

# The BOARDER



## *A Summary Report of the October 22, 2024, CFSD Governing Board Meeting*

### **Outstanding Achievements**

Superintendent Denise Bartlett shared the following student and staff achievements:

#### CFHS, ECMS, and OGMS Choir

On the evening of Saturday, September 28, approximately 100 choir students from Catalina Foothills High School, Esperero Canyon Middle School, and Orange Grove Middle School were honored to perform the National Anthem at the Arizona Diamondbacks game to an audience of 41,192 fans.

This remarkable achievement was made possible by the efforts of our choir directors, Jeffrey Evans, Julia Higgins, and Rachel Antista, who helped guide and prepare the students for this special opportunity at Chase Field. We are incredibly proud of our students for their hard work and professionalism as they represented CFSD with excellence.

#### CFHS AP School Honor Roll and AP Access Award

Catalina Foothills High School has earned a place on the College Board's Advanced Placement School Honor Roll for the 2023-24 school year! The AP School Honor Roll recognizes schools that have done outstanding work to welcome more students into AP courses and support them on the path to college success.

Our high school is being further recognized with the AP Access Award, which honors schools that encourage more low-income and underrepresented minority students to take AP courses. The percentage of students in at least one of these categories who took at least one AP Exam before graduation is proportional to or above our school's student population, demonstrating our commitment to equitable access to advanced coursework.

Research shows students who take AP courses and exams are more likely to attend college and graduate on time. And even for those who don't earn college credit, advanced coursework provides early exposure to college-level work and contributes to a college-going school culture.

We know it takes a considerable schoolwide effort—dedication from teachers, counselors, administrators, students, and parents—to make AP access a priority. Please join us in celebrating this accomplishment!

#### CFHS Falcon Marching Band

The Catalina Foothills High School Falcon Marching Band delivered an outstanding performance at the 2024 Arizona Regional Championship held at the J. Lawrence Walkup Skydome in Flagstaff, AZ, on October 5, 2024.

Our talented musicians earned second place overall in the highly competitive finals, with an impressive score of 79.450. In addition, they received two prestigious awards in the Class AAA category:

- Outstanding Music Performance
- Outstanding General Effect

These accomplishments reflect our students' and band directors' hard work, dedication, and artistry. We are incredibly proud of the recognition they have earned. Congratulations to Ms. Renee Shane-Boyd, Mr. Ian Marcusiu, Dr. Tina Walton, our dedicated band parent volunteers, and our outstanding student musicians.

### **Approval of the Award of the Crisis Alert System to Centegix**

Superintendent Bartlett presented the award of the crisis alert system to Centegix. The Centegix Safety Platform is the foundation for a layered safety plan, empowering employees with the fastest response to medical

emergencies, student altercations, unauthorized visitors, and suspicious activity. The 1GPA proposal for contract services, equipment, and materials in the amount of \$484,000.00 and for tax in the approximate amount of \$35,670.00, totaling \$519,670.00 over a five-year period was presented. The work will begin in November of 2024 with full implementation projected within three months. The project will be funded partially through bond funds and the remainder from District Additional Assistance. The governing board approved the award of the crisis alert system to Centegix in the amount of \$519,670.00, as presented.

**Approval of 2025-2026 School Year Calendar**

Associate Superintendent Mindy Westover presented the 2025-2026 school year calendar to the governing board for final approval. The calendar was preliminarily approved by the governing board in January 2024. Ms. Westover noted the calendar was patterned after the 2024-2025 calendar to include 90-day semesters. Highlights included the new teachers' reporting date of July 23; returning teachers' reporting date of July 29; the first day of school August 4; Fall Break October 6–10 (full week); K-12 parent teacher conferences October 21–23; PreK parent-teacher conferences September 22–October 3 and April 20–May 1 by appointment only; Winter Break includes three weekends; last day of school on May 20; and last contract day for teachers is May 21. The governing board approved the 2025-2026 school year calendar, as presented.

**Initial Review of 2026-2027 School Year Calendar (first reading)**

Ms. Westover presented the preliminary 2026-2027 school year calendar. The administrative team reviewed the calendar and recommended the following: new teachers' reporting date of July 29; returning teachers' reporting date of August 4; the first day of school August 10; Fall Break October 12–16 (full week); K-12 parent teacher conferences October 27–29; PreK parent-teacher conferences September 28–October 9 and April 19–30 by appointment only; Winter Break includes three weekends; semesters are unevenly divided (85/95 days); last day of school on May 26; and last contract day for teachers May 27. The calendar will return to the agenda for preliminary approval at the November 4, 2024, regular meeting of the governing board.

**Annual Bond and Capital Override Report**

Superintendent Denise Bartlett updated the governing board and community about the progress of capital improvements financed through bonds authorized by voters in November 2022 for \$38.5 million. The first issuance of the bond was approved in April 2023 in the amount of \$14,956,400 which was used to upgrade the security at all school sites, build the new orchestra addition, and purchase new school buses. Dr. Bartlett also updated the governing board on the annual \$2,000,000 District Additional Assistance override for technology and curriculum resources that will be in effect for seven years.

Detailed information about expenditures is available to the CFSD community in the [Bond and Capital Override Report](#) found on the CFSD website under the October 22, 2024, regular meeting agenda, (DISCUSSION/REPORTS item 6.1).

**2024 Arizona Legislative / Governmental Activity**

There was no discussion.

**Consent Agenda Items**

The governing board approved the following consent agenda items:

- October 1, 2024, regular governing board meeting minutes
- October 1, 2024, executive session meeting minutes
- October 4, 2024, special governing board meeting minutes
- Expense voucher memorandum
- Field trip request memorandum
- Fundraising memorandum
- Personnel memorandum
- Gifts and donation memorandum
- Renewal of Intergovernmental Agreement with the State of Arizona
- Construction Administration and Commission Services for the School Facilities Division (SFD) chiller 3 replacement at Catalina Foothills High School in the amount of \$14,565.00
- SFD Award to Midstate Mechanical and Kelly Wright & Associates for building B sewer system repairs at Catalina Foothills High School in the amount of \$175,518.00

**Upcoming Board Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled governing board meeting is **Monday, November 4, 2024, 6:30 p.m., at the Carole**

**Siegler Boardroom at Valley View Early Learning Center. Doors open at 4:15 p.m. for a Study Session which begins at 4:45 p.m.** Topics on the November 4 agenda include:

- Study Session: Understanding A-F Accountability System (*begins at 4:45 p.m.*)
- Outstanding Achievements
- CFSD Star Award: 2025 National Merit® Semifinalists and Commended Students
- CFSD Deep Learning Showcase
- Preliminary Approval of the 2026-2027 School Year Calendar (second reading)



**Please welcome new CFSD staff members!**

**Lanie Herrera Lally**, EA Inclusion, MZES

**Nazanin Kobari Ghotbi**, EA Classroom K-Plus and EA Classroom, SDES

**Alex Lambert**, Human Resources Assistant , MAC