

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

The Governing Board for Yuma Elementary School District Number One held a Regular Meeting on **April 9, 2024, at 5:45 p.m.** in the District Administration Office, 450 West Sixth Street, Yuma, Arizona.

**Members present** Mrs. Faith Klostreich, President; Mr. Keith Ware, Member; Mrs. Theresa Fox, Member; Mr. Anthony Gier, Member.

**Members absent** Mrs. Adele Hennig, Clerk

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

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.

**Adoption of Agenda:**

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Keith Ware, seconded by Anthony Gier. There was no discussion, the motion carried with a vote of 4-0 with votes being as follows; Faith Klostreich, aye, Keith Ware, aye, Theresa Fox, aye, Anthony Gier, aye.

**Board Report:** No Reports

**Superintendent's Reports:**

**High Five Recognition Program** – The High Five Program is our District's employee recognition program. Each month employees are able to nominate peers district-wide that exemplify the traits of a High Five employee. Each month five (5) stellar employees will be selected by the Celebrate and Honor Committee based on the five (5) traits of a High Five employee. The five (5) traits are listed below. *Demonstrates Professionalism, Sees It, Owns It, Solves It, Does It, Displays a Positive Attitude, Demonstrates District Pride, Goes Above and Beyond.* For the month of March 2024, the District proudly recognizes the following individuals as the selected High Five Employees. 1) Barbara Hernandez, *Teacher*– Roosevelt Elementary, 2) Eugenia Smith, *Instructional Coach* –Preschool, 3) Linda Wright, *Paraprofessional* – Dorothy Hall Elementary, 4) Madison Law, *Teacher* –Woodard Junior High School, 5) Stacy Melton, *Instructional Coach* – Learning Services. All employees were honored with a special PowerPoint recognition, a \$25.00 gift card courtesy of Mr. G's/Chili Pepper Restaurant, a T-shirt, and, a High-Five pin.

**Teacher of the Year 2023-2024 Nominees** – Mr. Munoz announced and recognized all twenty-nine nominees with a slide show and then presented all nominees with a recognition plaque. Teachers nominated are: Emily Neff, Alice Byrne School; Johanna Sanchez, McGraw; Jennifer Henderson, Carver; Sam Guerrero, Castle Dome; Jaden Blan, Castle Dome; Mackenzie Browning, Desert Mesa; Susana Paramo, Desert Mesa; Marsha Gomez, Dorothy Hall; Loren Nall, Fourth Avenue Jr. High; Carmen Lopez, Fourth Avenue Jr. High; Fernando Gudino, Carver; Kristina Anderson, Gila Vista; Carlos Valadez, Gila Vista; Alisa Ambray, Rolle; Julieta Corral, Otondo; Whitney Janusewski, McGraw; Gisela Ibarra, OC Johnson; Darla Araujo, Otondo; Katie Escamilla, Palmcroft; Clarissa Duarte, Pecan Grove; Brenda Findley, Price; Anna Kamm, Rolle; Roxanne Ramos, Ron Watson; Anna Browser, Ron Watson; Jennifer Tunstall, Roosevelt; Vanessa Mendoza Millan, Roosevelt; Ana Hernandez, Sunrise; Natalia Galabiz, Sunrise; and Michaela Hernandez, Woodard.

**Donation Recognition-** Mr. Sheldahl, Superintendent, recognized and highlighted several donations for March 2024 and thanked our Yuma Community as a whole for its generous support to District One. The total for the month was \$16,193.87 and the year-to-date is \$231,008.41. Donations for the month are listed in the consent agenda item 5.6 for approval. No action was required for this item.

**Art Recognition** – The art displayed for the month of April are from students at Ron Watson Middle School. Students in Ms. Ramos's art classes worked on acrylic painted shoes utilizing color theory, lines, and form. This project also made connections to fashion and clothing styled while practicing painting and grid drawing techniques. Students also worked on pop art names inspired by the artwork of famous artist Roy Lichtenstein, utilizing color theory, lines, shapes, and value.

