

**BEAVER CREEK SCHOOL DISTRICT #26**  
**4810 E. BEAVER CREEK RD.**  
**RIMROCK, AZ 86335**  
**(928) 567-4631**  
**FAX (928) 567-5347**  
*Allie Wheeler, Superintendent*



**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR GOVERNING BOARD MEETING**  
**AND PUBLIC HEARING**  
**TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2026**

Board members in attendance:

Lincoln Thomasson - President  
Susi Edgington – Clerk  
Carlos Ramos - Absent  
Dr. Richard Hector Sr.  
Renee Dial -Zoom

1. The Regular Board meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Lincoln Thomasson.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and was followed by a Moment of Silence.
3. Susi Edgington made the motion to adopt the Agenda. The motion was seconded by Dr. Richard Hector Sr. and the vote was unanimous.

Lincoln Thomasson	Susi Edgington	Carlos Ramos	Dr. Richard Hector Sr.	Renee Dial
Aye	Aye		Aye	Aye

4. Board Meeting Minutes (that may need corrections): None to Report
5. Information Only Items
  - A. Summary of Current Events:
    - a. Superintendent Update
      - i. Superintendent Wheeler provided the Governing Board with a video of announcements provided by Mrs. Moore’s 1<sup>st</sup> grade class and the March Highlights. Included this month were photos of the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school, preschools flower boutique, the Library’s Planetarium event, field trips to VACTE, the zoo, and Teen Maze.
      - ii. Legislative Update – Mrs. Wheeler and President Thomason noted several bills that are being monitored including SB1126, HB2203,

several revolving around Superintendent Contracts, school board training and ESA voucher accountability.

b. Governing Board Members

(i) The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at 6:00PM.

(ii) A work study session will occur prior to the April meeting at 5:15PM to discuss Budget Priorities for FY2026-2027

**B. Reports:**

Presentation on ASBA Financial Boot Camp sessions 1-3. Presented by Superintendent Wheeler, Governing Board Members, Ms. Womack and Ms. DuFresne.

The district team shared their key takeaways from the first three trainings. A simplified look at the description of M/O (Positions, Programs, Pupil Support) vs UCO (Buildings, Buses, Books), revenue and expenditure internal and external factors, budgeting timeline, and the huge value this training has for all board members. Board members Susi Edgington, Lincoln Thomasson, and Dr. Richard Hector Sr. gave their input on the first half of the training stating it is a lot of information but has broken down funds and highlights to easier understand and stick in your mind.

6. Public Comments:

None to Report

7. Action Items:

A. Susi Edgington made the motion to discuss and approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Dr. Richard Hector Sr. and the vote was unanimous.

Lincoln Thomasson	Susi Edgington	Carlos Ramos	Dr. Richard Hector Sr.	Renee Dial
Aye	Aye		Aye	Aye

**B. Specific Items of District Business which require action**

a. PUBLIC HEARING.

i. First review of the Yavapai County Curriculum Promoting Health Among Teens! (Abstinence Only).

The Public Hearing was opened and guest presenter Laurel Abdelnour from the Yavapai County Health Department presented on the new curriculum. The current approved curriculum has expired and the new one must be approved through the transparency process. Anyone can

review for free by following the link presented on the district website. The new curriculum is almost identical to the old approved one, courses on HIV have been combine to one with an increased focus on abstinence, fewer worksheets and more relatable to the students. The curriculum, old and new, has always been abstinence focused and the additional knowledge does not encourage students to participate in unhealthy situations but gives them the tools to set boundaries. The program is entirely OPT-IN with an additional OPT-IN option for birth control conversation. Parents are overwhelming supportive of the curriculum for their students and each year there are very few who OPT-OUT of participation.

Dr. Richard Hector - How does the curriculum work with social media/internet information?

Laurel Abdelnour – There is misinformation out there, which we hear in the questions that are asked by the students during lessons. We work to counter act the wrong information and help kids set boundaries and say no.

Superintendent Wheeler – From the district side we have been offering a program such as this for a long time. As several of us have been parents and staff members we have seen the curriculum in action and make sure there is always a staff member present with our students. Parent meetings have been hosted but typically have no turnout. Laurel’s info is shared with families for questions and our community has been very supportive of this OPT-IN option. Please bring any questions you may have to the April meeting for Laurel to answer.

Susi Edgington – Had some trouble with the link. Ms. Womack and Laurel will check.

