

LITTLEFIELD UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT #9 GOVERNING BOARD MEETING Administrative Services Site 3490 East Rio Virgin Road Thursday, July 13, 2023 5:00 P.M.

Mission Statement

The Littlefield Unified School District is committed to excellence. Therefore, we are committed to providing opportunities for all students to learn and develop socially, emotionally, and academically. We are committed to providing resources to our students, parents and teachers in an ongoing effort to help students transition from childhood to adulthood.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Board President Graham called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. There were approximately six (6) members of the public in attendance. Elementary Principal Jeremy Clarke was absent from the meeting.

2. ROLL CALL:

Sonny Graham, Board President John Reyes, Board Secretary Susan Burch, Board Member Patricia Schoppmann, Board Member Michael Fagnan, Board Member Troy Heaton, Superintendent/Secondary Principal Jeremy Clarke, Elementary Principal Kevin Boyer, Business Manager Sheree Goessman, District Secretary

CEREMONIAL ITEMS

3. Pledge of Allegiance: By invitation of Board President.

<u>AGENDA</u>

4. Consideration of approval of the July 13, 2023 LUSD9 Board Meeting agenda.

Board Member Fagnan made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Board Member Burch. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Burch: Yes Board Member Fagnan: Yes Board President Graham: Yes



Board Secretary Reyes: Yes Board Member Schoppmann: Yes

SPECIAL ACTION ITEMS

Consideration of approval of Superintendent/Secondary Principal contract for Troy Heaton for FY2024-2026.
*The Board may vote to discuss this item in Executive Session pursuant to ARS § 38-431.03

(A)(1). (A)(1).

Board President Graham asked if this item needs to go into executive session. Mr. Heaton said no, everything is good.

Board Member Reyes made a motion to approve the Superintendent/Secondary Principal contract for Troy Heaton for FY 2024-2026, seconded by Board Member Fagnan. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Burch: Yes Board Member Fagnan: Yes Board President Graham: Yes Board Secretary Reyes: Yes Board Member Schoppmann: Yes

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Call to Order
- B. Confidentiality Statement: All persons present are hereby reminded that it is unlawful to disclose or otherwise divulge to any person who is not now present, other than a current member of the Board, anything that has transpired or has been discussed during this executive session. To do so is a violation of ARS 38-431.03 unless pursuant to a specific statutory exception.
- C. The Governing Board may recess into executive session pursuant to A.R.S. Section 38-431.03(A)(1) for the purpose of considering employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, demotion, dismissal, salaries, disciplining or resignation of a public officer, appointee or employee of any public body, except that, with the exception of salary discussions, an officer, appointee or employee may demand that the discussion or consideration occur at a public meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

At this time, the public may speak to the Governing Board on topics of concern with the public body's jurisdiction, even if the topic is not specifically included on the agenda. The public must state their full name for the record and will be allowed up to three minutes to address the Governing Board. No action will be taken as a result of public comments. The Board expects that citizens who address the board will present concerns regarding the activities in question rather than make personal attacks upon Board Members, District Personnel or other persons in attendance or absent. In addition, questions or comments on matters that are currently under legal review will not be accepted.

6. Public Comment.

None.



INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION:

- 7. Kevin Boyer, Business Manager.
 - a. Student Activity Balance.
 - b. Food Service Financial.
 - c. Maintenance Report
 - d. Transportation Update
 - e. Other

Mr. Boyer said not much happens with the student activity funds during the summer. He noted paint for the BD sign were purchased out of student activities.

Mr. Boyer reviewed the food service financial. He advised the end of year balance is a positive \$3,042. He noted they are serving approximately 80 kids with the summer feed program. Mr. Boyer noted they are in the process of applying for National School Lunch Program.

