

**Union Colony Schools Board Meeting Minutes
November 21, 2020**

Members in Attendance:

Heather Bunyan, President
Veronica Armendariz, Vice President
Kristin Arnold, Treasurer
Jamie Wood, Secretary
Sarah Mitchell, Member
Matt Walsh, Member

Administration in Attendance:

Jim Anderson, UCS Executive Director
Dave Warner, UCES Principal
Aycia Burns, UCPS Principal
Mandy Bailey, UCES Assistant Principal

Members Absent:

Tim Marquart, Member

The board meeting was held at Union Colony Preparatory School, 2000 Clubhouse Dr, Greeley, CO on November 21, 2020. Meeting was called to order at 9:01 am by Ms. Bunyan.

Action Items

- Consent agenda was approved. Motion by Mr. Walsh, Second by Ms. Arnold. Motion passed. Consent agenda included:
 - Approval of October 17, 2020 and November 18, 2020 minutes
 - Approval of resignation of Jim Anderson and Valerie Anderson effective June 30, 2021
 - Approval of the deletion of policy IGD Curriculum Adoption
 - Approval of revised policy JFB Enrollment
- Approval of change of date for December Board Meeting to Thursday, December 17th at 6:30 pm at UCES. Motion by Ms. Arnold. Second by Ms. Armendariz. Motion passed.

Discussion Items

- Board discussed the procedures and expectations if District 6 decides to move to remote learning beyond the end of the fall semester.
 - Two perspectives dominated the conversation – one to follow the District decision and the second to take District 6 decisions into consideration when making an independent decision. Discussion also surrounded the advice from our attorney to not differ significantly from the District. There was agreement that communication and transparency with our school community is important to avoid the confusion that resulted from the most recent example when parents were unsure how the District 6 decision impacted UCS. The next regularly scheduled District 6 Board meeting is Monday, December 14th. There is an assumption that after that meeting District 6 may make an announcement regarding remote learning for the start of spring semester. Ultimately, a majority of Board members agreed to a process that involved making a decision regarding any potential move to remote learning for the beginning of spring semester at the December 17th board meeting. The decision was made to communicate this plan to our school community in the next few days via email, Facebook, and the school newsletter.
 - Board also requested that options be presented at the Board meeting to consider if the District moves to remote learning for spring semester. Board directed Mr. Anderson to explore the possibility of delaying the start of spring semester if that would increase the possibility of being able to start the semester in-person. Board directed Mr. Anderson to review with legal counsel the option of a waiver for those wishing to attend in-person. Administration is also currently exploring options for “learning pods” if in-person learning for all students is not possible.

- Mr. Stokovaz presented an update on technology related to remote learning. 200 of the chromebooks that were on back order shipped this week and will be distributed to elementary students shortly. We still have additional chromebooks on back order. Parents are being provided an opportunity to purchase chromebook insurance for an annual fee of \$30, the deadline to purchase this insurance is December 11th. Board discussed the challenges that this fee might create for families with multiple children or those on free and reduced lunch. Mr. Anderson was going to look into if there are any solutions. Mr. Anderson recognized the hard work of Mr. Stokovaz and Mr. Elbell.
- Board reviewed the YTD financials.
- Board reviewed the preliminary amended budget. Because of the decline in enrollment, it is projected that approximately \$650,000 will need to be transferred from the reserves to have a balanced amended budget.
- The Director Search Committee has been meeting frequently and has outlined the process. The open position was posted on Thursday and review of applicants will begin in January. February 1st is the scheduled date for interviews with up to four finalists. Board agreed to the suggestion of a stated minimum salary of \$100,000 and moving expense reimbursement up to \$7,500.
- Board agreed to provide staff with a \$25 gift card for the holidays.

Board Reports

- Ms. Mitchell presented CDE Charter School Board Training module #11, “Policy Development”.
- Board reviewed policies, KF, KF-R, and KF-E and recommended no changes.

Administration Reports

- Ms. Burns reviewed the activities at UCPS. Staff has been trying new ways to engage during remote learning and continue to work at improving. Staff will begin discussion after Thanksgiving regarding how finals will be conducted remotely. In addition, staff will be discussing ideas to bring students back into the building if remote learning continues into spring semester.
- Mr. Warner reviewed the activities at UCES. Teams continue to meet to discuss standards based grading and updating the PBIS behavioral expectations. The first day of remote learning was on Wednesday. Staff is re-evaluating the amount of on-screen time involved in remote learning. Staff has begun discussions about the possible implementation of learning pods to bring some students back into the building for additional support.

Director’s Report

- Mr. Anderson discussed the possible replacement of snow days with remote days in the future. Staff is beginning discussions on how to prepare for this potential change.
- The final bill for the UCPS campus project has been submitted to the bond company and once that payment is processed we will be able to close out the bond.
- The UCES free and reduced lunch percentage is 67%, which may qualify the school for additional funding through Title 1 funding. The District will determine the cut off for funding later this spring.

Executive Session

- Motion by Ms. Arnold to enter Executive Session for determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiators under C.R.S 24-6-402(4)(e). Second by Ms. Armendariz. Board entered Executive Session at 10:55 am. Board adjourned Executive Session at 11:37 am.

Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 11:38 am.

