Work Session - Call to Order - 6:00 P.M.
The Work Session was called to order by Board Vice-President Bob Dailey at 6:00 p.m. in the Poston Butte High School CTE Building, 32375 N. Gantzel Road, San Tan Valley, AZ.

Roll Call
Board members present were: President Bob Dailey, Vice-President Denise Guenther, Member Rose Marie Monks, Member Jim Thomas, and Member Janeane Candelaria. Also present was Superintendent, Dr. Gary Nine.

Possible Correction of Minutes from the March 13, 2013 Special Board Meeting, the March 13, 2013 Regular Board Meeting, and the March 27, 2013 Special Board Meeting
There were no corrections made to the minutes.

Possible Agenda Reorganization
There was no reorganization of the agenda.

Agenda Item Clarifications
18.1 – Tony Jimenez introduced Kim Childers, FUSD Benefits Coordinator, who reported we are happy to announce that, for the first time in a long time the District has received a -0.3% increase in insurance renewals across-the-board. She also reported that after going out to bid for dental insurance coverage, Total Dental Administrators (TDA) came back with a 2% decrease in rates, and locked-in this adjustment for the next two years, saving the District money.

Mr. Jimenez then asked the Board to remove the reference to Sheila Evans in the Human Resources action item report in the consent agenda, item 2-J, because the human resources investigation is not yet complete.

18.2 – Shannon Anderson introduced Poston Butte High School teacher Debra Thomas, who introduced student, Lexi Moody, who made All-State Honor Choir. There were between 200-300 students who auditioned, and Lexi made 33rd chair. She will soon be going to Flagstaff to perform with the other Honor Choir students.

18.3 – John Allee and Chris Knutsen requested approval for the Walker Butte and Florence High School band students to attend the Music in the Parks Festival/Competition at Disneyland from May 2nd to May 5th. The teachers and students are all excited about the trip and looking forward to the competition.
18.4 & 18.5 – Shannon Anderson and Chris Knutsen requested approval for the Poston Butte High School and Florence High School seniors to travel to Disneyland May 18-19th to attend the special night/rates to enjoy the park for any graduating senior. The students really enjoy the trip, and both schools are also busy scheduling an actual grad night party for each school the night of their graduation ceremony.

18.6 – Dr. Ginni Shuss requested permission for Tonya Thompson to attend the National Conference on Innovative Counseling Skills and Strategies in Atlanta, Georgia June 19th through the 23rd. Ms. Thompson will pay for her own travel and accommodations.

Other
Tony Jimenez addressed the Board about the Reduction In Force (RIF) for classified staff, explaining that this will be the largest RIF the District has ever encountered, for a total of 28 positions, 22 of which are in Transportation. Certified contracts were delivered to teachers the day they returned from Spring break, which was April 1st. Contracts are due back April 19th.

Regular Board Meeting - Call to Order 6:30 p.m.
Mr. Dailey called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Adoption of the Agenda
Member Janeane Candelaria moved, Member Rose Marie Monks seconded that the Governing Board adopt the Agenda of the April 10, 2013 Work Study Session/Regular Board Meeting. The motion carried 5-0.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
Mr. Dailey led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Informational Items
Dr. Amy Fuller introduced new school Principals, effective at the start of the 2013-2014 school year, as follows:

- Rebecca Hendry – Circle Cross Ranch K-8 School
- John Allee – Florence K-8 School
- Eddie Lopez – Magma Ranch K-8 School
- Toby Haugen – Skyline Ranch K-8 School
- Paul Hatch – Walker Butte K-8 School
- Thad Gates – Florence High School
- Dr. Tim Richard – Poston Butte High School
- Dr. Sonia Bribiescas – Future Florence Academy

The Regular Board meeting in June will take place on June 5, 2013 rather than June 12, 2013, in the CTE Building at Poston Butte High School, located at 32375 N. Gantzel Road in San Tan Valley, Arizona.
Beverly Myers, Director of Finance, was asked to speak about a recent phone conference that she, Dr. Nine, and Dr. Fuller had with the District’s bond consultant, Mike LaValle of Stone & Youngberg. The District is considering possibly re-funding almost $2 million of bonds, which would allow us to prematurely re-fund the older, higher interest gap, reducing our secondary tax rate by approximately 10 cents over the next five years, and pushing the debt out into future years. Previously, the District lost $17 million in bond capacity because of the drop in assessed valuation. We’re waiting on the determination of the average value of a home in the District boundaries. If we decide to spend this bond money, we have to go out for a bond election in November if legislation passes, and it’s hard to say what will happen with that. Many things must be considered, whether it’s advantageous or not, and how a bond election might impact an M&O override election.