Mr. Boyer reviewed the maintenance report and noted they spent \$102,000. Mr. Boyer advised the Maintenance Department purchased a new lawnmower. Board Member Reyes asked what the final cost was for the lawnmower. Mr. Boyer said the cost was \$16,421.21. Board Member Burch asked how many staff members the Maintenance Department has. Mr. Boyer said there are 3 in Maintenance and five custodians. He noted two of the custodians are daytime custodians and paid from the ESSER III Grant. Board Member Burch asked if our maintenance guys are doing the painting or if it is being hired out. Mr. Boyer noted the maintenance guys are doing the painting themselves. He also noted the maintenance guys also painted the DBack sign in the high school commons area. Board Member Reyes noted a lot of our staff wears many hats. Mr. Heaton noted the Maintenance Department is doing a very good job and said the facility is very nice.

Mr. Boyer said we are down to two bus drivers and we did have an applicant come in today that passed his permit test. Nr. Boyer said Mr. Heaton had a suggestion of using a contact with Bullhead City that is willing to do a 2 day training to train for permits. Mr. Heaton said they have a hard time retaining drivers. He noted the person works for three separate districts in the area and is willing to do a virtual training.

Board Member Fagnan asked the status of the electric buses. Mr. Boyer said we are in the process of receiving quotes. We received a grant for \$350,000 for electric buses and the quotes are coming in at \$400,000 plus.

- 8. Jeremy Clarke, Elementary Principal
 - a. School Update.
 - i. August 7, 2023 School Starts
 - b. Other.

Mr. Heaton said Mr. Clarke does have all of his hiring done. He noted there is a Mental Health Counselor later on the agenda which is covered by a grant. Mr. Heaton said he is waiting to hear if an individual he previously worked with is going to come onboard for the Mental Health Counselor position at the Jr/Sr High School.

- 9. Troy Heaton, Superintendent/Secondary Principal
 - a. School Update.
 - i. August 7, 2023 School Starts



b. Other.

Mr. Heaton advised he hired Mr. Briggs for the Math Teacher position. He noted his Mental Health Counselor is coming down on Tuesday. He said he has worked with her for 5 or 6 years.

10. Board Reports.

a. Other

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Routine Orders of Business. Documentation concerning the matters on the Consent Agenda may be reviewed at the Littlefield Unified School District Office, located at 3490 East Rio Virgin Road, Beaver Dam, Arizona. Any Board Member may request an item be pulled off the agenda for further discussion.

Board President Graham made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Mike Fagnan. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Burch: Yes Board Member Fagnan: Yes Board President Graham: Yes Board Secretary Reyes: Yes Board Member Schoppmann: Yes

- 11. Consideration of approval of the June 8, 2023 Governing Board Work Session, the June 8, 2023 Regular Governing Board Meeting Minutes, the June 9, 2023 Special Governing Board Meeting, and the June 22, 2023 Special Governing Board Meeting.
- 12. Consideration of approval of Vouchers and Stipends:
 - a. LUSD9 Payroll Vouchers: 29/2329, 30/2330, and 1/2401.
 - b. LUSD9 Vouchers: 1022 1023, 1024, 1001.
 - c. Stipends

i. AZ Leader Training – 3 employees for 3 days of training at \$200 each day ii.Accumulated Leave Payout (sick leave).

(Members of the public may view the content of the vouchers 24 hours prior to the board meeting in the district office.)

13. Consideration of approval of FY2023/2024 Certified Personnel, Classified Personnel, Substitute Personnel, and Coaches per the attached list, including the following.

Name	Position	Effective Date
Burton, Anita	Elementary Intervention Teacher	08/01/2023
Call, Laurie	Jr/Sr High School Mental Health	08/01/2023
Hafen, Danielle	Elementary Teacher	08/01/2023
Hayzlett, Teri	Daytime Custodian (FY 23 & FY 24)	06/15/2023

14. Consideration of approval of the following staff resignations/retirements/terminations:



Name	Position	Effective Date
Horton, Rosann	Bus Driver	06/29/2023

15. Consideration of approval of donations received by the District per Policy KCD.a. RTI Survey Incentive Program - \$200 District Donation.

ACTION ITEMS AND/OR DISCUSSION

16. Consideration of approval of a request by Sandra Ceja Sanchez to enroll her child in Kindergarten prior to her 5th birthday for the 2023/2024 School Year.

