

# 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 8, 2022, 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. Stabley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

## 1.02 Roll Call:

Present:

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

JoEtta Gonzales, Ed.D., Superintendent  
Aaron Whittle, Financial Officer  
Tim Mace, Director  
Jennifer McClintic, Director  
Jan Draper, Director  
Robert Quiñones, Director  
Stacy Howell, Director  
Lisa Bradshaw, Director  
Tina Walker, Communications & Marketing  
Sherrie Gill, Executive Assistant

Also Present:  
See Exhibit 1

Robin Rosales, Principal  
Melissa Davey, Principal  
Julie Holdsworth, Principal

Barbara Wright, Principal  
Samantha Sarnowski, Principal  
Celie Downey-Foye, Principal

1.03 Mrs. Varela led the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was observed.

## 2.01 Agenda Adoption:

Mrs. Sisson moved that:

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

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

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

**3. Awards, Recognitions, Celebrations**

3.01 Dr. Gonzales recognized Angel Rendon, Carlos Tapia, and Elijah Chambers as Rotary students of the month.

3.02 Sunrise Optimist Club Students of the Month from Desert Willow Elementary: Vivian Zamora, Alexa Molina, and Izabella Medina, were recognized by Mr. Norm Sam.

3.03 Dr. Gonzales recognized Ms. Jessica Victorino, Ms. Michelle Steiner, Ms. Annika Dukes, Ms.Carolyn Garcia, Ms. Sara Hamilton, Ms. Michelle Heimberger, Mrs. Jessie DeWolf, Ms. Sam Polzin, and Ms. Janie Burich as monthly recipients of the monthly Marigold Award.

**4.01 Call to the Public**

- Mr. Robert Miller spoke against the closing of the WINGS program.
- Mr. Boots Hawks spoke against CRT and mentioned that a staff member had signed a pledge to teach materials. He expects the staff member to resign or be terminated.
- Ms. Lori Welch spoke about her concern of the staff member who signed the pledge and that this individual has one on one contact with students.
- Ms. Holly Adams spoke about the adopted school calendar and is asking both districts to go back to the traditional calendar with school starting in August, ending in May with one week for Fall and Spring break.

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

Mr. Mendez moved that:

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

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	

\*5.02 The minutes of the February 8, 2022 Study Session and Regular Meeting were approved by the Governing Board.

\*5.03 The minutes of the February 22, 2022 Study Session were approved by the Governing Board.

\*5.04 The following certified personnel actions were approved/ratified by the Governing Board:

Elimination of TOA at CGOLA – The Governing Board approved the elimination of the TOA at CGOLA.

Notification of Intent to Retire Effective at Conclusion of Contract year 2021-2022; 2022-2023/Request for Benefits – The Governing Board accepted the notices of retirement and payment of benefits for which staff are eligible.

Ratification of Certified Personnel Employment:

Employee	Position	Campus/Dept.
Rivera, Oscar	Music	MR/CW

Ratification of Reclassification of Certified Personnel:

Employee	New Position	Campus/Dept.
Davey, Mark	SEL Student Specialist	Cholla
Delcid, Alysia	SEL Student Specialist	Desert Willow
Kleinhanzle, Patti	District Math Coordinator	District Office
Tuttle, Sharon	SEL Student Specialist	CGMS

Ratification of Certified Personnel Resignations:

Employee	Position	Campus/Dept.	Effective
Arias, Nikki	7/8th Social Studies	Villago	5/26/2022
Baker, Andrea	Director of Teaching & Learning	District Office	2/25/2022
Baron, Jennifer	7th ELA	Cactus	5/26/2022
Branum, Stefanie	SpEd Resource	Evergreen	5/26/2022
DeMartino, Heather	SpEd Extended Resource	Cactus	5/26/2022
Driscoll, Lawrence	Art	CGMS	5/26/2022
Flores, Lisa	Social Studies	Cactus	5/26/2022
Fults, Debbie	2nd Grade	Cholla	5/26/2022

