

# 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.

November 4, 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, Phone	-	Laura Trujillo, Member
Absent	-	Windy Robertson, Member
Present	-	Robert Dooley, Superintendent
Present	-	Leonard Edlund, Principal
Absent	-	LeAnn Burns, Business Manager

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

#### 3. Adoption of the Agenda

It was moved by Mrs. Moore, and seconded by Ms. Trujillo, that the Governing Board adopt the agenda as presented. The vote to approve the agenda passed 4-0.

#### 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))

**Ms. Heidi Sallows, Art Teacher.** I'm going to refrain from giving my address at a public meeting. We were told at the beginning of the year that we couldn't have hand sanitizer and it was \$22,000 was spent on it and then I had to fight for it personally for teachers. Is this the way is this the way it's supposed to be? We haven't and still have it be given easy access to county provided paper masks or enough for all students staff and personnel here free of charge to the school or at least that is what I was told when I called the county personally. We were an are ossified and told we cannot have the water in the district offices, main offices, even prior to COVID because we drink too much. What? Office staff gets the equivalent of a gallon of water each per month per five gallon container the same size container in the teachers lounge for all staff and we only get the equivalent of 16 ounces a month, each if we're lucky is this fair no it is not and I had to actually argue to change that and I had anti get hand sanitizer in a pandemic and access to clean bird poop free drinking water while at work. The water fountain that was working at the beginning of the school year for an entire month was covered in bird poop so that

# AJO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 15

was nice but why bother right no one is listening. Mr. Edlund does seem to be listening and does seem to care he is personally walked water jugs into that teachers' lounge and I am tired of going in there and seeing the water our water in there not filled it's ridiculous 40 of us trying to get water but sorry to say I took offence personally also to comments personally containing to the board meeting that I attended about teachers we should be represented by a chosen staff member and able to speak on our own behalf before the board and during board meetings about topics pertaining particularly to especially when you're speaking about 301 monies as were discussed just because we don't turn in documentation of parent teacher conferences and all of our positive parent Contacts all of our adding to our workload paperwork doesn't mean what was suggested that we somehow are not doing our jobs and are not good teachers it's confusing for specials teachers in particular because and I list the reasons right after my speech which again which is in bold type and I'm going to withhold the rest of this statement until the next board meeting because you were lacking a particular board member. Which is in bold type for the sake of my three minutes so I'm going to move on from that statement none of us want to go above and beyond the call of our eight hours here and it's exhausting considering I'm the art teacher and was trying to rally teachers to help me put on a festival last weekend with ISDA that no one really wanted to help out with because we get nothing but heartache here from the administration instead (turns and looks at Mr. Edlund) we get written up without due process then you know that's true with no support from the school board which we have come to you last year and you did nothing you gave us no response we had ten teachers up here that came up here and spoke I have personally ask each one of those teachers if they got a response from the school board nothing is if we don't matter and we feel like this all the time instead we get written up without due process again no comradery just mentally pushed around and I'm tired of it we all are formally I would like to request went up to appeal to not getting my specials money that I feel like I was owed based upon my above written statement which you can't see right now but I don't think that is going to happen even if I put up a good fight it feels like you are more interested in finding reasons to withhold this money from us (turns to Dr. Dooley or Mr. Edlund. Bold showing, she raised her voice) **like a punishment... like bait...** then find reasons for us to get it  
*Angelina, Board Secretary: You have about 30 seconds*

Sallows: I don't care. a very respected teacher here has asked me to leave her unnamed and is and has been denied her full monies on ridiculous technicalities this time with administration or from an administrative mistake and she can't get hers as in highly organized on top of her job is she is why would I even think that I'm worthy to get mine (looks at Angelina again and turns papers forcefully) and other people have gone over 3 minutes so I am definitely going to filibuster

*President Marcia Duncan: I'm going to have to stop you there.*

Sallows: (continues, raises her voice, and talks over President Duncan) they denied her this year

*President Marcia Duncan:(banging her gavel) Heidi... come on...*

Sallows: (again Ms. Sallows continues talking with a raised voice over President Duncan): they have denied her appeal and she won't bring this to the board why why risk retaliation like I have seen in the write ups and allegations against me for speaking up for not for for us or just or just not just me but for us teachers we they don't want to speak up for themselves 'cause they are afraid of retaliation we have teachers here on visas that are afraid to speak up for themselves because they are afraid of retaliation and this board does nothing about it in this administration isn't doing anything about it I have personally talked to my boss about it nothing is happening and I'm begging you to do something

*President Marcia Duncan: we are doing something we're asking you to stop please.*

Sallows: I will stop now thank you.

## 6. Information Items

a. Governing Board Report – No Board member wished to give a report

b. Superintendent's Report

- I'd like to congratulate the winners of yesterday's governing board election. We have those the results in our county and our state results, although we have nothing in federal results yet. I want to congratulate Wendy she won a seat for two years. The reason it is only 2 years, or a two-year position is and when she was appointed to the board by the County Superintendent, she was in the 3rd year of another board members tenure. So, she first election that comes up she had to run for which would be this position, which is 2 years. In two years and she can run for a four-year position. Also elected to the board, if you have not heard, were Eric Krznarich and Lonnie Guthrie for four-year positions.
- I'm sure we're all tired of hearing about COVID. I wish would go away, but it's not. Some statistics I read recently the King that was were created by the Center for Disease Control, in all state and county health departments, we're ranking sixth in the nation for students under, people under 19 having COVID. So unfortunately, our neighbor to the North, Gila Bend opened up probably late September, I don't know if they had a hybrid system or full system, but they shut down early in the week because of outbreaks of seven students. So it's alive and well. About 14% of our cases in Arizona have been under 19 years of age.
- It seems like the age of our building is from the mid-50s for most part, buildings like this(building), the Art Room and the two rooms attached it are about 1968, I believe. I'm a little frustrated, we have AC needs. We have about \$40,000 of HVAC units that are technically on their last legs. I'd like to use school facilities board monies, however one of the challenges we face is that the School Facilities Board will not fund it unless it goes out. Hopefully with the weather the way it is, we can get those done. We have one classroom went out

# ***AJO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 15***

yesterday, the gymnasium, the mirror room, weight room has three or four units. They are large units that have gone out, but we are going to try to get those replaced I'll keep you posted.

