

Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees Alpine ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Alpine ISD was held Wednesday, May 19, 2021, 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 5:30 p.m.

Members Present: Justin Cross, Mary McCallister, Joe Portillo, and Eddie Natera

Others Present: Becky McCutchen, Superintendent of Schools
Jimmy Morris, Nikki Ahrens

Members Absent: Adrian Billings, Rachel Carvajal, and Billy Ray Laxton

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 May 14, 2021 at 3:15 p.m.

V. Open Forum - Public Comment - None

VI. Post-Election Procedures (Goals 1, 2, 3, 4)

A. Administer Oath of Office to Newly Elected Board Members in Single Member Districts #1, #3, and #4

Notary Public, Marsha Roach, administered the oath of office to newly re-elected board member, Eddie Natera, Single Member District # 1, and to newly elected board members Nikki Ahrens, Single Member District # 3, and Jimmy Morris, Single Member District # 4.

B. Consider Action for Reorganization of Board of Trustees

A motion was made by Joe Portillo, seconded by Nikki Ahrens, to retain the current slate of officers – Eddie Natera, Board President; Mary McCallister, Board Vice-President, and Justin Cross, Secretary.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

VII. Consideration of Action to Approve Recipients of 2021 Alpine ISD Board of Trustee Scholarship (Goal 3)

Esteban Ramos and Sarah Romero-Rodriguez were introduced to the Board.

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Justin Cross to award \$500 scholarships to Esteban Ramos and Sarah Romero-Rodriguez.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

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

In Attendance:

Les Burke – Parkhill

Allan Wolf – Parkhill

Bobby Kelley – Project Manager

Frank Patton – Construction Manager

Paul Kucera – Site Supervisor

Jon Jones – Imperial Construction

- A. Alpine ISD Update – Ms. McCutchen reviewed the number of workers on site, as well as the work being done.
- B. Imperial Construction Update – Mr. Patton reviewed the progress on various stages of the construction project, including concrete being poured, plumbing work, and on-going work on the HVAC systems for the gyms.
- C. Parkhill Update – Continuing to process CCR's as needed, as well as submittals. Discussed the process for looking at various option for materials. Mr. Wolf discussed exterior issues with the current building and the remedies being implemented.

IX. Review and Consideration of Approval of CCR 006R - Changes Made by I.T. Department on WiFi, Data, Outlets, and Card Readers (Goal 2, 4)

Mr. Burke reviewed the need for changes after discussion with the Alpine ISD IT department. Ms. McCutchen recommended action on this item be postponed until additional information is available.

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Joe Portillo to postpone action on CCR 006R until a later meeting when additional information is available.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

X. Review and Consideration of Options for Exterior Finishes on High School Construction Project (Goal 2, 4)

Mr. Burke explained to the Board that the original products chosen will not be available . He showed various samples for option for exterior finishes and discussed the pros and cons.

Board President Eddie Natera called for a brief recess at 6:33 p.m. to give board members an opportunity to view the various options for exterior finishes. The Board reconvened in open session at 6:48 p.m.

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Joe Portillo to approve Option 4, #403 Red Bonfire terracotta panels for the exterior panels.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XI. Review and Consideration of Quotes Received for Purchase of District-wide Phone System (Goal 2, 4)

Darrin Nance, Director of Technology, discussed the current phone system, and the reasons for updating. He then reviewed the quotes received, and recommended accepting the quote from Big Bend Telephone.

A motion was made by Joe Portillo, seconded by Jimmy Morris to accept the recommendations of Ms. McCutchen and Mr. Nance, and accept the quote from Big Bend Telephone Communications for the purchase of a district – wide phone system.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XII. Review and Consideration of Approved List of Signers for Bank Accounts with West Texas National Bank (Goal 2)

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Joe Portillo to approve the following as current signers for all Aline ISD bank accounts with West Texas National Bank:

- Eddie Natera
- Justin Cross
- Clay Braden
- Rebecca McCutchen

Adititionally, approve the following for the Alpine ISD Activity Accounts:

- Marsha Roach

And remove all other previously approved signers.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XIII. Monthly Update on HB3 Board Goals (Goal 1)

Mr. Sanchez discussed the progress towards HB3 goals, including the percentage of certifications for seniors. Ms. McCutchen commended Alpine High School for the on-going efforts for progress on each of the HB3 goals.

Mr. O'Bryant reviewed progress towards HB3 goals for Alpine Elementary School. Mr. O'Bryant told board members that the original goals have been met, and consideration may need to be given towards reassessing the need for new goals.

