



Pima County Joint Technical Education District

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**The Pima County JTED
Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, October 14, 2025**

Board Minutes are unofficial until such time that the Board approves the minutes at a subsequent meeting. Unofficial minutes are designated as "DRAFT." Unofficial minutes are subject to correction at the time when the Board approves them.

A Regular Meeting of the JTED Governing Board of the Pima County JTED was held Tuesday, October 14, 2025, beginning at 6:00 PM at 3300 S. Park Avenue, Tucson, 85713.

Present:

Bob Schlanger, Board Chair
Brenda Marietti, Board Clerk, *excused absence*
Alex Jácome, Board Member, *excused absence*
Dr. Wayne Peate, Board Member
Dr. Cindy Rankin, Board Member

Also Present:

Kathy Prather, Superintendent/CEO
Patti Greenleaf, Chief Academic Officer
Kenneth McGovern, Chief Financial Officer
Greg D'Anna, Public Relations Director
Merrill Kemp-Wilcox, Dir. Research & Development
Jennifer Atteberry-Pierpont, Dir. Operations,
School Safety and CTE Program Assurance
Frankie Malgesini, Network System UX Coordinator
Chris Suarez, Executive Assistant

Curt Bertelsen, Dir. Professional Development
Kimberly McCroy, Professional Development
Specialist
Robin Shambach, BWS Architects
Toufic Abi-Aad, Bourn Companies
Matt Dickey, Bourn Companies
Frank Slingerland, BWS Architects
Jeremy Bishop, Engineering Teacher
Nick Castellini, Welding Teacher
Joel Tuscher, Instructional Asst.
Welding/Construction

1. CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m.
2. ROLL CALL All Present
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE The Pledge was recited.
4. LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT Bob Schlanger read the Land Acknowledgment.
5. ACTION ITEM: APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Dr. Cindy Rankin, moved to approve the meeting agenda. Seconded by Dr. Wayne Peate. Motion carried unanimously.



6. RECOGNITIONS

In celebration of National Principals month, JTED proudly recognized the JTED Principals and Assistant Principals for their exceptional leadership, unwavering commitment to student success and dedication to creating a safe and positive learning environment across the JTED campuses.

Recognized were:

Brice Menaugh, JTED @ Master Pieces
Juan Rojas, JTED @ The Bridges
Mandy Mathews, JTED @ Camino Seco
Nina Rojas & Ryan Tkalcovic, JTED @ The Bridges
Terri Amonson, JTED @ Master Pieces
Xochitl Sierra, JTED @ Camino Seco

7. CALL TO THE PUBLIC There were no requests from the Public to speak.

8. CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS

A. Superintendent's Report

Report from Kathy Prather:

- A special recognition and shout-out to Nancy Johnson, Retired CEO of El Rio Community Health Center, for touring our Health Career programs along with representatives from Sun Life Health of Pinal County. Sun Life Health has expressed interest in beginning similar adult programs in Pinal County. Ms. Prather noted that JTED's programs continue to be recognized and utilized as models for similar initiatives across the region and extended her congratulations to the faculty and staff for their outstanding work in supporting students and maintaining program excellence.
- Ms. Prather was pleased to share that JTED's Community Health Program students will not only be earning certification as Community Health Workers but will also have the opportunity to receive certification as Birth Doula. The Arizona Department of Education, in collaboration with the Career and Technical Education Division, has approved the Birth Doula certification for high school students. In addition, JTED will be receiving an accreditation from the DONA International group for the Birth Doula certification.
- Ms. Prather acknowledged and thanked the JTED Cabinet team, including Greg D'Anna, Director of Public Relations, and other Cabinet members including: Merrill Kemp-Wilcox, Director of Research & Evaluation; Patti Greenleaf, Chief Academic Officer; Jennifer Atteberry-Pierpont, Director of Operations, School Safety, and CTE Program Assurance; and Kenneth McGovern, CFO, for initiating the Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) at Pima JTED.

This is the first year JTED has participated in the PAFR, which will now become an annual report providing financial and program information to the public. Ms. Prather expressed pride in the document and noted that Heinfeld & Meech auditors facilitated the report's development.



