

**M-I-N-U-T-E-S**  
**CRANE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**February 12, 2019**

The Governing Board of the Crane Elementary School District met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, February 12, 2019, at the Multi-purpose Room of Rancho Viejo Elementary School, 1020 S. Avenue C., Yuma, Arizona. The meeting was called to order by Board President Brenna Paulin at 5:00 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mrs. Brenna Paulin, Board President; Mrs. Sarah Claridge, Board Clerk; Mrs. Terre Catanzaro; and Mr. Dan Farar

**PARTICIPATING TELEPHONICALLY:** Mr. Jim Colby

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Laurie Doering, Superintendent; Mike Hoffman, Assistant Superintendent; Dale Ponder, Chief of Finance and Operations; Jennifer Bosch, Finance Director; Ozzy Hernandez, Director of Facilities and Maintenance; Mercedes Villafana, Procurement Manager; Ryan Tyree, Principal of Crane Middle School; Leslie Mommer, Assistant Principal of Crane Middle School; Cindy Hookstra, Principal of Rancho Viejo Elementary; Tamy Durham, Assistant Principal of Centennial Middle School; Helen Coffeen, Principal of Centennial Middle School; Bobbie Henry, Principal of Pueblo Elementary; Sheila Mendoza, Principal of Salida Del Sol Elementary; Trish Valentin, Principal of H.L. Suverkrup Elementary; Jamie Haines, Principal of Gowan Science Academy; Laura Hurt, Principal of Gary A. Knox Elementary; Marla Ford, Preschool Coordinator; Norine Bowers, Federal Programs Director; Eddie Pallanes, Director of Information Services; Mario Hogue; Lauren Daniels; Brian Kondracki; Kaleen Drake; Alicia Tyree; Yadira Fuerte; Fred Brown; Arwa Hassin; Mohamed Hassin; Layla Hassin; Ahalam Hussein; Eva Mendez Counts; Araceli Rodriguez; Angela Rico; Dr. Mizaba Abedi; Dr. Liz Martinez; Mary Garcia; Clint Harrington; Mohamad Hassin Sr; Ana Uribe; Sherifa Mahame; Hali Mahame; Hatia Mahame; Monique Pallares; Montsserrat DeAnda; Alea Hassin; Brenda Sandoval; Kathrine Kaste; Rina Wojcik; Lourdes Marquez; Nurudeen Mahame; Michael Clark; Asmahan Akam; Carolyn Hmi; Derrick McGee; Maria Ekanin; and John Marinelli

**Item B-1: Convene in Public Hearing for the purpose presented, calling for questions, comments and discussion regarding the Comprehensive Needs Assessment and Associated Improvement Plan for Rancho Viejo Elementary School:** Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statute §15-241.02(A), "...the governing board shall hold a public meeting in each school that has been assigned a letter grade of D and shall present the respective improvement plans that have been developed for each school." Mrs. Cindy Hookstra, Principal of Rancho Viejo Elementary School, formed a committee consisting of Rancho Viejo school community members including teachers, support staff and parents, and presented the developed improvement plan.

**Item B-2: Adjourn the Public Hearing and return to the Regular Session:** The President called for questions or comments from the board members and public attending. Having none, the president offered to entertain motion to adjourn the public hearing and return to regular session. Mrs. Claridge so moved, and Mrs. Catanzaro seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0 with the votes being as follows: Paulin – aye; Claridge – aye; Colby – aye; Catanzaro – aye; and Farar – aye.

**Item C-1: Adoption of Regular/Special Meeting Minutes of the Governing Board:** The President offered to entertain a motion to adopt the minutes of the regular meeting on January 8, 2019. Mrs. Claridge so moved, and Mr. Farar seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0 with the votes being as follows: Paulin – aye; Claridge – aye; Colby – aye; Catanzaro – aye; and Farar – aye.

**Item D-1: Superintendent's Current Events Summary:** Mrs. Doering began her Superintendent's Report by sharing that parent teacher conferences began February 12<sup>th</sup>. Teachers are available two evenings and students are released early on Wednesday-Friday to provide opportunities for parents to learn about their child's progress and how they can continue to provide support for their child. This time is very beneficial for parents and teachers to collaborate. In addition, Monday, February 18<sup>th</sup> is President's Day and a holiday for all district employees. All district schools and offices will be closed.

