



# **FOUNTAIN HILLS**

## UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

### **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD FOUNTAIN HILLS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 98**

*"We Achieve and Celebrate Educational Excellence"*

**Wednesday, February 10, 2021**

**Regular Board Meeting**

**6:30 p.m.**

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I. Call to Order

Time: 6:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Board members present are Nadya Jenkins, President, Judith Rutkowski, Vice President, Jill Reed, Member, Wendy Barnard, Member and Dana Saar, Member.

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion: Nadya Jenkins

Second: Judith Rutkowski

The board approved unanimously 5-0

IV. Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Jenkins called upon Mr. Alexander to lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

V. Informational Reports

a. Superintendent's Comments

- We are continually improving on the website and have recently added a FAQ button. It currently has Covid FAQs but each site will be providing FAQs specific to their students/parents and those will be added as well.
- Administration is working on organizational checklists. Each site/department is currently updating their specific chart so that it will be complete by the end of the school year and we can use it to help with the planning of next school year.

- In the last Falcon Focus, Ms. Glass asked for parent volunteers for our committees. A few have reached out and are now on some of our current committees.
- b. STUGO
- Prom planning is in the works for May 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Juniors will be coming to the next Board meeting and will have more information regarding prom as they do most of the planning so it is more of a surprise for the seniors.
  - Started charity fundraiser raising funds for The National Alliance on Mental Illness. They are preparing posters and flyers to spread the word and they hope to be able to help those that can't help themselves during this pandemic.
  - Senior shirts are being ordered through Custom Ink and hope to get them out to all the seniors soon.
  - They are working on other events but want to keep them on the down low until further planning on them has taken place.
- c. Student Activity Accounts
- d. Auxiliary Account Funds

VI. Public Comments

- No public comments at this time.

VII. Consent Agenda

- a. Donations
- A Train table was donated by a private donor to the Preschool at MMES.
- b. Accounts Payable Vouchers
- January 1, 2021 through January 31, 2021
- c. Payroll Vouchers
- February 2, 2021
- d. Personnel Action
- e. Approval of Minutes for January 27, 2021
- f. Approval of Minutes for Board Retreat, January 28, 2021
- g. Updated Board Meeting Schedule to Reflect Work Study Sessions
- The Board approves the change to make the first meeting of the month a business meeting and the second meeting of the month a work study session. March and May will have a combined Business Meeting with Work Study Session following.

Motion: Judith Rutkowski

Second: Nadya Jenkins

The board approved unanimously 5-0

VIII. Information/Discussion Items

- a. PBIS Presentation
- Ms. Glass and Mr. Markle presented.
  - We have great committee of staff that are working on this portion of the PBIS Grant.

- FHMS had begun PBIS last year but was put on hold due to covid and even though they lost some valuable time working with the students, the middle school team had great discussions over the summer.
- When the team returned in the fall, they focused on teaching students how make the right choice and how to focus on the students who are doing things correctly. The team was able to expand this to a district wide initiative which will unite the schools by having PBIS at all three sites and sharing the same expectations as students' transition from one school to the next.
- The newly expanded team just completed day four of six training days today. The staff is doing some incredible work during these training sessions as well as in the breakout sessions that FHUSD partnered in.
- The team has adopted the motto of "The Falcon Way."
- PBIS values focus on educating the whole child. Taking care of both social and emotional needs to help them to be sturdy.
- The district staff completed a survey that went directly to PBIS so they were able to be open and honest. This allows for the committee to build the program based on what the staff feels we need.
- Dr. Barnard suggested to chat with parents about the roll out of PBIS before we open it up completely to the sites. Ms. Glass shared that they are planning a student, parent and community roll out to approach education in a positive manner.

b. CTE Discussion

- Ms. Glass, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Love and Mr. Brady presented.
- This all started with a conversation with EVIT regarding no longer having the satellite program at the Four Peaks campus.
- Looked at previous and current offerings for needs, interests and enrollment of our students.
- Sent out a student survey at the beginning of December with preliminary CTE pathways to base data on what students preferred. Narrowed it down with an additional survey in January and the top 3 choices of the students are Culinary Arts, Business Management and Sports Medicine.
- The survey was representative of about 33% of our students and likely only completed by the students that have an interest in CTE.
- There will be an EVIT presentation next Tuesday to the Sophomores for the option of attending EVIT off campus for some of their flagship programs.
- FHUSD will continue to have a relationship with EVIT however, instead of paying EVIT all of our CTE money, we will simply pay them per student attendance.
- FHHS website will have all the resources for CTE and EVIT.
- The district is working on the hiring processes for prospective staff so that we can ensure that our teachers are properly certified. We must also follow the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) - everyone must have an equal opportunity to apply, we cannot discriminate against protected categories, we must be consistent in the hiring practices to ensure equal opportunity.
- What we have left to do: Student guide - student agreement - application/commitment form/advisement doc. Advisement documentation Course description guide. Teacher job descriptions to

