

# EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ROUNDTABLE ACTION MINUTES

September 3, 2025

The Education and Workforce Development Roundtable of the City of Mesa met in The Studios at Mesa City Center, 59 E. 1st St., on September 3, 2025, at 1:34 p.m.

**BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT**

Councilmember Spilsbury, Vice Chair  
 Dr. Erica Copeland (Designee for Dr. Perry Berry)  
 Candice Copple  
 Dr. Richard Daniel  
 Dr. Joseph Foy  
 Marcie Hutchinson  
 Renita Miller (Designee for Dr. Shane McCord)  
 Bob Nelson (Designee for Sally Harrison)  
 Rich Nickel  
 Craig Pearson (Designee for David Louzenheiser)  
 Jenny Jackson Robinson  
 Kelsey Rowe (Designee for Dr. Chad Wilson)  
 Dr. Matthew Strom  
 David Williams\*  
 Vince Yanez

**BOARDMEMBERS ABSENT**

Councilmember Heredia, Chair  
 Kristin Sorensen  
  
**COUNCIL PRESENT**  
  
 None

**STAFF PRESENT**

Andrea Alicoate  
 Lisa Cartwright-Harris  
 Lauren Lowe  
 Holly Moseley  
 Sarah Tolar

(\*Participated in the meeting through the use of video conference equipment.)

Chairperson Heredia conducted a roll call.

1. Call meeting to order, welcome announcements and reminders from the Chair.

Vice Chairperson Spilsbury called the meeting to order. She welcomed Designee Dr. Erica Copeland, Associate Superintendent at Higley Unified School District; Designee Renita Miller, World Language and College & Career Coordinator with Gilbert Public Schools; Designee Bob Nelson, Director of Communications at the Mesa Chamber of Commerce; Designee Craig Pearson, Assistant Director of Career and Technical Education at Higley Unified School District;

and Designee Kelsey Rowe, East Valley Institute of Technology.

2. Take action to approve the Roundtable Meeting Minutes from June 4, 2025.

It was moved by Boardmember Daniel, seconded by Boardmember Jackson Robinson, that the June 4, 2025, Education and Workforce Development Roundtable meeting minutes be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Spilsbury–Copeland–Copples–Daniel–Foy–Hutchinson–Miller–Nelson–Nickel–Pearson–  
Jackson Robinson–Rowe–Strom–Williams–Yanez  
NAYS – None  
ABSENT – Heredia–Sorensen

Vice Chairperson Spilsbury declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

3. Review scheduling of upcoming meetings and take action to approve proposed 2026 meeting dates.

It was moved by Boardmember Jackson Robinson, seconded by Boardmember Copples, that the proposed 2026 meeting dates be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Spilsbury–Copeland–Copples–Daniel–Foy–Hutchinson–Miller–Nelson–Nickel–Pearson–  
Jackson Robinson–Rowe–Strom–Williams–Yanez  
NAYS – None  
ABSENT – Heredia–Sorensen

Vice Chairperson Spilsbury declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

4. Introduction and remarks from City Manager Scott Butler.

Discussion only; no formal action taken by the Board.

5. Introduction of new Superintendents and Roundtable Members. K-12 Superintendent overview and discussion of district priorities, challenges and initiatives.

Discussion only; no formal action taken by the Board.

6. Hear presentation from Dr. Chad Gestson, founding Executive Director of the Arizona Institute for Education and the Economy. Discuss priorities, work and opportunities for engagement with City of Mesa.

Presentation and discussion only; no formal action taken by the Board.

(At 2:42 p.m. Vice Chairperson Spilsbury excused Boardmember Yanez from the remainder of the meeting.)

(At 2:47 p.m. Vice Chairperson Spilsbury excused Boardmember Williams from the remainder of the meeting.)

7. Roundtable members share out information regarding their involvement in recent and upcoming education or workforce-related events or programs.

Discussion only; no formal action taken by the Board.

8. Call to the public.

There were no public comments.

9. Call for future agenda items.

There were no future agenda items discussed.

10. Adjourn.

Without objection, the Education and Workforce Development Roundtable meeting adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Education and Workforce Development Roundtable meeting of the City of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of September 2025. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

---

HOLLY MOSELEY, CITY CLERK

sr  
(Attachments – 1)