Centennial Middle School applied for a grant from the Arizona Diamondbacks Foundation in connection with the "D-backs Give Back School Challenge" and were selected as winners of \$5,000 for their "Literacy Refresh" project. In addition to the funding they have been invited to attend a D-backs game. They will receive up to 450 complimentary tickets for students, teachers, and families to attend.

The month of January was School Board Recognition Month and we want to acknowledge each of our board members as a special group of volunteer elected officials in education. We appreciate our school board members in providing leadership and guidance to our district.

Our school board members take this responsibility and public trust very seriously, dedicating numerous hours to their work both in and outside of board meetings. Attending school functions, preparing for board meetings, reading financial reports, agendas and

proposals, and making a host of difficult and challenging decisions are just a few of the regular activities board members participate in through their service.

Today, more than ever, school board leaders are faced with the overwhelming charge of providing a quality education at a time when financial constraints weigh heavily on the health of school district budgets. In an era of unprecedented choice in education, school boards are also tasked with charting a course that provides long-term, sustainable success for current and future students.

School Board Recognition Month is part of a national effort to build community awareness and understanding about the crucial role school boards play in our communities.

Our members come from all walks of life with diverse experiences and backgrounds, but working together, they make decisions in the best interests of our children. Thank you, Crane Governing Board members, for your dedication to public service.

**Item E-1: Report on Governing Board Member Conference/Workshop Attendance:** Mrs. Claridge began the report by sharing that she was able to visit a few schools in the past month. She visited Crane Middle School on January 14<sup>th</sup> to listen to a guest speaker, Mr. Oskar Knoblauch, Holocaust survivor. She shared what a privilege it was to listen to him speak about the things that he lived through and the things we can do to better our communities. Mrs. Claridge also shared that she attended the Farmer's Market at Gary Knox Elementary. She was able to purchase a bag full of fresh vegetables for \$10.00. She also shared that she attended a visit from the Phoenix Zoo to Knox Elementary. She stated that she was amazed that the Phoenix Zoo was able to bring animals to the schools and help educate the students on these animals. Mrs. Claridge also attended the parent night at H.L. Suverkrup and shared that it was fantastic. She thanked Mrs. Hurt, Mr. Tyree, Mrs. Mommer, Mr. Kondracki, and Mrs. Valentin for hosting her at their schools and events.

Mrs. Paulin shared that the weeks after Christmas break are her favorite because there are many science fairs and spelling bees in which our students participate and culminate in county and state competitions. Mrs. Paulin shared that she was able to judge the science fair at Gowan Science Academy where students are very well informed and always do such a great job and also two spelling bees at Pueblo and Gary A. Knox. She shared that every time she visits a school, she thinks it is the best school in the district, until she visits another one and thinks, no that is the best in the district. She believes that all of the schools are great, and they all shine in their own way. Mrs. Paulin shared that she is part of the Yuma Chamber of Commerce Education Committee. The June S. Pallack Award for Excellence in Education will start receiving nominations soon. This award is to recognize other staff that are not teachers. Please nominate your well deserving co-workers. Mrs. Paulin also shared that she attended the District's Communication Council Committee meeting recently. The committee is tackling the issue of smaller class sizes, which is a challenge due to funding. Mrs. Paulin also attended the President's Round Table a group put together by Yuma County Superintendent Tom Tyree in which school superintendent's and board presidents discuss issues in the community.

**Item E-2: Board Discussion/Action on Legislative Issues:** Mr. Ponder shared that there are a few legislative items that they are observing at this time. The first one is SB1014 English language learners emergent block. Mr. Ponder shared that it has passed both houses unanimously and is now sitting on the governor's desk waiting for approval. This will reduce the amount of time that English language learners will spend in English language development each day. The second one is taking a look at HB2187 K-12 rollover, this bill reduces the K-12 rollover from \$930.7M to \$630.7M for FY20. Next, they are looking at SB1101 opportunity index, this bill establishes a calculated opportunity index as part of the base level funding of the school finance formula.

**Item F-1: Call to the Public:** The following members of the community present spoke on the following order and topic.

1. Aham Hussein – discrimination, assault and harassment in Crane School District
2. Mohamed Hassin – Crane Middle School
3. Layla Hassin – discrimination, harassment and assault at Crane School District
4. Fred Brown – student diversity issues and save our schools vouchers at AZ legislature now
5. Brian Kondracki – Crane Middle School front office staff
6. Mohamed Hassin – bullying at Crane Middle School
7. Eva Mendez Counts – lack of response or attention to grievance
8. Nurudeen Mahame – Crane Middle School education and student complaint
9. Arwa Hassin – discrimination at Crane schools
10. Mary Garcia – Muslim student petition
11. Rina Wojcik – bullying/harassment in school and investigating grievances

**Item F-2: Acknowledgment of Public Request to Speak:** No one wished to speak.

**Item G-1: Consent Agenda:** The President asked if anyone wished to pull any items on the consent agenda. Having none, Mrs. Claridge moved to adopt agenda items I-17 as presented, Mrs. Catanzaro seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0 with the votes being as follows: Paulin – aye; Claridge – aye; Colby – aye; Catanzaro – aye; and Farar – aye.

