



FOUNTAIN HILLS

UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING BOARD FOUNTAIN HILLS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 98

"We Achieve and Celebrate Educational Excellence"

Wednesday, September 8, 2021

Regular Board Meeting

6:30 p.m.

I. Call to Order

Time: 6:32 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Board members present are Nadya Jenkins, President, Judith Rutkowski, Vice President, Member, Wendy Barnard, Member and Dana Saar, Member. Jill Reed, Member is not present.

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion: Judith Rutkowski
Second: Wendy Barnard
The board approved unanimously 4-0

IV. Pledge of Allegiance

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

V. Public Hearing on Bond & Override Updates

- a. The Board will vote to suspend the regular meeting to conduct a Public Hearing on Updates to our Overrides
- b. Presentation/Public Comments/Questions
- c. The Board will vote to reconvene the regular meeting

Motion to Suspend: Nadya Jenkins
Second: Judith Rutkowski
The board approved unanimously 4-0

Time: 6:33 p.m.

The Bond and Override presentation included highlights such as:

- This is an annual requirement of the state.
- Project of 2007, Series B (2009)
 - Principal amount retired through FY2021 \$2,935,000
 - Interest Paid in FY2021 \$66,100
 - Outstanding Principal on 6/30/2021 \$1,065,000
 - Total Interest Paid to date \$1,434,029
- Project of 2013, Series A (2014)
 - Principal amount retired through FY2021 \$1,615,000
 - Interest Paid in FY2021 \$90,050
 - Outstanding Principal on 6/30/2021 \$2,385,000
 - Total Interest Paid to date \$764,315
- Project of 2013, Series B (2015)
 - Principal amount retired through FY2021 \$715,000
 - Interest Paid in FY2021 \$107,950
 - Outstanding Principal on 6/30/2021 \$3,285,000
 - Total Interest Paid to date \$694,066
- November 6, 2007 we had an estimated cost of capital improvements of \$12,000,000 with an estimated average annual tax rate of \$0.1093 and an estimated annual cost to owner of a \$100,000 full cash value home of \$10.93
- November 5, 2013 we had an estimated cost of capital improvements of \$8,000,000 with an estimated average annual tax rate of \$0.1291 and an estimated annual cost to owner of a \$100,000 full cash value home of \$12.91

Motion to Reconvene: Nadya Jenkins

Second: Judith Rutkowski

The board approved unanimously 4-0

The regular meeting reconvened at 6:42 p.m.

VI. Informational Reports

a. Superintendent's Comments

- Principals Reports
- Staffing Needs
 - Marching Band teacher at the High School
 - Elementary teaching and aide positions
 - Special Education Teacher at the High School
 - Ms. Glass shared that we do have some commitments from mid-year graduates that will start in the second semester
- Insurance Committee
 - The District is looking to move away from Valley Schools for next year. In order to do so we have strict guidelines that need to be followed. We hope to again to utilize an insurance committee to work through this process.
- Make a Difference Day

- We have lots of work around the campus that can be completed on Make a Difference Day.
 - Rotary Presentation
 - Ms. Glass shared the important work we have been completing around the district as well as our progress for unification of the district.
 - FH Coalition
 - Ms. Glass shared that Dr. Barnard and herself attended the last meeting. Ms. Glass was appreciative of Dr. Barnard's support.
 - The High School is working on creating a credit recovery program that will be paid out of the ESSER II grant. Ms. Glass will present more as the information becomes available.
 - Ms. Glass and Mrs. Rutkowski are attending the ASBA Law Conference both today, as well as Thursday and Friday.
- b. Student Activity Accounts
 - c. Auxiliary Account Funds
 - d. Current Enrollment and Withdrawal
 - 1347 Total students
 - 368 total at MMES with 19 new enrollments and 41 withdrawals
 - 455 total at FHMS with 18 new enrollments and 45 withdrawals
 - 524 total at FHHS with 20 new enrollments and 46 withdrawals
 - e. Unaudited Financial Report

