

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, July 26, 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 p.m.

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

Members Absent: Adrian Billings

Others Present: Michelle Rinehart, Superintendent of Schools
Derek Kaser and Allan Wolfe, representing Parkhill; and
Chad Bernard, of Imperial Construction.

II. Pledges of Allegiance to the Flags

III. 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 July 22, 2023 at 4:06 p.m.

IV. Open Forum - Public Comment - None

V. Construction Updates (Goals 1, 2, 4)

A. Alpine ISD – Dr. Rinehart provided an update on the construction project for Alpine ISD. She said the 11-month walk-through went well. The punchlist is down to approximately 12 issues. The floor remediation has been completed as well as it can be. Grass is beginning to take hold. Minor issues are being addressed. Final CCR's and final report will be presented in August. Mr. Vickers said that programming issues have been addressed and very few issues remain on the punch list. Mr. Vickers was very positive about the status of the high school project. He said he appreciates all that Chayo Gonzales and the AISD facility crew have done to help with the high school.

B. Imperial Construction – Chad Bernard reported for Imperial Construction. He commended Mr. Vickers for the job he is doing to take care of the High School. He said with it having been occupied for a year, it is in excellent condition. Mr. Bernard said they have received the Certificate of Occupancy from the City of Alpine. He said the landscaping work is going well.

Continuing work on the punchlists. Said he hopes to complete the majority of the items before school starts.

- C. **Parkhill** – Allan Wolfe commended Imperial Construction on completion of the HS project. Will continue to oversee work on the punchlists. Final CCR’s will be presented during the August board meeting. The ADA walkthrough is scheduled for August 2nd. He expressed his appreciation to Alpine ISD for being trusted with the job.

VI. Campus Principal Reports (Goal 1)

A. Alpine Elementary School – Curtis Wubbena, Principal

Very excited about new staff. Is implementing new steps to work toward more robust curriculum- Amplify and Eureka, for ELAR and Math respectively. These will provide high quality instructional materials to better equip staff for teaching.

B. Alpine Middle School – Judith Pardo, Principal

Middle School will also be implementing Amplify and Eureka. Provides better resources for teachers. Teachers will be collaborating across grade levels. Will be working on character education as well as enrichment for students.

C. Alpine High School – Jarrett Vickers, Principal

Have alligned all conference periods for EOC teachers. Will be implementing Student of the Month. Freshman orientation August 9th. Discussed new electives being offered.

VII. Athletic Director Report (Goals 1, 3) – Coach Andy Smith

Discussed redesign of live-streaming. New technology, HUDL-TV, is being implemented to simplify the process. Has developed goals and objectives personally for each coach, as well as goals and objectives for each sport. Reviewed the status of coaches obtaining CDL. Working on vertical alignment across campuses to encourage younger kids about athletics. Discussed beginning schedules and discussed Leadership Council.

VIII. Reports (Goal 2)

A. Chief Financial Officer

1. Monthly Report

Chris Valenzuela, CFO, reviewed the tax collections and financials for the month of June, 2023

2. Discussion of Financial Topics - None

IX. Consideration of Budget Amendments (Goal 2)
None

X. Consent Items

A. Board Minutes of Previous Meetings (Goal 3)

1. June 21, 2023 - Regular Meeting

2. June 28, 2023 - Special Meeting

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Joe Portillo, to approve the minutes of previous meetings, as presented.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

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

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Joe Portillo, to approve the expenditures, as presented.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XI. Review and Consideration of Proposed Revisions to Alpine ISD Policies (Goals 1, 2, 3)

A. Board Policy DEC (Local) – Dr. Rinehart explained the proposed changes to Board Policy DEC (Local), which will increase local leave days for school personnel from 3 local days to 5 local days.

A motion was made by Joe Portillo, seconded by Mary McCallister, to approve Dr. Rinehart's recommendation to adopt changes to Board Policy DEC (Local), as presented.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

B. Board Policy DED (Local) – Dr. Rinehart recommended postponing action on Board Policy DED (Local), until later in the Fall.

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Jimmy Morris, to approve Dr. Rinehart's recommendation to postpone action on Board Policy DED (Local).

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XII. Review and Consideration of Alpine ISD Compensation Plans (Goals 1, 2)

Dr. Rinehart recommended postponing action on consideration of the Alpine ISD Compensation Plan until a later meeting.

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Haley Babb to approve Dr. Rinehart's recommendation to postpone action on the Alpine ISD Compensation Plan.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XIII. Review and Consideration of Renewal of Insurance Coverage Through TASB Risk Management Fund for 2023-2024 (Goals 1, 2, 4)

Dr. Rinehart reviewed the summaries for the annual insurance renewal, recommending Option II, with a lower cost and a higher deductible. The total cost is \$253,693.