Chris Knutsen and Tony Jimenez discussed the athletic umbrella policy. They reported that we have reviewed the section on training rules in our FUSD Athletic Handbook and would like to revise the packet and merge some of the policy we found in a neighboring district’s training rules. Mr. Knutsen said a committee of coaches and Athletic Directors will look into creating additional foundational changes for the 2013-14 school year, for instance, having our students take a class related to Victory with Honor through the AIA. The intent is to hold student athletes responsible for their conduct 24-7, not just during the sports season. Mr. Knutsen said the committee will report back to the Board prior to summer break.

**Governing Board Member Reports**

Mrs. Candelaria stated she wants to wish all of the schools good luck on AIMS testing, saying “I’m confident all will do well.”

Jim Thomas remarked that we’re getting close to the end of this school year, and he’s sure all kindergarteners, 8th graders, and high school seniors are looking forward to their promotion ceremonies, which are also activities “the Board thoroughly enjoys.”

Mrs. Monks noted that she attended the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising (FIDM) Fashion Debut & Educator Day with CTE Director Tracey Celaya, teacher Amanda Celaya, and Board President Bob Dailey in Los Angeles on March 21st. They were able to tour FIDM, check out the movie costume museum, listen to former students talk about globalization of the fashion industry, and watch the Debut. The Debut is the student-led runway show that incorporates all of the majors at FIDM including fashion design, costume design, fabric design, multimedia production, and even furniture design. Mrs. Monks shared that in the coming 2013-2014 school year, the District’s CTE program will offer fashion design and merchandising classes at both high schools, and she is excited to see this program succeed. She thanked the Board for allowing everyone to attend this event. Mrs. Monks then commented that on April 4th she attended the Florence High School International Baccalaureate art show and there were many beautiful displays of art work. She said three students will be presenting their
art pieces to the International Baccalaureate Organization, and she wishes them all luck. Mrs. Monks concluded by thanking Mrs. Coppell for sharing the students’ art work.

Mrs. Guenther shared a warm “welcome to all the new administrators”. She also commented that now that we’re wrapping-up the last quarter of the school year, it’s pretty unbelievable the school year has gone by so fast.

Mr. Dailey agreed with Mrs. Monk’s report on the FIDM trip, stating it was “amazing”, and he stated he is very pleased that our CTE program will offer fashion design and merchandising classes at both high school next year.

**Superintendent’s Report**
Dr. Nine commented that there has been much discussion about end-of-year activities and upcoming promotion ceremonies and graduations. He did, however, want to remind everyone, especially our students, that there is still much learning to take place between now and the end of the school year. He compared the school year to a basketball game, which is 48 minutes long. In basketball, if there are 10 minutes left in the game “that’s forever.” He continued, “So in school terms, remember that we still have a long way to go until the end of the school year.”

**Staff/Student Recognition**
Dr. Nine invited Raleigh Jones, who teaches a Psychology class at Poston Butte High School, to report on a recent guest speaker he arranged to meet his class. This was Dr. Art Glenberg, head of cognition, action and perception at Arizona State University’s School of Psychology. About three dozen Poston Butte psychology students gathered in the school library on May 1st. They were able to ask Dr. Glenberg questions and dialogue together. Mr. Jones shared that his students have had the opportunity to hear from a variety of presenters, including a National Guard translator from Afghanistan, who spoke to sociology students about Middle Eastern culture, and a representative from the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandizing who discussed the psychology of first impressions and body language. Mr. Jones remarked that these guest speakers help to bolster the students’ comprehension of the material they are learning in class.

Next recognized were the ten Poston Butte High School students who earned awards in the annual Grand Canyon State Essay contest, as follows:
- Gold Medal Winner – Mikayla Bryant, Grade 12
- Silver Medal Winner – Nita Morgan, Grade 12
- Honorable Mention – Kalee Wells, Grade 12
- Bronze Medal Winner – Diego Cisneros, Grade 11
- Honorable Mention – Lena Highsmith-Stewart, Grade 11
- Gold Medal Winner – Malia Leever-Santos, Grade 10
- Bronze Medal Winner – Emily Streit, Grade 10
- Honorable Mention – Trenton Tinsley, Grade 10
- Bronze Medal Winner – Kiana Perkins, Grade 9
- Honorable Mention – Megan Pappalardo, Grade 9
Dr. Nine then asked Mrs. Pike to report on the Arizona State Science Fair, where our FUSD K-8 students won awards too numerous to mention individually. We had 69 total winners, including 3 team wins, and received 66 total awards in 11 of 18 categories – thirty nine 4th place awards, twenty 3rd place awards, six 2nd place awards, and one 1st place awards. Mrs. Pike was beaming with pride as she reported to us, and said the kids worked amazingly hard and had great fun creating their science projects. Special thanks was given to teacher Lori Grantham, who coordinated the district science fair.