Lincoln Thomasson – His daughter attended the district before this curriculum was offered but think it would have been a benefit. Again, this is an OPT-IN program.

Superintendent Wheeler – Correct, OPT-IN only. Any students that do not participate are given an alternate schedule within the middle school.

Lincoln Thomasson – It is important to bring any questions to the April meeting so we can continue to proceed with the request to approve or deny at the May meeting.

Superintendent Wheeler – The April meeting will be Public Hearing #2 for this curriculum.

The Public Hearing was closed at the completion of the questions.

There is no action at this time. The next public Hearing is scheduled for April 14, 2026 at 6:00PM followed by the request for final approval on May 12, 2026.

- b. Discussion and approval of the field trip to Medieval Times, Scottsdale (over 50 miles) for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade.

Susi Edgington made the motion to discuss and approve the field trip to Medieval Times; Dr. Richard Hector Sr. seconded the motion.

Mrs. Artrip-McCook explained to the board that in the new ELA curriculum her fifth graders are currently reading a kid friendly version of Don Quixote; attendance at the Medieval Times would be a good experience to relate to this learning. It is a matinee performance and it is only schools attending that day. This will be a student paid trip and families were consulted prior to requesting. Mrs. Wheeler noted we can scholarship students if needed.

Dr. Richard Hector Sr. – How will you follow-up with the students after the field trip?

Mrs. Artrip-McCook – We will return and discuss what was observed in the trip and how it relates to the book. Medieval times also provided accompanying curriculum.

President Thomasson requested a roll call vote and the vote was unanimous.

Lincoln Thomasson	Susi Edgington	Carlos Ramos	Dr. Richard Hector Sr.	Renee Dial
Aye	Aye		Aye	Aye

- c. Discussion and approval of the Gifted Scope and Sequence.

Susi Edgington made the motion to discuss and approve the Gifted Scope and Sequence; Dr. Richard Hector Sr. seconded the motion.

Superintendent Wheeler stated this is an annual approval that lays out the process if we have a student evaluated and placed as gifted. This is a continuation and there were no changes.

President Thomasson requested a roll call vote and the vote was unanimous.

Lincoln Thomasson	Susi Edgington	Carlos Ramos	Dr. Richard Hector Sr.	Renee Dial
Aye	Aye		Aye	Aye

- d. Discussion and approval to terminate Health Insurance Coverage with KAIROS due to 11.2% increase effective June 30, 2026.

Susi Edgington made the motion to discuss and approve the termination of coverage with Kairos; Dr. Richard Hector Sr. seconded the motion

Superintendent Wheeler stated we had anticipated this after hearing of the large increases many districts had last year, so we had already started discussion with our Brokers.

Lincoln Thomasson – Are the plans comparative?

Superintendent Wheeler – Yes, we will be offering two HDHPs and one Co-pay option. We pushed information out to staff as soon as we found out about our increase but it was a short turn over for responses. There will still be options for HSA contributions with the HDHPs.

Susi Edgington – When will this change occur?

Superintendent Wheeler – July 1, 2026. Deductible periods change from July-June to January-December, members will be credited for any expenditures as we transfer over.

Susi Edgington – What about new people being hired on?

Superintendent Wheeler – We have our Brokers, Frank and Lily, for support and new staff members will be enrolled following our usual process.

President Thomasson requested a roll call vote and the vote was unanimous.

Lincoln Thomasson	Susi Edgington	Carlos Ramos	Dr. Richard Hector Sr.	Renee Dial
Aye	Aye		Aye	Aye

- e. Discussion and approval of the Beaver Creek Retirement Incentive Program Packet for 2026-2027 school year.

Susi Edgington made the motion to discuss and approve the Beaver Creek Retirement Incentive Program Packet; Dr. Richard Hector Sr. seconded the motion.

This is an annual agreement providing staff the option to retire/rehire with the district.

Lincoln Thomasson – This is just a continuation.

Superintendent Wheeler – Correct, the only change was we added that certified staff would be eligible to receive 301 payments if available.

Renee Dial – Teachers are leased, through a third party?

Superintendent Wheeler – Essentially yes, but not just teachers, any staff, certified or classified can participate. The district pays a percentage to ESI then ESI pays the employee.

Renee Dial – There is a fee, how is this funded?

Superintendent Wheeler – We fund these staff members as they would have been funded on our payroll depending on position.

Renee Dial – They are waiving for one year.

