

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.

December 9, 2021

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 – Video	-	Tracy Moore, Member
Present – Video	-	Laura Trujillo, Member
Present – Video	-	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 Mr. Hopkins, and seconded by Mrs. Duncan, that the Governing Board adopt the agenda as presented. The vote to approve the agenda passed 5-0.

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))

No visitor's comments

6. Information Items

- a. Governing Board Report

Windy Robertson's Governing Board Report: I have a report on the three recent ASBA elections: Delegate Assembly, ASBA Board of Directors, and

- At the assembly the 2021 political agenda was approved each member district had an equal vote, and time to update and develop their agenda and that agenda determines the ASBA positions for registration and advocacy efforts. This year the political agenda passed

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without any changes so the same as the one that you saw previously received and then the other two elections were for the SBA board of directors for this coming year.

- The Board of Directors is composed of five executive officers that make up the Executive Committee, and 17 County Directors – one for each county in Arizona, with two for Pima and Maricopa Counties due to their higher populations. The chairs of the ASBA Hispanic-Native American Indian Caucus and the ASBA Black Caucus also serve on the board of directors. They're all current members County director from flowing wells and amphitheater homeschools. Wendi Epping and Mat Kopek from amphitheater and after the count Ms. Epping won the votes. Then at the business meeting the board secretary treasurer president elect chosen and the president elect is Monica Trejo from Tempe and treasure James Bryce from Solomon and secretaries Desiree Fowler from page USD.
- I also have three agenda requests. OK the board does not have the opportunity to discuss the process for adding agenda items in schedule so I'm again requesting a subject be added this time to January's agenda. My second request is that last month a teacher addressed the board sharing multiple concerns. I subsequently requested a discussion on the issues raised by the employee, and I was told it was a personnel matter that would be handled by the administration. I understand that personal matters are best handled at the administrative level but clearly the subject of the board's apparent lack of response from the teachers perspective is a board matter as is any other matter which the chain of command is exhausted, therefore the board should have the opportunity to discuss the employees complaints. Again, requesting the subject be added with the discussion at the next meeting. Now the question is again requesting a general discussion on board community concerns. It's important that we educate ourselves on these subjects to better understand the role of the board and are able to better serve our community. I can back it up with the emails. OK thank you.

b. Superintendent's Report

- ✓ Madam President we are into my extremely unique and tough times in Arizona and nationwide with the COVID-19. I saw some unnerving news today on the CBS that talked about the rate this is moving across the board in the last in the first four days of December. At any given day December 1st 2nd third or fourth there were more deaths in the United states than there were during the Pearl Harbor attack in 1941. A combined pins four days or 10,887 deaths.
- ✓ I talked to the board in the Board Letter last week about action I took last week because I thought student safety was an issue and instruction program is being impacted. I made the decision to continue online instruction only from home for teachers. I made that decision Thursday about noon and inform staff and sent staff home effective Monday this week. The reason for this was we had roughly 30 individuals impacted exposed that about 50% staff and about 50% students from one infected person. One person tested positive, I should say, so I thought was perhaps safer to try to protect the rest of staff and students by having them operate from home.
- ✓ We have had today's results, Mr. Edlund referred to Arizona Department health services website several times and there's alarming figures today as well. Pima County today, so far has 746 deaths, in Maricopa has had 4213 deaths. Total number of cases a reported, since records were being kept starting March, I believe the 721 in Pima County and 2599 in Maricopa County. The percent positive goal at the health Department is to have 5% less for two weeks in Pima County. We've had an average of eight point 8.7% and in Maricopa County 11.4%. I bring those up is because those things do impact decisions that we make, and I want to make sure we're keeping our staff and students as safe as possible. One of the actions were taking, Monday evening I talked briefly about money we have spent that was not budgeted and it was necessary to do so because the CARES money from the federal government did not covered what we thought were need to start school and keep students and staff safe. One of the things did purchase in last few weeks was a an item that cleans ductwork and that sounds trivial but as you are well aware the school was built 55 or 56. The way it appears I doubt those ductworks they've ever been cleaned so we've got ductwork that is about 65-70 years old. Jose Yon director maintenance has been trained so he certified to use the equipment, which is a combination of rotating brushes and vacuum in the same hose. It roughly has taken 4

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hours to clean one classroom and it's obvious that there's residue built up in these ductworks. We will work on hopefully during Christmas and will get most of the ductwork, our goal is to get classrooms done as well as the school office. This building is less than worrying because we had new ductwork when we remodeled the building because the fire about four years ago. I'd like to thank a couple of our board members. It is sad to say that tonight is the last meeting for Mrs. Moore and for Ms Trujillo. Board members in any community but, I think it's more obvious in small communities, you know people better. They're probably one of the most active volunteers in community. In some states board members receive pay, in Arizona when I receive a thank you. Ladies I really appreciate your willingness to help us. Mrs. Moore was on the board for a brief period time, Ms. Trujillo was elected in the fall 16 and started work January of 17. Keep in touch with beautiful downtown Ajo.

