

# 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 12, 2019, 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:**

Mrs. Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

## 1.02 **Roll Call:**

Present:

Rachel Hernandez  
Gilberto Mendez  
David Snider  
Dolores Kinser  
Judee Jackson, President

JoEtta Gonzales, Ed.D., Superintendent  
Tom Wohlleber, Chief Financial Officer  
Jeff Lavender, Director  
Jennifer McClintic, Director  
Brenda Tijerina, Director  
Mike Cruz, PIO  
Sherrie Gill, Secretary

Also Present:  
See Exhibit 1

Jennifer Murrieta, Principal  
Scott Raymond, Principal  
Julie Holdsworth, Principal

Press: Kevin Reagan  
Casa Grande Dispatch

1.03 Ms. Hernandez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.04 A moment of silence was observed.

## 2.01 **Agenda Adoption:**

Ms. Hernandez moved that:

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

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

<b>Board member</b>	<b>In Favor</b>	<b>Against</b>
Rachel Hernandez	X	
Judee Jackson	X	
Gilberto Mendez	X	
David Snider	X	
Dolores Kinser	X	

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

Mrs. Kinser moved that:

"The agenda items marked with an asterisk be approved and/or ratified."

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

<b>Board member</b>	<b>In Favor</b>	<b>Against</b>
Rachel Hernandez	X	
Judee Jackson	X	
Gilberto Mendez	X	
David Snider	X	
Dolores Kinser	X	

\*4.01 The minutes of the February 12, 2019 Regular Meeting were approved by the Governing Board.

\*4.02 The minutes of the February 12, 2019 study session were approved by the Governing Board.

**5. Audience with Groups or Individuals:**

5.01 Dr. Gonzales recognized the 2018-2019 Math Fair Winners for both Elementary and Middle School. The winners for elementary are:

<b>Elementary Individual Winners</b>			
<b>Place</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>School</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> place	Tayler Kear	5 <sup>th</sup>	Desert Willow
2 <sup>nd</sup> place	Anthony Ilk	5 <sup>th</sup>	Desert Willow
3 <sup>rd</sup> place	Brayden Moore	5 <sup>th</sup>	Desert Willow
4 <sup>th</sup> place	Cole Rice	5 <sup>th</sup>	Desert Willow
5 <sup>th</sup> place	Jorden Kear	4 <sup>th</sup>	Desert Willow
6 <sup>th</sup> place	Ayden White	4 <sup>th</sup>	Cholla
7 <sup>th</sup> place	Ruben Baca	5 <sup>th</sup>	McCartney Ranch
8 <sup>th</sup> place	Ashton Shofner	4 <sup>th</sup>	Desert Willow
9 <sup>th</sup> place	Madison Wilson	5 <sup>th</sup>	Ironwood
10 <sup>th</sup> place	Aaron Patrick Dela Roca	5 <sup>th</sup>	Mesquite

The winners for middle school are:

<b>Middle School Individual Winners</b>			
<b>Place</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>School</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Ivanna Perez	8 <sup>th</sup>	Cactus
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Lavina Pham	8 <sup>th</sup>	Villago
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Ryan Sanchez	6 <sup>th</sup>	CGMS
4 <sup>th</sup> Place	Jenna Schmidt	7 <sup>th</sup>	CGMS
5 <sup>th</sup> Place	Katelyn Babb	7 <sup>th</sup>	CGMS
6 <sup>th</sup> Place	Alyssa Forish	8 <sup>th</sup>	Cactus
7 <sup>th</sup> Place	Grace Haglund	7 <sup>th</sup>	Cactus
8 <sup>th</sup> Place	Lilian Menefee	6 <sup>th</sup>	Cactus
9 <sup>th</sup> Place	Wyatt Murrieta	7 <sup>th</sup>	CGMS
10 <sup>th</sup> Place	Bryce Normile	8 <sup>th</sup>	Cactus

5.02 Dr. Gonzales recognized the Casa Grande Rotary Club students of the month for March, as follows: Bryce Normile, 8th grade, Cactus; Rebecca Martinez, 8th grade, Casa Grande Middle School; Grace Montoya, 8th grade, Villago. Ms. Hernandez assisted in presenting certificates to the students.

5.03 Melissa Pieper from the Sunrise Optimist Club recognized fifth grade students from Desert Willow Elementary School as students of the month for March. The students must be in good standing with positive leadership traits, must have an active interest in community service, and must be considered role models. The following students were recognized: Hayden Bryant and Kennedy Davis.