include leadership of clubs/activities. Dual Enrollment agreements. Teacher certifications for Dual Enrollment and how we can facilitate furthering the education of our staff to earn master's degrees. Finish MOU with EVIT for other programs not offered at FHHS. Development of a school to work/internship program- Fall 2021.

- It was mentioned by Mr. Saar that the district will need to make an investment for these programs to be successful.
- The district is looking to partner with the local community college to possibly have a professor come and teach part time some classes as these positions will likely not start as a full time position. Although, it would benefit us to have these positions as full time from the start so that they can help to build the program by doing some of the legwork on the back end.
- It would also benefit us to try to partner with the businesses that are housed at the Four Peaks campus (FH Biz Hub.)
- Classes will be available for all students that want to take them, even if they are not enrolled in the CTE certification program so to increase the interest on the campus.
- Mr. Alexander will be working on a way to be creative in scheduling so that interested AP students also have the opportunity to take these pathway classes.

c. Panorama Survey

- Decision must be made for topics on the Panorama survey. We can choose up to four topics for parent, student and staff surveys.
- The Board will each submit top 4 choices to Krista for compilation and discuss and make decision at work study session.

IX. Action Items

a. Renewal of Superintendent's Contract

- It was shared by Board members that it's been a tough year with Covid. Unification has always been a desire in this district and it has not always been achieved. Covid alone was divisive and having new administration on top of it was even more difficult. The board wants the district to change and grow. The Board asks that no matter how the Board votes that the parent, teachers and staff stop the divisiveness and be unified so that we can continue to grow. The Board's decisions are always made with kids at the forefront. If we are really sincere about what is best for our kids, then change needs to happen. Everything the district does is intentional and is what is best for our kids.
- The term of employment of superintendents may be for any period not exceeding three years, except that if the superintendent's contract with the school district is for multiple years pursuant to this subsection the school district shall not offer to extend or renegotiate the contract until no earlier than fifteen months before the expiration of the contract.
- The Board is offering Ms. Glass a three-year contract extending through June of 2024.

Motion: Nadya Jenkins

Second: Wendy Barnard

The board approved with 4 ayes and 1 abstention

Nadya Jenkins - Aye, Judith Rutkowski - Aye, Jill Reed - Aye, Wendy Barnard - Aye and Dana Saar - Abstain.

X. Governing Board Reports

- Wendy Barnard - Dr. Barnard shared that she appreciates Mr. Love and Mr. Brady. They are amazing counselors and are in constant communication. It's been a tough year and they have done such a great job helping our students. She also shared that basketball is doing great and that some of the high school football coaches have gone to the middle school to work with the eighth grade boys.
- Judith Rutkowski - Mrs. Rutkowski shared that she looked at the governing board handbook and read all of the policies.
- Nadya Jenkins - Mrs. Jenkins shared that she is very excited to now have work study sessions so that the board can dive more deeply into discussions about things they would like to see happen for the future. She reminds us that these meetings are open to the public and it is a more informal and conversational setting to explore topics of concern and interest to all in the school community and she encourages the community to attend. Agendas will be posted with topics that will be covered.
- Jill Reed - Mrs. Reed shared that her son is no longer playing baseball but is switching to golf. She wanted to thank Mr. Langer for all his support.
- Dana Saar - Mr. Saar liked Dr. Barnard's comment of being intentional. He has had his second Covid shot and all of our faculty should have had it.

XI. Future Action


XII. Dates of Upcoming Meetings

Wednesday, February 24, 2021 - Board Work Study Session @ 6:30 p.m. in the FHUSD Learning Center

XIII. Adjournment

Time: 8:14 p.m.  
Motion: Dana Saar  
Second: Wendy Barnard  
The board approved unanimously 5-0

Dated this 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2021

  
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Nadya Jenkins, President

  
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Judith Rutkowski, Vice President

  
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Jill Reed

  
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Wendy Barnard

  
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Dana Saar