

Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees Alpine ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Alpine ISD was held Wednesday, December 16, 2020, beginning at 5:30 PM was held in the Alpine High School Library. Additionally, the meeting was available to the public via Video/Audio Conferencing - See Log-in Information Below Under Verification of Compliance with Open Meeting Law.

I. Call Meeting to Order

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

Members Present: Adrian Billings, Rachel Carvajal, Justin Cross, Billy Ray Laxton, Mary McCallister, Joe Portillo, and Eddie Natera

Others Present: Becky McCutchen, Superintendent of Schools; Les Burke, Parkhill

Members Absent: None

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 December 11, 2020 at 3:15 p.m.

Video/Audio Conferencing Notice: Pursuant to Governor Abbott's Temporary Suspension of Open Meetings Laws issued on March 16, 2020, this meeting will be conducted in-person, as well as via video-conference and/or audioconference, which will be audible to the Board and public and allow for two-way communication. The Board President, presiding officer or trustees may not be physically present at one location but a quorum will be required for the meeting on the videoconference or phone. The public may access this meeting via the following link:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://edlink18.zoom.us/j/82335345081?pwd=NlcvalhVc00zNk9BUFlmNEVNUXhtUT09>

Meeting ID: 823 3534 5081, Passcode: 056036

An electronic copy of the agenda packet may be viewed at the following link: https://www.alpine.esc18.net/79023_3. A recording of the meeting will be available for viewing on the District's website after the meeting.

V. Open Forum - Public Comment

If an individual is participating in the board meeting virtually, and wishes to address the Board of Trustees on an agenda item, he or she should email questions or comments to Board President, Eddie Natera at: enatera@alpineisd.net, prior to the beginning of the meeting. The President or designee will call for public comments at the beginning of the meeting and will state the name of each person who has emailed a question or comment to the Board President. All other public comment rules will be followed. After the close of public comment, the Board will proceed with the rest of the agenda that may be viewed or heard by the public in person, online or on the phone.

In calling for Public Comment, there were no requests to address the Board.

VI. Public Hearing to Discuss Alpine ISD's Rating on Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) Report (Goal, 2)

Board President Eddie Natera adjourned the regular meeting and convened the public hearing at 5:34 p.m.

Chief Financial Officer, Tucker Durham, reviewed the results of the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) report for Alpine ISD. He told Board members that Alpine ISD received a Superior Rating, with a score of 100. Mr. Durham explained the scoring protocols, and reviewed each indicator, providing opportunities for questions.

VII. Adjournment of Public Hearing and Reconvening of Open Meeting

Board President Eddie Natera adjourned the public hearing at 5:42 p.m. and reconvened the open meeting.

VIII. Public Hearing for Review and Discussion of Texas Academic Performance Report for Alpine ISD for 2019 - 2020 (Goals 1, 3)

Board President Eddie Natera adjourned the regular meeting and convened the public hearing at 5:43 p.m.

Campus principals reviewed the data and progress from the previous years' report. Due to COVID-19, no tests were administered, therefore, the only new data for each campus, was in the area of demographics.

IX. Adjournment of Public Hearing and Reconvening of Open Meeting

Board President Eddie Natera adjourned the public hearing at 6:02 p.m. and reconvened the open meeting.

X. Construction Update on High School Project

Les Burke, representing Parkhill, updated board members on the status of the High School project. Bobby Kelly, representing Imperial Construction, was available on-line for questions. Progress on the project is running smoothly. Work is primarily being conducted on site and parking lot preparation. Crews are working on the footprint for new construction, and will begin work on underground utilities soon. Mr. Burke

addressed the schedule for the asbestos abatement and said the plan was to take care of it during the holiday closure.

XI. Review and Consideration of Bids Received for Asbestos Abatement at Alpine High School (Goals 2, 4)

Ms. McCutchen reviewed the bids received from three abatement companies. Ines Corral of Corral Environmental Consulting recommended accepting the bid received from Vanco Abatement.

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Rachel Carvajal, to approve the bid submitted by Vanco Abatement of Midland, Texas, in the amount of \$ 85,000.00, as presented.

Motion carried – 7 – 0

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

Justin Gonzales, High School principal, reviewed the progress towards goals for College Career, and Military Readiness (CCMR) and Closing the Gap, and discussed strategies to improve progress.

Verl O’Bryant, Elementary principal, reviewed the progress being made toward goals for Closing the Gap, and strategies for improving progress.

