

Sahuaro School Council

Minutes 2025-2026

Meeting Date: November 13, 2025

Meeting Location: Zoom 835 4407 2830

Members present	Cara Grasso Roberto Estrella Carol Rodriguez Jackie Krieg Lori Emrich Amber Wolf Malaika Willie Allyse Chalmers	Facilitator/Teacher Administration Administration Teacher Classified Parent Student Student
Members absent	Philip Hemmo Maria Saavedra TBA	Teacher Parent Community Rep

I. Called to order at 4:01 PM by Cara Grasso

II. Call to the audience-None

DISCUSSION NOTES	
CONCLUSIONS	
ACTION ITEMS	

III. Reports

A. Principal Report

General Updates:

- The district's override has passed, and TUSD is committed to implementing raises starting in the 2026-27 school year.
- May 22 marks Moving Day for summer construction projects. Starting to develop plans now.
- Projects include new field, stadium lights, fresh waterline replacements, and sewer replacements.
- The Cougar Foundation has approved funding for our AP Testing initiative.

Yearbook Updates:

- There are still about 14 Seniors who need to schedule their senior portraits for the yearbook. Deadline is December 10.
- There is still time for families to purchase Senior Ads. Deadline January 31.

- There is still time to purchase yearbooks online for \$80 before prices go up starting February 1.
- Remember, we only purchase 50 copies beyond our pre-order sales to limit costs for our school.

Fine Arts Highlights:

This season has been busy for Fine Arts, featuring:

- Band- Continue to practice for band competitions
- Guitar- Mr. Hemmo and guitar students have been visiting Middle Schools, U of A, ASU, and have had a guest artist
- Orchestra and Choir are preparing for upcoming concerts and fundraisers (Popsta)
- Theater Arts-Preparing for upcoming shows

Student Activities:

- Student Council has been actively engaged (see STUCO report)
- Link Crew is preparing for the Freshman Social to be held on December 5
- Korean Foreign Exchange program-planning for their visit in January

Fall Sports Achievements:

- Congratulations to our Varsity Football team and Coach Al Alexander for an outstanding season!
- Kudos to Andrew Kruszewski for qualifying for State in Swim—proud of your achievement!
- Congratulations to Colton Bunch and Jacob De Filippo for qualifying for State in Cross Country; they will compete at Cave Creek Golf Course on Saturday, November 15th.
- Hats off to Coaches Lenk and Bradley for leading our Girls Flag Football team to a successful inaugural season, culminating in a thrilling win on Senior Night.
- Congratulations, Coach Conner, and to our girls' volleyball team for their exciting season

Upcoming Events:

- November 27-28: Thanksgiving Break (No School)
- December 4: Guitar Concert at 7:00 PM
- December 4: Advanced Theater Performances at 7:00 PM
- December 5: Advanced Theater Matinee at 1:00 PM & 7:00 PM
- December 5: Link Crew Freshman Holiday Social
- December 10: Winter Choir Concert in the Auditorium at 6:00 PM
- December 11: Winter Band & Orchestra Concert in the Auditorium at 6:30 PM
- December 12: Winter Concert Assembly II
- December 12: Choir Popsta in the Cafeteria at 6:00 PM
- December 13: Robotics Tournament in the Gym from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM

- B. Faculty Report-
Cara Grasso reported that NHS is working on community service hours and college applications.
- C. Student Council Report-Allyse reported that the all-class fundraiser and pumpkin painting were both very successful. They are currently working on details for the upcoming winter assembly, winter formal, and awareness week. Awareness week will take place the week of November 17. Each day will be represented by a different color ribbon.
It was suggested that fliers for spirit weeks be put in each teacher's box for them to display in their classrooms.
- D. Parent Report-Amber Wolf reported that she appreciates the principal's newsletter. She suggested that the school activities be added to the report.
- E. Community Report-none

IV. Action Items

ITEM TITLE	Coaching Stipend of \$4000 for eSport team.
DISCUSSION NOTES	Ms. Rodriguez asked for clarification on the stipend. The stipend is used to pay the two coaches and is equally split.
RESOLUTION	
Moved By: Roberto Estrella Seconded By: Cara Grasso Vote: Unanimous: 7-0 in favor with 1 abstention (Kreig)	

ITEM TITLE	Request for Additional Coaching Stipend – Boys’ Basketball Program ½ Assistant Coach Stipend in the amount of \$2,500.00 to support an Assistant Boys’ Basketball Coach for the FY 2025–2026 season.
DISCUSSION NOTES	This Item was pulled
RESOLUTION	
Moved By: Seconded By:	

Vote:

V. Discussion/information items

None

VI. Submission of items for next agenda.

- Summer project updates
- Accreditation cycle updates
- Support for Sport Teams

VII. The meeting was adjourned at 4:23 PM by Cara Grasso