanctions of law. JKDA under district policy states that before removing a student from an activity or position as a result of the student's violation of the student discipline policies, rules, and/or regulations, the principal must comply with the notice-and-hearing provisions of those policies, rules, and/or regulations. If evidence is not present, current policies or procedures will not initiate a disciplinary procedure or a procedure that will limit student's rights. An administrator may choose any or all of the consequences at any infraction level and has the authority to impose such choices as deemed appropriate. Mrs. McNamara provided a scenario; student A was on an IEP and student B had an active parent in the classroom. Student B and his friends picked on student A. During 8<sup>th</sup> grade student B started picking on student A's friends until student A pushed student B. After that incident student B never picked on student A again, this scenario demonstrates how the principals should be allowed to determine the outcome of the students based on their professional knowledge of the students within their school.
3. Governing Board Update
  - Mr. Paul Jensen – stated he enjoyed the Play Across America and reading to the kids for Dr. Seuss week.
  - Mr. Mark Aguire – stated he attended Rainbow Valley's spring carnival and is signed up for the Liberty Fun Run. He questioned if the Gifted program could get sponsorships from different companies.
  - Mrs. Yolanda Lopez-Bearden – stated she also attended the Rainbow Valley carnival and was impressed by the turnout. She also stated she appreciated all the teacher and parent involvement.
  - Mrs. Connie Krogulecki-Crowley – stated she is still pursuing Legislators for educational funding and that she fears there may be more cuts but looks forward to working with Dr. Harris next year.
  - Mrs. Kathy McNamara – stated on Facebook she is seeing a lot of Gifted parents and worries they will try to recruit the parents from the District. She wants to find a way to get back the community that left. Also she congratulated Lindsay for taking second at the District Spelling Bee.

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**IV. CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Approval of Minutes of the February 12, 2018, Work Study Session Board Meeting; February 12, 2018, Regular Board Meeting; February 17, 2018, Work Study Session Board Meeting; and February 20, 2018, Special Board Meeting.  
A motion by Mr. Aguire/Mrs. McNamara was entered to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2018, Work Study Session Board Meeting; February 12, 2018, Regular Board Meeting; February 17, 2018, Work Study Session Board Meeting; and February 20, 2018, Special Board Meeting.  
Approved **UNANIMOUS**
2. Approval/Ratification of Payroll Vouchers 121, 122, 1021 & 1022 in the amount of \$1,403,676.96.  
A motion by Mr. Aguire/Mrs. McNamara was entered to approve the payroll vouchers 121, 122, 1021, & 1022 in the amount of \$1,403,676.96.  
Approved **UNANIMOUS**
3. Approval/Ratification of Expense Vouchers 1827, 1828, 1829, and 1830 in the amount of \$441,552.66.  
A motion by Mr. Aguire/Mrs. McNamara was entered to approve the expense vouchers 1827, 1828, 1829, and 1830 in the amount of \$441,552.66.  
Approved **UNANIMOUS**
4. Approval of Student Activity Fund for the Month of January 2018.  
A motion by Mr. Aguire/Mrs. McNamara was entered to approve the student activity fund for the month of January 2018.  
Approved **UNANIMOUS**
5. Approval of Gifts and Donations for January 1, 2018 thru February 28, 2018.  
A motion by Mr. Aguire/Mrs. McNamara was entered to approve the Gifts and Donations for January 1, 2018 thru February 28, 2018.  
Approved **UNANIMOUS**
6. Approval of Personnel Action Items.  
A motion by Mrs. Krogulecki-Crowley/Mr. Aguire was entered to approve the personnel action items.  
Approved **UNANIMOUS**
7. Approval of Revised FY2016-2017 Annual Financial Report.  
A motion by Mr. Aguire/Mrs. McNamara was entered to approve the revised FY2016-2017 Annual Financial Reports.  
Approved **UNANIMOUS**
8. Approval to Issue Invitation for Bid (IFB) for the Liberty Water Tank Project.  
Mr. Aguire questioned if this process is through the SFB and whoever is the lowest bid will get the project. Mrs. Baysinger stated that there are two options a hard bid that is anything in excess of \$100,000 and JOC. The water tank did not qualify so it had to go to a hard bid, the SFB process. Ms. Gray stated that the water tank has been an issue especially when there is any water line issue and cannot state which requires attention more. She is concerned with both because of the incoming students. Mr. Aguire stated that hard bid does not mean it has to be the lowest bid. Dr. Rundhaug stated that school facilities board has moved into procurement methods because the Districts have taken advantage of the alternative procurement methods. They saw a steady increase in the per square footage exceeding the inflation. This is the reason SFB has become hard on hard bids. He met with the SFB and he has given them the JOC procurement and emphasized that the kids are displaced. Mr. Aguire asked if they keep track of the contracts. Mr. Ceja confirmed and stated that this is the third time they are asking for this project as a result of State funding. Within that funding the schools have to rely on school facilities to procure the services. The alternative option is to reach out to the constituents and ask for a bond. That would give the Governing Board more flexibility but unfortunately we do not have many options at this time.  
A motion by Mrs. Lopez-Bearden/Mrs. Krogulecki-Crowley was entered to approve the revised FY2016-2017 Annual Financial Reports.  
Approved **UNANIMOUS**
9. Approval to Issue Invitation for Bid for the Liberty Elementary School Roof Renovation Project.  
Mrs. Baysinger stated they did apply for the JOC for the Liberty ES roof because they thought that it would qualify but they denied the JOC and they have to go back to the bid.  
A motion by Mrs. McNamara/Mr. Aguire was entered to approve the revised FY2016-2017 Annual Financial Reports.  
Approved **UNANIMOUS**