XIII. Campus Data Presentations (Goal 1)

A. Alpine Elementary School

Mr. O’Bryant reported progress on data and scores for all grade levels.

B. Alpine Middle School

Mr. Patterson reported on activities, scores on assessments, and strategies for administering benchmarks and tracking progress.

C. Alpine High School

Mr. Gonzales reported on unit assessment scores and benchmarks, discussed strategies for helping student who are struggling, and reviewed positive happenings and activities.

XIV. Review and Consideration of Bids Received for Surplus Buildings (Goals 2, 4)

Ms. McCutchen reviewed the bids received for the surplus buildings. Only one bid was received for each building. For building # 1, a bid of \$345.00 was submitted by Manuel Ybarra of the American Legion. For building # 2, a bid of \$300.00 was submitted by Alex Gonzales.

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

Motion carried – 7 – 0

XV. Review and Consideration of Resolution to Approve Extension of Sick Leave Due to COVID-19 (Goals 1, 2, 3)

Ms. McCutchen reviewed the resolution and the reason for the proposal.

A motion was made by Adrian Billings, seconded by Mary McCallister, to approve Ms. McCutchen’s recommendation to adopt the resolution to approve extension of sick leave due to COVID-19, as presented.

Motion carried – 7 – 0

XVI. Review and Consideration of Action to Designate Fund Balance (Goals 1, 2, 3, 4)

Tucker Durham reviewed the recommendations submitted by the auditors to designate additional amounts of the fund balance for specific projects.

A motion was made by Rachel Carvajal, seconded by Mary McCallister, to approve the Committed Fund Balance in the following amounts:

Object Code 3430, Prepaid Items	\$ 1,425.00
Object Code 3510, Construction	\$ 3,500,000.00
Object Code 3530, Capital Expenditure for Equipment	\$ 3,382,584.00
Object Code 3570, Capital Projects	\$ 1,000,000.00
Object Code 3600, Unassigned Fund Balance	\$ 3,000,000.00

Motion carried – 7 – 0

XVII. Reports (Goal 2)

XVII. A. Chief Financial Officer

1. Monthly Report

Tucker Durham reviewed the tax collections and financials for the month of November, 2020.

2. Discussion of Financial Topics

Mr. Durham told board members that the decrease in Average Daily Attendance (ADA) will impact the deficit budget for the year, and discussed possible repercussions.

XVIII. Consideration of Budget Amendments (Goal 2)

None

XIX. Consent Items

A. Board Minutes of Previous Meetings (Goal 3)

1. November 18, 2020 - Regular Meeting

B. District Expenditures for Month of November, 2020 (Goal 2)

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

Motion carried – 7 – 0

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

A. Enrollment Report

Total enrollment stands at 940, with an ADA of 94.81 %.

Enrollment for the campuses is:

Alpine High School: 311 enrollment; ADA of 96.18%.

Alpine Middle School: 277 enrollment; ADA of 93.88 %.

Alpine Elementary School: 352 enrollment; ADA of 94.72 %.

B. COVID-19 Update

Ms. McCutchen reviewed current information on how COVID-19 is affecting the district. Currently, there are 4 active cases in the District. She also discussed information from TEA about options for school closures, if required.

C. Accountability Update for 2020-2021

Ms. McCutchen reviewed a letter received from TEA about the A – F Accountability system. TEA reiterated that state assessments will still be administered this year.

D. Superintendent's Summative Evaluation Process

The Superintendent's Summative Evaluation is due in January. A deadline of January 6 was set for board members to return evaluations to Board President Natera for compilation prior to the January board meeting.

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

The Board adjourned to executive session at 7:27 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 2020-2021

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

The Board reconvened in open session, at 8:08 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 Justin Cross, to accept the resignation of Amanda Eubanks, effective 11/6/2020, releasing her from her contract.

Motion carried – 7 – 0

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Justin Cross, to accept the resignation of Max Shindeldecker, effective 12/18/2020, with release from his contract contingent upon finding a replacement for his position.

Motion carried – 7 – 0

A motion was made by Adrian Billings, seconded by Rachel Carvajal, to accept with sincere regrets the resignation of Tucker Durham, as Chief Financial Officer, effective 12/31/2020, releasing him from his contract.

Motion carried – 7 – 0

2. Superintendent Recommendations for Employee Contracts for 2020-2021

No action

XXIII. Schedule Future Meetings

- Wednesday, January 20, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. – Alpine High School Library, Regular Meeting

XXIV. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Justin Cross, to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 p.m.

Motion carried – 7 – 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: January 20, 2021