

KYRENE

Parent Superintendent Council Agenda Summary

April 21, 2009 | 11:30-1:30 am | Pueblo Middle School

Topic	Summary
Welcome & Introductions	<u>Welcome and Introductions</u> Gina Taylor welcomed everyone and said that Dr. Schauer would join the PSC meeting when he finished another meeting at the district. Gina introduced Pueblo Principal Tom Seiger, who thanked his PTO for providing the food. Gina introduced Governing Board members who were in attendance and reviewed the agenda.
PTO Sharing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pueblo Field Day for DD Resource Students 	<u>PTO Sharing</u> Tom Seiger talked about an event that Pueblo has hosted for several years for DD (Developmentally Delayed) Resource Students. In the past they held a dance, but last year they changed it to a Field Day involving students from across the district that were bussed in to participate in a variety of field events, followed by lunch. The culminating event was an awards assembly where every participant received an award. This was followed by ice cream and popsicles. Funding for the field day comes from donations and tax credit funds. Tom showed a slide presentation on the event.
Hot Topics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Math Standards 	<u>Math Standards</u> Gina introduced Theresa Sweeney, Suzi Mast, Jodi Pfeffer, Karen Schwartz and Sarah Baird. Suzi talked about the new AZ State Standards in Math, adopted in June 2008. Revisions were done K-12 and Arizona aligned the State Standards to the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) standards, as well as to the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) Curriculum Focal Points, and to the National Math Panel report. Arizona also looked at what is happening in Math internationally and moved toward the conceptual idea that “Less is More.” Kyrene has written minimum standards for each grade level that will go to the Governing Board for a first reading on April 28 and a 2 nd reading in May. We are planning on full implementation in 2009-10 and have been doing a lot of training to prepare for that. Jodi Pfeffer talked about Strand 1 – Number sense and operations. She asked the PSC reps to brainstorm verbs that described the way Math was taught when they were young. Examples include memorize, drill, recite, practice, etc. Then she had them look at the verbs used in the new standards to see how the approach is different. Higher level verbs are used, such as justify, compare, classify, describe, convert, etc. She talked about how each level of instruction builds on the one below, making it

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	<p>extremely important for students to fully understand the concepts before they move on to those at the next grade level. This higher level thinking will be crucial for students to be prepared as adults to go into the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.</p> <p>Suzi gave an overview of Strand 1 and the grade levels when concepts are taught:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K-2 Number Sense • 3-5 Application • By 5th grade all same content is covered as in 2003 State Standards • 6-8 Application & Fractions, Decimals, Percents and Integers • By 8th grade, more content is covered than in 2003 State Standards <p>Sarah Baird led the group through the concepts in Strand 2 – Data Analysis, Probability and Discrete Mathematics. Discrete Math has only been part of the standards in the last few years and is about flexible thinking, problem solving, communicating and finding different answers to problems. She talked about Vertex edge graphs, or Networks, and had the group participate in a Vertex edge Color Mapping exercise.</p> <p>Karen Schwartz talked about Strand 5 Structure and Logic. This strand helps kids identify strategies to use in solving problems. She showed some examples of student work in this area and explained how there are different ways to come up with the answer. She talked about the positive effect on student self-esteem when they can take ownership of their learning activities.</p>
<p>District Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recent Board Actions Related to the Budget • AZ Teacher of the Year, Sarah Baird 	<p><u>Recent Board Actions Related to the Budget</u></p> <p>Dr. Schauer said he wants PSC reps to understand the difficult things the district is going through so they can help communicate trust and confidence to the community. He said we are taking difficult actions to plan for the future, but everything we do is about putting kids first.</p> <p>Karin Smith gave a brief summary of where we are now and what lies ahead with the budget. (Her PowerPoint presentation is attached with the minutes.) We are taking all the information about funding scenarios that may come from the legislature and building our own scenarios from them. In February Karin talked at PSC about the “Chairman’s Option” Budget, and since then we have developed a scenario based on the Republican Leadership’s proposed budget. We are also looking at a “No Legislative Action” scenario.</p> <p>Our current GBL (General Budget Limit). is \$106 million. The Chairman’s Option budget would reduce that by \$13 million and the Republican Leadership Option would reduce it by almost \$12 million. The “No Legislative Action” scenario would reduce our GBL by \$4.6 million. Karin compared the Chairman’s Option budget with the Republican Leadership budget. Even though the Republican Leadership budget gives us more money, it actually increases our deficit. She talked about the</p>



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	<p>known variables that will reduce our funding, including ADM decline, TEI multiplier reduction and Prop 301 reduction. She talked about the different options we have for staying within our funding. We have cash reserves that we can dip into, both restricted and unrestricted. Restricted reserves can only be used for certain things, such as workmen’s comp and food services. We have unrestricted reserves in Community Ed and Medicaid that can be used for other things. We have had discussions with the Governing Board about using our unrestricted cash reserves, and they support using them to the extent that is responsible. We are looking at class size adjustments and pay reductions for staff. Teacher contracts went out this morning for the same dollar amount as the current year, with the option of allowing the Board to reduce them by up to 5% if necessary, once we know what our funding will be from the state. At that point the Budget balancing act will be to take what we already have adjusted and then balance the use of cash reserves, class size increases and pay reductions to stay within the funding we receive. 89% of our M & O budget goes to salaries and benefits. Compared to other districts in the state we put a high percentage of our dollars into the classroom. Karin said we have to propose a budget by June 23 and adopt it by July 15. We will probably have to do a revised budget after adoption, based on final information from the state.</p> <p>Dr. Schauer asked if the group thought it would be helpful to have budget presentations in community meetings. Several people felt that would be helpful. He said that education has been in a difficult position for many years and we have cut administration and other areas as much as we can. He urged everyone to contact our legislators about the amount of funding they put towards education.</p> <p>A question was asked about All Day Kindergarten funding. Dr. Schauer said he has talked with legislators about it and he is confident the state will fund it, but if they don’t we will still offer the program and charge for it. Either way there will not be an aide in the classroom, because the funding received for the program does not support that cost.</p> <p><u>Arizona Teacher of the Year, Sarah Baird</u> Dr. Schauer informed the group that Sarah Baird was selected as the AZ Teacher of the Year. Sarah showed an inspirational video about the joys of teaching.</p>
<p>Closing</p>	<p><u>Closing</u> Dr. Schauer thanked everyone for coming and Pueblo for hosting. The next meeting will be at Centennial Middle School (hosted by Colina) on May 12.</p>

Minutes taken by Nancy Hetrick