- ✓ I want you to be aware that the 18th December is the last day of school for 2020. The school will be closed for two weeks because of winter break maintenance is about the only group of people will be here. They work unless you take a vacation day, they will work about five days. Also, an agenda item tonight is to vote on a budget revision we need board members to sign that just like we usually adopted budget. We need a majority of the board to sign, and we have two board members present so Mrs. Robertson you may get a call from us asking you to come down and sign the budget. As well so we appreciate you doing that so that concludes my superintendent's report.

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 Ms. Trujillo and seconded by Mr. Hopkins that the Governing Board adopt the agenda as presented. The motion passed 4-0, with Mrs. Moore abstaining.

8. Board Action Items

a. Personnel

1. Classified Employment – Paraprofessional/Teacher's Aide – Marcia Martinez

Marcia Martinez has been interviewed and reference checks completed as a paraprofessional/teacher's aide.

Mr. Hopkins made the motion to approve the employment of Marcia Martinez as a paraprofessional. Mrs. Moore seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

2. Classified Employment – Paraprofessional/Teacher's Aide – Ashlynn Johnson

Ashlynn Kolbi Johnson has been interviewed and reference checks completed as a paraprofessional/teacher's aide.

Mrs. Duncan made the motion to approve the employment of Ashlynn Kolbi Johnson as a paraprofessional. Ms. Trujillo seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

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3. Classified Employment – Paraprofessional/Teacher’s Aide – Jennifer Dillard

Jennifer Dillard has been interviewed and reference checks completed as a paraprofessional/teacher’s aide.

Mrs. Moore made the motion to approve the employment of Jennifer Dillard as a paraprofessional. Ms. Trujillo seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

4. Classified Resignation – Custodian – Petra Osuna

Petra Osuna has submitted a letter of resignation to the Buildings Director and the Superintendent. Ms. Osuna’s last day of employment will be December 18, 2020.

Mr. Hopkins made the motion to approve the resignation of Petra Osuna as of December 18, 2020. Mrs. Moore seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

b. Curriculum & Instruction

1. Approval of Instructional Delivery Model for January 2021

The Board is being asked to select an instructional model beginning January 4, 2021. Choices include but are not limited to: Option One. Full opening of school effective January 4, 2021 or subsequent date. Option Two. Hybrid opening model on January 4, 2021 or subsequent date. Three. Continue online instruction until a review of COVID outbreak rate is available after the holidays and vote on an instruction model at the February 10, 2021 Board Meeting. The administration shall make short term(two weeks or less) closure decisions. Four. Other possibilities.

Mrs. Duncan made the motion to approve option #3-continue online instruction until February 10, 2021 Board Meeting. Ms. Trujillo seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-1.

c. Business

1. Approval of Regular Board Meeting Dates for the 2021 Calendar Year

The following Regular Board Meeting Dates are recommended:

January 13th, February 10th, March 10th, April 14th, May 12th, June 9th, July 14th, August 11th, September 8th, October 13th, November 10th, and December 8th.

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Mr. Hopkins made the motion to approve the above dates for the regular session board meeting dates for the 2021 calendar year. Mrs. Robertson seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

2. Approval of 2021 Budget Revision

Arizona Revised Statute §15-905 (E) requires a District that exceeds the general budget limit and/or unrestricted capital budget limit by 1% of General Budget Limit to revise its budget by December 15. The Ajo Unified School District was notified on October 23, 2020 that it must reduce its 20-21 by \$510,542.

This reduction is due to the loss of approximately 76 students in FY20-21 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The current estimate does not yet include the reduction expected due to distance learning and the funding of AOI enrollment by the State.

Mr. Hopkins made the motion to approve the attached Ajo Schools budget revision for the fiscal year 2020/2021. Mrs. Duncan seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

3. Approval to Increase AUSD Minimum Wage starting January 1, 2021

The Ajo Unified School District Governing Board is being asked to formally approve the state voter approved minimum wage increase effective January 1, 2021 to \$12.15 per hour.

Mr. Hopkins made the motion to approve the minimum wage increase to \$12.15 per hour starting January 1, 2021. Mrs. Moore seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

President Marcia Duncan canceled the Executive Session – Superintendent’s Evaluation since not enough of the members sent in their evaluations to her.

Noting no other business, President of the Board, Mrs. Duncan, adjourned the meeting at 6:24 p.m.

Clerk of the Board

Date