5.04 Dr. Gonzales recognized #BeKind Award recipients: Bus driver, Alyssa Nowlin; Desert Willow teacher, Amber Cordova; and Palo Verde ESP, Denise Ortiz.

6.01 The Superintendent recommended the Board accept the following donations:

Dr. Judi Moreillon donated 140 books, valued at \$2,800, to the CGMS/Saguaro library collection.

Sarah Taylor, teacher at Mesquite, had a Donors Choose project funded in the amount of \$405. The project was titled STEMming Our Way Through Kindergarten.

Mr. Snider moved that:

“The donations be accepted, as read.”

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

<b>Board member</b>	<b>In Favor</b>	<b>Against</b>
Rachel Hernandez	X	
Judee Jackson	X	
Gilberto Mendez	X	
David Snider	X	
Dolores Kinser	X	

6.02 A 2019-20 budget development update was included in the Board’s information.

Mr. Wohlleber provided an update regarding the development of the District’s budget, budget priorities, and budget decisions for next year.

He explained that discussions have been held with all schools and district administrators are meeting with the district departments regarding the budget status and seeking staff input for cost savings.

The budget projection model will be based on a reduction of 146 students.

Mr. Wohlleber stated that there will be no increase in health or dental insurance premiums. Arizona State Retirement system will increase approximately .3%; and those increases will be taken into consideration when preparing the budget.

Based on the Budget Forecast Model, the district has an estimated budget limit shortfall of \$1.25M. This does not reflect any increases for support staff or administrators or adjustments for compensation from the market analysis.

6.03 A memorandum from Mr. Wohlleber regarding the Recommendation to award recommendation for CM@Risk Services had been included in the Board’s information.

It is recommended the CM@Risk Services be awarded to SD Crane Builders, Inc. for building entry renovations district-wide. The district expects to submit the guaranteed maximum price for construction services no later than the April Governing Board meeting for final approval of construction costs related to the project.

Mr. Snider moved to:

“Authorize the award of RFQ #414-1119 for CM@Risk Services for the building entry renovations district-wide at the preconstruction services fee of .75% and construction services fee not to exceed 6.5% to SD Crane Builders, Inc. as proposed.”

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

<b>Board member</b>	<b>In Favor</b>	<b>Against</b>
Rachel Hernandez	X	
Judee Jackson	X	
Gilberto Mendez	X	
David Snider	X	
Dolores Kinser	X	

- \*6.04 A memorandum from Mrs. Muñoz regarding the Enrichment Program Agreement was included in the Board's information. The Casa Grande Elementary School District has come to an agreement with KCE Champions LLC for out of school programming. Champions will offer programs for all breaks, including summer, fall winter and in-service days at seven of our elementary school sites. They will also run our summer programs for the entire district. Board members approved the proposed Enrichment Program Agreement with KCE Champions LLC, as proposed.
- \*6.05 A memorandum from Mr. Wohleber regarding the award recommendation for chromebooks and laptops was included in the Board's information. Orders are expected to be placed in phases after confirming the availability of applicable capital funding. Board members authorized the award of IFB #278-1119 to SHI International Corp and Dell Marketing, L.P. as proposed.
- \*6.06 Information from Mrs. McClintic regarding contracts with Desert Choice Schools had been included in the Board's information.

In February, 2018, Board members approved the issuance of a contract to Desert Choice Schools to provide services to students with emotional disabilities who previously received services outside the District in privately-operated schools. Those services are currently provided in two of our district locations. The program for students with emotional disabilities is at CGMS and the program for students with Autism is at Palo Verde.

Board members authorized an extension of the contract to Desert Choice Schools for educational services for students with emotional disabilities, and autism.

- \*6.07 The draft copy of Professional Attire Regulation and Guidelines had been included in the Board's information. In November 2018, the Governing Board engaged in a discussion and study session related to 'professional attire' with the intent of our District revisiting guidelines and possibly establishing new standards. A committee that included representation of all employee groups convened to review our current regulation, study the policies, regulations, and guidelines from other districts, and make revisions to our current regulation. It is simplified and a bit more general than previous versions, but still communicates the expectation that professional dress promotes a working and learning environment conducive to high student and staff performance. This document is being provided to the Board for general consent purposes. Since this is an administrative regulation, Board approval is not required.

**7. Instructional Programs:**

No items this meeting.

