

**ALPINE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES - REGULAR MEETING**

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, December 20, 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 5:30 p.m.

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

Jimmy Morris arrived at 7:36 p.m.

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 December 15, 2023 at 4:10 p.m.

V. Open Forum - Public Comment

None

VI. Campus Principal Reports (Goal 1)

A. Alpine Elementary School – Curtis Wubbena, Principal

Mr. Wubbena reported on the December 11th TEA visit from Terri Rimer, working on Diagnostic data collection effort. Ms. Rimer viewed arrival procedures, visited classrooms, watched transitions, reviewed safety

procedures, spoke with students and staff, as well as compiling data on strengths and weaknesses of the campus., and reviewing curriculum. AS a result of her visit, she outlined five areas of strength at Alpine Elementary: (1) high quality instructional materials; (2) protected time for PLC collaboration; (3) support for grade level teams during PLC; (4) utilization of rolling agendas by the leadership team for leadership meetings and PLC meetings; (5) provide students with materials for reteaching

B. Alpine Middle School – Judith Pardo-Alferez, Principal

Have completed interim testing for TEA. Looking at student growth. Completed the music programs. Had a drone presentation as part of community engagement.

C. Alpine High School – Jarrett Vickers, Principal

Working on interim assessments. Have scheduled a career fair for later in the spring. Purchased new frames to be used for the Military Wall. Should be complete and mounted in January. Discussed the First Stamp program, which is designed to send rural female teens abroad for two weeks at no cost to the students. Will select 2 – 5 girls from AHS. AHS is one of only 5 schools in the United States chosen for participation.

VII. Discussion of Policy EIC (Local), Proposed Revisions - Discussion Only, No Action Required (Goals 1, 3)

Dr. Rinehart reviewed the need to update the policy, to reflect the processes already in place. She discussed proposed changes and additions.

VIII. District Food Services Report (Goals 2, 3)

Dr. Rinehart reviewed the report submitted by Ms. Lujan. The report included the number of meals served, per campus, the number of employees per campus and number of hours worked. She reported that the cafeteria received the Supply Chain Assistance Grant. Both Dr. Rinehart and Mr. Vickers commended Ms. Lujan for her efforts and the job she is doing with the District Food Service Department.

IX. Review and Consideration of 588 Educational Co-op Shared Services Arrangement Agreement (Goals 1, 2, 3)

Dr. Rinehart reviewed the reasons for the changes with the Agreement, and explained the necessity for it being considered by the individual Boards of the twelve member districts.

A motion was made by Haley Babb, seconded by Mary McCallister to approve Dr. Rinehart's recommendation to accept the 588 Educational Co-op Shared Services Arrangement Agreement, as presented.

Motion carried – 5 – 0

X. Discussion and Consideration of Quotes for Field Maintenance at Kokernot Field (Goals 2, 4)

Dr. Rinehart reviewed the scope of work needing to be completed on Kokernot Field. She said the work would need to be completed in stages, but because of the total amount involved, the quotes would require board approval. Additional quotes are needed before consideration. Therefore, Dr. Rinehart recommended postponing consideration until January, when additional quotes may be obtained.

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Adrian Billings, to postpone action on quotes for Field Maintenance at Kokernot Field, as recommended by Dr. Rinehart.

Motion carried – 5 – 0

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

Chris Valenzuela, CFO, reviewed the tax collections and financials for the month of November, 2023. Mr. Valenzuela told board members that the audited fund balance for 2022-2023 is \$ 5,709,052.00

2. Discussion of Financial Topics

Mr. Valenzuela, on behalf of the District employees, expressed appreciation for the one-time annual payment and new computers.

XII. Consideration of Budget Amendments (Goal 2)

None

XIII. Consent Items
A. Board Minutes of Previous Meetings (Goal 3)
1. November 13, 2023 - Regular Meeting

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

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

Motion carried – 5 – 0

XIV. Discussion of Policy CW (Local): Naming Facilities - Sample Policies - Discussion Only, No Action Required (Goals 3, 4)

Dr. Rinehart reviewed the reasons for consideration. Currently, there is no policy in place. She said she will be working with the TASB policy consultant to draft a policy for consideration at a later board meeting.

XV. Discussion SB 763: Resolution of the Board to Employ or Accept Volunteer Chaplains - Discussion Only, No Action Required (Goal 3)

Dr. Rinehart reviewed the topic and discussed the options. She said she will draft a resolution for consideration at a future meeting.

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

Board member Jimmy Morris arrived at 7:36 p.m.

A. Alpine ISD Board Update

Dr. Rinehart reviewed progress on goals and objectives. She also discussed the need to begin exploring costs, etc., for replacement of turf at Buck Stadium.

B. Enrollment Report

Dr. Rinehart reviewed enrollment numbers. The total enrollment for the district stands at 909, with 357 at the Elementary, 250 at the Middle School and 302 at the High School. Dr. Rinehart also discussed current attendance rates. Overall, the district has an attendance rate of 95.1%. Dr. Rinehart told board members that currently there are approximately 30 students less than last year.

C. Grant Updates

Dr. Rinehart told board members that during the last year and a half, Alpine ISD has received approximately \$32 million dollars in grant funds. She reviewed the pending grant opportunities.

D. Kokernot Field Lease Negotiations Update

Dr. Rinehart provided an update on lease negotiations. She said there have been good discussions, with representation from both sides.

E. Superintendent Evaluation Process

Dr. Rinehart provided board members with a folder which included explanations of the process, timelines, and the evaluation instrument. The Superintendent Evaluation will be discussed during the January board meeting.

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

The Board adjourned to executive session at 7:59 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**

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

The Board reconvened in open session, at 9:06 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, with regrets, Dr. Rinehart's recommendation to accept the retirement and resignation of Carole Causey, effective December 22, 2023.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Jimmy Morris, to approve, with regrets, Dr. Rinehart's recommendation to accept the resignation of Emily Greene, effective December 22, 2023.

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 a Non-Certified teaching contract, with an addendum, to Janelle Molinar for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year.

Motion carried – 6 – 0

XIX. Schedule Future Meetings

- Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. – Alpine High School Band Hall, Regular Meeting

XX. 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 9:08 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: January 17, 2024