

**THE WORKSESSION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
OF BENSON, ARIZONA HELD SEPTEMBER 24, 2007  
AT CITY HALL AT 6:30 P.M.**

**MAYOR FENN  
OPENED THE MEETING AT 6:30 P.M WITH  
THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

**PRESENT WERE: MAYOR FENN, VICE MAYOR KING,  
COUNCILMEMBERS LODZINSKI, McGOFFIN, SACCO, SUAGEE, and TIPTON**

Bond and Override  
Presentation by Dr.  
Woodall, Benson  
School Superintendent:

Dr. Woodall addressed Council stating in November, 2007 the voters of Benson Unified School District will have the opportunity to vote on three ballot measures impacting Benson School District; the K-3 Override, the K-12 Override and the Bond Issue.

Dr. Woodall stated the current K-3 Override will begin phasing out in 2008-2009 if it is not renewed by the electorate. Funds from this override allow the district to: reduce the student-teacher ratio from 25 to 1 to 19 to 1, provide for a full-day kindergarten program, recruit and retain highly qualified staff and provide electives in computers, music and physical education.

Dr. Woodall then stated the current K-12 Override will also begin phasing out in 2008-2009 if it is not renewed. Funds from this override allow the district to: maintain a student-teacher ratio of 17 to 1, provide academic electives in fine arts, physical education and dual credit college classes, provide athletics, clubs and other extracurricular programs at the middle school, freshman, junior varsity and varsity levels as well as maintain competitive salary and benefit structures.

Dr. Woodall then addressed the Bond Issue stating the Benson School District has strived to maintain their current school plan, but many buildings and facilities are over 50 years old and do not meet the minimum standards in terms of lighting, electrical supply, heating, cooling, safety or handicapped access. The bond election has been called for to provide: construction of a new cafetorium, field house, classrooms and a charter school, construction of a roadway, parking lot, public restrooms and concession facility near the existing athletic complex, replacement and upgrades of computer labs as well as the purchase of up to two (2) new seventy-two (72) passenger route buses.

Dr. Woodall stated the cafetorium could be utilized as a fine arts facility during evenings and weekends. Dr. Woodall also stated the school is trying to make the track and tennis courts accessible to the public for use

during evenings and weekends, citing not only would this be a benefit to the public but also deters vandalism.

Dr. Woodall emphasized that these overrides are renewals of the overrides that are currently in place and due to expire or begin phasing out at the end of the 2007-2008 school year. Voting for the approval of these ballot issues will not increase the current tax rate.

Dr. Woodall also emphasized that this year the School District will pay off a bond authorized by the voters in 1992. As a result, the approval of the proposed bond will result in little or no change in the current tax rates.

Adjournment:

Vice Mayor King moved to adjourn at 6:48 P.M. Seconded by Councilmember McGoffin. Motion passed 7-0.

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Mark M. Fenn, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Vicki L. Vivian, City Clerk