

Desert Star Academy

Meeting Agenda

February 8, 2022

5:15 pm

Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the Desert Star Academy and to the general public that the Board will hold a meeting, open to the public as specified below. The Board reserves the right to change the order of items on the agenda, except for public hearings set for a specified time. One or more members of the Board may participate in the meeting by telephonic or digital communications.

Pursuant to A.R.S. 38- 431.03 (H) the Board may discuss and take action concerning any matter listed on the agenda.

Pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(3) the Board may vote to go into Executive Session, which will not be open to the public, for legal advice concerning any item on the agenda.

Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Margie Montgomery at (928)300-3207. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

DATED AND POSTED this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of February, 2022

TIME OF DAY: 9:00 am

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Margie Montgomery

Meeting location:  
1530 Pinion  
Fort Mohave, AZ. 86426

5:15 pm

Minutes

- I. Call to Order Margie called the meeting to order at 5:15pm
- II. Roll Call Members present: David, Kylee, Margie. Absent: Julia, Shelby
- III. Call to Public Gerri expressed why there was no public notice of the Feb 2 being cancelled. Why DSA meetings are not posted for public.  
(Prior to the opening of the meeting Kylee showed the audience where to find the meetings on the website.)
- IV. Financial report Joel Brice presented the unaudited financial report.  
468 scholars per ADM, on track for pupil attendance. Sound base and actual to end the year. ESSR II and III will end in 2022 and part of 2023. Provided additional staff for scholar tutoring and academic success. Purchase additional computers for after-school learning and Friday time for iReady scholar use.

Fundraising (local funds) are higher this year than in previous years. With State and Federal funds DSA is beating the budget for 2021/22. The local funds have been spent on creating the DSA park. The cost spent on irrigation, turf and cement border was around \$45,000.00. Project sponsor a tree was hugely successful with the community paying for trees and plants. Waiting on production of signs from the company. Completion of the park with rock and benches will come from Car Show profits.

Joel also reported the school is on track for a successful financial success and will meet the financial requirement provided by ASBCS.

Margie added with the extra money DSA added teachers in the lower grades, paid teachers to come in for Friday tutoring (not successful- low scholar attendance), added teaching assistants and paraprofessionals for tutoring in and out of the classroom. In January, Margie required teachers to stay 30 – 45 minutes after school for tutoring, a minimum of two nights, middle school and some elementary teachers tutoring 3 nights. Teachers are required to list the scholars in attendance and the content re-taught for academic tracking.

Margie reported on academic success: Beginning of the year benchmark 50-60% percent of scholars were below grade level, mid-year only 30 % were below. Goal is to have 70% on grade level at the end of the year. On track to meet that goal.

Margie informed the board the purpose of iReady is to fill in learning gaps with each scholar so the teachers can teach the grade level curriculum and standards. Both schools have incentives for scholars to complete iReady lessons. Moderately successful. Lots of small group instruction, most productive and implementing peer tutoring in the middle school.

- V. Car Show Update. Margie informed board the event was successful despite the weather and changing weekends from last year. Vendors were down due to Farmer's Market; Carnival part was cancelled due to weather. Sponsorship was up, \$10,200.00. Baskets made \$4,300.00 with expenses at 1,200.  
Proceeds will work to complete the park. Financial accounting will be presented at the next meeting.
- VI. Field trip update. CIMI 5<sup>th</sup> and middle school  
Margie reported trips to CIMI for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6 grade. Separate trips. Parents pay for this trip. 6/7<sup>th</sup> grades will go to USS Midway and Sea World. This is also a parent paid trip. Each field has a special education program based on grade level.  
Aside from these trips, all grades will have a school paid field trip. These trips are roughly between \$10 and \$17 per scholars. Local funds pay for these trips.
- VII. Building Updates: New gym and classroom buildings are in plan site review. Discussion between Mohave County Planning and ADOT. Details to be reported at a later date. ADOT is proposing underground work for a light. Meetings are being held between ADOT, Mohave County Planning and Zoning, Margie, Scott Seabury (Architect), Jeff Burda (Wonderful Foundations). It is not yet known how much DSA will have to pay for the work and the increased cost of building material over the budget set up Wonderful Foundations (Owner of property). DSA leases the building from Wonderful Foundations.  
Margie asked if there were any questions from the board. There were not any.  
Margie noted that a flood and civil engineering study must be completed at this time.

Next Meeting: March 2, 2022, at 5:15 pm. Desert Star Academy Café.

- VIII. Adjourn  
Margie asked for a vote to adjourn  
David moved to adjourn  
Kylee 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
Margie adjourned the meeting at 6:08

