

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

HEBER-OVERGAARD UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 6 GOVERNING BOARD

Tuesday, October 13, 2026 | 8:00 AM | Performing Arts Center, 3375 Buckskin Canyon Road,
Heber, AZ 85928

CALL TO ORDER

President Tim Leedy called the Regular Governing Board Meeting of the Heber-Overgaard Unified School District No. 6 Governing Board to order at 11:06 AM, following the Board's morning campus tours.

PRAYER & PLEDGE

President Leedy offered the opening prayer. Mr. Craig Blackburn led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Tim Leedy (President), Craig Blackburn, Pattie Weber, John Piva

Members Absent: Wendy Hall (VP)

Also Present: Ron Tenney (Superintendent), Andrea Despain (Business Manager), Katie Tomerlin (Board Secretary). Nathan Stoelk (Principal, Mountain Meadows Primary & Capps Middle Schools) and Reed Porter (Principal, Mogollon Jr. High & High School) arrived after roll call.

CALL TO PUBLIC

No members of the public came forward to speak.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: *Mr. Blackburn moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mrs. Weber seconded. All those in favor — aye. Motion carried unanimously.*

INFORMATION

Good News

Board members and staff shared personal good news, including recent travel, and expressed gratitude for the recent rain and moisture in the area.

Leadership Team Information

Mountain Meadows Primary & Capps Middle Schools — Mr. Nathan Stoelk

Mr. Stoelk reported that he and Mr. Porter attended a school law conference in September. Beyond Textbooks professional development was held on campus and helped focus the schools'

PLCs on data. Mr. Stoelk and Ms. Woolley attended a data professional development session in Flagstaff on how state assessment data is collected and scored.

School Safety: Following the district's active-shooter training, Mr. Stoelk held separate safety meetings at Capps and Mountain Meadows and ran lockdown drills during recess and in open areas. Most Mountain Meadows students ran to the police station next door, as instructed. The drills showed that high-needs students need additional, routine practice on evacuation, and individual emergency plans will be reviewed. Because the Capps intercom is only partially working and Raptor alerts do not reach every teacher consistently, staff will use a whistle signal (three blasts for lockdown, two to release). Mr. Tenney asked that the classroom phone system's all-call emergency feature be tested and that staff be trained on it.

Music Program: Mr. Long is teaching fifth-grade students both guitar and band. Mr. Tenney recognized Encore Thrift Emporium, a local arts nonprofit, which has purchased new instruments and music for the band, orchestra, and choir programs.

State Visit: A visitor from the state toured Capps and Mountain Meadows with student ambassadors and complimented the schools' positive culture, friendly students, and teachers.

Mogollon Jr. High & High School — Mr. Reed Porter

Mr. Porter reported that the high school replaced parent-teacher conferences with a parent night this semester. Teachers presented on topics such as AI, sleep, and reading and math literacy; the culinary program served dinner; and scholarship, military, and vocational rehabilitation representatives were on hand. Feedback from parents was positive, and photos are posted on the district website.

The school is purchasing state assessment test-preparation materials so students gain experience with the test's format and wording. Eight FCCLA culinary students attended a leadership conference near Williams, chaperoned by Mrs. Tomerlin. Homecoming activities were well attended. Fall professional development is complete, including a Beyond Textbooks refresher and the school-safety training. Fall sports are nearing the end of their seasons, with home volleyball and football games scheduled for Friday. The softball team advanced to the White Mountain League semifinals, defeating Show Low and Snowflake before falling to Winslow in extra innings.

Mr. Tenney suggested that student council members at the junior high and high school lead future Board campus tours, as students did at Capps and Mountain Meadows.

Business Manager Information — Mrs. Andrea Despain

Financial Review: Mrs. Despain reported that the prior fiscal year has been closed out with the AFR presented today, after several corrections required by the state's new submission system. The district's budget is in good standing and is not negative; the district is still drawing on carry-forward funds and is making decisions to preserve more of them in future years.

Food Service: Food service has implemented this year's new federal nutrition (Smart Snacks) standards, which limit homemade treats and non-compliant snacks, and now allows students to charge snack purchases, which has generated parent questions. Meals continue to be prepared at the high school and delivered to Capps and Mountain Meadows. Food service is operating in the black for the first time in years, helped by the Seamless Summer meal program. Mrs. Despain thanked the food service staff for their efforts.

Staff and Site Budgets: Mrs. Despain thanked Mrs. Tomerlin and payroll staff member Katrina Parrish, who submitted a required state report before leaving on vacation. Administrators and directors are now managing their own site budgets for the first time.

No separate report was given on Levy Funds or the Performance Audit Compliance Review.

