

Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees Alpine ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Alpine ISD was held on Wednesday, June 21, 2023, beginning at 5:30 PM in the Alpine ISD Administration Building, Board Room.

I. Call Meeting to Order

Board President Eddie Natera called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

Members Present: Nikki Ahrens, Haley Babb, Adrian Billings, Mary McCallister, Jimmy Morris, and Board President, Eddie Natera

Members Absent: Joe Portillo

Others Present: Michelle Rinehart, Superintendent of Schools

II. Invocation

III. Pledges of Allegiance to the Flags

IV. Verification of Compliance with the Open Meetings Law. This is to verify that the provisions of Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.041 in connection with public posting of meeting notice was met on June 15, 2023 at 4:05 p.m.

V. Open Forum - Public Comment

None

VI. Public Hearing to Discuss ESSA Use of Funds Plan for 2023-2024 (Goals 1, 2, 3, 4)

Board President Eddie Natera adjourned the regular meeting, and convened the Public Hearing at 5:32 p.m. for discussion of ESSA Use of Funds Plan for 2023-2024.

In the absence of Caroline Fox, Director of Special Programs, Chris Valenzuela, CFO, reviewed the preliminary planning amounts and proposed uses of ESSA funds for 2023-2024.

Program, Anticipated Allocations, and Proposed Uses are as follows:

- Title I, Part A - \$219,364 – For Teacher Salaries
- Title II, Part A - \$42,238 – For Teacher Salaries

- Title III, Part A - \$ 6,203 – For Shared Service Arrangement with Region 18 ESC
- Title IV, Part A - \$ 16,700 – Teacher Salaries
- American Rescue Plan (ARP) - \$1,665,862 – Teacher Salaries, Educational Technology, Addressing Learning Loss, and Sanitizing

Board President Eddie Natera adjourned the public hearing, and re-convened the regular meeting at 5:36 p.m.

VII. Campus Principal Reports (Goal 1)

A. Alpine Elementary School

In Mr. Wubbena’s absence, Dr. Rinehart reviewed the Elementary report. Three Elementary paraprofessionals are on a certification track to become certified teachers. AES hosted the Senior Walk for Seniors and PK 4 year olds for the PK Graduation. Reviewed GT activities and reported on a grant for AES to purchase a Flex Farm Machine , a hydroponics garden and a TEKS based curriculum to align with 5th grade science initiatives. Reported on end-of-year activities. Reported on scheduled trainings for the new Eureka and Amplify curriculums.

B. Alpine Middle School

Ms. Pardo reviewed updates to the Middle School goals and objectives. Reported on success of summer school, and staff trainings scheduled for the new Eureka and Amplify trainings. Reported on security checks as well as plans for updating critical response plans. Reported on 8th grade activities pertaining to Career Readiness. Reported on use of Remind and Newsletter to communicate with parents. Reported on end-of-year activities and awards. Reported on GT training and technology updates.

C. Alpine High School

In the absence of Mr. Vickers, Dr. Rinehart reviewed the High School Report. Reported on Summer School . Report on streamlining of digital signage via Google Chromecast and work on rooms to be used for storage, meetings, and film areas for students. Reported on progress towards Dashboard for Rural CCMR Accelerator Grant Program, and Ms. Low’s acquisition of proctor status to be able to administer TSI Exam at AHS. Completion of Campus Needs Assessment Meetings and scheduling of Freshman parent meeting. Reported on re-working of Policies and Procedures for tardies, attendance, and lunch.

VIII. Review and Consideration of CCR 070R: Panels Under Concession Stand Wall (Goals 1, 2, 4)

Dr. Rinehart reviewed CCR 070R: Panels Under Concession Stand Wall. She said the change order had been updated to a cost of \$1,073.84 for materials only, with Imperial agreeing to do the installation at no cost.

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Haley Babb, to approve Dr. Rinehart's recommendation to accept CCR 070R, Panels Under Concession Stand Walls, as presented.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

IX. Review and Consideration of CCR 071: Audio/Video for Cafeteria and Band Hall (Goals 1, 2, 4)

Dr. Rinehart reviewed CCR 071: Audio/Video for Cafeteria and Band Hall, explaining that the change order had been divided into two parts – Part A and Part B. Part A addresses a projector and big screen for the cafeteria at a cost of \$28,993.00. Electrical requirements are already in place in the cafeteria. Part B would provide for a speaker system for the band hall at a cost of \$ 24,658.00. Dr. Rinehart told board members that the quote for the band hall speaker system seemed very high and she was not recommending action on that project at this time. Dr. Rinehart did recommend proceeding the Part A of the change order to provide for the Audio/Visual equipment in the cafeteria. She explained she believed the project would be more expensive to complete at a later date. Discussion followed.

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Haley Babb to approve Dr. Rinehart's recommendation to accept CCR071, Part A to authorize installation of Audio/Visual equipment in the cafeteria, as presented.