**Information Items -**

**Enrollment Report** – Mr. Ponder reported that the district had a slight decline in student enrollment from the 120<sup>th</sup> - 140<sup>th</sup> day, typical trend as we approach to the end of the school year.

**District Financial Trends** – Mr. Ponder reported that the M&O budget remains the same; we are maintaining a healthy ending balance. He wanted to remind the board members that due the ESSER Funds no longer available, as we move forward M&O set aside \$2.3 million to cover teacher salary and \$1 million to cover technology refresh.

**School Lunch Hero Day** – Between preparing healthy food, adhering to strict nutrition standards, navigating through supply chain issues, and offering service with a smile, Yuma School District One Child Nutrition professionals have a lot on their plate. To celebrate their hard work and commitment, YSD One will celebrate School Lunch Hero Day on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024. School Lunch Hero Day provides an opportunity for parents, students, school staff and communities to thank those who provide healthy meals to nearly 30 millions of America’s students each school day. All across the school district, school nutrition professionals will be honored and recognized from students, school staff, parents, and the community. Please join us in celebrating our school nutrition heroes on Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024.

**Dollars in the Classroom** – Mr. Ponder provided a detailed analysis of the report and provided additional information and context on our peer group. This information item is to highlight the recent Dollars in the Classroom/Classroom Spending report produced by the Auditor General's Office. The objective of District leadership is to have exceptionally educated and supported board members who are equipped with the knowledge to speak effectively on how the District operates.

**Calls to the Public (Public Comments)** – *The Governing Board welcomes statements from residents and appreciates constructive suggestions and comments that help meet the educational needs of the District. The completed form should be submitted by 5:45 pm the day of the meeting which is traditionally the second Tuesday of the Month.* There was one form submitted. Lauren Heightsman – 9645 E. 38<sup>th</sup> Lane, Yuma, AZ regarding bathroom & locker rooms; election/candidates.

**Consent Agenda** - *Approval of these items is 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.*

A motion to approve the consent agenda as presented was made by Keith Ware, seconded by Theresa Fox; there was discussion on spelling errors that will be corrected. The motion carried with a vote of 4-0 with votes being as follows; Faith Klostreich, aye, Keith Ware, aye, Theresa Fox, aye, Anthony Gier, aye.

**Approval of Minutes:** Consideration to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting held on March 12, 2024, for Yuma Elementary School District Number One.

**Approval of Payroll Vouchers:** Submitted for signatures is copies of eight (8) Payroll Vouchers totaling \$6,440,541.33 from March 8, 2024 through March 22, 2024.

**Approval of Expense Vouchers:** Submitted for signature is six (6) Expense Vouchers totaling \$2,870,250.32 from March 1, 2024 through March 27, 2024.

**Approval of Human Resource Items**

**Approval/Ratification of Salary Adjustments/Coaching Contracts:** The following are requests for additional duties/working days to be approved by the Governing board.

**INDIVIDUAL REQUESTS**

Name	Position	Location	Rate	Fund	Dates	Additional Duties
Contreras, Anthony	Crossing Guard	Otondo	\$14.35 Hourly	M&O Site Fund	3/21/24 – 6/30/24	Custodian coverage
Aguirre, Marina	Office Technician	Otondo	\$16.95 Hourly	M&O Site Fund	3/14/24	Additional hours for registration night
Valadez, Carlos	Teacher	Gila Vista	\$500 Stipend	M&O Site Fund	8/1/23 – 5/31/24	Yearbook duties that extend beyond the school day

## GROUP REQUESTS

### CPR Training

Names of nurses, health assistants, and paraprofessionals that will be doing CPR training due to their card expiring through the 2023-2024 school year. Will be paid their regular hourly rate. Paid out of Medicaid Fund.

### Additional Assignments

Please see attached staff list with additional duties.

**Approval/Ratification of Hiring for Certified, Classified, Substitute Personnel:** (0) Certified Staff, (12) Support Staff, (9) Transfers.

