

# The BOARDER



## *A Summary Report of the April 22, 2025, CFSD Governing Board Meeting*

### **Catalina Foothills Star Awards – State Seal of Arts Proficiency**



**Arizona State Seal of Arts Proficiency recipients pictured with CFHS Principal Chris Lambert and teachers Amy Byroad, Jacob Robinson, and Tina Walton**

The governing board recognized twelve high school students who earned an Arizona State Seal of Arts Proficiency in music, theatre, and media. The State Seal of Arts Proficiency celebrates students who demonstrate elevated levels of proficiency in the Arizona Arts Education standard through personal expression and creative experiences in arts education programs. Board member Gina Mehmert highlighted each of the students, sharing insights into their individual and collaborative student-led capstone projects that showcased their artistic literacy and personal growth. The Arizona State Seal of Arts Proficiency will be affixed to their diplomas and noted on their transcripts. Each recipient was honored with a STAR award certificate and pin.

MUSIC	THEATRE	MEDIA
Landon Chang	Vivianna Colson	Sebastian Cross
Sophia Itule	Saki Grobe	Dian Fan
Edgar Rose	Haleigh Hinkle	
Nathan Schlosser	Katie Pawloski	
Bryan Zhang	Zach Pittner	

Also recognized were their arts teachers: Megan Badger, Amy Byroad, Jeff Goode, Jacob Robinson, Renee Shane-Boyd, and Tina Walton for their commitment to mentoring these students.



### **Deep Learning Showcase**

The governing board viewed the Deep Learning Showcase – *Leaders in the Making: The CTE Experience at CFHS*. At Catalina Foothills High School (CFHS), Career and Technical Education student organizations (CTSOs) play a vital role in student development, going far beyond skill-building to ignite passions, foster leadership, and create pathways to future careers. Students in diverse programs—ranging from photography, graphic design, and film, to business, healthcare, computer science, and child development—shared how their experiences in CTSOs have shaped their goals, built community, and provided real-world opportunities. These clubs offer hands-on projects, mentorship from professionals, and competitions that help students refine their skills while forming meaningful connections. Many students credited their club experiences with influencing their future college and career choices, demonstrating the powerful impact of CTE education.

Note: The [Leaders in the Making: The CTE Experience at CFHS video](#) is currently available on the CFSD website's homepage.

### **Approval of Second Round of Certified Contracts for 2025-2026**

Associate Superintendent Mindy Westover presented for the governing board's approval the second-round list of professional staff to be offered a contract for the 2025-2026 school year. The board approved both the list and the issuance of contracts and addenda to those listed, as presented. Samples of the [contracts and addenda](#) are

available for viewing on the CFSD website as part of the April 8 governing board agenda item 6.3.

#### **Approval of Single Audit Reporting Package for the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

Director of Finance Lisa Taetle presented the single audit reporting package for the fiscal year that ended on June 30, 2024. No material weaknesses or deficiencies in the District's major federal program awards or internal controls were reported. However, a repeat material weakness was identified in the financial statements due to continued delays in reconciling cash balances between the District and the Pima County Treasurer's Office—a problem first noted in the 2023 audit. While the District is responsible for ensuring accurate reconciliations with the County Superintendent of Schools (CSS), the CSS is responsible for reconciling with the County Treasurer. The CSS again failed to perform this task in a timely manner, despite assurances, and formally acknowledged responsibility in a letter included with the audit package. In response, the District developed a corrective action plan to independently reconcile CSS records directly with the County Treasurer to improve accuracy and timeliness. The District remains committed to regulatory compliance and addressing audit issues, with the fiscal year 2025 audit set to begin on May 12, 2025.

#### **Bond Projects Report**

Superintendent Denise Bartlett and Director of Facilities and Transportation Brian McNitt provided a recommended list of priority projects to be completed with the Project 2022 Series B (2025) bond issuance of \$13,000,000. An assessment of each school site was completed to determine the highest priority projects that remain from the original bond projects list developed for Project 2022 school improvement bonds. The recommended [bond projects list](#) is available for viewing on the CFSD website as part of the April 22, governing board agenda item 5.1.

#### **Approval of Award to Canyon State Bus Sales for the Purchase of Thirteen (13) New 77 Passenger Bluebird Vision Buses**

The governing board approved the award to Canyon State Bus Sales for the purchase of thirteen (13) new 77 passenger Bluebird Vision buses. The buses will be purchased with bond funding and are expected to arrive by July 31, 2025.

#### **Fiscal Year 2026 Maintenance and Operations (M&O) Budget Discussion**

Superintendent Denise Bartlett presented an update to the proposed 2025-2026 Maintenance and Operations (M&O) budget. The budget continues to sustain all current student programs and services along with associated staffing support. Dr. Bartlett summarized updates to the *FY26 Revenue Budget*, *Expenditure Budget*, the *Classroom Site Fund*, and the *Instructional Improvement Fund*. The

updated [M&O budget](#) is available for viewing on the CFSD website as part of the April 22, governing board agenda item 7.1.

#### **2025 Arizona Legislative / Governmental Activity**

Board members noted the governor's active use of vetoes and discussed concerns over lack of progress on state budget decisions, unresolved funding for the Department of Developmental Disabilities (DDD), and the replacement of revenue from the expired Proposition 123.

#### **Consent Agenda Items**

The governing board approved the following consent agenda items:

- April 8, 2025, regular governing board meeting minutes
- Expense voucher memorandum
- Field trip request memorandum
- Fundraising memorandum
- Personnel memorandum
- Gifts and donation memorandum
- Additions of Diffit and Amira to the sole source vendor list for fiscal year 2024-2025
- Expenditures for structured cabling

#### **Upcoming Board Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled governing board meeting is **Tuesday, May 13, 2025, at 6:30 p.m., at the Carole Siegler Boardroom at Valley View Early Learning Center. Doors open at 6:00 p.m.** Topics on the May 13 agenda include:

- Outstanding Achievements
- CFSD Star Awards – State Seal of Biliteracy
- Consideration of Revisions to Policy KF *Community Use of School Facilities* (first reading)
- Public Hearing on Revisions to Fiscal Year 2025 Budget (Revision #3)
- Approval of Revisions to Fiscal Year 2025 Budget (Revision #3)
- Consideration of Revisions to CFSD Performance Award Plan (first reading)
- Fiscal Year 2026 Maintenance and Operations (M&O) Budget Discussion
- Executive Session: Annual Performance Review of the Superintendent



**Please welcome new CFSD staff members!**

**Kacie Casey**, Special Education Teacher, MZES  
**Emma Easley**, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher, CVES  
**Ami Ferber**, EA Inclusion, OGMS

**Laura Garland**, Biology Teacher, CFHS  
**Barbara Kaderabek**, School Counselor, CFHS  
**Courtney Kasap-Hall**, Social Studies Teacher, CFHS  
**Kyle Krieg**, Math Teacher, ECMS  
**Lori Langley**, Special Education Teacher, CVES  
**Valentin Martinez**, NEST Tutor, CFHS  
**Shannon McCarthy**, School Psychologist, MZES/CVES  
**Dana Michaels**, School Counselor, CFHS  
**Kimberly Mulligan**, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher, CVES  
**Cynthia Royer**, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher, VVES  
**Anastasia Schrimpf**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher, CVES  
**Lisa Willoughby**, Special Education Teacher, MZES