Motion failed – 3 – 3, with Dr. Billings, Ms.Babb, and Ms. McCallister voting for, and Mr. Natera, Mr. Morris, and Ms. Ahrens voting against

X. Review and Consideration of Bids Received for (Child Care Center Renovations) (Goals 1, 2, 3, 4)

Dr. Rinehart reviewed the progress with bids, saying bids are being received, but not enough to act on at this time.

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Nikki Ahrens, to take no action at this time on the bids for renovations.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XI. Review and Consideration of Resolutions to Add Chris Valenzuela as an Authorized Representative to Investment Pool Accounts, and Removing Clay Braden as an Authorized Representative. (Goal 2)

A. First Public Lone Star Investment Pool

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Jimmy Morris to remove Clay Braden, and add Chris Valenzuela to the First Public Lone Star Investment Pool account.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

B. Texas FIT (Fixed Income Trust)

A motion was made by Adrian Billings, seconded by Jimmy Morris to remove Clay Braden, and add Chris Valenzuela to the Texas FIT (Fixed Income Trust) account.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

C. TexPool

A motion was made by Haley Babb, seconded by Jimmy Morris to remove Clay Braden, and add Chris Valenzuela to the TexPool account.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

D. Texas Class (Texas Cooperative Liquid Assets Securities System Trust)

A motion was made by Adrian Billings, seconded by Mary McCallister to remove Clay Braden, and add Chris Valenzuela to the Texas Cooperative Liquid Assets Securities System (Texas Class) Trust account.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XII. Review and Consideration of Action to Approve Authorized Signers for West Texas National Bank Accounts and Safety Deposit Boxes. (Goal 2)

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Nikki Ahrens to approve action to change authorized signers for West Texas National Bank accounts and safety deposit boxes by adding Chris Valenzuela and Saylea Mayfield as signers, and removing Clay Braden and Katie Moody.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XIII. Review and Consideration of Bids Received for Bank Depository Contract (Goals 2)

Clay Braden reviewed the main topics of consideration with each bank depository, the bids, and the process. Bids were received from Fort Davis State Bank, TransPecos Banks, and West Texas National Bank. Dr. Rinehart and Mr. Braden recommended accepting the bid from West Texas National Bank, to contract with for Bank Depository services.

A motion was made by Adrian Billings, seconded by Nikki Ahrens to approve Dr. Rinehart's recommendation to contract with West Texas National Bank for Bank Depository services.

Motion carried – 5 – 0 – 1 with Eddie Natera abstaining

XIV. Review and Consideration of Projects for Alpine Public Education Fund (Goals 1, 2, 3, 4)

Dr. Rinehart reviewed the current projects and amounts received for the Alpine Public Education fund. Projects and amounts are as follows:

- Alpine Elementary Library Renovation - \$ 60,000
- Angel Meals Account - \$ 3,000
- Alpine ISD Staff Appreciation - \$ 7,500
- 2023-2024 School Supplies - \$ -0-
- Student Summer Camps - \$ 1,000
- Volleyball Net System at AHS - \$ -0-
- Weight Room Renovation - \$ 60
- Read Alpine - \$5,000
- Unassigned Funds - \$ 19,170

A motion was made by Nikki Ahrens, seconded by Mary McCallister to approve acceptance of amounts received for projects under the Alpine Public Education Fund.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XV. Reports (Goal 2)
A. Chief Financial Officer
1. Monthly Report

Clay Braden, CFO, reviewed the tax collections and financials for the month of May, 2023

2. Discussion of Financial Topics – addressed under budget workshop

XVI. Consideration of Budget Amendments (Goal 2)

None

XVII. Consent Items
A. Board Minutes of Previous Meetings (Goal 3)
1. May 15, 2023 - Regular Meeting

B. District Expenditures for Month of May, 2023 (Goal 2)

A motion was made by Adrian Billings, seconded by Jimmy Morris, to approve the consent items, as presented.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XVIII. Budget Workshop for 2023-2024 (Goals 1, 2, 3, 4)

Clay Braden reviewed the status of the current budgets. He projected a deficit of approximately \$179,000, as opposed to the \$300,000 deficit projected in the adopted budget for FY 2022-2023. Dr. Rinehart reviewed staff adjustments, inflation, cost of mentors, and other factors that impacted the current budget.

Mr. Braden and Dr. Rinehart reviewed the numbers for the proposed budget for 2023-2024, based on preliminary CAD values. The proposed budget would include a projected deficit of approximately \$ 230,970.85, and would be built on an ADA of 815. Dr. Rinehart discussed ongoing problems with State funding.

XIX. Review Proposed Alpine ISD Compensation Plans for 2023-2024 (Information Only - No Action Required) (Goals 1, 2)

Dr. Rinehart reviewed the proposed changes to the Compensation Plan for 2023-2024, and discussed the projected impact to the budget. She told board members that additional information and recommendations will be provided to the Board during the July board meeting.

Board President Eddie Natera recessed the meeting at 7:45 p.m. for a brief break. President Natera reconvened the meeting at 7:50 in regular session.