VII. Public Comments *(Members of the Governing Board shall not discuss or take legal action on matters raised during an open call to the public unless the matters are properly noticed for discussion and legal action)*

- a. Anna Fontaine shared her concerns regarding the quarantine in Volleyball today at the high school.
- b. Alex Johnson shared on behalf of his daughter her concern with being quarantined today from the high school.
- c. Brandon Wise shared his concerns with the lack of trust between the parents and the school district.
- d. Madicyn Reid shared her concern regarding the trust between the parents and the district.
- e. Jeff Lupien shared his concern with the Safe Return to School Plan.
- f. David Wickland shared his concerns with the quarantining of the Volleyball team today at the high school.
- g. Tara Lamar shared her concerns with the quarantining at the high school today and what she felt she was poor communication from the high school.
- h. Jessica Miller shared her concerns with the quarantining at the high school today.

VIII. Consent Agenda

- a. Accounts Payable Vouchers
 - August 1, 2021 through August 31, 2021
- b. Payroll Vouchers
 - August 17, 2021 and August 31, 2021
- c. Personnel Action Report

- d. Approval of Minutes for August 11, 2021 Business Meeting and August 25, 2021 Business Meeting and Work Study Session
- e. McDowell Mountain Textbook Disposal

Motion: Nadya Jenkins

Second: Judith Rutkowski

The board approved unanimously 4-0

IX. Information/Discussion Items

- a. Policy Review – FHUSD Policy Handbook in its entirety
 - Documents provide to the board are broken up into four categories. First section is policies that we currently do not use. Second section is policies that do not follow ASBA language verbatim so they have broken copyright. The third section is documents that ASBA suggests that we update as they are outdated. The last section is the redline version of all the policies affected.
 - We will discuss again at the next work study session with a plan to adopt the manual in its entirety. It is expected that it will take a couple months to go over the documents so that we can have a thorough discussion and review.
- b. Safe Return to School Plan
 - Other districts that have focused on quarantining solely the ill students have had their sites closed due to outbreaks so they are reversing their decisions and following the CDC guidelines.
 - Implement quarantine procedures for students who present with COVID-like illness or are in close contact.
 - Guidance indicates that quarantine is required unless a student has proof of vaccination or has proof of having COVID-19 in the last 90 days.
 - Students are wearing a well-fitting mask consistently and correctly; quarantine may be reduced or eliminated.
 - Quarantine Exceptions
 - Vaccinated Students.
 - Students who have had COVID-19 in the last 90 days.
 - Students who are properly wearing masks and were exposed to a person positive for COVID-19.
 - CDC allows for a shortened quarantine (not 14 days) when student obtains a negative COVID test after day 5 (on day 6) – can return on day 8.
 - We have two choices
 - Quarantine according to the law, CDC, and MCPHD (close contacts included.)
 - a. Have teachers upload a recorded video of their daily instructional lesson or provide access to instructional videos through Schools PLP.
 - b. Teachers have office hours to check in with the parents/students as needed.