- I need to clarify something that happened at our Monday night study session. At the end of the meeting there was a discussion that was in violation of the Open Meeting Law. I clarified with District Attorney and he said calls to the public and agendas must be listed to talk about things. He talked about to Arizona open meeting law which is 341.02 and then capital letter H, which states that if it was not on the agenda, it may not be discussed, considered, or acted on in any way. That goes for superintendent's report or calls to the public as well.
- Food service is still providing meals on campus to IEP and essential workers. We have students with IEPs on campus as well as students of parents are essential workers. The 25-30 students on campus eat lunch in the cafeteria, but Mr. Ogden still gives out to go meals to parents coming in and gives out meals at Bud Walker Park for two hours. In total the cafeteria 60 kids a day at Walker Park and about 70-80 a day in the cafeteria which includes students attending and meals given out.
- Mr. Edlund and I plan on doing an online town Hall on the 12th at 4:30. We want to talk about, at our last meeting we had a number of parents approach the podium and ask about opening schools and we want to talk about that a little bit; what we're planning, what we're trying to do to help kids be successful in the current operation plan and just general questions. A quote by HL Mencken goes, "For every complex problem there is an answer that is clear, simple, and wrong". The solution is not simple sounds but as soon as our (COVID) testing rate in the county drops below 5% versus spending three times at 2 weeks then sustains that they will reconsider opening. We haven't hit that yet. I'm not sure what's causing this increase, and we don't want it to affect our kids.
- A reminder, next Wednesday... World War I ended on the 11th hour on the 11 day of the 11th month, so we have Veterans Day. There will be no school on that day, so we will have a day off in the middle of the week, which is awkward. With federal holidays like veteran's day, the 4th of July and Christmas we can't move it to make a 3-day weekend, so there will be no office, cafeteria, or maintenance staff on campus Wednesday November 11th.

## **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 Mrs. Duncan and seconded by Mrs. Moore that the Governing Board adopt the agenda as presented. The motioned passed 4-0.

## **8. Board Action Items**

### **a. Business**

#### **1. Approval of 2020 Proposition 301 Payment**

Robert Ogden taught Culinary Arts for the fall semester of the 19/20 academic year. He qualifies for a reduced proposition 301 payout due to length of time he taught and the date he received his teaching certificate. Amount is listed in the back up information attached.

Mr. Hopkins made the motion to approve the attached Prop 301 payout for Robert Ogden for the 19/20 academic year. Ms. Trujillo seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

# ***AJO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 15***

Regular Session Board Meeting  
November 4, 2020  
Page 4

## **2. ASBA Policy Withdrawal**

ASBA Policy Services notified member districts to withdraw Policy GCCA & GCKA which were recommended in policy advisories 670 & 671 respectfully. The withdrawal is due to avoid any confusion with the Families First Corona Virus Response Act (FFCRA).

Mrs. Duncan made the motion to approve the withdrawal of Governing Board Policies GCCA & GCKA. Ms. Trujillo seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

## **3. Approval to Dispose of School Property**

Lupe Bandin, the district's fixed assets/inventory specialists has requested disposal of equipment forms that include outdated, obsolete, unsafe or inoperable equipment pursuant to Arizona Administrative Code (AAC), Title 7, Chapter 2, R7-2-1131.

Items include: #21-001 file cabinets, #21-002 a band saw & table saw, #21-003 a food slicer, & #21-004 various pianos. Pictures and inventory paperwork are attached as back up. The equipment to be disposed of will be disposed by the authorized method of online auction, at [www.publicsurplus.com](http://www.publicsurplus.com).

Mr. Hopkins made the motion to approve disposal of the attached equipment. Mrs. Trujillo seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

## **4. Approval of Disposal/Trade in of School Property- White Activity Bus**

The 2007 white international school bus failed in June 2020. This bus is a 15-passenger activity bus that any staff member can drive. Quotes have been received from RWC International for two styles of white activity busses. Part of the quote for new activity busses is a "trade in" cost where RWC will recycle or dispose of the old activity bus. A disposal form and copy of the title is attached. A quote from RWC for a new bus and the trade I amount will be forwarded to the Board by email.

Ms. Trujillo made the motion to approve the disposal (trade in) of the #7 activity bus with the purchase of a new bus. Mrs. Duncan seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

# ***AJO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 15***

Regular Session Board Meeting

November 4, 2020

Page 5

## **B. Personnel**

### **1. Classified Employment – Paraprofessional – Valeria Chavez**

Valeria Chavez has been interviewed and reference checks completed for the position of paraprofessional/teacher's aide.

Ms. Trujillo made the motion to approve the employment of Valeria Chavez as a paraprofessional. Mr. Hopkins seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

Noting no other business, President of the Board, Mrs. Duncan, adjourned the meeting at 5:54 p.m.

---

Clerk of the Board

---

Date