XX. Review and Consideration of TASB Policy Update 121, affecting local policies:

- **Legal Policies**
- **Local Policies (see following list of codes):**
 - CCGB(LOCAL): AD VALOREM TAXES - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
 - CFB(LOCAL): ACCOUNTING - INVENTORIES
 - CLB(LOCAL): BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT - MAINTENANCE
 - CRF(LOCAL): INSURANCE AND ANNUITIES MANAGEMENT - UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
 - CVA(LOCAL): FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION - COMPETITIVE BIDDING
 - CVB(LOCAL): FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION - COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSALS
 - DEA(LOCAL): COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS - COMPENSATION PLAN
 - FD(LOCAL): ADMISSIONS

○ FFI(LOCAL): STUDENT WELFARE - FREEDOM FROM BULLYING

Dr. Rinehart introduced April Dabbs, a Speech Language Pathology Assistant with the 588 Educational Coop, who is currently working on her Superintendent Internship. Dr. Rinehart explained that Ms. Dabbs would review the policies under consideration and highlight the changes. Dr. Rinehart then explained the reason for the update, and recommended approval.

A motion was made by Nikki Ahrens, seconded by Mary McCallister, to approve Dr. Rinehart's recommendation to adopt TASB Policy Update 121, as presented.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XXI. Review and Consideration of Action Granting an Exception to Board Policy DC (Local), Thereby Delegating Temporary Hiring Authority to the Superintendent for the Months of July and August, 2023. (Goals 1, 2, 3, 4)

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Haley Babb, to approve action granting an exception to Board Policy DC (Local), thereby delegating temporary hiring authority to the Superintendent for the months of July and August, 2023.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XXII. Superintendent Report (Goal 1, 2, 3, 4)

A. Alpine ISD Board Report

Dr. Rinehart reviewed upcoming projects for staff training, which will be grant funded and highlighted on-going activities. She told board members that Imperial is continuing work on the punch list and still plans to be out by August 1st. Dr. Rinehart gave accolades to Mr. Nance and Mr. Braden for the work done towards the roll-over to the Big Bend Telephone system.

B. Enrollment and Attendance Report

Enrollment Report

Total enrollment stands at 962, with an ADA of 93.4 %.

Enrollment for the campuses is:

Alpine High School: 310 enrollment;

Alpine Middle School: 269 enrollment;

Alpine Elementary School: 383 enrollment;

XXIII. Closed Session - Pursuant to Texas Gov't Code Section 551.072 & Section 551.074

The Board adjourned to executive session at 8:05 p.m.

- A. Personnel - Hear and Deliberate Regarding Superintendent Recommendations for Personnel. Texas Gov't Code Section 551.074 (Goal 1)**
- 1. Employee Resignations or Retirements**
 - 2. Superintendent Recommendations for Employee Contracts for 2023-2024**
 - 3. Review of Recommendations for Employee Contracts for 588 Educational Co-op for 2023-2024**

XXIV. Open Session - Consider and Take Possible Action on Closed Session Deliberations

The Board reconvened in open session, at 8:57 p.m., taking action on Closed session deliberations as indicated below.

- A. Consider and Take Possible Action Regarding Personnel. Texas Gov't Code Section 551.074 (Goal 1)**
- 1. Employee Resignations or Retirements**

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Haley Babb, to approve Dr. Rinehart's recommendation to accept the resignations of Sarah Beth Baxley, Albert DeLeon, Paola Gutierrez, and Nathan Struthers, effective at the end of their current contracts.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

- 2. Superintendent Recommendations for Employee Contracts for 2023-2024**

A motion was made by Adrian Billings, seconded by Mary McCallister, to approve Dr. Rinehart's recommendation to offer Non-Certified Teaching Contracts, with Addendums to Graciela Galindo, Cecilia Torres, Shannon Brooke Mayfield, and Ariana Rodriguez, and to offer a Dual-Assignment, Non-Certified Teacher Contract with Addendum to Doug Gray, for the 2023-2024 School Year.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

- 3. Recommendations for Employee Contracts for 588 Educational Co-op for 2023-2024**

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Haley Babb, to accept Dr. Rinehart's recommendation to offer a Non-Certified Professional Contract to Victoria Aguilar as a Speech-Language Pathologist with the 588 Educational Co-op, and a Probationary Contract to Ruby Monica Dominguez, as an ARD Facilitator with the 588 Educational Co-op.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XXV. Schedule Future Meetings

- Wednesday, June 28, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. – Alpine ISD Administration Building Board Room, Special Meeting

XXVI. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Jimmy Morris, seconded by Haley Babb to adjourn the meeting at 8:59 p.m.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

*The Board may retire to executive session at any time between the meeting's opening and adjournment for purposes of deliberating business as authorized in Texas Government Code, Title 5, Subchapter D, Sections 551.071-551.074 and 551.076. Action, if any, will be taken in open session. (Texas Government Code Chapter 551.102)



Board President



Board Secretary

Date of Approval: July 26, 2023