**Approval/Ratification of Resignations for Certified, Classified and Substitute Personnel:** (23) Certified Staff, (7) Support Staff.

### **Approval/Ratification of Release of Contract**

*It is the administration recommendation that the release of contract request be approved due to extenuating circumstances and approves not to collect liquidated damages.*

Canedo-Zamudio, Ruth, Teacher at Ron Watson Middle School, request for release of contract for 2023-2024 school year effective March 28, 2024.

Luna, Jazmine, Teacher at Alice Byrne Elementary School, request for release of contract for 2023-2024 school year effective March 28, 2024.

### **Approval/Ratification of Request to Retire Support Staff**

Gallardo, Emilio, Groundskeeper at Warehouse, request to retire effective February 28, 2025.

### **Approval/Ratification of Termination for Certified Staff, Support Staff and Substitute Personnel**

Ruelas, Regina I., Custodian at Roosevelt Elementary effective April 9, 2024.

**Approval of Student Activities and Tax Credit:** Student activity and tax credit statements were submitted for March 2024.

### **Approval of Donations**

**C.W. McGraw Elementary School-**Donation from Barbara Park Memorial Literacy Grant in the form of an active account with GBS Books for the purpose of purchasing books that will be accessible to all students. Donation has a total value of \$500.00.

**Dorothy Hall Elementary School-** Donation from Donors Choose in the form of magnetic letters, alphabet dough stampers set and cvc word builders to be used as hands on learning materials by Mrs. Reardon's class. Donation has a total value of \$639.00.

**Dorothy Hall Elementary School-** Donation from Donors Choose in the form of books to be used in Mrs. Quiroga's classroom. Donation has a total value of \$694.00.

**Dorothy Hall Elementary School-** Donation from Dorothy Hall PTO in the form of books to be used in the library. Total amount of donation is \$600.00.

**Federal Programs-** Donation from Peter Piper Pizza in the form of 800 awards to be used as incentives for good attendance, grades and behavior by students in the migrant program. Total value of this donation is \$4,792.00.

**Federal Programs-** Donation from Panda Express in the form of 500 meal passes to be used as achievement awards for students in the migrant program. Donation has a total value of \$3,450.00.

**Fourth Avenue Junior High-** Donation from an Anonymous donor in the form of board games and puzzles. Items will be utilized in the library by all students. Donation has an estimated value of \$15.00.

**James B. Rolle Elementary School-** Donation from James B. Rolle Student Council in the form of a check which funds will be used towards the spring book fair. Total value of this donation is \$1,076.31.

**Mary A. Otondo Elementary School-** Donation from Sheila Sanchez in the form of 2 cases of water to be used by all students. Total value of this donation is \$10.00.

**Mary A. Otondo Elementary School-** Donation from Amanda Linares in the form of 2 cases of water and 3 boxes of chips for the kindergarten class. Donation has a total value of \$65.44.

**Mary A. Otondo Elementary School-** Donation from Tracy Zeringer in the form of books to be used by students from 1st to 3rd grade. Donation has a total value of \$200.00.

**Mary A. Otondo Elementary School-** Donation from Lucy Burboa in the form of 3 boxes of 30 bags of chips. Donation has a total value of \$66.00.

**Mary A. Otondo Elementary School-** Donation from Texas Roadhouse in the form of 150 free kids' meal certificates to be distributed between all grade levels. Total value of this donation is \$1,649.00.

**Mary A. Otondo Elementary School-** Donation from Tracy Zeringer in the form of books for our 1st-3rd graders. Donation has a value of \$150.00.

**Mary A. Otondo Elementary School-** Donation from Micheal Rodriguez in the form of 6 gallons of paint and 3 cans of paint to be used in Art class. Donation has a value of \$100.00.

**Palmcroft Elementary School-** Donation from Anne Booth in the form of Christmas gifts to be distributed between all grade levels. Donation has a value of \$450.00.