B. Governing Board Reports

Report from Dr. Cindy Rankin:

- She worked with Merrill Kemp-Wilcox to participate in an interview with representatives from the Halle Foundation to determine whether Pima JTED would be considered for one of their grants. Dr. Rankin noted that it was a positive and informative experience and appreciated hearing from the foundation representatives about their interest in supporting JTED's initiatives.
- She participated in the JTED Board Foundation meeting, which included finalizing the criteria for the Executive Director position from JTED. Dr. Rankin commented that the Executive Director serves as an important bridge between JTED and the Foundation. The discussion was productive, and significant effort was recognized, including contributions from Nic Clement and his committee.

Report from Dr. Wayne Peate:

- His invitation to participate in Tanque Verde High School's 250-Year Celebration.
- His participation in the Master Site Planning meeting.
- His attendance at the Joint Governing Board meeting with the Marana Unified School District, noting that Ms. Prather provided an excellent presentation detailing the services Pima JTED provides to its member satellite districts.

Report from Bob Schlanger:

- His participation in various lunch meetings with community/JTED members.
- His attendance at the Joint Governing Board meeting with the Marana Unified School District. Mr. Schlanger emphasized the importance of holding joint meetings and maintaining open lines of communication with the districts, particularly for their Governing Boards, to keep them informed about the programs and services JTED offers.

C. JTED Operating Budget Presenter: Kenneth McGovern, Chief Financial Officer

Mr. Kenneth McGovern addressed the Board and provided detailed reports on the Operating Budget FY 2025, the Operating Budget FY 2026, the FY 2025 Annual Financial Report and the FY2026 budget Revision #1.

- Mr. McGovern reported that this would be the final report on the FY 2025 budget and noted that the figures would also be reflected in the Annual Financial Report. He provided details on the budget control funds and cash-controlled funds.
- Mr. McGovern reviewed the M&O Object funding by group, reporting a budget balance of \$5,171,643.85, with Member District Satellites receiving \$4,272,406.30 and JTED Central receiving \$899,237.46.
- Additionally, Mr. McGovern shared the Member District FY 2025 summary budget amounts/FY25 Carryover with a total of \$22,102,997.08 to member districts.



Operating Budget FY 2026:

- Mr. McGovern reported that there was not much new information to present at this time. He noted that the budget amount listed will increase if the Governing Board approves the evening's request for the first budget revision of FY 2026.
- The current amount reflects preliminary figures that did not include the factors enacted by the Legislature in late June. The Governing Board had adopted the budget prior to those factors taking effect.
- Mr. McGovern stated that the Curriculum Consortium figures are now displayed as a separate line item for greater transparency.
- He also presented the M&O by Object Group and noted that there has not yet been significant activity or allocations for the member districts.

FY 2025 Annual Financial Report (AFR)

- Mr. McGovern presented the FY 2025 Annual Financial Report, providing a detailed review of all funds reported, broken down by function and object code.
- He noted that the Debt Services section reflects payments made for vehicle lease services, with the majority of expenditures attributed to lease payments for the two JTED buildings.
- Mr. McGovern provided graphs illustrating expenditures by function for all funds, including Instruction, Support Services, Operations & Maintenance, and Construction. He also reviewed expenditures by object, noting that 64% of the total reflects pass-through funding.
- In reviewing revenues by fund, Mr. McGovern stated that the overwhelming majority of revenues come from state aid and property tax, which remains subject to the 5% capped tax rate.
- Mr. McGovern also presented a five-year expenditure comparison report, showing that over the past five years, JTED has provided \$82,739,014 in pass-through funding to member districts, with those amounts continuing to increase annually.
- Finally, he reviewed the FY 2025 ADM report, highlighting ADM per district, with Baboquivari, Mammoth-San Manuel, and Ajo Unified School Districts reflecting the smaller percentages.

FY2026 First Budget Revision #1:

- Mr. McGovern reported that the fiscal year began with a budget of \$41,659,824 and is now at \$40,849,626, reflecting a difference of \$189,802 from the adopted budget and a decrease of \$1,054,604 from FY 2025.
- He noted that capital funding has increased.
- Mr. McGovern also reported that there have been some ADM reporting issues. Ms. Greenleaf is reaching out to the Arizona Department of Education and member districts to address and resolve the reporting discrepancies.

Mr. McGovern responded to several inquiries from the Board members regarding the reports.



