



Sonoita Elementary School District
Elgin School
23 Elgin Rd
Elgin, AZ 85611
(520) 455-5514 Fax (520) 455-5516
Daniel R. Erickson, Superintendent

SONOITA GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2024 @ 5:00 PM
ELGIN SCHOOL CONFERENCE ROOM, ELGIN SCHOOL

MINUTES

BOARD ATTENDANCE:

Harry Dotson, President
Nancy Webster, Vice President
Megan Thomas, Member
Ginny Cosby, Member
Anthony Fennell, Member

DISTRICT ATTENDANCE:

Daniel Erickson, Superintendent
Heidi Gonzales, Business Manager

OPENING

- A. Call to Order ~ Harry Dotson called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.
- Pledge of Allegiance ~ All in attendance stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.
 - Adoption of the Agenda ~ Harry Dotson made a motion to adopt the agenda

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain
H.D.	X		
N.W.	X		
G.C.	X		
A.F.	X		
M.T.	X		

- B. Approve Minutes
- Regular Meeting Minutes, September 3, 2024
 - Special Meeting Minutes, September 25, 2024
- ~ Ginny Cosby noted 2 errors in the Minutes of September 3, 2024. First, in item O., Board is misspelled. Second, item P. should be "Mr. Erickson presented" rather than Mr. Erickson present. Heidi Gonzales made note of the errors, they will be corrected, and minutes reposted.
- ~ Harry Dotson made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of September 3, 2024, and the special meeting minutes of September 25, 2024 with the corrections to the September 3, 2024 minutes as noted, Ginny Cosby 2nd, motion carried 5/0.

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain
H.D.	X		
N.W.	X		
G.C.	X		
A.F.	X		
M.T.	X		

INFORMATION ITEMS

C. BOARD MEMBER ACTIVITY REPORTS

~ Harry Dotson reported that he and Mr. Erickson attended the ASBA law conference, it was informative.
~ Harry Dotson reminded the Board the Santa Cruz County ASBA meeting is on October 17, 2024 at 4:30pm. Please let Heidi know if you'd like to be registered.

D. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Enrollment (120)
- Student of the Month ~ August – Morgan King and Gracie McKearney. September – Isabella Ramirez Schroeder and Clancy Zerbel.
- Staff Recognition ~ Kathe Prentice
- Sports ~ Volleyball made it to the Semifinals, Football won the championship for the 3rd year in a row.
- Calendar/Events
- Budget Update ~ September 2024
- Student Account/8th Grade Fund Activity ~ September 2024
- Early Childhood Center ~ Construction is complete, the project is done.
- Building Confident Readers program ~ A new program offered by the Friends of the Library.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- ~ Anna Coleman addressed the Board advocating for a 4-day school week.
- ~ Lucy Reyes addressed the Board advocating for a 4-day school week.

ACTION ITEMS

E. DISCUSS / ACTION TO ACCEPT – FY 23/24 Annual Financial Report.

~ Harry Dotson made a motion to accept the FY 23/24 Annual Financial Report, Ginny Cosby 2nd, motion carried 5/0.

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain
H.D.	X		
N.W.	X		
G.C.	X		
A.F.	X		
M.T.	X		

F. DISCUSS / ACTION TO ACCEPT – FY 23/24 School Level Reporting.

~ Harry Dotson made a motion to accept the FY 23/24 School Level Reporting, Ginny Cosby 2nd, motion carried 5/0.

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain
H.D.	X		
N.W.	X		
G.C.	X		
A.F.	X		
M.T.	X		

G. DISCUSS / ACTION TO ACCEPT – FY 23/24 Food Service Annual Financial Report.

~ Harry Dotson made a motion to accept the FY 23/24 Food Service Annual Financial Report, Megan Thomas 2nd, motion carried 5/0.

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain
H.D.	X		
N.W.	X		
G.C.	X		
A.F.	X		
M.T.	X		

H. DISCUSS / ACTION TO ACCEPT – FY 23/24 Classroom Site Fund Narrative Results.

~ Harry Dotson made a motion to accept the FY 23/24 Classroom Site Fund Narrative Results, Anthony Fennell 2nd, motion carried 5/0.

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain
H.D.	X		
N.W.	X		
G.C.	X		

A.F.	X		
M.T.	X		

- I. DISCUSS / ACTION TO ACCEPT – FY 23/24 K – 3 Reading Annual Financial Report.
 ~ Harry Dotson made a motion to accept the FY 23/24 K – 3 Reading Annual Financial Report, Ginny Cosby 2nd, motion carried 5/0.

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain
H.D.	X		
N.W.	X		
G.C.	X		
A.F.	X		
M.T.	X		

- J. DISCUSS / ACTION TO APPROVE – FY 24/25 K – 3 Reading Budget.
 ~ Harry Dotson made a motion to approve the FY 24/25 K – 3 Reading Budget, Anthony Fennell 2nd, motion carried 5/0.

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain
H.D.	X		
N.W.	X		
G.C.	X		
A.F.	X		
M.T.	X		

- K. DISCUSS / ACTION TO APPROVE – FY 23/24 Audit Engagement Letters with DRS CPA, PLLC.
 ~ Harry Dotson made a motion to approve the FY 23/24 Audit Engagement Letters with DRS CPA, PLLC, Megan Thomas 2nd, motion carried 5/0.