**Palmcroft Elementary School-** Donation from Anne Booth in the form of school supplies to be used by our ESS and PBIS classes. Total value of the donation is \$250.00.

**Palmcroft Elementary School-** Donation from Donors Choose in the form of classroom supplies such as a laminator machine, ink cartridges, stamp set and sticky notes to be used in Mrs. Ferrel's classroom. Donation has a total value of \$204.89.

**Palmcroft Elementary School-** Donation from Donors Choose in the form classroom supplies such as 3-hole punchers and electric pencil sharpeners to be used in Mrs. Luna's classroom. Donation has a total value of \$305.02.

**Palmcroft Elementary School-** Donation from Donors Choose in the form of two beanbags and books to be used by Ms. Martinez's 3rd grade class. Total value of this donation is \$245.21.

**Pecan Grove Elementary School-** Donation from Carolyn Sawyer in the form of books-easy readers to be used in our Literacy Program. Donation has an estimated value of \$250.00.

**Sunrise Elementary School-** Donation in the form of a check to be used at the Principal's discretion. Total value of the donation is \$200.00.

**Woodard Junior High School-** Donation from Donors Choose in the form of rubber ducks, stress balls, book sets and coloring books to be used as prizes for the middle school reading challenge. Donation has a total value of \$282.00.

**THIS MONTH'S TOTAL = \$16,193.87 YEAR-TO-DATE TOTAL = \$231,008.41**

**Approval of School Activity Calendars/Newsletters** - School calendars and newsletters were submitted for April 2024.

### **Approval of Competitive Grants**

#### **Additional Funding for 21st Century Community Learning Center Schools**

The Arizona Department of Education will provide additional funding totaling \$360,000 for fiscal year 2025 to District One schools that have continuing 21st Century grants. This funding is only available to schools that have been and will remain in compliance with grant requirements; that includes all eligible District One schools. Funding will be used for expanding extended-day and/or summer programming, expanding family engagement activities, or professional development. The schools below expect to receive funding. Elementary schools will receive \$30,000; middle/junior high schools will receive \$70,000.

George Washington Carver Elementary School  
Dorothy Hall Elementary School  
Mary A. Otondo Elementary School  
Palmcroft Elementary School  
Roosevelt Elementary School  
Castle Dome Middle School  
Gila Vista Junior High School  
Ron Watson Middle School

Five other schools are in their final year of 21st Century funding and have applied for new five-year competitive grants. The winners will be announced around June 1. Those schools are: Desert Mesa, C. W. McGraw, O. C. Johnson Elementary Schools and Fourth Avenue and Woodard Junior High Schools.

**It is the administrative recommendation that the Governing Board accept the additional \$360,000 from the Arizona Department of Education for additional 21st Century Community Learning Center activities.**

**School Nurse Workforce and Equipment Grant**

The Arizona Department of Education has awarded the District a School Nurse Workforce and Equipment grant totaling \$21,911.06. Funding will be used to purchase supplies and equipment for each of the district schools' health offices. Items range from emergency response carts to bandages.

**It is the administrative recommendation that the Governing Board accept the School Nurse Workforce and Equipment grant of \$21,911.06 from the Arizona Department of Education.**

**CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF EXISTING DISTRICT PROCUREMENT CONTRACTS – D. PONDER**

**BACKGROUND:**

The multi-year contracts shown below were awarded by the Governing Board under term contracts that expire this month. These contracts require approval by the Governing Board in order to be extended for an additional one-year period.

All vendors under District contracts have provided satisfactory service during the term of their contract. These Contract extensions and procurement approvals are in the best interest of the District and will ensure compliance with the Arizona School District Procurement Rules.

Bid Number	Vendor	Contract Year
RFP-1-22-7-5 Employee Benefits (Dental, Vision, Life, ADD, and Voluntary Life Insurance)	EyeMed, EyeMed Vision, MetLife, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, Symetra Life Insurance	2

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**It is recommended the Governing Board approve the renewal of the District procurement contracts listed in the background.**

**Approval/Ratification of Student Field Trips:**

The following field trip request has been submitted.