**8. Personnel:**

\*8.01 The following certified personnel actions were ratified by the Governing Board:

Authorization to Employ Additional Title I Staff: Two current staff members at Saguaro and Casa Grande Middle schools are transferring into new roles next year which will be Title I funded positions. One position will help manage student behavior and the second position will be to support students with reading and mathematics interventions, respectively.

Request for Extended Leave of Absence: Alicia Behrens, teacher, Desert Willow.

Elimination of M&O Funded Certified Positions: Through attrition and transfers to Title I funded positions, the administration recommends the elimination of 12 certified positions including 2 middle school classrooms, 8 elementary classrooms, and 2 special area positions. One of the special area positions will be funded by Title I next year and the second will be an elimination. The two middle school reductions will occur at CGMS and Cactus. The eight elementary positions will be staffing reductions at Cottonwood, Evergreen, Palo Verde, Cholla, Ironwood, Mesquite, and Desert Willow. The special area positions involve staff at Cottonwood and Saguaro.

Ratification of Certified Personnel Resignations Effective May 22, 2019: Dana Conder, 6<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts, Villago; Cade Hall-Kirkham, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade, Ironwood; Angela Heder, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, Mesquite; Chad Hoing, 5<sup>th</sup> grade, Saguaro; Roseanna Hullinger, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, Ironwood; Kasey Jankowski, 1<sup>st</sup> grade, Ironwood; Albert LeFebvre, Resource, CGMS; Marie Miller, 7<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts, CGMS; Abbie Ochoa, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, Ironwood; Mary Plumb, 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> SpEd, Saguaro; Tracy Purmort, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, Cottonwood; Andrew Schmidt, 4<sup>th</sup> grade, Cholla; Melanie Southard, 7<sup>th</sup> grade Math, CGMS; Emily Szutkowski, 4<sup>th</sup> grade, Ironwood; Sonja Thompson, 8<sup>th</sup> grade Science, Villago; Anna Town, 1<sup>st</sup> grade, Evergreen; Leticia Valdez, Psychologist, Mesquite, effective May 27, 2019; Tressa Weinbrenner, Kindergarten, Mesquite.

Ratification of Reclassification to Certified Position: Kori Batina, 8<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts; Veronica Castillo, Teacher SpEd Resource, Cholla.

Notification of Intent to Retire Effective at Conclusion of Contract Year 2019-20/Request for Benefits: Karen Coopple, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA, CGMS; Melinda McMorrow, Intervention, CGMS.

\*8.02 The following classified personnel actions were ratified by the Governing Board:

Notification of Intent to Retire Effective at Conclusion of Contract Year 2018-19/Request for Benefits: Patricia Byrd, Educational Assistant, ECLC; Gloria Flores, Food Service Production Server, Evergreen; Gloria McLellan, Custodian, Evergreen; Virginia Rodriguez, Academic Intervention Specialist, Saguaro.

Notification of Intent to Retire Effective at Conclusion of Contract Year 2019-20/Request for Benefits: Mary Rascon, Transportation Assistant, Transportation.

Reclassification of Transportation Assistant Position to a Transportation Assistant/Van Driver Position: Mrs. Darla Johnson continually reevaluates the transportation routes to ensure the most economical means to transport out students. In February, Mrs. Johnson was attempting to eliminate one vacant Transportation Assistant position, but realized that only the morning portion of the position could be eliminated. As a result, due to the high demand of the students identified in the McKinney Vento program, Mrs. Johnson recommended the reclassification of the subject Transportation Assistant to a Transportation Assistant/Van Driver position. The administration supports the position reclassification.

Reclassification of Early Childhood Extension Leads: As positions have been assessed this school year, it became apparent that the staff employed as lead paraprofessionals in the Early Childhood Extension program, are performing similar duties as the Educational Specialists – KinderPlus; however, the pay grades are not equivalent. Short of any recommended pay grade changes resulting from the compensation study for school year 2019-20, the administration recommends that the lead paraprofessionals be reclassified from pay grade 4 to pay grade 7 comparable to the staff working in the KinderPlus program.

Request for Additional Preschool Staff: Based on the approved expansion of the Early Childhood Extension program to offer preschool services at Cholla and Evergreen schools, the administration recommends the employment of two additional lead paraprofessionals to support the expanded program.