Our students recently attended the Culinary Arts, Skills USA State Competition and took home 14 top ten places, as follows:
- Kaleigh Ferguson – Placed 1st in Restaurant Service
- Mariah Lopez – Placed 1st in Criminal Justice
- Megan Morgan – Placed 1st in Employment Application Process
- Lizet Canales – Placed 2nd in Restaurant Service
- Martha Flores – Placed 2nd in Chapter Display
- Scotimarie Head – Placed 2nd in Chapter Display
- Rebecca Karel – Placed 2nd in Outstanding Chapter
- Jake Scott – Placed 2nd in Employment Application Process
- Michella Faver – Placed 3rd in Restaurant Service
- Christian Godoy-Caceres – Placed 3rd in Firefighting
- Kanisha Twitty – Placed 3rd in Commercial Baking
- Matthew Blokdijk – Top 10 Finalist in Job Interviewing
- Nick Jaicks – Top 10 Finalist in Job Interviewing
- Alec Snyder – Placed 9th in Job Skill Demonstration

Mrs. Hendry was then asked to recognize FUSD students who were winners of the 2013 Pinal County Character Counts Essay Contest, where over 2,000 entries were received. Our winners are as follows:
- Tyler Judd – 1st Place, Division 1
- Jenna Daily – 2nd Place, Division 1
- Brianna Thach – 3rd Place, Division 1
- Leslie Mendoza Palma – Honorable Mention, Division 1
- Angelina Lutrick – 1st Place, Division 2
- Stefanie Connelly – 2nd Place, Division 2
- Riley Smith – Honorable Mention, Division 2
- Austin Eulert – 1st Place, Division 3
- Gaylan Westervelt – 3rd Place, Division 3
- Paige Daniels – Honorable Mention, Division 3

Michelle Sobkoviak, Principal of Circle Cross Ranch K-8 School, was called to the podium and she proudly introduced the President of Student Council at her school, Josh Johnson. Josh began by stating that this school year has been a success, with many exciting moments. He spoke about sports team competitions and how hard all the kids worked, and spoke about the many “incredible” choir and band concerts too.
Josh said “The Cheetahs have showed much spirit and class, and they truly have a great time showing off what they learned.” He went on to talk about the multiple fundraisers the school has led, as Cheetahs have a vision of being active in the community. They led a “shopping card” fundraiser, Pennies for Patients, and the school raised over $2,300 to donate to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Foundation to help children battling that disease. The students also were able to provide 15 families with a full Thanksgiving meal – turkey included! Then Josh spoke about academics at Circle Cross, sharing that they had two winners in the Character Counts essay contest, and two second place winners in the district’s Math Bee, along with more students earning Honor Roll, Principal’s Honor Roll, and Scholars of Distinction. Josh concluded by saying “Overall, amazing this are happening at Circle Cross in every aspect... I am definitely proud to call myself a Cheetah!”

Mrs. Sobkoviak then introduced the Circle Cross Ranch Volunteer of the Month, Ms. Kristi Kear, to those in attendance, stating she is “friendly, dependable, and a super volunteer.” Kristi has been with Circle Cross since the school opened, first volunteering her time, and then later as an employee serving as a part-time lunch room monitor. What is noteworthy is that even after being hired as a lunch monitor, Kristi continued to volunteer her time in the classrooms and in the front office. Mrs. Sobkoviak then remarked that Kristi is now working full-time at the school and she still continues to volunteer her time. “We are extremely lucky to have someone like Kristi as a part of our community. She is an awesome mom, co-worker and volunteer!”

Next, Mrs. Sobkoviak stated “We have been blessed to have this person as a member of our staff from the very beginning. She began as a paraprofessional in our special education classes and she was such as asset... so when I had the opportunity to interview her as a candidate for an open Administrative Assistant position, I knew what I was getting!” This was her description of Michelle Green. Mrs. Sobkoviak shared that Michelle keeps the office running smoothly and performs her tasks with detail. She is dependable, and is the go-to person for just about everything. Mrs. Sobkoviak said “Michelle wears many hats in her position, and they all fit perfectly! I cannot imagine this school without her administrative talents and skills.” She said “Michelle does it all!”

Mrs. Sobkoviak then introduced Julie Dunning-Farmer, a brand new teacher at Circle Cross. Mrs. Sobkoviak said “Not sure how we got so lucky, but we are grateful. When you first meet Julie, you will be put immediately at ease. She is so positive about everything, and it is contagious.” Mrs. Sobkoviak said it is obvious that Julie LOVES her students. Julie has been described by her peers as one with upstanding ethics and integrity in education, with an extensive background is working with ELL students. Julie has an amazing ability to connect with her students in a variety of motivating ways. Mrs. Sobkoviak was very proud to recognize Julie Dunning-Farmer as the Circle Cross teacher of the month.
Students of the Month:
Anthem K-8 School  Megan Shaw & Tyler Judd
Circle Cross Ranch K-8 School  Cori Radford & Bevan Jimenez
Copper Basin K-8 School  Faith Carrillo & Michael Waldraff
Florence K-8 School  Camryn Farinsky & Gary Lawrence
Magma Ranch K-8 School  Avery Begay & Braiden Priest
Skyline Ranch K-8 School  Moira Hadley & Gage Birnell
Walker Butte K-8 School  Kiersten Garcia & Meafou Ahsoon
Summit School  Ronald Douglas
Florence High School  Bryttanie Vaca & Juan Dorame-Felix
FHS Rotarian Student of the Month  Natasha Sichling
Poston Butte High School  Amie Michie & Andres Parra Torres