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain
H.D.	X		
N.W.	X		
G.C.	X		
A.F.	X		
M.T.	X		

- L. DISCUSS / ACTION TO APPROVE – Increasing our daily sub rate from \$125.00 to \$140.00. The Board may vote to approve increasing our daily sub rate from \$125.00 to \$140.00.
 ~ The Board discussed the sub pay rate and would like to get ahead of the inflation factor and increase the sub pay rate from \$125 a day to \$150 a day.
 ~ Harry Dotson made a motion to approve increasing the daily sub rate from \$125 to \$150 a day effective immediately, Ginny Cosby 2nd, motion carried 5/0.

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain
H.D.	X		
N.W.	X		
G.C.	X		
A.F.	X		
M.T.	X		

- M. DISCUSS / ACTION TO APPROVE – Hiring Lilly Cottam as a Substitute Teacher effective October 3, 2024.
 ~ Harry Dotson made a motion to approve hiring Lilly Cottam as a Substitute Teacher effective October 3, 2024, Megan Thomas 2nd, motion carried 5/0.

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain
H.D.	X		
N.W.	X		

G.C.	X		
A.F.	X		
M.T.	X		

N. DISCUSS / ACTION TO APPROVE – Discontinuing the District’s relationship with ServiceMaster Cleaning and posting a Part Time Custodial position. The Board may vote to approve discontinuing the District’s relationship with ServiceMaster Cleaning and posting a Part Time Custodial position.

~ Harry Dotson made a motion to discontinue the District’s relationship with ServiceMaster Cleaning and posting a Part Time Custodial position. The Board may vote to approve discontinuing the District’s relationship with ServiceMaster Cleaning and posting a Part Time Custodial position, Ginny Cosby 2nd, motion carried 5/0.

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain
H.D.	X		
N.W.	X		
G.C.	X		
A.F.	X		
M.T.	X		

O. DISCUSS / ACTION TO APPROVE – Retention Stipends. The Board may vote to approve adding retention stipends.

~ Anthony Fennell made a motion to approve retention stipends for FY 24/25 for all employees who are no longer eligible for an annual step increase in the amount of \$2,400 to be paid in one lump sum on P. 12. This will be in conjunction with a Superintendent devised recognition program that will be reviewed on an annual basis. Megan Thomas 2nd, motion carried 5/0.

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain
H.D.	X		
N.W.	X		
G.C.	X		
A.F.	X		
M.T.	X		

P. DISCUSS / ACTION TO APPROVE – Update the Staff Satisfaction Survey. The Board may vote to approve the update to the Staff Satisfaction Survey.

~ Harry Dotson made a motion to approve the updated Staff Satisfaction Survey as presented, Ginny Cosby 2nd, motion carried 5/0.

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain
H.D.	X		
N.W.	X		
G.C.	X		
A.F.	X		
M.T.	X		

Q. DISCUSS / ACTION TO APPROVE – Winter Sports Coaches:

- ◆ Boys Basketball ~ Jayci Whittington, Head Coach
~ Kerry Newberry, Assistant Coach
- ◆ Softball ~ Megan Thomas, Head Coach
~ Jessica Carter, Assistant Coach
- ◆ Soccer ~ Lindsey Beal, Head Coach
~ Suzanne Wilcox

~ Megan Thomas stated that Jessica Carter will be the Softball head coach and she will be the assistant coach.

~ Harry Dotson made a motion to approve the coaches as listed with the correction that Jessica Carter is the Head Softball Coach and Megan Thomas is the Assistant Coach, Anthony Fennell 2nd, Megan Thomas recused herself, motion carried 4/0/1.

Member	Aye	Nay	Recused
H.D.	X		
N.W.	X		
G.C.	X		

A.F.	X		
M.T.			X

R. DISCUSS – FY26 Calendar feedback from the September 18th, 2024 Community Forum. The Board may direct the Superintendent as to next steps.

~ The Board discussed the feedback and survey results from the September 18th, 2024 Community Forum. The Board agreed they would like to set a special meeting as a study session concentrated solely on the possibility of moving the District from a 5 day school week to a 4 day school week. The study session will be held on October 10, 2024 at 5:00pm in the Elgin School Conference Room.

CONSENT AGENDA**

**A Board member may request any item listed under the consent agenda be removed from the consent agenda. If an item is removed from the consent agenda, it will be discussed and voted upon separately immediately following the consent agenda. Specific information regarding the matters being approved under the consent agenda is available in the Board packet and may be reviewed during normal business hours.

- Expense Vouchers – 1007, 1008, 1009, 1010, 1011
 - Payroll Vouchers – 6, 7
- ~ Harry Dotson made a motion to approve the consent agenda, Ginny Cosby 2nd, motion carried 5/0.

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain
H.D.	X		
N.W.	X		
G.C.	X		
A.F.	X		
M.T.	X		

STUDY ITEMS

- FY26 Employee Benefit Options
- AI
- 4-day vs. 5-day school weeks (study session Oct. 2024)

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Student Achievement
- Adding an additional administrative position ~ January 2025
- Solar Panels / SSVEC
- Superintendent 1st semester Pay for Performance

ADJOURNMENT ~ Harry Dotson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:55pm, Megan Thomas 2nd, motion carried 5/0.

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain
H.D.	X		
N.W.	X		
G.C.	X		
A.F.	X		
M.T.	X		