Workdays for New Apprentice Teachers and Education Specialists – ILT: Over the years, we have employed staff who do not possess a teaching credential to serve as “teachers” in some of our Special Education classrooms due to the inability of the administration to employ appropriately certified teachers. This year, we also transferred one of our current educational support personnel into a sixth grade mathematics class at Cactus. The staff member is currently completing a teacher preparatory program and will be student teaching soon. Apprentice teachers and education specialists – ILT (in lieu of teacher) positions have not been provided the five-day induction program like our new teachers have participated in before beginning their positions. The subject groups of staff need the same level, if not more, support than our new teachers. Contingent upon Board approval, the administration proposes increasing the workdays for new apprentice teachers and education specialists – ILT from 194 days to 199 days like teachers new to the District.

Classified Personnel Employment: Jason Alvarado, Delivery Driver, Nutrition Services; Sherrie Ashburn, Educational Assistant, Cottonwood; Savannah Cantu, Educational Asst. Title I MOWR, Ironwood; Eric Pelfrey, Educational Asst-

Alternative Placement, Cactus; Kendall Retzlaff, Educational Asst. Title I, McCartney Ranch; Tonya Rios, Nutrition Services Floater, Nutrition Services; Marissa Sanchez, Educational Asst. Preschool, ECLC.

Superintendent's Acceptance of Classified Personnel Resignations: Margarita Baltierrez, Sub Bus Driver Trainee, Transportation, effective March 4, 2019; Raymond Coletti, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective February 6, 2019; Nicole Espinoza, Education Specialist-KinderPlus, Saguario, effective February 5, 2019; Terrill Patterson, Delivery Driver, Nutrition Services, Effective March 8, 2019; Andrew Rabe, Educational Asst. Title I, Desert Willow, effective March 8, 2019; Virginia Ruiz, Attendance Assistant, Cactus, effective March 15, 2019; Patricia Sanchez, Office Specialist, Cottonwood, effective March 15, 2019; Lecia Smith, Bus Driver, Transportation, effective March 15, 2019; Natasha Vasquez Hernandez, SPED Specialist, McCartney Ranch, effective February 27, 2019; Jamie Wilson, Ed. Asst./Crossing Guard/Noon Aide, Evergreen, effective February 22, 2019.

Reclassification of Classified Personnel: Nicole Bernier, Cook, Nutrition Services; Tammy Orr, Bookkeeper, Financial Services; Kathy Pascual, Administrative Assistant, Digital Learning; Silvia Rodriguez, ECLC Lead, ECLC; Yvette Stewart, Bus Driver, Transportation.

- \*8.03 The Governing Board approved the implementation of summer work hours during summer 2019, beginning Monday, June 3, 2019 and ending on Thursday, July 11, 2019.
- \*8.06 The Governing Board designated Tuesday, December 24 as the floating vacation day, and Wednesday, December 25 as the Christmas holiday. Staff would then have Monday, December 23, Thursday, December 26, and Friday, December 27, 2019, as the additional Board approved days.

**9. Pupil Personnel**

- \*9.01 A request from Mike Brideschge regarding an overnight field trip to take Casa Grande Middle School Wildcat Outdoor Club students on a camping trip to the Grand Canyon was included in the Board's information. Board members approved the overnight field trip to the Grand Canyon on April 26-28, 2019.

**10. Buildings and Grounds:**

No items this meeting.

**11. Reports:**

- 11.01 The student activities report for February, 2019, had been provided to the Board prior to the meeting.
- \*11.02 The financial report for February, 2019 had been provided to the Board prior to the



meeting.

\*11.03 The lunch menu for students had been provided to the Board prior to the meeting.

\*11.04 The vehicle status report for January 16, 2019 to February 15, 2019 had been provided in the Board's information.

\*11.05 The vehicle maintenance report for January 16, 2019 to February 15, 2019 had been provided in the Board's information.

\*11.06 The weekly attendance reports for February 13, February 20, February 27, and March 6, 2019 had been provided to Board members prior to the meeting.

\*12.01 The vouchers presented at the meeting, listed in Exhibit 2, were approved by the Governing Board.

13.01 The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 9, 2019, at 6:00 p.m.

**14.01 Call for Audience Questions Pertaining to Agenda Items and Items of Interest**

No calls to the public.

**15.01 Vote to Conduct Executive Session Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A) Personnel**

Mrs. Kinser moved that:

“The Board adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A) Discussion with Designated Representatives Regarding Negotiations.”

Ms. Hernandez seconded the motion. Board members voted as follows and the motion passed:

<b>Board member</b>	<b>In Favor</b>	<b>Against</b>
Rachel Hernandez	X	
Judee Jackson	X	
Gilberto Mendez	X	
David Snider	X	
Dolores Underwood	X	

16.01 Mrs. Jackson adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Date Approved: 04/9/19

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President