(The Littlefield Unified School District Governing Board may enter into executive session to discuss or consider records exempt from public inspection (A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(2)). The executive session documents will not be available to the public.)

Board President Graham asked Mrs. Sanchez if she wants to go into executive session or if she is okay with staying in the public meeting. Mrs. Sanchez said the public meeting is fine. She said her daughter's 5th birthday is 13 days past the deadline. She said her daughter has matured academically and feels she is ready to enter kindergarten. Mr. Heaton said he spoke with Mr. Clarke and he has approved this request. Board Member Reyes asked if Ms. Gonzales is recommending approval of this request. Mrs. Sanchez said yes, Ms. Gonzales has given her approval. Board Member Reyes said the last couple years he has been a long term sub in kindergarten and his wife is a kindergarten teacher. He said even if a child is academically ready the biggest challenge is social and emotional. In this case he's going to be in favor of this because it comes at the recommendation of the teacher that works with this child.

Board Member Fagnan made a motion to approve the request by Sandra Ceja Sanchez to enroll her child in Kindergarten prior to her 5th birthday for the 2023/2024 school year, seconded by Board Secretary Reyes. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Burch: Yes Board Member Fagnan: Yes Board President Graham: Yes Board Secretary Reyes: Yes Board Member Schoppmann: Yes

17. Discussion and possible approval of searching for a new auditing firm to perform the District's annual audits.

Board President Graham said this item was requested by Board Member Burch. Board Member Burch said she was thinking after the last audit that we have had this company for many years and feels it's good to change it up every once in a while. Troy Heaton noted Hinton Burdick has been our auditors for several years and noted at the end of this school year we have to go out to bid, which is required by law. Mr. Boyer said the contract with the auditor firm is every 5 years. Their last year to audit under the current contract is the 2022/2023 school year and we will go for an RFP for the 2023/2024 school year. The auditor general puts out an RFP and there are 5 or 6 different requirements that score the RFP's. The committee will review and score each one and the recommendation is made to the auditor general's office and approved by the Governing Board. Mr. Boyer advised Board Member Burch that she can be on the committee if she would like. Board Member Burch said yes she would like to be on the committee.



18. Discussion and possible approval of cancelling the Saga Educational Consulting Agreement for FY 2024.

Board President Graham said he has requested this item. He noted certified staff had contacted him from both schools. He said even though staff mentioned they appreciated Dr. Robertson, as a person, they felt the negatives outweighed the positives. In April, the Board committed to a vision of high expectation for student achievement and if their top educators cannot trust the hired consultant, he feels the integrated action plan will not produce the expectation of student achievement. Board Secretary Reves said when he made an announcement of running for school board, several employees contacted him regarding these same concerns. Mr. Heaton said the way the contract is written we can cancel at any time. He noted when Saga Educational Consulting comes out and provides services, we are given an invoice to pay at that time. He said he doesn't have a problem with that and hasn't met Dr. Robertson. Mr. Heaton advised that the school LIAP is tied to the professional development that Mr. Robertson does and said it would be detrimental to the plan with the state. He noted our new teachers have training on August 1st that is done by Mr. Robertson and all staff returns on August 3rd. He said we can cancel and if we do we will have to replace that with something that is state approved, we would need to change the LIAP, and would need to change our school improvement plan. We can bring this up in a few months and noted he would suggest not cancelling the contract right now until he can get a feel for it. Board Secretary Reyes said he thinks Mr. Heaton's recommendation is wise. Mr. Heaton advised we have 4 new teachers that are set up for training which goes in line with our school improvement plan which is tied to funding. Board Member Schoppmann expressed her opinion that Dr. Robertson is very good with his classes. Board President Graham noted they are Board Members so they probably shouldn't be doing that and asked Board Member Schoppmann if she has. Board Member Schoppmann said yes she has and they are very informative. Board President Graham told Board Member Schoppmann she is not a classroom teacher and he doesn't know if she understands what is going on. He said he is not a classroom teacher either. Board Secretary Reyes said he is an educator and has received those trainings. He said they are pretty valuable, however, he agrees with the concerns. Board President Graham said the concerns are not with the training. The concerns are with what happens after the trainings. Board President Graham noted the teachers are claiming issues with Mr. Robertson's disparaging manner. Board Secretary Reyes advised that the comments he's received is we could find a better use of those funds. Mr. Boyer advised that Dr. Robertson's contract also includes visits throughout the month. Board President Graham asked Mr. Heaton if he would be open to staff coming to him with their concerns. Mr. Heaton said absolutely.

