

**GOVERNING BOARD SPECIAL STUDY SESSION MINUTES – September 24, 2020**

**A. Meeting Opening**

Call to Order

Ms. Hodge called the meeting to order at 4:01 PM.

Roll Call

Board Members present: Berdetta Hodge (President), Andres Barraza, Michelle Helm, and Sandy Lowe. Absent: Brian Garcia (Vice President). Members participated via Google Meet.

A moment of silence was observed in memory of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

**B. Health Mitigation Protocol**

The TUHSD Health Mitigation Plan video was shown. Mr. McDonald presented *Health Mitigation Plan Review*. Some Governing Board questions/comments:

- Mrs. Helm said many teachers have said it would be safer for them to work from home. Is that a possibility on Wednesdays? *Dr. Mendivil said the schedule for intensive cleaning of classrooms was modified so that it could be done after the teacher workday ended and since students will not be on campus on Wednesdays, teachers are probably safer. Most of the resources teachers need are at school and PLCs meet that day as well. Dr. Mendivil said he needs other compelling reasons why teachers would need to work from home on Wednesday.*
- Mrs. Lowe asked if students will have an opportunity during the day or at lunch to see friends or share a meal with someone. *Mr. McDonald said cafeteria chairs are set up so they are 6' apart but students will have a choice where to sit. Also, principals have identified other areas on campus where students will be able to interact with friends while remaining socially distant.*
- Mr. Barraza said feedback he has received from students about the virtual model makes some valid points; he will share the feedback with Dr. Mendivil and Mr. McDonald.
- Ms. Hodge asked if we have enough manpower to help with all the mitigation measures we're putting into place. *Mr. McDonald said we are implementing an all-hands-on-deck response and will count on every staff member to help. He said students will follow the health mitigation protocols because they want to be at school. Dr. Mendivil said if students wear masks and try their best to socially distance, we'll be in a much better position to prevent a spread of COVID.*

Board members thanked Mr. McDonald for his presentation.

**C. Update: 2020 – 2021 Athletics**

Mr. Huffine presented *Athletics Update*. Some Governing Board questions/comments:

- Mrs. Lowe asked if the AIA and its advisory committee looks at county average metrics or individual school metrics. *Mr. Huffine said AIA allows a game to take place based on county averages; however, Tempe Union constantly evaluates our kids. Over 1,000 students come onto our campuses every day. They follow our health mitigation protocols, and we do not have a positive COVID case among athletes. We are concerned about community spread but we closely monitor individual teams and programs and follow AIA guidelines.*
- Mrs. Helm asked what the estimated attendance we'll have at football games. *Mr. Huffine said that with the limit of two tickets per athlete, coach, cheer leader, band member, etc. stadiums will be at approximately 12-15% of capacity.*
- Ms. Hodge asked if freshman and junior varsity teams can attend games. *Because of the limitation in how many people are allowed into the games, freshman and junior varsity teams cannot attend games at this time.*
- Mr. Barraza said he advocates looking into intramurals for students who don't normally play sports. *Dr. Mendivil said club sponsors have been working in a virtual way to connect with the student participants*

*and will continue to find ways to reach kids when we back on campus. Mr. McDonald said Mr. Huffine is working with the fine arts programs as well as the clubs and athletics.*

Board members thanked Mr. Huffine for his presentation.

**D. Meeting Closing**

Google experienced a service outage at approximately 6:00 PM. Google Meet, in addition to Google Mail, Calendar, Chat and Groups, was impacted. The Tempe Union district office was part of the Google service outage. Individuals at the district office who were participating in the Special Study Session via Google Meet were disconnected and could not rejoin. Ms. Hodge ended the Special Study Session at 6:03 PM.

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*Berdetta Hodge, President*

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*Brian Garcia, Vice President*

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