A regular meeting of the Governing Board of the Fountain Hills Unified School District #98, Maricopa County, was called to order at 6:30 p.m. at the FHUSD Learning Center, 16000 E. Palisades Blvd., Fountain Hills, Arizona.

Board Members in attendance were Jill Reed, President; Edith Stock, Vice President; Dr. C.T. Wright; Judith Rutkowski; and Dr. Wendy Barnard

Dr. Wright moved to approve the Agenda as submitted. Mrs. Stock seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 5-0.

Mrs. Reed called upon Kim King, McDowell Mountain teacher, to lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Special presentation**

The Pickle Ball Club of Fountain Hills presented a $500 check to Fountain Hills High School Athletic Department. Claire Keyworth from the FH Pickle Ball Club expressed appreciation for the partnership with the school district. The club was established in 2007 and they currently have 237 members.

**Fountain Hills High School presentation**

Mr. Brennan gave a follow-up report of the accreditation process and what the high school is doing in response to the report. Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) have been established in four major areas: Teaching practices, Curriculum, Data, and 9th grade support. Each group presented a synopsis of their process and progress.

**Informational Reports**

a. **Superintendent Comments**

- Mr. Lawrence attended the Mentor Recognition Breakfast held this morning in the FHUSD Learning Center.
- The district is waiting on the Arizona Department of Education for aggregated reports to confirm our Annual Daily Membership (ADM).
- FHHS Robotics team qualified for the state competition to be held in San Diego, March 20-22.
- AIA announced new division alignments. This alignment moves Fountain Hills up a division. We are appealing.

**Public Comments** – Mark McDermott, 9607 N. Copper Ridge Trail. Mr. McDermott spoke in regards to the Fountain Hills High School policy of “Repeating a Course and Grade Calculation.” Currently, the handbook states that if a student repeats the exact course in which a grade of D- or higher was earned, the higher grade is calculated into the overall grade point average (GPA) and class rank. Credit can only be earned once. A grade of F remains on the student’s transcript and
is calculated into the student’s GPA and class rank regardless of repeating the course. Mr. McDermott feels this practice is unfair, arbitrary, and capricious. He stated that students applying for college are at a competitive disadvantage. He would like the Board to rescind this practice and recalculate GPAs and Class ranking immediately for the sake of the students affected by this.

Consent Agenda

a. Disposal of Fixed Assets
c. Minutes of January 14, 2015

Mrs. Stock moved the Board approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Dr. Wright seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 5-0.

Information/Discussion Items

The FHHS Hospitality Management class will tour the NAU Campus (colleges of study, dorms, student facilities) as well as participate in a special event hosted by the Hotel & Restaurant Management School. Students interact with professors and current students who will give them insight into the college transition. This trip scheduled for April 24 & 25, 2015 supports all learning in the classroom by giving students a chance to imagine themselves in a university setting. This is an annual trip for the Hospitality Management class.

Fountain Hills High School policy on “Repeating a Course.” Mr. Lawrence explained that if a student receives an F, retakes the class and gets a higher grade, the F is still calculated in the GPA. If a student receives a D-, retakes the class and gets a higher grade, the D- goes away and the higher grade is calculated in the GPA. The challenge for the district is the timing of the policy change. A change mid-year could negatively affect the class rank of approximately 91 students (out of 179). This is a complex and difficult issue. Mr. Lawrence researched the practice of other high schools. Scottsdale, Mesa, Paradise Valley, Cave Creek, Tempe and Tolleson use the higher grade in calculating the GPA. The lower or failed grade remains on the transcript but is not calculated in the GPA.

Action Items

Mrs. Rutkowski moved the Board approve the Teacher Evaluation System Statement of Assurance for 2015-2016. Dr. Barnard seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 5-0.

Dr. Barnard moved the Board approve Fountain Hills High School STUGO trip to the STUGO State Convention on February 5-7, 2015 at Apache Junction High School. Mrs. Stock seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 5-0.

Future Action

• Hospitality Management Trip to NAU (Action)
• FHHS Falcon Music Dept. trip to San Diego (Discussion)
• Sister Cities Club to Dierdorf, Germany (Discussion
• Robotics Competition trip to San Diego (Discussion)
• Pickle Ball Court reconfiguration

Governing Board Reports

• Mrs. Rutkowski attended the Mentor Recognition Breakfast.

Minutes of January 28, 2015
• Dr. Wright met with the new State School Superintendent and also met with Legislators.
• Mrs. Stock attended the Girls’ Basketball game and the EVIT Open House in Mesa. She also attended the Mentor Recognition Breakfast.
• Dr. Barnard gave Kudos to the Tar Wars presentation at the FP/Middle School. She also attended the Girls’ Soccer game.
• Mrs. Reed gave Kudos to Claire McWilliams for the Disneyland Luncheon to promote the hospitality program. Mrs. Reed also presented a McDowell Mountain Falcon shirt to each Board member in celebration of the school becoming “Falcons”. The shirts were compliments of the PTO.

Executive Session

a. Mrs. Rutkowski moved the Board go into Executive Session at 7:50 p.m. for discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, demotion, dismissal, salaries, disciplining or resignation of a public officer, appointee or employee or any public body, except that, with the exception of salary discussions, an officer, appointee or employee may demand that the discussion or consideration occur at a public meeting pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03 (A) (1). Dr. Barnard seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 5-0

The regular meeting reconvened at 8:30 p.m.

Dates of Upcoming Meetings

 Wednesday, February 11, 2015, 6:30 p.m. Regular Meeting
 Wednesday, March 4, 2015, 6:30 p.m. Regular Meeting
 Wednesday, March 25, 2015, 6:30 p.m. Regular Meeting

At 8:31 p.m. Mrs. Rutkowski moved to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Barnard seconded the motion. Motion was approved with a vote of 5-0.

Dated this 28th day of January 2015

Jill Reed, President

Edith Stock, Vice President

Dr. C.T. Wright

Judith Rutkowski

Dr. Wendy Barnard