9. INFORMATION AND UPDATES

A. Bridges Master Plan – Bridges Building III Architectural Construction Presentation

Presenters: Frank Slingerland, Robin Shambach, BWS Architects, Toufic Abi-Aad, Matt Dickey, Bourn Companies

Frank Slingerland of BWS Architects addressed the Governing Board and presented the preferred site concept for Bridges Buildings III and IV. The proposed design includes a consolidated parking area to allow for potential future expansion, such as the addition of a parking structure or an additional building.

The site plan also integrates landscaped areas around the buildings to serve as a demonstration of sustainability features. Mr. Slingerland noted that the plan includes designated areas for Early Learning with an adjacent playground, as well as separated parking areas for staff, students, and the public. Preliminary fence line locations have also been considered. With approval of the proposed concept, the next step will be to move forward with schematic design.

Mr. Slingerland further presented the first and second floor concepts for Building III, highlighting the placement of program labs surrounded by program classrooms, the student entry, patio, and reception areas. Plumbing design was addressed through consolidation of service areas for efficiency.

Board discussion followed regarding JTED signage, the space and sizing of the elevators, the construction materials while maintaining the established budget.

Mr. Matt Dickey addressed the Board and provided an update on Building 2 and the leaks that happened over the weekend with the rain. He said he was pleased to inform the Board that they have a solution to the Building 2 roof situation which is just a few weeks away from implementing which is a new single ply membrane which will cover the roof in its entirety rather than continue to patch or repair the different areas. It provides a 20 year manufacturing warranty and a workmanship warranty as well.

B. Apprenticeship Program Report

Presenters: Curt Bertelsen, Director of Professional Development, Jeremy Bishop, Engineering Teacher, Nick Castellini, Welding Teacher and Joel Tuscher, Instructional Asst./Welding & Construction

Mr. Curt Bertelsen addressed the Governing Board and expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to provide a report on the Teacher Apprenticeship Program. Mr. Bertelsen extended his gratitude to the Halle Foundation for providing the funding that made the program possible, and to Merrill Kemp-Wilcox for her leadership and coordination in implementing the program's support structure.

Mr. Bertelsen reported that, through the support of the Halle Foundation, JTED was able to hire four teachers from industry with full teacher salaries and benefits, including six months of medical coverage. During that period, the participants completed required coursework, applied for certification, and worked under the mentorship of a master teacher to prepare for their transition into the classroom. Of the four participants, three are now employed by JTED and one by Amphitheater Public Schools.



Jeremy Bishop, Nick Castellini, and Joel Tuscher addressed the Governing Board and shared their experiences in the Apprenticeship Program. Each expressed appreciation for the support and professional development provided by Pima JTED's Professional Development Department throughout the program.

C. Report/Presentation on Walk Through for IT Items
Presenter: Kenneth McGovern, Chief Financial Officer

Mr. Kenneth McGovern provided a brief update to the walk-through of the buildings for IT items including improvement of the AV systems for remote and in-person meetings.

D. Governing Board Calendar Updates

Kathy Prather shared the current Governing Board Calendar updates.

10. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the September 9, 2025 Regular Governing Board Minutes as presented.

B. RATIFICATION OF SALARY AND NON-SALARY VOUCHERS

Approval of the salary and expense vouchers issued for the period of September 1, 2025 through October 2, 2025, as submitted:

Voucher #	Voucher Date	Amount
V9016	9/1/2025	\$318,236.03
V9017	9/10/2025	\$29,690.42
V9018	9/18/2025	\$1,339,056.14
V9019	9/24/2025	\$111,227.51
V9020	9/25/2025	\$9,079.19
V9021	9/30/2025	\$23,998.04
PRV6	9/18/2025	\$527,171.50
PRV7	10/2/2025	\$537,298.19

C. PERSONNEL/STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Approval of the Personnel and Staff Recommendations as posted.

D. DISTRICT-SPONSORED MEETINGS & EVENTS--APPROVAL OF FOOD PURCHASES

Approval of the District-sponsored meetings and events providing food and beverages as submitted.

E. GIFTS AND DONATIONS-FINANCIAL GIFTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

There were no Financial/Gifts to report for the month of October.

F. GIFTS AND DONATIONS-INVENTORY & IN-KIND DONATIONS



Approval of the Gifts and Donations Inventory/In-Kind as submitted.