Superintendent Wheeler/Ms. Womack – We are uncertain what you mean by waive; the staff member is able to retire, receive their ASRS retirement funds, while still working and being paid through ESI. This ends up being a savings to the district since the employee cannot take insurance and their salary is at a reduced rate from the current year and allows the district to retain highly qualified staff.

Renee Dial – I called ESI, this a large percentage rate, they are a business but would be better if this was coming from a non-profit.

Lincoln Thomasson – They are a business but this seems to be a benefit to the school.

Susi Edgington – many districts use these services.

Lincoln Thomasson – Yes, and it seems to have worked really well in the past.

President Thomasson requested a roll call vote and the vote was 3 Ayes and 1 Nay.

Lincoln Thomasson	Susi Edgington	Carlos Ramos	Dr. Richard Hector Sr.	Renee Dial
Aye	Aye		Aye	Nay

- f. Discussion and approval of Personnel-Pending Fingerprint clearance and background checks

Susi Edgington made the motion to discuss and approve the Resignation and Termination personnel items presented; Dr. Richard Hector Sr. seconded the motion.

i. Resignations and Terminations:

- (a) Amy Cameron – Certified Teacher effective March 10, 2026. The District is requesting Mrs. Cameron be released from her current year contract with no Liquidated Damages (\$2,500) to be paid due to extenuating circumstances.
- (b) Heather Harris – Food Service Aide effective March 10, 2026
- (c) Wendy Quintana – Certified Teacher effective May 22, 2026

There was no discussion.

President Thomasson requested a roll call vote and the vote was unanimous.

Lincoln Thomasson	Susi Edgington	Carlos Ramos	Dr. Richard Hector Sr.	Renee Dial
Aye	Aye		Aye	Aye

Susi Edgington made the motion to discuss and approve the Hire personnel items presented; Dr. Richard Hector Sr. seconded the motion.

ii. Hires (Pending Fingerprint Clearance and Background Checks):

- (a) Contracts for the Certified Teaching staff for FY 27 as presented. Contracts will not be officially offered until March 23, 2026 due to legislative restrictions requiring contracts not to be issued prior to March 15, 2026. As traditional protocol, the district offers the teachers’ contracts before the legislature and Governor approval a budget. When a budget is approved, additional salary rates will be requested to be approved by the Governing Board.
- (b) Spring Sports Coaches:
  - (i) Melisa Pincelli – Softball; April Rayburn Assistant Coach
  - (ii) Taylor Morales- Soccer

Teacher contracts for FY27 will be issued after spring break; they are offered their current rate and pending budgetary approvals an increase will be requested in July.

Dr. Richard Hector Sr. – These increases will be retroactive?  
 Superintendent Wheeler – Yes, the contracts will begin at the end of July, so any request for increase will be brought before that time.

President Thomasson requested a roll call vote and the vote was unanimous.

Lincoln Thomasson	Susi Edgington	Carlos Ramos	Dr. Richard Hector Sr.	Renee Dial
Aye	Aye		Aye	Aye

8. Information Items:

- **Responses to questions from School Finance Boot Camp Report.**
- Lincoln Thomasson – No questions, but this has been great information.
  - **Possible work study session on Budget Priorities for FY2026-2027**
- Superintendent Wheeler – Scheduled for 5:15PM prior to the April 14, 2026 regular Meeting. We will come with district priorities and review and discuss with the board.
  - **March Newsletter**
  - **SFB Update for ongoing projects (SFB projects are state funded and are not coming out of the district budget)**
    - Water Filtration – Plans have been submitted to ADEQ and County. Invoice from ADEQ for fees as been received and we have not heard anything from County.
    - Roofing – No progress, SFB does not have funds for this project still in the queue.
    - Other – Flooring on hold due to no funds with SFB, still in the queue.
  - Signatures Finalized:
    - None to report
  - Lincoln Thomasson made a quick statement about the loss of our long-term retired staff member Mrs. Carrie Kukulski who passed recently. We want to honor her time with the district and keep her family in our thoughts.
- 9. Request for future Agenda items:
  - None to Report.
- 10. Susi Edgington made the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Richard Hector Sr.. The meeting was adjourned at 7:06PM with a unanimous vote.

Lincoln Thomasson	Susi Edgington	Carlos Ramos	Dr. Richard Hector Sr.	Renee Dial
Aye	Aye		Aye	Aye

Respectfully submitted,

Ori Womack

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Lincoln Thomasson

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Susi Edgington

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Renee Dial

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Carlos Ramos

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Richard Hector Sr.