Curriculum Report
Jeff Christ and Heather Hirsch, math teachers at Circle Cross Ranch K-8 School, presented “AMP-ing up the Common Core”, explaining that the Arizona Mathematics Partnership (AMP) which they and many of the District’s other math teachers participate in, provides teachers with an opportunity to learn the 8 mathematical practices added to the state standards due to the implementation of Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Teachers learn these practices through hands-on activities and by working together to discuss and apply them, later taking the activities back to their classrooms. Samples of student work were presented. In conclusion, Mr. Christ and Ms. Hirsch stated that participation in the AMP program has increased their understanding that students who are given opportunities for self-exploration will gain a deeper understanding of math concepts, and AMP has helped them, as educators, to implement the CCSS in their classrooms.

Administrative Reports
The Board reviewed written Administrative reports from Principals, Instructional Specialists, the Director of Exceptional Student Services, Director of Transportation and Support Services, Director of Construction and Public Relations, Director of Finance, Assistant to the Superintendent for Administrative Services and Athletics, and Assistant Superintendent for Instructional and Bilingual Services.

Approval of Consent Agenda
Member Jim Thomas moved; Member Denise Guenther seconded that the Governing Board approved items #2 through #7, minus the reference to Sheila Evans in item 2-J of the Human Resources action items report. The motion carried 5-0. Items approved were:
- Approval of the minutes of the March 13, 2013 Special Board Meeting, the March 13, 2013 Regular Board Meeting, and the March 27, 2013 Special Board Meeting
- Approval of Student Activities and Auxiliary Operations Cash Balance Reports
- Acceptance of Vouchers for signing and filing; ratification of vouchers signed since the last regular board meeting
Acceptance of Adjusting Journal Entries for Reclassification of Payroll and/or Accounts Payable Expenditures for FY13
Approval of Human Resources Personnel Report

Unfinished Business
Member Janeane Candelaria moved; Member Rose Marie Monks seconded that the Governing Board approved the 2013-2014 Superintendent Goals and Performance Pay Plan for new Superintendent, Dr. Amy P. Fuller. The motion carried 5-0.

New Business
Approval of Comprehensive Benefits Package for 2013-2014
Member Rose Marie Monks moved; Member Jim Thomas seconded that the Governing Board approve the Comprehensive Benefits Package for 2013-2014. The motion carried 5-0.

All State Honor Choir Festival
Member Denise Guenther moved; Member Janeane Candelaria seconded that the Governing Board approve a Poston Butte High School choir student to perform in the All State Honor Choir Festival from April 18-20, 2013. The motion carried 5-0.

Out-of-State Travel for Florence High School and Walker Butte Students
Member Janeane Candelaria moved; Member Denise Guenther seconded that the Governing Board approve out-of-state travel for Florence High School and Walker Butte students to attend the Music in the Parks Festival/Competition at Disneyland from May 2-5, 2013. The motion carried 5-0.

Out-of-State Travel for Poston Butte High School Seniors
Member Denise Guenther moved; Member Rose Marie Monks seconded that the Governing Board approve out-of-state travel for Poston Butte High School Seniors to go to Disneyland from May 18-19, 2013. The motion carried 5-0.

Out-of-State Travel for Florence High School Seniors
Member Rose Marie Monks moved; Member Denise Guenther seconded that the Governing Board approve out-of-state travel for Florence High School Seniors to go to Disneyland from May 18-19, 2013. The motion carried 5-0.

Out-of-State Travel for Tonya Thompson
Member Denise Guenther moved; Member Jim Thomas seconded that the Governing Board approve out-of-state travel for Tonya Thompson to attend the National Conference on Innovative Counseling Skills and Strategies in Atlanta, Georgia from June 19-23, 2013. The motion carried 5-0.

Call to the Public
There were no requests.
Next Regular Board Meeting
The next Regular Board Meeting will be May 8, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in the Florence High School gymnasium, 1000 S. Main Street, Florence, Arizona. The work study session will begin at 6:00 p.m.

Adjournment
It was moved by Member Jim Thomas and seconded by Member Denise Guenther to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. The motion carried 5-0.

Submitted by:

Denise Guenther, Vice-President