G. REVISION TO THE ARIZONA SCHOOL BOARD POLICY (ASBA) DK PAYMENT AND PAYROLL PROCEDURES

Approval of the revision to Policy DK Payment and Payroll Procedures. The revision outlines the district's commitment to procedures for processing vouchers and prompt payments.

H. OVERNIGHT STUDENT TRAVEL

JTED @ The Bridges, Veterinary Science Program, 2025 HOSA Fall Leadership Camp Williams, Arizona, October 20-22, 2025 Instructor: Audra Kelley

Approval of the student over-night travel for Veterinary Science students participating in the 2025 HOSA Fall Leadership.

I. UPDATE TO POLICY JJE STUDENT FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES

Approval of Policy JJE Student Fundraising Activities that was presented and approved by the Governing Board in March of 2024. At that time, the category criteria were discussed but not incorporated into the formal policy language.

It is now recommended that the Governing Board approve the inclusion of the detailed fundraising categories into the policy as submitted.

Supporting Documents:

- Current policy (approved March 2024)
- Proposed updates with category criteria

J. STAFF TRAVEL

Approval of the following staff travel:

Audra Kelley, Veterinary Instructor, Western Veterinary Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada, February 15-19, 2026

K. STUDENT DATA PRIVACY AGREEMENT

Approval of the data sharing agreement with School Mint, Inc. for Student Data Privacy Services.

L. 2026-2027 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Approval of the 2026-2027 JTED School Calendar.

M. NOTICE OF THE 2026 REGULAR GOVERNING BOARD MEETING DATES

Approval of the 2026 School Board Governing Board Meetings as presented.

N. UPDATE ON THE CITY OF TUCSON/US DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY RESILIENT AND EFFICIENT CODES IMPLEMENTATION GRANT (RECI)

Approval for Pima JTED to withdraw from the proposed sub-grant participation as submitted.

The Governing Board initially approved the City of Tucson/US Department of Energy



Resilient and Efficient Codes Implementation 2 Grant (RECI) on January 14, 2025.

The federal funding for this grant has gone on an indefinite hold. The city is unable to provide any guarantee of resources or reimbursement for the proposed body of work. As a result, the City of Tucson and the JTED District have not executed an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA).

O. REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL OF TEXTBOOKS/MATERIALS

Approval of the listed textbooks that have been identified as no longer needed for instructional use as submitted.

Dr. Cindy Rankin moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items A. – O. Seconded by Dr. Wayne Peate. Motion carried unanimously.

11. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA), FONSI, AND NOTICE FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

Presenter: Kathy Prather, Superintendent/CEO

Kathy Prather, Superintendent, reported that JTED has received an offer from the federal government through the federal appropriations process, as recommended and shepherded by Congressman Juan Ciscomani. The federal appropriations committees, the Senate, and the President have approved funding in the amount of \$2.7 million for the purchase of Lot 3.

Before the funding can be allocated, JTED was required to complete an Environmental Assessment (EA). The assessment has been completed, and it was determined that there is no environmental impact. The Federal process concluded with a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

Ms. Prather requested that the Governing Board authorize JTED Administration and staff to proceed with the required public outreach process as outlined. Following this meeting, staff will publish and disseminate the meeting notes along with the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) to ensure that the actions taken are formally approved by the Board. After publication, a 15-day public comment period will be provided. Upon the close of the comment period, staff will compile all public comments and responses and incorporate them into the Environmental Assessment (EA) record.

The Board ended the Environmental assessment (EA) and FONSI discussion to proceed with the Call to the Public.

12. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There were no requests from the Public to speak regarding the Environmental Assessment (EA), FONSI and Notice for Release of Funds.

13. ACTION ITEM: Environmental (EA), its findings, the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), and the Notice of Release of Funds, and authorize staff to proceed with the required public outreach process as presented. Presenter: Kathy Prather, Superintendent



Ms. Prather requested that the Governing Board authorize JTED Administration and staff to proceed with the required public outreach process as outlined. Following this meeting, staff will publish and disseminate the meeting notes along with the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) to ensure that the actions taken are formally approved by the Board. After publication, a 15-day public comment period will be provided. Upon the close of the comment period, staff will compile all public comments and responses and incorporate them into the Environmental Assessment (EA) record.