Heaton, Karen	Kindergarten	Mesquite	5/26/2022
Internoscia, Megan	5th Grade	Mesquite	5/26/2022
Johnson, Hannah	1st Grade	Ironwood	5/26/2022
Kramer, Leslie	3rd Grade	Cottonwood	5/26/2022
Kwiatkowski, Katherine	4-5 SpEd Resource	Desert Willow	5/26/2022
Leland, Natalie	PE	Cactus	5/26/2022
MacInness, Sabrina	5th Grade	Palo Verde	5/26/2022
Malkusak, Jennifer	5th Grade	Cholla	5/26/2022
Malkusak, Robert	7th Language Arts	Cactus	5/26/2022
Martinez, Alicia	Computer Science	Cactus	5/26/2022
Minton, Eileen	8th ELA	CGMS	5/26/2022
Mullis, Katherine	Science	CGMS	2/8/2022
Orlandi, Sierra	3rd Grade	Desert Willow	5/26/2022
Palmer, Andrew	7th Social Studies	CGMS	5/26/2022
Sheppard, Paula	Counselor	Desert Willow	6/30/2022
Simmons, Jamie	Math	Cactus	5/26/2022
Slaydon, Mary	Assistant Principal	Cactus	6/30/2022
Sturgeon, Kathryn	2021-2022 on Leave of Absence		
Vazquez Hernandez, Natasha	Spanish	CGMS	5/26/2022
Whitford, Jennifer	2021-2022 on Leave of Absence		

**\*5.05 Classified Personnel**

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

Notification of Intent to Retire Effective at Conclusion of Contract Year 2021-2022; 2022-2023/Request for Benefits – The Governing Board accepted the notices of retirement and payment of benefits for which staff are eligible.

Ratification of Classified Personnel Employment:

Employee	Position	Campus/Dept.
Alvarez, Sarah	Education Assistant-MOWR	Saguaro
Antillo, Mayra	Custodian	Facilities
Biegacki, Connie	Community Liaison/Student Support Intv.	CGMS
Chelf, Kimbra	Guest Teacher	Cholla
Clevenger, Lynnet	Education Specialist-Inclusive Education	ECLC
Dunnett Kirby, Denise	Bus Driver Trainee	Transportation

Estrada, Laurie	Education Specialist-Inclusive Education	Cactus
Hairl, Emilee	Cafe Cook	Nutrition Services
Hernandez, Eric	Digital Literacy Assistant	EV/CGOLA
Maciel Torres, Yessica	Educational Asst. Academic Intv. ESSER III	Ironwood
May, Allison	Education Specialist-Inclusive Education	ECLC
Robles, Vanessa	Education Assistant-Special Education	Cholla
Sanchez, Elijah	Delivery Driver	Nutrition Services
Sugar, Katrina	Education Assistant-Title I	Palo Verde
Villa, Susanna	Cafe Assistant	Nutrition Services

**Ratification of Classified Personnel Resignations:**

Employee	Position	Campus/Dept.	Effective
Cazares, Karla	Custodian	Facilities	2/18/2022
Essary, Boston	Digital Literacy Assistant	EV/CGOLA	1/24/2022
Gardner, Terry	IT User Support Technician	IT	4/4/2022
Loza, Jordan	Guest Teacher	Villago	2/24/2022
Ortega, Andrea	Education Specialist-Inclusive Education	ECLC	2/7/2022
Rascon, Annalisa	Accounting Technician	Financial Services	3/14/2022
Torres, Jeannie	Education Assistant-Special Education	Mesquite	5/26/2022
Vezeau, Veronica	Administrative Assistant	Desert Willow	3/3/2022
Whetstone, Levi	Custodian	Facilities	3/2/2022

**Ratification of Classified Personnel Terminations:**

Employee	Position	Campus/Dept.	Effective
Deckard, Queenie	Cafe Site Assistant	Nutrition Services	2/24/2022

**Ratification of Reclassification of Classified Personnel:**

Employee	New Position	Campus/Dept.
Baker, Robert	Education Assistant-Special Education	Saguaro
Husted, Natasha	Education Assistant-Academic Inv. ESSER	CGMS
Merriman, Amber	Office Specialist	Palo Verde
Watts, Nichole	Education Assistant-APS	Villago
Zavala, Sandra	Education Specialist-KinderPlus	McCartney Ranch
Wiltbank, James	Lead Mechanic	Transportation
Health Office Technicians	2 additional contract days	All

- \*5.06 The student activities report for February, 2022, had been provided to the Board prior to the meeting.
- \*5.07 The financial report for February, 2022 had been provided to the Board prior to the meeting.
- \*5.08 The vehicle inventory report for February, 2022 had been provided in the Board's information.
- \*5.09 The vehicle maintenance report for February, 2022 had been provided in the Board's information.
- \*5.10 The weekly enrollment summaries for February 9, February 16, February 23, and March 2, 2022 had been provided to Board members prior to the meeting.
- \*5.11 The vouchers presented at the meeting were approved by the Governing Board.
- \*5.12 The following donations were accepted:

CGMS

The following businesses/individuals donated items to the CGMS PBIS Incentive Store: Eegees, Dutch Bros, Auto Zone, CG Skate Shop, Chick-Fil-A, Deadlift Coffee, Clean Freak, Raising Canes, Dells Pizza, Frito lay, Casa Grande Alliance, In and Out, Connie Dolezal.