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Haley Babb to approve Option II for Renewal of Insurance Coverage Through TASB Risk Management Fund for 2023-2024, as proposed.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XIV. Review and Consideration of Bids for Fire Alarm System at Alpine Middle School (Goals 2, 4)

Dr. Rinehart reviewed the problems with the current system and explained that only one quote had been received for replacement of the current system. She said this topic would be for review only, as action could not be taken with only one bid to consider. She said they would continue to solicit additional quotes.

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Joe Portillo to take no action.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XV. Review and Consideration of Alpine ISD's Professional Development Plan for 2023-2024 (SB 1267) (Goals 1, 2, 3)

Dr. Rinehart explained that presentation of the plan fulfills a state requirement.

A motion was made by Joe Portillo, seconded by Jimmy Morris, to approve Alpine ISD's Professional Development Plan for 2023-2024 (SB 1267), as presented.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XVI. Review and Consideration of T-TESS Appraisal Calendar and List of Approved Appraisers for 2023-2024 (Goal 1)

Dr. Rinehart reviewed the Appraisal Calendar and list of approved appraisers, fulfilling state requirements.

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Haley Babb, to approve Dr. Rinehart's recommendation to adopt the T-TESS Appraisal Calendar and List of Approved Appraisers for 2023-2024, as presented.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XVII. Review and Consideration of Interlocal Agreement for the Provision of Law Enforcement Services with Brewster County (Goals 1, 2, 3)

Dr. Rinehart reviewed the proposed interlocal agreement.

A motion was made by Haley Babb, seconded by Joe Portillo to approve Dr. Rinehart's recommendation to approve the Interlocal Agreement for the Provision of Law Enforcement Services with Brewster County, as presented.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XVIII. Accountability Update (STAAR/EOC Assessments for 2022-2023) - Information Only (Goal 1)

Dr. Rinehart discussed the changes in accountability standards being made by the state. She also reviewed the preliminary STAAR results.

XIX. Review of Alpine ISD Employee Handbook for the 2023-2024 School Year - Information Only (Goals 1, 2, 3, 4)

Dr. Rinehart highlighted changes to the Employee handbook.

XX. Discussion of Alpine ISD's Legislative Priorities for the 2023 Texas Legislative Education Special Session (Goals 1, 2, 3, 4)

Dr. Rinehart commended the Board for adopting the Resolution in Response to State Underfunding of Rural Public Schools. She said the resolution is being widely discussed across the State. She explained the reasons for development of Legislative priorities, and discussed possible priorities, with the main priority being underfunding and teacher salaries.

XXI. Superintendent Report (Goal 1, 2, 3, 4) – Michelle Rinehart , Superintendent

A. Alpine ISD Board Report

Dr. Rinehart highlighted activities geared towards Alpine ISD goals and objectives. Discussed grants that have been received, as well as grants being applied for.

B. Legislative Updates

Dr. Rinehart discussed school safety and security funding issues and requirements for student tutoring. Additionally, she told the Board that they will be required to take a record vote on whether or not to hire a campus chaplain.

C. Facility Planning

Dr. Rinehart told the Board that she would like for the Board to develop a 5-year maintenance plan for the district. She proposed working with a company to do a needs assessment and plan how it would be funded. Some of the emerging needs include:

- Fire Alarm Systems
- Playground at Alpine Elementary School
- A/C units for all buildings, with a replacement schedule
- Turf at Buck Stadium
- Repairs to Kokernot Field

Consideration has to be given to how these repairs will be funded. Additionally, Dr. Rinehart told Board members that Alpine ISD would be receiving Hotel Occupancy Tax funds for Kokernot Field. She discussed two pathways for work on the field – renovation or restoration, and the merits of each. She told Board members that there is a group wanting to pursue National Historical Registry designation for Kokernot Field. If approved, any work would have to follow guidelines for restoration, as opposed to renovation.

Sul Ross has suggested a potential partnership between SRSU, Alpine ISD, and two other entities to access funds available to SRSU for restoration. Partnership would require collaboration between entities, as well as division of costs.

Alpine ISD is currently working on the current lease with SRSU. Key points to consider are: 1) Continued ownership; 2) Maintenance; 3) Renovation or Restoration.

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

The Board adjourned to executive session at 8:07 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

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

The Board reconvened in open session, at 9:05 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 Jimmy Morris, to accept, with regrets, the resignation of Julie Sanchez-Wise, as teacher at Alpine Elementary School

Motion carried – 6 – 0

2. Superintendent Recommendations for Employee Contracts for 2023-2024

A motion was made by Nikki Ahrens, seconded by Mary McCallister, to approve Dr. Rinehart's recommendation to offer a Probationary Non-Certified contract with certification and ESL addendum to Marcos Rodriguez for the position of High School teacher.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XXIV. Schedule Future Meetings

- Wednesday, August 16, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. – Alpine ISD Administration Building Board Room, Regular Meeting

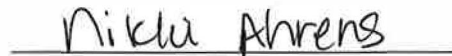
XXV. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Jimmy Morris to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 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: 8/29/2023