Superintendent Items for Discussion — Mr. Ron Tenney

NAVIT Presentation — Mr. Matt Weber: Mr. Weber thanked the district for its partnership with NAVIT, Arizona's second Career and Technical Education District and its first rural one. NAVIT helps students earn industry credentials, provides an additional funding stream, and offers central programs in Show Low and Snowflake (11 programs). NAVIT also pays \$1,000 per district CTE teacher for curriculum consortium access. Funding to the district was about \$95,000 in FY24, \$104,000 in FY25, and \$107,000 last year, with an estimated \$111,000 this year; the district has received just under \$2.5 million since joining. He recognized CTE teachers Scott Robinson (law and public safety), Tiffany Martineau (digital photography), and Alicia Cochran (culinary, with 26 students earning ServSafe credentials). ADE on-site CTE monitoring is expected this year. In response to a Board question, he said restoration of freshman CTED funding is unlikely in the current state budget climate.

Third Grade / Catherine Limbaugh Presentation — Mrs. Sylvia Kennison: Mrs. Kennison, joined by three of her third-grade students, described the Rush Revere history book series she has taught for more than a decade. Catherine Limbaugh has contacted her about launching a "Rush Revere Rides Again" community event in Heber-Overgaard as a model for other communities, with Mrs. Limbaugh's organization covering all costs, security, books, and prizes. The tentative date is Thursday, November 5, 2026; the time and format are still being determined. The Board discussed holding the event in the high school gym or on the football field, inviting the public and homeschool families, and arranging a sound system. The Board expressed its support, and Mrs. Weber offered to help.

Demographic Study Presentation — Mr. Rick Brammer (Applied Economics): Mr. Brammer presented preliminary findings and said the study's scope could be narrowed to reduce cost. Arizona's population grew from 3.7 million to 7.7 million between 1990 and 2025, but the State Demographer's 2025 projections expect only about 2 million more by 2060, with ten counties projected to lose population and statewide deaths expected to exceed births beginning in 2031. Statewide births have fallen about 25 percent but have been stable for five years. District enrollment peaked around 2006–07. Within the district, school-age residents have dropped from about 12 percent to 6.8 percent of the population, the share under 18 has dropped from about 22 percent to 14.6 percent, and about 56 percent of housing units are held for seasonal use. Homeschool and ESA participation has roughly doubled. He said the number of local jobs suggests enrollment should stabilize rather than continue to decline. The Board discussed employee housing, incorporation of the community, and remote workers. A written final report will follow.

School Safety Training: Mr. Tenney reported that school-safety trainer Jesus Villahermosa presented student assemblies and a staff training on responding to an active-shooter situation, emphasizing locked classroom doors and positioning away from doors and windows. The district's open campuses, without single points of entry, remain its main challenge. Arizona has issued minimum school-safety guidelines, and the district will update its plan, inviting the local

fire chief and the Navajo County Sheriff's Office to take part in a walkthrough. Board members discussed state homeland security grant funding for security film on glass.

Facilities: Fire alarm system drawings for Mountain Meadows and the high school are nearly complete and will go to the State Fire Marshal; purchase orders have been approved. Mold remediation and sheetrock removal are underway at the high school following flooding.

E-Rate: Mr. Tenney noted a federal proposal to eliminate E-Rate, which pays about 75 percent of the district's internet costs; the district is opposing it.

First Quarter: The first quarter and parent-teacher conferences have concluded, and the year is going well overall.

Board members also briefly discussed a proposed private development in the White Cliffs area; no district action was involved.

Information from Governing Board

A Board member expressed enthusiasm for the upcoming Rush Revere event and raised security considerations, recommending that it be held inside the gym with limited capacity. The Board agreed to review the 40th-day enrollment report at a study session during the November Board meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Mrs. Weber moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Piva seconded. There was no discussion. All those in favor — aye. Motion carried unanimously.

The following items were approved as part of the Consent Agenda:

Minutes — Regular Session Board Meeting of September 8, 2026.

Auxiliary and Student Accounts for August 2026.

Vouchers:

- Payroll Vouchers for September 2026
 - Voucher #6 — \$162,886.62
 - Voucher #7 — VOIDED
 - Voucher #8 — \$160,821.23
- Expense Vouchers for September 2026
 - Voucher #1008 — \$5,189.53
 - Voucher #1009 — \$11,252.73
 - Voucher #1010 — \$16,640.81
 - Voucher #1011 — \$76,237.46
 - Voucher #1012 — \$45,394.60

New Hires:

- Tatum Denslow — 7th Grade JH Volleyball Coach
- Aubrie Cullinane — 8th Grade JH Volleyball Coach

Reassignment — None.

