

AJO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 15

Governing Board Members:

Mrs. Marcia Duncan
President
Mr. Rodney Hopkins
Member
Mrs. Tracy Moore
Member
Mrs. Windy Robertson
Member
Ms. Laura Trujillo
Member

Administration:

Dr. Robert F. Dooley
Superintendent
Mr. Leonard Edlund
Principal
Ms. LeAnn Burns, CPA
Business Manager
Ms. Marichou Beltran
Special Ed. Director

MINUTES

REGULAR SESSION BOARD MEETING

Ajo Unified School District Board Room #23, 5:30 p.m.

August 12, 2020

1. Call to Order at 5:30 p.m.

- a. Statement of Welcome

2. Roll Call

Present - Marcia Duncan, President
Present - Rodney Hopkins, Member
Present - Tracy Moore, Member
Present, Video - Laura Trujillo, Member
Present - Windy Robertson, Member
Present - Robert Dooley, Superintendent
Present - Leonard Edlund, Principal
Present, Video - LeAnn Burns, Business Manager

- b. Appointment of Acting Clerk, Mr. Rodney Hopkins

3. Adoption of the Agenda

It was moved by Ms. Trujillo, and seconded by Mrs. Duncan, that the Governing Board adopt the agenda as presented. Mrs. Robertson brought her concerns to the Board about parts of the agenda that are posted and possible violation of open meeting law. The vote to approve the agenda passed 4-1.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

5. Visitor's Comments

Visitors are welcome to speak on agenda and non-agenda items. Comments are limited to 3 minutes. Please state your name and address prior to making your comments. Please note that members of the Board may not discuss items that are not specifically identified on the agenda. Therefore, action taken is limited to directing the administration to look into the matter, responding to any criticism, or scheduling the matter for future consideration. (A.R.S. §38-431.01(H))

The following are "highlights" from an email sent to Board members and the Administration:

(a full copy of the email read aloud will be filed with the agenda) I am Morgana Wallace Cooper, a mother of 4 children and a local business owner. I would like to request of the school administration improved communication with parents/guardians and the larger community. Now I am noticing in response to Covid-19 and I feel there are many ways we can improve on how well informed our community becomes on the changes that must be made. We could be sending out emails to every parent and guardian on a weekly basis as new decisions are being made. I believe our school would benefit greatly from a Parent / Teacher organization. I wonder if someone's job can be to act as a community liaison, to connect the school with the community and the community with the school and to work

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towards open communication. I realize that I have an open invitation to be present at this meeting and I apologize for not being able to attend. I am confident that I represent many parents' points of view when I suggest that we have ideas, preferences and the desires to be involved, but are not always aware of, or have access to, the pathways to share them. Please put me to task If I can take action on any effort to improve communication. I am limited in my available time but am committed to having my children attend public school and want to support the good work that is already happening and the improvements that I know can be made. Thanks for receiving my thoughts. And thank you for working towards a safe and productive school year. Morgana Cooper

6. Information Items

- a. Governing Board Report – No Board member wished to give a report
- b. Superintendent's Report
 - ✓ Welcome to Mrs. Moore to her first Board meeting
 - ✓ Gym Roof Project is complete except for punch list
 - ✓ Obviously, school started Monday... teachers and students are online
 - ✓ National news – Florida, Nebraska, Georgia have all had drastic increases in students who tested positive for COVID
 - ✓ Dr. Dooley will ask Mrs. Duncan to move the regular session Board meeting in October to 10/7/2020. The date change will enable the Board to make a decision before the 1st quarter ends on 10/9/2020
 - ✓ Community members worked on a mini grant for \$898 received for COVID related funds. Possible HOT SPOT in the plaza
 - ✓ 200 new laptops and 140 used laptops were issued to parents/students yesterday
 - ✓ Enrollment is down 70 students from last year
- c. School Opening and COVID-19 Update

Dr. Dooley & Mr. Edlund review a slightly modified online learning plan submitted to the Board in July but revised for the upcoming school year.

 - Educators and support staff are still getting paid and should be on campus daily
 - K-6 teachers are required to hold morning and afternoon zoom sessions
 - Attendance, assignment expectations, preview questions from students
 - 7-12 teachers are required to hold morning and afternoon zoom sessions
 - Attendance, assignment expectations, preview questions from students
 - Edgenuity is the instructional program Ajo Schools is using
 - Student participation and attendance is paramount
 - Students cannot receive school lunches unless they are attending classes
 - Childcare is a challenge. We have our PreK/FTF program and Headstart. Headstart is run by Child Parent Centers in Tucson. Our FTF program is licensed for eighteen, 3 to 5 year olds. Headstart is the same. Because of COVID, the health department is limiting us to under ten for each program. This limits us for funds and student's education for students in Ajo under 5 years old. Children of staff can not be on campus. The school is not a licensed daycare center.
 - Mental health counselor is still available to staff through a grant from ADE.
 - Special Education and English Language students are meeting with students in person starting on the 17th and will attend campus every day. Paraprofessionals will stay with their one on one students. Mrs. Beltran, Dr. Domalanta, and Ms. Ranario will meet with those students according to their IEPs or ILLPs.
 - Health checks, vision, hearing, etc.. will wait until students are on campus.
 - Welcome back training was held for all staff last week, including mandatory reporting, bloodborne pathogens, child find, conflict of interest, and Title I.