- 19. Consideration of approval of the FY 2024 LUSD Annual Expenditure Budget:
 - a. Public Hearing
 - b. Consideration of adoption of FY 2024 LUSD Annual Expenditure Budget.

Board President Graham opened the public hearing at 5:32 p.m. and without comment, closed the public hearing.

Board Member Burch made a motion to approve the FY 2024 LUSD Annual Expenditure Budget, seconded by Board President Graham. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Burch: Yes Board Member Fagnan: Yes Board President Graham: Yes Board Secretary Reyes: Yes Board Member Schoppmann: Yes

20. Consideration of approval of Advice of encumbrances Form – ARS 15-906.



Mr. Boyer said this is done on an annual basis. He noted we have things that haven't been paid out at the end of the year and this is required to notify the state. Mr. Heaton noted it's better to inflate the prices rather than them being less.

Board Member Fagnan made a motion to approve the Advice of Encumbrance Form, seconded by Board Secretary Reyes. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Burch: Yes Board Member Fagnan: Yes Board President Graham: Yes Board Secretary Reyes: Yes Board Member Schoppmann: Yes

21. Discussion and possible action regarding the bond override.

Board President Graham said the board discussed this back on June 8th. Mr. Heaton said there are some things we may need in the future where we might want to bring this back up. Board Secretary Reves asked the deadline. Mr. Boyer said for the buses we need to have everything in placed by August 15th. Board Secretary Reves said he wants some clarification. He noted there are some misconceptions with these buildings and noted these buildings are falling apart. Mr. Boyer said the purpose for the buildings have been changed. Board Secretary Reyes noted in the Governing Board Rood the subflooring is falling apart and will cost thousands of dollars to replace the carpet. He advised some of these buildings were received as surplus buildings in 1990 from Kingman High School. He noted the Governing Board is not trying to get a fancy building. Mr. Heaton said any time they take something to the public as a board they need to be specific to their wants and needs. Board President Graham noted the plans included a district office building, board room, and record retention room. After talking to their neighbors, they don't feel it would pass. Board Member Burch said she doesn't think it's a good time. Mr. Heaton noted the grant on the buses will not cover everything, they will still need the charging stations and the covers for the buses. He said with a bond, the only way to know if it will get passed is to put it to a vote. Board Secretary Reyes said some of the concerns were if we were going to do a bond that they include a community/senior center.

Mr. Heaton said his recommendation is to get a proposal first. Mr. Boyer said we've gone through this a couple times. In the previous board meeting the board agreed to proceed with the bond and when we had a budget work session the board decided to hold off for now. Mr. Heaton said the board would need to make sure it's something the community would approve or they will lose their money for the election. Board President Graham noted his concern is we are paying off a bond this year and then there will be a whole year without that money until another bond is passed. He suggested possibly having a special meeting for the public input. Board Member Fagnan said one of his concerns is they are now adding extra money for a bus barn. He said he will not support the bond unless it is specific.

Board Secretary Reyes made a motion to bring this item back.

Mrs. Goessman said she would like a specific date on when they want to bring this item back. Mr. Boyer suggested allowing Mr. Heaton to get up to date with everything and maybe bring this item back during next year's budget discussion. Mrs. Moerman said they do not have enough time to get it on the 2024 election. She said the board would want to make sure they time it for a regular election and not a special election. She suggested they bring somebody in that has been through the bond process. Mr. Boyer suggested start working on it in 2024 and gear towards the 2026 election. Mr. Heaton said we can put a community survey on the website. He suggested tabling this until he has the chance to talk with some individuals. Mr. Boyer said he thinks it would be worth our while to do a community meeting.



