

ARROWHEAD UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
SEPTEMBER 9, 2015
MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President Rosch at 6:00 p.m. in the District Office Board Room.

Members present: Bob Rosch, Kent Rice, Sue Schultz, Craig Thompson, Donna Beringer, Dave Dean, Tim Langer, Joe LeBlanc, Al Zietlow

Administration present: Laura Myrah, Steve Kopecky, Kevin Lipscomb, Sue Casetta, Gregg Wieczorek (arrived at 6:40 p.m.), Adam Boldt (arrived at 6:50 p.m.)

The meeting was properly posted.

President Rosch began the discussion noting we are not keeping up with the projected and identified needs in the facility report within the current district budget. He reviewed the various types of referendums. The decision of whether or not to move toward a referendum may take many meetings, but all Board member voices should be heard as consensus is reached.

President Rosch reviewed a list of safety, space, and maintenance needs that have been brought up in the past, including flooding issues, roof replacement schedule, roof top units, space remodeling in the buildings, visitor-side bleachers in the football stadium, maintenance/storage facility, pedestrian safety/traffic movement, as well as other topics recently discussed during Buildings and Grounds Committee meetings, such as the connector road, Vilter farm, and property adjacent to the east tennis courts. He reminded Board members Arrowhead holds \$96 million dollars worth of facilities that all require upkeep.

Discussion ensued around the various types of referendums that exist and might be considered options for Arrowhead. Topics such as student academic programs, maintenance projects, fine arts needs, swimming pool, aging areas in facilities, and selling or maintaining the Vilter property were mentioned as potential considerations. Board members discussed the wisdom in being proactive with maintenance rather than more costly, reactive repair projects.

President Rosch asked each Board member to share her/his thoughts about moving toward a referendum and for what needs. Board members tended to agree that safety and maintenance issues were most important to address, particularly because a referendum to cover the prioritized maintenance needs allows for supporting students and their educational programming with the district's operating budget. One Board member pointed out it has been approximately 20 years since the last referendum, which indicates the district has effectively managed its budget for a long time. Multiple Board members brought up the sub-par fine arts facilities and briefly discussed an option of having more than one question on a referendum ballot; for instance, one for maintenance projects and another for a fine arts facility.

Timing of a potential referendum was also briefly discussed, with agreement that a spring referendum is likely too soon for a thorough investigation and communication process. The Board decided the next step in their decision-making process is to categorize the needs, perhaps according to topics, such as building needs, grounds needs, student educational needs, fine arts and/or co- and extra-curricular needs, etc. President Rosch confirmed with Buildings and Grounds director Kevin Lipscomb it would be best to bring in an external company to assess our maintenance needs and corresponding costs for the Board's consideration.

Moved by Zietlow, seconded by LeBlanc to adjourn. Motion Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Myrah
Superintendent

Susan M. Schultz, Clerk