

The Boarder

A Summary Report of the June 25, 2024 CFSD Governing Board Meeting



Thank You Superintendent Mary Kamerzell

Board members celebrated Superintendent Mary Kamerzell's 28 years of dedicated service to the students, staff, and community of the Catalina Foothills School District at the governing board meeting on June 25. Board members highlighted her tremendous accomplishments and impact in CFSD and wished her the best in her next adventure.

Approval of Revisions to Policy GCBA Professional Staff Salary Schedules (second reading)

Associate Superintendent Denise Bartlett presented no additional changes to policy GCBA since the governing board's first review on June 11. Under *Other Certificated Personnel*, the word "public" before the word "school" was removed to indicate that years of experience is not limited to prior public-school experience. Under *Substitutes*, the district receptionist position was added to the list of positions that require a substitute. Language was also added to define and distinguish between certified and classified substitute positions. Revisions to compensation factors and a new section for the compensation paid to substitutes for classified positions was included. Wording was removed regarding a substitute daily rate of pay as the district has recommended a change to the pay structure for substitutes for certified and classified positions. The governing board approved the revisions, as presented.

Approval of Revisions to Policy IHA Basic Instructional Program (second reading)

Executive Director of Curriculum and Assessment Sheryl Castro presented the second reading of policy IHA revising language in the policy to align with current basic

instructional program requirements for English language arts, social studies, visual and performing arts, health, and world languages. Changes include the requirements for instruction in state and federal constitutions, American institutions and ideals, the history of Arizona (including the history of Native Americans in Arizona), and the Holocaust and other genocides. Language was changed to reflect "*Health/Physical education, including mental health*". Mental health instruction may be included as part of other subject areas and must comply with Arizona Revised Statute (A.R.S) 15-701-03. Under the *Observance Days* section, language was added to the description of Constitution Day to highlight that the observance is a federal requirement. A revision to the section titled *Minimum Course of Study for Students in Grades K-8* was requested to reflect K-12 instead of K-8. The governing board approved the revisions, as amended.

Approval of Revisions to Policy IKF Graduation Requirements (second reading)

Ms. Castro presented no additional changes to the policy since the board's first review on June 11. Additional language in the policy is recommended to update the requirements related to instruction in state and federal constitutions, American institutions and ideals, the history of Arizona (including the history of Native Americans in Arizona), and the Holocaust and other genocides as required by A.R.S 15-710. Board members requested additional language to clarify the world language requirement of Spanish or Chinese for CFSD students versus the foreign language requirement for high school transfer students. The governing board will review the policy again at the special governing board meeting on July 8, 2024.

Approval of Revised Academic Standards for Science: Grades K-5 for 2024-2025 (second reading)

Ms. Castro presented the second reading of revisions to the academic standards for elementary science which the governing board previously approved as part of the science pathway on June 23, 2020. The K-5 science standards remain the same, however they have been moved among the grade levels to align with the *Inspire Science* grade-level resources. The shift supports students' 3-D science learning, allowing teachers to use all grade-level *Inspire Science* resources without having to adapt or redesign them to align with the students'

grade level. This would support consistent use of grade-level science materials, specifically the 3-D inquiry-based investigations. The shift would also increase teachers' efficiency in implementing and assessing all K-5 science standards. The governing board approved the revised academic standards for science: grades K-5 for the 2024-2025 school year, as presented.

Public Hearing of the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget

President Eileen Jackson opened the public hearing. No comments were expressed, and the public hearing was closed.

Adoption of the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget

Dr. Bartlett presented the fiscal year 2025 expenditure budget. There were no changes made to the 2025 expenditure budget since the governing board's review and approval on June 11. The governing board adopted the fiscal year 2025 budget, as presented.

Approval of Increase Rate for Substitute Teachers

Dr. Bartlett presented for the board's approval an increase to the daily pay rate for substitute teachers. A recent annual study of substitute rates of pay in surrounding districts showed that CFSD has the lowest substitute rate of the three-neighboring school districts that we most likely share substitutes with. The district proposed an increase to the daily rate for substitutes filling certified vacancies to match those of competing districts. With the change to policy GCBA, *Professional Staff Salary Schedules*, there will be a distinction between substitute rates for certified and classified vacancies. For certified positions, the daily rate of \$140 is applied to days 1 through 20, and a daily rate of \$160 for day 21 and beyond. Days do not have to be consecutive. A daily rate of \$175 was proposed for Long-Term assignment of 15 consecutive days or more for certified staff. The long-term rate would begin at day 1. For classified inclusion EAs, the hourly rate is Step 1 of Range 30 and for the District Receptionist, the hourly rate is Step 1 of Range 22 on the classified wage schedule.

The governing board approved the increase to the rates of pay for certified and classified substitute services, as amended.

2024 Arizona Legislative / Governmental Activity

Board members commented on the end of the legislative session and the lift to the expenditure limit which allows the district to spend dollars that have been allocated. The state will provide one-time funding for free and reduced lunch and for District Additional Assistance (DAA). When the amount becomes available, it will be presented to the governing board on budget revision #2.

Consent Agenda Items

The governing board approved the following consent agenda items:

- June 11, 2024, regular governing board meeting minutes
- Expense voucher memorandum
- Field trip memorandum
- Fundraising memorandum
- Personnel memorandum
- Gifts and donation memorandum
- Approval of high school course fees and grades 4-12 extracurricular performing arts fees for the 2024-2025 school
- Approval of the 2024-2025 auxiliary and volunteer list
- Approval of the addition of Refrigeration Supplies Distributor to the sole source vendor lists for fiscal years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025

Upcoming Board Meeting

The next regularly scheduled governing board meeting is **Tuesday, August 13, 2024, 6:30 p.m., at the Carole Siegler Boardroom at Valley View Early Learning Center. Doors open at 6:00 p.m.** Topics on the August 13 agenda include:

- Approval of Delegate and Alternate Delegate to the ASBA Delegate Assembly



Please welcome new CFSD staff members!

Lashante Butler, 2nd Grade Teacher, SDES
Kirstin Dyckman-O'Donnell, Kindergarten Plus
Teacher, SDES
Frank Geyer, Science Teacher, OGMS
Julie Johnson, Science Teacher, ECMS
Sean Coughlin, EA Inclusion, ECMS
April Lawyer, EA Inclusion, CFHS
Ashley Meza, EA Classroom-Nest, CFHS