Mr. Heaton suggested giving choices or it will go around in circles. Mr. Boyer suggested bringing this back in October to decide what they want the community to choose from.

Board Secretary Reyes made a motion to direct staff to make a list of options and a survey to consider what the bond funds will be used for an bring back to the October meeting, seconded by Board President Graham. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Burch: Yes Board Member Fagnan: Yes Board President Graham: Yes Board Secretary Reyes: Yes Board Member Schoppmann: Yes

22. Consideration of approval of Preschool fee of \$608 for full-time students or \$304 for part-time students. Also, allow the Superintendent to waive the fees as deemed fit.

Mr. Boyer said the fee are the same fees as the previous year. Mr. Heaton said a lot of the funding comes from First Things First and is income driven. Board Member Fagnan said there has been some contention in the past about superintendents waiving fees. Mr. Heaton said he will not waive fees until he receives feedback from Mr. Clarke. He noted there are occasionally people that are in dire straits. Board Secretary Reyes said he believes there is a strict rubric and requirements.

Board Member Fagnan made a motion to approve the preschool fee of \$608 for full-time students or \$304 for part-time students. Also, to allow the Superintendent to waive the fees as deemed fit. The motion was seconded by Board Secretary Reyes and passed unanimously.

Board Member Burch: Yes Board Member Fagnan: Yes Board President Graham: Yes Board Secretary Reyes: Yes Board Member Schoppmann: Yes

- 23. Consideration of approval of the following bank accounts and signers:
 - a. Revolving Bank Account with America First Credit Union (impress of \$5000).
 - b. Elementary School Food Service Bank Account with America First Credit Union.
 - c. Jr./Sr. High School Food Service Bank Account with America First Credit Union.
 - d. Auxiliary Bank Account with America First Credit Union.
 - e. Student Activities Bank Account with America First Credit Union.
 - f. Depository Bank Account with America First Credit Union.
 - g. Authorized Signers List: Kevin Boyer, Troy Heaton, and Sheree Goessman on all accounts with America First Credit Union.

Board Member Fagnan made a motion to approve the bank accounts and signers, seconded by Board Secretary Reyes. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Burch: Yes Board Member Fagnan: Yes Board President Graham: Yes Board Secretary Reyes: Yes Board Member Schoppmann: Yes



24. Consideration of approval of the following curriculum for the 2023/2024 School Year:

- a. Imagine Learning Credit Recovery/AP Classes/Elective Jr/Sr High School
- b. Lexia Reading Curriculum Both Schools
- c. Moby Max Reading Curriculum Elementary School
- d. Cengage Reading Curriculum Elementary School
- e. InvestiGator Club Preschool Curriculum
- f. McGraw Hill Glencoe Biology Jr/Sr High School
- g. McGraw Hill Earth Science & Physical Science Jr/Sr High School
- h. Power Assessment Replaces Galileo.
- i. Pearson My Perspective ELA Curriculum Jr/Sr High School
- j. McGraw Hill Health Curriculum Jr/Sr High School
- k. McGraw Hill Math Curriculum Jr/Sr High School
- I. Into Math by HMH Math Curriculum Elementary School

Board Secretary Reyes asked if we know if the teachers input have been considered with the curriculum. Mr. Boyer said this is the same curriculum we had last year. Jyll Okelberry asked if Imagine Learning is Edginuity. She noted there were several students that did summer school. Some of the students didn't finish and would like to pick up where they left off. Mr. Boyer noted it is only a name change. Board Secretary Reyes said he would like Mr. Clarke to clarify a couple of these. He said he would like to know what year we are on with the Reach for Reading contract. Mr. Boyer said we've had it about 5 years. Board Secretary Reyes noted Reach for Reading doesn't have a lot of phonetics for EL students. He said he wants to make sure different areas of comprehension are being fulfilled. Board Secretary Reyes said he is also concerned about power assessment and asked if we are replacing Galileo. Mr. Boyer noted Galileo has been replaced for a number of years. Board Secretary said he will email Mr. Clarke regarding his questions and will copy the Superintendent.