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**V. GENERAL BUSINESS**

1. Discussion/Review of Parent/Student/Staff Survey.  
Mr. Jensen stated he will compile the results from past surveys and will forward to the Board members once completed.  
No motion was made on the discussion and review of the parent/student/staff survey.
2. Discussion/Consideration to Approve Resignation of Dr. Kyann McMillie, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning, Effective February 14, 2018.  
A motion by Mr. Aguire/Mrs. Lopez-Bearden was entered to approve the resignation of Dr. Kyann McMillie, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning, Effective February 14, 2018. Mrs. McNamara and Mrs. Krogulecki-Crowley recuse themselves.  
Approved **MOTION CARRIED (3-YES, 2-RECUSE)**
3. Discussion/Consideration to Approve Work Calendars for 12 Month Employees and Psychologists for Fiscal Year 2019.  
A motion by Mrs. Krogulecki-Crowley/Mr. Aguire was entered to approve the work calendars for 12 month employees and Psychologists for Fiscal Year 2019.  
Approved **UNANIMOUS**
4. Discussion/Consideration to Approve Issuance of Administrator / Psychologist / Exempt Staff Contracts for FY 2019.  
Mrs. McNamara stated it is not a secret that District has had a lot of animosity in the beginning and after resignation with the Superintendent she spoke with Mr. Ceja. They had a brief conversation about his employment and he understood if she could not support him. She replied she did not know but did believe many of the administrators were a product of that leadership at that time. There were many broken relationships, lacking in confidence, spreading of rumors, name calling and bad information. She is often referred to as a Westar parent and it erased her 15 years as an EMS parent. She stated hind sight is 20/20 and she was aware that some things could have been different and they agreed they would work to move forward. Not every name on the list is her biggest fan and that is ok because her purpose on the board is to do what is right by the Gifted students. They are a subset of all the students. She further stated that if this list was presented last year she would have been fighting against but since Dr. Rundhaug has come in he has built a tremendous amount trust and she trusts Dr. Rundhaug. So she asks that the misinformation stop and they start building a relationship because she is supportive of the contracts. Mr. Aguire stated that as they can see Ms. Marine will be principal for the next year and they understand there is no hidden agenda. They ask their administrators to perform and based on all the administrators they are all performing. He appreciates that the community came out in support of Ms. Marine. Mrs. Lopez-Bearden asked the community to please try to give the Board more trust that they are moving forward because they are here for the kids. Mrs. Krogulecki-Crowley stated she addressed Ms. Marine when they came in and it is a relief to see the growth and wants more trust in the board because they want what is best for the kids. Mr. Jensen stated he is excited for the new team and they will do great things next year. Dr. Rundhaug stated that passion within the School District is incredible and the strength of the School District is the leadership. The principals have a great passion for their signature programs. The healing process begins with these contracts.  
A motion by Mrs. Lopez-Bearden/Mr. Aguire was entered to approve the issuance of Administrator/Psychologist/Exempt Staff contracts for FY 2019.  
Approved **UNANIMOUS**
5. Discussion/Consideration to Approve Employee Fringe Benefits for FY 2019 Mr. Ceja  
A motion by Mrs. Lopez-Bearden/Mr. Aguire was entered to approve the issuance of Administrator/Psychologist/Exempt Staff contracts for FY 2019.  
Approved **UNANIMOUS**
6. Discussion/Consideration to Approve the Selection of Two (2) Community Members to Serve on the Superintendent Search Stakeholders Interview Panel.  
Names selected were picked at random. Nominated candidates include Julie Haut and Steve Bale Jr. and Eric Godfrey as an alternative.  
A motion by Mrs. Krogulecki-Crowley/Mr. Aguire was entered to approve the selection of the two (2) community member names and the alternate to serve on the Superintendent Search Stakeholders Interview Panel.  
Approved **UNANIMOUS**

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**VI. GOVERNING BOARD COMMENTS ON AGENDA TOPICS OR RECOMMENDED AGENDA TOPICS ADDITION**

- Mr. Paul Jensen – N/A
- Mr. Mark Aguire – N/A
- Mrs. Yolanda Lopez-Bearden – N/A
- Mrs. Connie Krogulecki-Crowley – stated the Board should consider selecting more teachers for the Superintendent Search Stakeholders Interview Panel.
- Mrs. McNamara – N/A

**VII. UPCOMING GOVERNING BOARD MEETINGS:**

**March 19, 2018 - Special Board Meeting**

**March 22, 2018 - Special Board Meeting - Superintendent Interviews**

**March 23, 2018 - Special Board Meeting - Superintendent Interviews**

**April 9, 2018 -- Regular Monthly Board Meeting**

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT OF BOARD MEETING**

On a motion entered by Mr. Aguire/Mrs. Krogulecki-Crowley and by unanimous vote the Governing Board Meeting ended at 8:53 p.m.

Signed:

Date:

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April 09, 2018