Mrs. Heather Gonzalez had a Donors Choose project funded in the amount of \$692.

Desert Willow Elementary

Mrs. Katie Kwiatkowski had a Donors Choose project funded in the amount of \$395.

Mrs. Amber Cordova had a Donors Choose project funded in the amount of \$650.

Mrs. Crystal Smith had a Donors Choose project funded in the amount of \$547.

Mrs. Pam Shofner had a Donors Choose project funded in the amount of \$854.

Mesquite Elementary

Mr. Daniel Pelissier had a Donors Choose project funded in the amount of \$482.

Palo Verde Elementary

Ms. Marne Bateson had a Donors Choose project funded in the amount of \$543.

- \*5.13 Second Reading, Revision of Policy JFB-Open Enrollment: The Governing Board approved the revision of Policy JFB-Open Enrollment, as proposed.
- \*5.14 Winter Holiday for 12-Month Employees: The Governing Board designated Monday,

December 26, as the Christmas holiday, Tuesday, December 27 as the floating vacation day; and Wednesday, December 28, Thursday, December 29, and Friday, December 30, 2022, as Board-approved vacation days for 12-month employees.

- \*5.15 Summer Work Schedule: During the summer months employees will work 10-hour days, Monday through Thursday with Friday as a day off beginning Monday, June 6, 2022 and ending on Thursday, June 30, 2022. The Governing Board approved the summer work hours for implementation during Summer 2022.
- \*5.16 Authorization for Public Auction of Surplus Items: The Governing Board authorized the use of Sierra Auctions for the public auction of the current items designated as surplus.
- \*5.17 Authorization for Purchase of Blackboard Mass Communications: The Governing Board authorized the extensions of RFP #188-1520 for a web content and communication management system with Mass Notification module as recommended.
- \*5.18 Approval of Overnight Field Trip: The Governing Board authorized the field trip of the Casa Grande Middle School Wildcat Outdoor Club to Sedona, as proposed.
- 6.01 Information regarding the 2022-2023 Budget Development Update was provided to Board members prior to the meeting. Mr. Aaron Whittle provided an update on the 2022-23 budget planning process.
- 6.02 Mrs. Stacy Howell presented results from the executive search survey regarding the superintendent search. There were 132 responses to the survey with 112 of those being parents of current students in the district. The top three experiences and skill areas that could be important when evaluating the superintendent candidates were: Successful experience working with diverse communities; Ability to think critically and develop creative solutions to complex problems; and, Recognizes, values, and affirms students and staff members.

Questions submitted for the superintendent search candidates were:

- How will you balance competing needs and differences of opinions?
  - Why do you choose CGESD? How does the job fit with your career aspirations?
  - What are your experiences in a diverse learning community such as Casa Grande?
  - How committed are you to the CGESD vision, values, and goals?
  - What are your ideas for the recruitment and retention of staff?
  - How will you help the district improve?
  - Where do you see the district in 5-10 years?
- 6.03 President Stabley opened the Public Hearing for Discussion of Survey Feedback and Calendar Considerations Related to a 4-Day School Week at 7:03 p.m.

- Kelly Herrington spoke about her concern about a 4-day week. She feels the community and district are disconnected and is worried about students' well being.
- Joe Kelly encouraged the district to keep all people interested and stated most people would prefer a 5 day week. Offered assistance and support to keep teachers in the classroom.
- Scott Moglia spoke against the 4 day week. He is also against the 2, 2, 2 calendar for breaks.
- Holly Adams spoke about the survey and feels it was missing information such as a clear example of the calendar.
- Sara Hamilton spoke against the 4 day week and questioned the reliability of the survey and if it is truly representative of the community.
- Dindy Martinez questioned the legitimacy of the survey, is it secure, can individuals complete the survey more than once.

The administrative team, Jan Draper, Jennifer McClintic, Cassie Goldberg, Lisa Bradshaw and Bob Quinones, presented information on the 4-day week and shared survey results and calendar considerations. Information gathered from other districts was also shared.