Board Secretary Reyes made a motion to approve the curriculum for the 2023/2024 School Year, seconded by Board Member Fagnan. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Burch: Yes Board Member Fagnan: Yes Board President Graham: Yes Board Secretary Reyes: Yes Board Member Schoppmann: Yes

25. Consideration of approval of Qualified Evaluators for the 2023/2024 School Year.

Mr. Heaton said he and Mr. Clarke are Arizona Qualified Evaluators.

Board President Graham made a motion to approve Mr. Heaton and Mr. Clarke as the Qualified Evaluators for the 2023/2024 School Year, seconded by Board Member Burch. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Burch: Yes Board Member Fagnan: Yes Board President Graham: Yes Board Secretary Reyes: Yes Board Member Schoppmann: Yes

26. Consideration of approval of the sole source vendor list.



- a. Reliance Connects Internet Provider
- b. Dixie Power
- c. Virgin River Waste Water Improvement District
- d. Virgin Valley Disposal

Board Member Fagnan made a motion to approve the sole source vendor list, seconded by Board President Graham. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Burch: Yes Board Member Fagnan: Yes Board President Graham: Yes Board Secretary Reyes: Yes Board Member Schoppmann: Yes

Board Secretary Reyes noted that Mrs. Moerman suggested he abstain from this item since he is on the Dixie Power Board. He said he sees no conflict, receives no benefit from serving on their board, and feels no need to abstain from this item.

27. Consideration of approval of Administrator Authorization Approval Forms designating who has authorization to sign vouchers and pick up warrants from the Mohave County School Superintendent's Office.

Mr. Boyer said this form comes from the County Offices and is done on an annual basis.

Board Member Fagnan made a motion to approve the Administrator Authorization Approval Forms, seconded by Board Secretary Reyes. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Burch: Yes Board Member Fagnan: Yes Board President Graham: Yes Board Secretary Reyes: Yes Board Member Schoppmann: Yes

28. Consideration of approval of a School Mental Health Counselor for the Elementary School and approval of the job description. This position will be paid out of the School Safety Grant which is for 3 years.

Board President Graham made a motion to approve the School Mental Health Counselor for the Elementary School, seconded by Board Member Fagnan. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Burch: Yes Board Member Fagnan: Yes Board President Graham: Yes Board Secretary Reyes: Yes Board Member Schoppmann: Yes

- 29. Suggestions for Future Board Meetings.
 - 1) Approval of Substitute List.
 - 2) Updated Return to School Safely Plan.



- 3) Approval of EL Supplementary Curriculum, iLit, by Savvas Learning.
- 4) ASBA Policy Advisory #744-747.
- 5) Discussion regarding community center.

INFORMATION ITEMS

- 30. News articles about the schools.
- 31. Upcoming Governing Board Conferences:
 - a. ASBA 47th Annual Law Conference September 6-8, 2023 JW Marriott Camelback Inn, Scottsdale, AZ.
 - b. ASBA 2023 Delegate Assembly, September 9, 2023, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
 - c. Mohave County Meeting, October 23, 2023.
- 32. School Calendar 2023/2024

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Call to Order
- B. Confidentiality Statement: All persons present are hereby reminded that it is unlawful to disclose or otherwise divulge to any person who is not now present, other than a current member of the Board, anything that has transpired or has been discussed during this executive session. To do so is a violation of ARS 38-431.03 unless pursuant to a specific statutory exception.
- C. The Board may move to discuss items in an Executive Session pursuant to ARS §38-431.03(A)(2)), which authorizes discussion or consideration of records exempt by law from public inspection, including the receipt and discussion of information or testimony that is specifically required to be maintained as confidential by state or federal law.

ADJOURNMENT

Board Member Fagnan made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Board President Graham. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Burch: Yes Board Member Fagnan: Yes Board President Graham: Yes Board Secretary Reyes: Yes Board Member Schoppmann: Yes

The meeting was adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

Sonny Graham, Board President

Troy Heaton, Superintendent



Respectfully Submitted by:

Sheree Goessman, District Secretary