1. Three (3) Teachers from Castle Dome Middle School are requesting Board approval for 90 students and 12 chaperones to attend the Music Instrument Museum in Phoenix, AZ on March 23, 2024 and return the same day at 8:00 pm. Expenses will be paid from Student Tax Credit Funds (526). **RATIFICATION**
2. Three (3) Teachers from Woodard Jr. High School are requesting Board approval for 25 students to attend Sear World in San Diego, CA on May 10, 2024 and return the same day at 9:00 pm. Expenses will be paid from Student Club Funds (850).
3. Two (2) Teachers from Castle Dome Middle School are requesting Board approval for 32 students and 1 chaperone to attend Sea World in San Diego, CA on May 17, 2024 and return the same day at 11:00 pm. Expenses will be paid from M&O (001) and Student Activity (850).

**Consideration to Approve Out-of-State****RATIFIED****Spring Conference Discover Route Less Traveled**

Kityza Ramirez, Operations Manager requests permission to attend the **Spring Conference Discover Route Less Traveled** from April 3-5, 2024 in Laughlin, NV. Funding for the trip will come from (955) Grant.

**Migrant National Conference 2024**

Elizabeth Miranda, Migrant Coordinator requests permission to add 1 additional person (TBD) to attend the Migrant National Conference 2024 from April 20-25, 2024 in Portland, Oregon. All costs will be funded from Migrant Funds (121). **NOTE:** This travel was previously approved in the March board meeting.

**It is recommended that the Governing Board approve all travels listed above.**

**Consideration to Approve Annual Educational Services Incorporated Agreement for the 2024-2025 School Year**

This represents our annual agreement with Educational Services Incorporated for the 2024-2025 school year. This agreement will allow for Yuma School District One to continue its partnership with ESI (Educational Services Incorporated) for the upcoming school year. Currently, Educational Services Incorporated provides all classified and certified substitutes to our district. In addition, this company assists our district with the return-to-work retiree program for the retiree's first year of participation.

**Recommendation:**

It is the administrative recommendation that the Governing Board approve the agreement between Educational Services Incorporated and Yuma Elementary School District One for the 2024-2025 school year.

**Action Items:**

**YUMA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1 GOVERNING BOARD RESOLUTION FOR MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD**

WHEREAS, more than 20,381 service members exhibit profound courage and selflessness by serving as active-duty members of our armed forces on military installations within the state of Arizona; and

WHEREAS, more than 15,072 military connected children reside with their families in the state of Arizona; and

WHEREAS, over 5,580 active-duty service members live and work in Yuma County, Arizona; and

WHEREAS, more than 8,192 military connected children attend Arizona public schools; and

WHEREAS, 399 military connected children are enrolled in Yuma Elementary School District #1: and

WHEREAS, military children face unique challenges related to military transitions, frequent moves, and parental deployment; and

WHEREAS, military children and their families serve as an essential source of support and encouragement for armed service members and their communities; and

WHEREAS, military children should be acknowledged for the sacrifices they make and celebrated for the courage they display as the children of our nation's armed service members; and

WHEREAS, the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission, of which Arizona is a proud member, the Department of Defense, and various other organizations nationwide recognize April as the Month of the Military Child;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Yuma Elementary School District #1 Governing Board recognizes and salutes military children by recognizing the month of April 2024 as the Month of the Military Child and April 19, 2024 as Purple Up! Day.

**It is recommended that the Yuma Elementary School District One Governing Board adopt the Resolution for Month of the Military Child.** After reading the resolution, Mrs. Faith Klostreich, Board President made a motion to adopt the Resolution to approve April be the Month of the Military Child and it was seconded by Mr. Anthony Gier. The motion carried 4-0 with votes as follows; Faith Klostreich, aye, Anthony Gier, aye, Theresa Fox, aye, and Keith Ware, aye.