**Item H-1: Gifts from the Public:** Mrs. Paulin stated her gratitude for all donations. She shared that many times our students have to go without because of funding, but thanks to all who make donations for our students we are able to do so much more. Mrs. Paulin offered to entertain a motion to adopt the Gifts from the Public as presented. Mrs. Claridge so moved with the board's gratitude, and Mr. Farar seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0 with the votes being as follows: Paulin – aye; Claridge – aye; Colby – aye; Catanzaro – aye; and Farar – aye.

**Item I-1: Discussion, Consideration and approval of use of unrecognized budget capacity:** Based on enrollment trend data, the district anticipated a continued loss of students for this fiscal year. However, the district experienced stable to marginal growth in student enrollments over last year and will capture the budget capacity that was

expected to be lost. This is being called “unrecognized budget capacity.” The administration would like to use a portion of these funds to provide one-time compensation to eligible staff members, with the balance being allocated to address ongoing capital needs. The president entertained a motion to approve the use of unrecognized budget capacity as presented. Mr. Farar so moved, and Mrs. Catanzaro seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0 with the votes being as follows: Paulin – aye; Claridge – aye; Colby – aye; Catanzaro – aye; and Farar – aye.

**Item I-2: Resolution of Application to Receive Advanced State Aid:** After completion of the District’s projected cash flow for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2019, the District is seeking an advancement of state aid and a governing board resolution is required. Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statute Section 15-973, Subsection C, school districts may petition the superintendent of public instruction, the state treasurer, and the director of the department of administration for advance payment of state aid if sufficient appropriated funds are available, and the school district can show that additional state monies are necessary for current expenses. If application is approved, the District will reduce the need for registering warrants, resulting in a savings to the District. The president entertained a motion to approve the resolution petitioning the superintendent of public instruction, the state treasurer and the director of the department of administration for advanced payment of state aid in the amount of \$3,675,240. Mrs. Claridge so moved, and Mr. Farar seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0, the votes being as follows: Paulin – aye; Claridge – aye; Colby – aye; Catanzaro – aye; and Farar – aye.

**Mr. Jim Colby exited the meeting at 7:04 p.m.**

**Item I-2: Adoption of expense voucher for Jim Colby:** The adoption of the following expense vouchers for Mr. Colby is needed. Expense voucher number 562937 in the amount of \$287.80. The President entertained a motion to adopt the expense voucher as presented. Mrs. Catanzaro so moved, and Mr. Farar seconded. The motion carried with a vote of 4-0 with the votes being as follows: Paulin – aye; Claridge – aye; Colby – absent; Catanzaro – aye; and Farar – aye.

**Item J: Adjournment:** Mrs. Paulin called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Farar so moved, Mrs. Catanzaro seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

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Sarah Claridge  
Governing Board Clerk

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Minnie Encinas  
Governing Board Secretary

School	Donor	Item(s) Donated	Approx. Value	Purpose
Gary A. Knox Elementary	Donorschoose	Project funded: "Making Math Reachable"	\$301.71	Mrs. Grable's students
Rancho Viejo Elementary	Donorschoose	Project funded: "Charging up for Success"	\$408.42	Mr. Croats' students
Salida Del Sol Elementary	Donorschoose	Supplies	\$287.91	For Ms. Flynn's 2nd grade students
Salida Del Sol Elementary	Donorschoose	12 HD shock proof iPad cases	\$191.88	For Mrs. Robles SPED preschool students
Salida Del Sol Elementary	Donorschoose	Project funded: "Listen Up First Grade"	\$522.14	For Ms. Marino's 1st grade students
Salida Del Sol Elementary	Donorschoose	Project funded: "Sensory Experience"	\$371.15	For Mrs. Anderson's SPED classroom
		<b>Total for this month</b>	<b>\$2,083.21</b>	
		<b>FY 2018-2019 Year to Date:</b>	<b>\$1,111,615.10</b>	