XIV. Campus Data Presentations (Goal 1)

A. Alpine Elementary School

Mr. O'Bryant discussed progress by grade level on standard assessments from beginning of year to end of year, as well as summer school plans. For ESSER III requirements, Mr. O'Bryant reviewed the data from the Reading Interventionist and the success of the program. He also reviewed the data from a mental health study and recommendations for personnel, including the need for a behavior specialist.

B. Alpine Middle School

Mr. Patterson reviewed the caseload of the District LPC, Ms. Cheatham, and her interns. He also reviewed the data and progress on Unit tests and benchmarks, and discussed plans for summer school. Mr. Patterson presented the results of a comprehensive needs assessment for ESSER III and the recommendations based on the assessment.

C. Alpine High School

Mr. Sanchez reviewed data from end-of-course assessments and the plans for summer school. Mr. Sanchez also reviewed information obtained from ESSER III needs assessment, and agreed with the other campuses that additional mental health services are needed. He stated that similar needs are shared by all the campuses.

XV. Reports (Goal 2)

A. Chief Financial Officer

1. Monthly Report

Becky McCutchen reviewed the tax collections and financials for the month of April, 2021.

2. Discussion of Financial Topics

Ms. McCutchen told board members that funding from TEA has indicated that the "Hold Harmless" guidelines have helped the budget and the district should end the year in better shape than anticipated.

XVI. Consideration of Budget Amendments (Goal 2) - None

XVII. Review of Preliminary Budget for 2021-2022 (Goals 1, 2, 3, 4)

Ms. McCutchen reviewed each function and projected amounts for 2021-2022. Currently, based on projections, the proposed budget will include a projected deficit of \$100,000. However, adjustments are still being made.

XVIII. Consent Items

A. Board Minutes of Previous Meetings (Goal 3)

1. April 21, 2021 - Regular Meeting
2. May 10, 2021 - Special Meeting

B. District Expenditures for Month of April, 2021 (Goal 2)

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Justin Cross, to approve the consent items, as presented.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XIX. Review and Consideration of Resolution Regarding ESSER III and Policy CB (LOCAL), State and Federal Revenue Sources (Goal 1, 2, 3, 4)

Ms. McCutchen explained the programs and the requirements and explained the need for the resolution.

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Joe Portillo, to approve Ms. McCutchen's recommendation to adopt the resolution regarding ESSER III and Policy CB (Local), State and Federal Revenue Sources, as presented.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XX. 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 June, July, and August, 2021 (Goal 1)

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Justin Cross to grant an exception to Policy DC (Local) and delegate temporary hiring authority to the superintendent for the months of June, July, and August 2021.

Motion carried - 6 – 0

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

A. Enrollment Report

Total enrollment stands at 946, with an ADA of 95.13 %.

Enrollment for the campuses is:

Alpine High School: 306 enrollment; ADA of 96.54 %.

Alpine Middle School: 275 enrollment; ADA of 94.95 %.
Alpine Elementary School: 355 enrollment; ADA of 94.37 %

B. ESSER III Update

Ms. McCutchen reviewed the American Rescue Plan – Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER III), explaining the program, projected allocations, requirements, and timelines.

C. Update on Summer Leadership Institute (SLI) Conference

Ms. McCutchen explained that Alpine ISD was not one of the districts chosen to attend SLI in person. Board members agreed they did not want to attend virtually. Region 18 ESC will be hosting a Board conference in July to cover some of the topics being addressed during SLI. Board members indicated an interest in attending the Region 18 Conference.

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

The Board adjourned to executive session at 8:17 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 2021-2022**

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

The Board reconvened in open session, at 9:12 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 Nikki Ahrens, to accept the resignations of Adriana Galindo, Monica Soto, Sara Staton, Lauren Smith, Ginger Elliott, and Octavio Frausto, all teachers with the District. Additionally, the board will regretfully accept the resignation of Verl O'Bryant and Elementary Principal, effective June 30, 2021.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

2. Superintendent Recommendations for Employee Contracts for 2021-2022

A motion was made by Justin Cross, seconded by Mary McCallister, to approve Ms. McCutchen's recommendation to offer contracts as follows: Michelle Ramos, one-year Probationary with an ESL addendum; Wayne Schroeder, one-year Dual Assignment Probationary with an ESL addendum; Alexis Vogel, one-year Probationary; Casey Valenzuela, one-year Probationary with certification addendum; Sarah Baxley, one-year Probationary with ESL addendum; Taylor Little, one-year Probationary; Emily Hendryx, one-year Probationary with ESL addendum; and transfer of Jessica Chavez from Alpine Elementary School to Alpine High School as Assistant Principal.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XXIV. Schedule Future Meetings

- Tuesday, June 8, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. – Alpine ISD Administration Building Board Room, Special Meeting
- Tuesday, June 29, 2021 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 9:15 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: 6/29/2021