

**Tucson Unified School District No. 1
Governing Board Special Meeting
Joint Meeting with the Blue Ribbon Committee
TMC Atrium, Room 202
5099 E. Grant Road
Tucson, Arizona**

**October 16, 2007
12:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

Board Members Present:

Joel T. Ireland, President
Bruce Burke, Member
Judy Burns, Member

Board Members Absent:

Alex Rodriguez, Clerk
Adelita Grijalva, Member

Blue Ribbon Committee (BRC) Members Present:

Larry Aldrich, President, Aldrich Capital Company
Bob Breault, Chairman, Breault Research Organization, Inc.
Pamela Clarridge, Ph.D., Principal, Kellond Elementary School; President, ELI, Inc.
Robert Draper, Chief Legal Officer O'Reilly Motor Company
Michael Duran, VP & Chief Development Officer, TMC Foundation; Interim BRC Chair
Rudy Flores, Interim Executive Director, Engineering, Facilities & Planning, TUSD
Bob Johnston, Committee Member
Chyrl Hill Lander, Director, Communications & Media Relations, TUSD
Jaimie Leopold, Coordinator, BRC
Patricia Lopez, Ed.D., Deputy Superintendent/Chief Academic Officer, TUSD
Earl Mendenhall III, Mendenhall Insurance & Investments
Rick Myers, Committee Member
John Pedicone, Southern Arizona Leadership Council
Loretta Peto, CPA, ABV, CEO, Peto & Company CPA's PLLC
Mary Rowley, President, Strongpoint Public Relations

TUSD Staff Present (in addition to those who are BRC Members):

Rob Ross, Legal Counsel
Mary Alice Wallace, Director of Staff Services to the Governing Board
Monica Barragan, Administrative Assistant, TUSD

Others Present:

Susan Hawk, Executive Assistant to Michael Duran, TMC Foundation
Miguel Cuevas, UofA Student
K. Konstantinos, *Tucson Citizen*

ITEM

ACTION

SPECIAL MEETING CALLED TO ORDER – 12:15 p.m.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

No actions taken
or required at this
meeting.

1. Welcome – Joel Ireland and Rob Draper

Joel Ireland convened the meeting and Michael Duran welcomed those present to the meeting.

2. Discussion on Program Audit – Bruce Burke and Michael Duran

Bruce Burke distributed copies of the Request for Proposal and Addendum and reviewed the history of the RFP, the scope of services and the level of TUSD management to be audited (ref. pp. 16-19). He indicated three proposals have been received; up to \$250,000 has been authorized to pay for the audit; a committee is reviewing the proposals (Bruce Burke, Roger Pfeuffer, John Pedicone, Rudy Flores and Jaimie Leopold); recommendation to the Board at the October 23rd meeting; objective is to have the study completed with a report to the Board by March 2008, early enough for the next fiscal year and available for the next superintendent.

Persons commenting and/or asking questions and providing information were: Jaime Leopold, John Pedicone, Judy Burns, Rob Draper, Rudy Flores, Rick Myers and Bruce Burke.

Topics included:

- BRC former reports (TUBAC, Signs & Signals, ROI)
- Board's interest in performing such a program audit at a significant expense
- expectation of credibility by outside evaluator with suggested actions prioritized
- expectation of implementation
- cooperation of personnel with provisions for employee protection for whistleblowers
- zero-based budgeting and the methods for implementing
- existence of a qualified vendor with expertise and experience to cover wide range of areas (best practices expected)

3. Discussion on Audit Committee – Alex Rodriguez and Michael Duran (12:40 p.m.)

In Alex Rodriguez's absence, Michael Duran read Alex's report as submitted. Loretta Peto, a member of the Audit Committee,

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3. Discussion on Audit Committee (continued)

provided further information on the work to date of the Committee. The primary goal is completion of the Charter, which contains the goals, Committee makeup and methods of information gathering.

Persons commenting and/or asking questions and providing information were: Loretta Peto, Judy Burns, Jaimie Leopold, Michael Duran, Patti Lopez, Rick Myers, Larry Aldrich, Chyrl Lander, John Pedicone, Earl Mendenhall, Bob Breault, Joel Ireland, Rob Ross and Bruce Burke

Topics included:

- Committee is a well diversified group
- Focus is financial rather than function, like the program audit
- How to respond to issues presented by employees or outside vendors
- Oversight of internal controls
- Liaison with external auditors
- History and need for internal auditor
- Potential for increase in levels of approval as a defensive mechanism by the District
- Limitation on prevention of errors, e.g., insurance problem
- Public perception of Audit Committee's role
- Media publicity planned post Charter approval by the Board
- Include Audit Committee formation and function in strategy for Override campaign
- Board authority to direct study of an issue and report will be addressed in the Charter
- Audit Committee provides a reporting mechanism to persons for problems
- Legislative action might be needed to adjust Open Meeting Law to permit Audit Committees to meet in Executive Session

4. Discussion on Superintendent Search – Joel Ireland and Michael Duran (1:05 p.m.)

Joel Ireland reviewed the process for selecting the Consultant to conduct the search – Arizona School Boards Association, John Gordon, Director of Leadership Development. ASBA's Qualities Assessment tool was an important factor in the selection. Joel described the timeline for gathering information to develop the profile to be used in posting the position, screening and interviewing candidates, visits to finalists' current work sites, and opportunities for the public to see the finalists. Goal is to name the new Superintendent in March 2008, who will work as a consultant

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4. Discussion on Superintendent Search (continued)

to transition with the current Superintendent until beginning work July 1, 2008.

Persons commenting and/or asking questions and providing information were: Judy Burns, Rick Myers, Bruce Burke, Michael Duran, Larry Aldrich, Earl Mendenhall


Topics included:

- Composition and consistency of interview questions
- Initial screening of applications and requirement for confidentiality
- Composition of a Search Committee, e.g., UofA Committee
- Governing Board will finalize who screens/interviews candidates
- Number of finalists and when those names become public

SPECIAL MEETING ADJOURNED – 1:30 p.m.

Approved this 15th day of January, 2008.

TUCSON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. ONE

By 
Adelita Grijalva, Clerk
Governing Board