Volunteers:

- Ron Tenney — HS Football
- Maura Chisam — Volleyball Driver
- Kara McLeod — JH Volleyball, JH Softball, and JH Girls Track
- Katie Tomerlin — FCCLA and Choir
- Cory Emery — JH & HS Cheer

Resignations/Termination:

- Jerry DeValle — Substitute Teacher
- Jeannine Bocker — Sped Aide

Fundraisers:

- Senior Class of 2027
- HS Volleyball

Renewal of US OMNI & TSACG Compliance Services Agreement.

General Statement of Assurance & NIP ESEA for FY2627.

Extra Duty Salary Schedule.

Enrichment Clubs.

Following the vote, a Board member asked about volunteer Cory Emery; it was clarified that he assists his wife, the new cheer coach.

REGULAR AGENDA

AFR & School Level Reporting FY2627

Mrs. Despain presented the Annual Financial Report and School Level Report, prepared for the first time in the state's new reporting system, which she described as a significant improvement over prior spreadsheets. The School Level Report is designed for on-screen viewing, so she will email both reports to Board members. The reports must be uploaded to the state before Thursday.

MOTION: Mr. Blackburn moved to approve the AFR and School Level Report for FY2627 as presented. Mrs. Weber seconded. All those in favor — aye. Motion carried unanimously.

301 Performance Pay Plan

This item was taken out of order, following the superintendent presentations. Mrs. Heather Curry, chair of the 301 committee, reported that the plan is unchanged from the prior year except for the year and one committee member. The 100-point plan includes teacher walkthroughs, evaluations, six professional development activities, a classroom data plan, parent and teacher surveys, spring student surveys, and an attendance incentive.

MOTION: Mrs. Weber moved to approve the 301 Performance Pay Plan as presented. Mr. Blackburn seconded. All those in favor — aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Tyler Technologies Software Service Agreement — School ERP Pro Cloud Based

Mrs. Despain explained that the district's financial software server is in its eleventh year and struggling. Moving to Tyler Technologies' cloud-based School ERP Pro avoids repeated server replacements of roughly \$10,000–\$16,000, improves security, and adds an employee portal and onboarding/HR tools at no extra charge, allowing staff to update withholding and access W-2s and pay stubs themselves. The first-year cost is approximately \$42,000, less a prorated credit for the \$20,000 already paid this year, and approximately \$32,000 per year thereafter, an increase of about \$12,000 annually.

MOTION: Mr. Piva moved to approve the Tyler Technologies Software Service Agreement as presented. Mr. Blackburn seconded. All those in favor — aye. Motion carried unanimously.

FY2728 Calendar

Mr. Tenney presented the 2027–28 school calendar early so staff can plan around pay timing at the start of the year. The draft was shared with all staff, who were invited to propose alternatives meeting the required parameters; no alternatives were submitted and feedback was favorable. Teachers will report in early August, with school starting on a Wednesday. The calendar was brought for approval rather than as a first viewing.

MOTION: Mr. Piva moved to approve the FY2728 school calendar as presented. Mrs. Weber seconded. All those in favor — aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Demographic Study

Mr. Brammer's preliminary presentation was given under Superintendent Items for Discussion. No Board approval was required, and the item was removed. No action was taken.

Legacy Learning Community

Mr. Tenney explained that Legacy Learning Community in Show Low serves students with autism and severe learning disabilities and is the district's tier-three special education provider. An agreement was approved about two years ago but never used. Several current students, many at Mountain Meadows, have high needs. Legacy Learning may lease a vacant junior high classroom and provide services on site, possibly by January, funded by most of the state funding generated by the students served. Mrs. Despain reviewed the district's current counts of students in the higher-need funding categories. The district's attorney reviewed the agreement and suggested one change. In response to a Board question on procurement, Mrs. Despain will prepare sole-source documentation for next month's agenda before any student is placed.

MOTION: Mrs. Weber moved to approve the Legacy Learning Community agreement with the changes suggested by the district's attorney. President Leedy seconded. All those in favor — aye. Motion carried unanimously.

The Trust Model Policy Program — Part 3 & Part 4, Second Reading

The Board reviewed Parts 3 and 4 of the Trust model policy updates on second reading. The changes are largely driven by changes in statute. Mrs. Despain noted that special education numbers were added at the Special Education department's request.

MOTION: Mrs. Weber moved to approve Part 3 and Part 4 of the Trust Model Policy Program on second reading. Mr. Blackburn seconded. All those in favor — aye. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No executive session was required or held. The Board proceeded directly to the Launch.

LAUNCH

No Launch reading was delivered. The Board thanked staff for the lunch provided by Suarez Taqueria.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mrs. Weber moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Blackburn seconded. All those in favor — aye. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 PM.

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 10, 2026 at 7:00 PM in the Performing Arts Center at Capps Middle School, 3375 Buckskin Canyon Road, Heber, AZ 85928.

Dated this 13th day of October, 2026.

Board President, Tim Leedy

Date Approved: _____