Mr. Mendez asked when the survey was posted to the public. The survey was posted March 1<sup>st</sup> in English, the Spanish survey was posted on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Mrs. Varela said she has been approached and received a number of calls from parents against the 4-day week for a number of considerations. She is encouraging Spanish speaking families/employees to take the survey. She is concerned about a support system for childcare on the off-day and our high risk students.

Mrs. Sisson asked that the team continue to look at resources for McKinney Vento students and students of at-risk/abusive families.

Mr. Stabley inquired about whether the charter schools are 4 or 5-day. One is 4-day, the other is 5-day.

Mr. Stabley closed the public hearing at 7:21 p.m.

- 7.01 Information regarding the Amended Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of Improvement Bonds of the District was provided to Board members prior to the meeting. Ms. Megan Burke with Piper Sandler explained that because of current market volatility, the amended resolution adds the option to privately place the sale of school improvement bonds.

Mr. Mendez made a motion to:



"Adopt the Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of School Improvement Bonds of the District."

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

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

7.02 President Stabley opened the Public Hearing for Proposed Revision of the 2021-2022 Budget at 8:16 p.m. As there were no comments from the public, the public hearing was closed at 8:16 p.m.

7.03 Authorization to Revise the 2021-2022 Budget

Mr. Mendez made a motion to:

"Approve the revision of the 2021-2022 budget."

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

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

7.04 Information regarding the Award IFB for Desert Willow Elementary School Site Improvements was provided to Board members prior to the meeting.

Mr. Mendez made a motion to:

"Authorize the award of IFB #206-1122 to LOR Construction as proposed."

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

<b>Board member</b>	<b>In Favor</b>	<b>Against</b>
Tom Ramsdell	X	
Gilberto Mendez	X	

Adelphia Sisson	X	
Jerry Stabley	X	
Blanca Varela	X	

7.05 Information regarding the Authorization for Purchase of Cafeteria Tables was provided to Board members prior to the meeting.

Mrs. Varela made a motion to:

"Authorize the purchase of cafeteria tables using Arizona Furnishings MESCO cooperative contract #18M-AZF-0130 as recommended."

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	

7.06 Information regarding FY23 Capital Plans was provided to Board members prior to the meeting. Due to supply chain issues across the US, CGESD would like to get a head start on potential capital expenditures for FY23.

Mr. Mendez made a motion to:

"Approve the preliminary FY23 Capital Budget."

Mrs. Varela 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	

7.07 Information regarding the 2022-2023 Proposed Compensation Package was provided to Board members prior to the meeting. The following components of compensation for the 2022-23 school year are recommended:

Support Staff

- Raise the base starting salary to \$15/hr. for those employees currently earning below this amount.

- All hourly/support staff employees making \$14.01 or higher will receive a pay increase of \$1/hr. or no less than 3.5%, whichever is higher.
- This averages an 8.48% increase for hourly/support staff, with a range of 3.5%-15.5% individually.

**Certified**

- 3.5% salary increase to base (non Classroom Site Fund (CSF)) salary.
- Classroom Site Fund will increase by \$300; from \$8,700 base to \$9,000 base and maintaining the \$2,000 in pay for performance (totaling \$11,000 CSF).

**Exempt/Administrators**

- 3.5% salary increase to base

**Salary Compression/Equity Increases**

- Set aside \$75,000 minimum to address salary compression for identified support staff and administrators, where needed.

Additionally, it should be noted that if the state passes a budget with more money earmarked for staff compensation increases, there may be an opportunity for additional increases.

Mrs. Varela made a motion to:

"Approve the compensation package as recommended."

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

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

8.01 The next regular meeting, will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

9.01 Superintendent's Report

Dr. Gonzales recognized Dennis York, the district's procurement officer, who met with School Facilities Board representatives to recapture \$2M for grading/drainage at Cactus Middle School.

Jennifer McClintic and Bob Quinones were recognized for graduating from their respective AASA Aspiring Superintendent programs.

Karen Garcia, lead nurse, was accepted to participate in the Arizona School Nurse Program.

Principal hiring recommendations for Cholla and Palo Verde were confirmed. Names were shared in an email to board members previously.

The Arizona Department of Education and Donors Choose partnered in a first come, first serve grants for teacher projects of up to \$1,000.

**10.01 Executive Session**

The Board did not go into Executive Session.

11.01 Mr. Stabley adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Date Approved: 4/12/2022

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President