**Second Reading of Policy Advisories 763-786 – J. Sheldahl**

The Governing Board of Yuma Elementary School District utilizes the services of the Arizona School Boards Association to maintain its Governing Policies and advise the District upon recommended changes. Policy Advisories are sent to member school districts and Governing Board members multiple times throughout the year, usually to respond to changes in the law.

This agenda item serves as a "first read" for the proposed policy changes. ASBA's Policy Advisories 763-786 and are available on the District's website to facilitate community or employee input.

**It is recommended that the Governing Board approve the adoption of Policy Advisories 763-786.** After hearing the recommendation, Mr. Keith Ware made a motion to adopt Policy Advisories 763-786 and it was seconded by Mrs. Faith Klostreich. The motion carried 4-0 with votes as follows; Faith Klostreich, aye, Anthony Gier, aye, Theresa Fox, aye, and Keith Ware, aye.

### **Consideration to Approve Ron Watson Principal– J. Sheldahl**

The process for the selection of Ron Watson Middle School principal started with an announcement that the district was seeking an outstanding leader for the vacant position.

First the applicants had to complete the following items:

- Submit an electronic application
- Submit a cover letter and resume
- Provide three letters of recommendation
- Provide three reference surveys

Top applicants were asked to participate in the interview process. Phase One of the interview process included the applicants presenting a 30-minute professional development to different groups. The groups included staff from Ron Watson Middle School. Phase two of the process included the final interview committee asking a set of formal questions and reviewing a writing prompt. The final interview committee included the following individuals:

Lauren McGuire – Teacher  
Douglas Norton - Teacher  
Roxanne Ramos – Teacher  
Ashley Fox – Elementary Principal  
Daniel Acosta – Middle School Principal  
Robert Monson – Director of Federal Programs  
Denis Ponder – Chief Financial Officer  
Luciano Munoz – Executive Director of Human Resources  
Duane Sheppard – Associate Superintendent  
Suzie Alka – Associate Superintendent  
James Sheldahl – Superintendent

After careful deliberation and discussion of each candidate's qualities and fit for the position, the interview committee has recommended Audrey Corners.

**Therefore, it is the Administrative recommendation that Audrey Corners be approved by the Governing Board as Ron Watson Middle School principal for the 24-25 school year.** After hearing the recommendation, Mr. Anthony Gier made a motion to approve that Audrey Corners be approved by the Governing Board as Ron Watson Middle School principal for the 24-25 school year and it was seconded by Mr. Keith Ware. The motion carried 4-0 with votes as follows; Faith Klostreich, aye, Anthony Gier, aye, Theresa Fox, aye, and Keith Ware, aye.

### **Discussion and Possible Action on Agenda Posting**

Mr. Sheldahl stated he did some research on agenda posting and provided information on the Friday report to all board members.

Background: District #1 Policy BEDBA states, "The agenda and supporting materials shall be distributed to the Board members not less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting. Copies of the agenda shall be available to the public and the press at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting."

This policy is aligned with ARS 38-431.02, which states, "meetings shall not be held without at least twenty-four hours' notice to the members of the public body and to the general public."

Current District practice aligns with both policy and statute. The Board will discuss and may take action regarding modifying current practice or amending the policy in accordance with District #1 Policy BGB.

Mr. Ware began discussion stating that having a draft agenda posted to the public a week in advance would be helpful to the community. By doing so, this would provide transparency to the community about the topics to be discussed and this would allow stakeholders to prepare their inputs or concerns in advance.

After a thorough discussion, the board members did not vote on the action item. However, there was consensus that moving forward, the agenda will be posted Friday before our board meeting. This would give the community the weekend to review our agenda rather than only having 24 hours prior to our regular meeting to prepare.

**Future Agenda Items:** Mr. Keith Ware requested an update on teacher supplies. Information is being gathered and will have an update soon.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Monia Navarro, Secretary to the Board

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Faith Klostreich, President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Adele Hennig, Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Theresa Fox, Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keith Ware, Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Anthony Gier, Member