A motion was made by Dr. Rankin and seconded by Dr. Wayne Peate to authorize JTED Administration and staff to proceed with the required public outreach process as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

14. STUDY ACTION ITEMS

A. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Presenter: Tina Norton, Special Projects

Ms. Tina Norton addressed the Governing Board and provided an updated Legislative Report. She noted that the Legislature is currently in the off-season; however, she provided several updates to the Board.

Ms. Norton reported that the recent Legislative financial forecast projects a \$67 million surplus over the next three years through FY 2028. This projection has raised concerns that one-time spending initiatives approved by legislators may become ongoing expenditures, which could result in a less favorable budget outlook for the upcoming legislative session and present future fiscal challenges.

That coupled with the Federal Big Beautiful Bill carries some cost for the State of Arizona, and the Legislature will need to determine whether additional budgets adjustments or cuts will be necessary. Programs such as SNAP and Medicare are expected to continue to be funded.

Ms. Norton also reported on legislative turnover, noting that several key legislators have announced they will not seek re-election, resulting in multiple open seats and the likelihood of many new members serving in 2027.

Ms. Norton informed the Board that JTED is currently undergoing an Auditor General's performance audit and that the exit interview is scheduled for next week, during which potential findings will be discussed. She shared that Tom Tyree of Yuma recently attended a legislative forum and spoke with Representative Tim Dunn regarding concerns expressed by all CTEDs about the performance audit process and identified issues. As a result, Representative Dunn has requested a meeting with the Office of the Auditor General, Tom Tyree, John Kelley (CTED Consortium lobbyist), Joel Todd of the Consortium, and other CTED representatives. Prior to this meeting, a session will be held with all CTEDs to coordinate representation and discussion items.

Lastly, Ms. Norton updated the Board regarding recent news involving EVIT and the some of the East Valley school districts. EVIT has expressed concern that member districts are maintaining significant carryover funds, which is not permissible under statute—as allocations to districts may not exceed program costs. EVIT is reviewing the situation and considering adjustments to allocations until a plan



for the use of funds is developed. A few of the East Valley districts have discussed possible lawsuits against EVIT and/or Legislation.

Ms. Norton noted that efforts are underway to encourage collaboration among the districts, emphasizing that such disputes could negatively impact the overall system.

No action required.

B. APPROVAL OF MASTER PLAN, ARCHITECTURAL CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS—JTED @ THE BRIDGES Presenter: Kenneth McGovern, Chief Financial Officer

The Governing Board approved the following regarding the Building Bridges III and IV Master Plan:

1. Authorizaton to proceed with the development of Building III.
2. Authorization to proceed with the Construction Documents for Bridges III. Cost not to exceed \$900,000.00

Dr. Cindy Rankin moved to approve the Master Plan/Architectural Construction Plans for Building III and IV as presented. Seconded by Dr. Wayne Peate. Motion carried unanimously.

C. PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL OF THE 2025 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Presenter: Kennth McGovern, Chief Financial Officer

Dr. Cindy Rankin moved to approve the 2025 Annual Financial Report as presented. Seconded by Dr. Wayne Peate. Motion carried unanimously.

D. FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET REVISION, #1 Presenter: Kenneth McGovern, Chief Financial Officer

Dr. Wayne Peate moved to approve the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Revision as presented. Seconded by Dr. Cindy Rankin. Motion carried unanimously.

E. FISCAL YEAR 2026 STAFF RAISES

Dr. Wayne Peate moved to approve the Fiscal Year 2026 Staff Raises as presented. Seconded by Dr. Cindy Rankin. Motion carried unanimously.

F. 2nd READING—ASBA POLICY ADVISORY, 900-914

Dr. Peate moved to approve the second reading of the ASBA Policy Advisory 900-914. Seconded by Dr. Rankin. Motion carried unanimously.

G. 2nd READING---ASBA POLICY ADVISORY, 915-916

Dr. Peate moved to approve the second reading of the ASBA Policy Advisory 915-916. Seconded by Dr. Rankin. Motion carried unanimously.

H. ASBA BYLAWS

Dr. Peate moved to approve the Bylaws. Seconded by Dr. Cindy Rankin.

15. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future agenda items proposed.

16. ADJOURN **Dr. Peate moved to adjourn the Regular Governing Board meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.**