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- Teacher/Student contact. Contact needs to be at least once per week.
 - Parents and staff need to update contact information with the school
 - Email address, phone numbers, and mailing addresses
 - Parents & staff should check their email, school website, school Facebook daily. The school marquee will advertise information and the copper news will also have information.

7. Consent Agenda

The following items are being recommended for approval on the consent agenda:

- a. Financial Report
- b. Voucher Approval
- c. Board Minutes
- d. Donations
- e. Library Report
- f. Monthly Contact Report

It was moved by Mr. Hopkins and seconded by Mrs. Duncan that the Governing Board adopt the agenda as presented. The motioned passed 5-0.

8. Board Action Items

a. Personnel

1. Certified Employment – Secondary Mathematics – Kevin Kmetz

Kevin Kmetz has been interviewed and reference checks completed for the position of certified teacher. He will be teaching 9-12 mathematics.

Mr. Hopkins made the motion to approve the employment of Kevin Kmetz as a teacher for the 2020/2021 school year. Mrs. Robertson seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

2. Classified Resignation – Special Projects Secretary – Emma Vasquez

Emma Vasquez, special project's secretary, has submitted her resignation as of July 1, 2020.

Mrs. Duncan made the motion to approve Ms Emma Vasquez' resignation as of July 1, 2020. Mrs. Moore seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

3. Classified Reassignment – Special Projects Secretary – Candice Moore

The administration has advertised in house for the position of special education secretary. Candace Moore, a paraprofessional, was interviewed for this position and is being recommended by a committee to become the AUSD special projects secretary. This reassignment is a move from a part time paraprofessional to a full time, 12-month secretary.

Mrs. Trujillo made the motion to approve Candace Moore's reassignment from paraprofessional to special projects secretary. Mr. Hopkins seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0, with Tracy Moore voting to abstain.

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4. Classified Resignation – Paraprofessional – Marilyn Acosta

Marilyn Acosta, a paraprofessional, has submitted her resignation as of August 3, 2020.

Mrs. Robertson made the motion to approve Marilyn Acosta’s resignation as of August 3, 2020. Ms. Trujillo seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

5. Classified Resignation – Paraprofessional – Gloria Gutierrez

Gloria Gutierrez, a paraprofessional, has submitted her resignation as of August 3, 2020.

Mr. Hopkins made the motion to approve Gloria Gutierrez’ resignation as of August 3, 2020. Ms. Trujillo seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

6. Classified Resignation – Paraprofessional – Mairy Rivas Garcia

Mairy Rivas Garcia, a paraprofessional, has submitted her resignation as of August 3, 2020.

Mrs. Moore made the motion to approve Mairy Rivas Garcia’s resignation as of August 3, 2020. Mrs. Duncan seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

7. Classified Resignation – Custodian – Theresa Reddon

Theresa Reddon, a custodian, has submitted her verbal resignation as of August 5, 2020.

Ms. Trujillo made the motion to approve Theresa Reddon’s resignation. Mrs. Duncan seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

8. Board Communication with Staff Work & Related Issues

(The administration made a mistake and asked the Board to table this item during the meeting. The item was skipped, and the Board moved to the business items. When the Board came to item 8.b.2-Certified Working Conditions, they realized their error and went back to this item 8.a.8)

The administration will review ramifications of Board members responding to staff personnel concerns.

Applicable policies:

- BBA – Board Powers and Responsibilities
- BCA – Board Member Ethics
- BHC – Board Communications with Staff Members
- BHD – Board Communications with the Public

There is no vote necessary. This is an informational item only.

b. Business

1. Approval of Financial Stipend for Certified Teachers

In lieu of a raise in their salary, we are recommending a one-time stipend of \$2,000 per teacher prorated as needed for returning staff.

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Mr. Hopkins made the motion to approve of a \$2000 stipend to returning certified teachers. Ms. Trujillo seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

2. Approval of 2020/2021 Certified Working Conditions Agreement

The administration and the Board tabled this item. A meeting will be scheduled to review this document in an executive session.

3. First Reading – Governing Board Policy

The AZ School Boards Association have proposed changes to the attached Board Policies:
GBGB-R – Staff Personal Security and Safety IHA – Basic Instructional Program
JICA-RB – Student Dress KB – Parent Involvement in Education
KI-RB – Visitors to Schools

There is no Board action necessary; this is the first reading/review of these policies.
Approval will be on the second reading, at the September Board meeting.

Noting no other business, President of the Board, Mrs. Duncan, adjourned the meeting at 6:51 p.m.

Clerk of the Board

Date