- Quarantine only students who present with symptoms, have a positive Covid test, or have family members that have a positive Covid test.
 - a. Health check all students and staff daily (like last year.)
 - b. Athletes MUST follow the AIA guidelines for quarantine and return to play with no exceptions if they test positive for Covid.
 - c. We will continue to collect close contacts, submit them to the authorities, and inform parents that their child was in close contact with someone with Covid and they should monitor their symptoms.
- Dr. Barnard shared that we need to be very clear with our communication so that parents understand that if anyone in the immediate family tests positive for covid that those students are considered close contacts and they need to stay home.
- That Board suggest that we create a one-page document to go home to families that makes the process very clear without the legal jargon that is provided by the CDC and MCDPH. Ms. Glass pointed out that we can do that but the legal language must stay in our safe return to school plan.
- Currently we are doing health checks of only our athletes.
- The Board also suggested that we lockdown classroom policies such as socially distancing, seating charts and not sharing supplies.
- The district continues to encourage masks although they are not mandatory
- We need to find the middle ground on a trial basis and if it is not working then it will need to be shut down.
- Dr. Barnard asked if there is a possibility have cameras on in the classrooms.
- c. Facilities Technician
 - To cover the addition of Four Peaks as well as the increase in needs at the school sites
- d. Technology Specialist
 - Our technology has quadrupled and we are struggling to keep up with the technology needs with just the three guys we have.
- Policy Advisories 680-711
 - Adoption of new policies or the revision or repeal of existing policies is the responsibility of the Board. The Board shall adhere to the following procedure in considering and adopting policy proposals to ensure that they are fully studied before final action:
 - A. First meeting - the proposal shall be presented for review.
 - B. Second meeting - the proposal shall be presented for discussion and action.
 - During discussion of a policy proposal, the views of the public, staff members, and the Board may result in changes. A change shall not require that the policy go through an additional review

except as the Board determines that the change requires further study and that an additional review would be desirable.

- Policies may be adopted or amended at a single meeting of the Board in a Board-declared emergency.

Motion: Judith Rutkowski

Second: Nadya Jenkins

The board approved unanimously 4-0

- Certified Staff Resignation and Waiver – Lisa Shreiner
 - Mrs. Schreiner has submitted her resignation – received by Human Resources on August 31, 2021 (please see attachment) with an effective date September 11, 2021. Mrs. Schreiner has also requested a waiver of the \$1,500 Liquidated Damages fee due to the circumstances stated in her separate waiver request letter.
 - Administration recommends approval of Mrs. Schreiner's resignation request and denial of her waiver request.
 - The Board recommends both the resignation and the waiver is approved.

Motion: Nadya Jenkins

Second: Judith Rutkowski

The board approved unanimously 4-0

- Certified Staff Resignation and Waiver – Talia Houseal
 - Mrs. Houseal has submitted her resignation – received by Human Resources on August 29, 2021 (please see attachment) with an effective date October 11, 2021. Mrs. Houseal has also requested a waiver of the \$1,500 Liquidated Damages fee due to the circumstances stated in her separate waiver request letter.
 - Administration recommends approval of both Mrs. Houseal's resignation request and waiver request.
 - The Board recommends both the resignation and the waiver is approved

Motion: Judith Rutkowski

Second: Wendy Barnard

The board approved unanimously 4-0

- PBIS District Coordinator Stipend
 - The District is required to have a District PBIS Coordinator for the ADE grant. This person works with the sites to ensure implementation and compliance with data gathering and analysis.
 - 6/5ths contract coming out of Impact Aid.

Motion: Nadya Jenkins

Second: Judith Rutkowski

The board approved unanimously 4-0

- Governing Board Reports

Mr. Saar – Mr. Saar had nothing to share

Mrs. Rutkowski – Mrs. Rutkowski shared that she is attending the ASBA Law Conference and will be the delegate on Saturday.

Dr. Barnard – Dr. Barnard shared about the first football game and how exciting it was.

Mrs. Jenkins – Mrs. Jenkins shared that she went to the football game with her husband and it was great to see fans in the stands. She said it hurt her heart to not have a band there and hopes that we can do something to get some sort of live student led music in the stands.

- Future Action

- Dates of Upcoming Meetings

Wednesday, September 22, 2021 –Work Study Session @ 5:00 p.m. and
Wednesday October 6, 2021 – Business Meeting @ 6:30 p.m. in the
FHUSD Learning Center.

- Adjournment

Motion: Nadya Jenkins

Second: Wendy Barnard

The board approved unanimously 4-0

Time: 8:42 p.m.


Dated this 6th day of October, 2021



Nadya Jenkins, President



Judith Rutkowski, Vice President



Jill Reed



Wendy Barnard



Dana Saar