

Minutes of Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees Alpine ISD

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Alpine ISD was held Wednesday, November 18, 2020, beginning at 5:30 PM 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.

Board President conducted a roll call to verify Board Member attendance.

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

Billy Ray Laxton joined the meeting at 6:01 p.m.

Others Present: Becky McCutchen, Superintendent of Schools
Nathan White, Singleton, Clark, and Company
Les Burke, Parkhill

Members Absent: None

Board President Natera informed board members that due to the meeting being conducted remotely, all votes would be taken by roll call. He asked if there were any objections. There being none, he proceeded with the agenda.

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 November 13, 2020.

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 via video-conference and/or audio conference, which will be audible to the Board and public and allow for two-way communication. The Board President, presiding officer or trustees will 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/81522914918?pwd=UStoaUdoWVc0TFU3cHFVbyt4ZVJiQT09>

Meeting ID: 815 2291 4918

Passcode: 084718

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.

Board President Eddie Natera read the following statement into the records:

On March 16, Gov. Greg Abbott granted a request by Attorney General Ken Paxton to temporarily suspend a limited number of open meetings laws to the extent necessary to allow telephonic or videoconference meetings in response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

In accordance with those suspended rules, we certify the following: Notice of this meeting has been posted online for at least 72 hours.

1. Although members of the board are not gathered in a central, physical location, we do have a quorum in attendance at this meeting by videoconference or telephone call.
2. We are meeting by use of Zoom Meetings which allows two-way communication for members of the public.
3. As we would at any in-person meeting, members of the public who have followed the instructions on the meeting notice for registering to speak during the public comment portion will be unmuted for five (5) minutes to speak. If the speaker submitted written comments in advance, the Board President will read the comments into record. If you would like to provide comment at a future meeting conducted by videoconference or telephone call, please follow instructions on the meeting notice.
4. All other meeting procedures will adhere to board-adopted procedures to the extent practicable.
5. A video/audio recording of this meeting is being made and will be available to the public at a later date.
6. This software application allows for numerous individuals to view and interact at a time. We apologize in advance for any unforeseeable difficulties and ask for your patience as we navigate unprecedented conditions

V. Open Forum - Public Comment

If you wish to address the Board of Trustees on an agenda item, 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 online or on the phone.

In calling for Public Comment, Board President Natera told the Board that he had received no emails to be addressed in Open Forum.

VI. Presentation of Audit Report for 2019-2020 (Goal 2)

Nathan White, representing Singleton, Clark, and Company presented the audit report for 2019-2020. He explained the audit process and requirements. He said the audit opinion for Alpine ISD resulted in a clean audit, free of material weaknesses and no findings. He said the Income Statement indicated there was a \$800,000 increase to Fund Balance, resulting in an Unassigned Fund Balance of \$3.8 million. Mr. White said the District may want to reduce the unassigned balance by \$500,000 to \$800,000. Mr. White commended Mr. Durham on the job he is doing as Chief Financial Officer, which he feels accounts for the clean audit report.

VII. Review and Consideration of Audit Report for 2019-2020 (Goal 2)

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Adrian Billings, to approve and accept the audit report for 2019-2020, as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Eddie Natera - aye

Mary McCallister - aye

Justin Cross - aye

Adrian Billings - aye

Rachel Carvajal – aye

Billy Ray Laxton - absent

Joe Portillo - aye

Motion carried – 6 – 0

VIII. Construction Update by Parkhill (Goals 2, 4)

Les Burke reported on the current process. Ines Corral discussed the bidding process for the asbestos removal in the remaining parts of the High School building. Bids will be submitted at the next board meeting. Mr. Burke told board members that the construction crews are working on the utilities and will begin work on the pad and the footprint for the perimeter of the building, followed by the footings. All current work has been permitted but full permits are pending.

Billy Ray Laxton joined the meeting at 6:01 p.m.

IX. Review and Consideration of Approval of Additional Asbestos Abatement by R.L. Abatement, Inc. for the Removal and Disposal of Approximately 180 sq. ft. Wallboard (3 feet from the ground up) and Approximately 70 sq. ft. of Wallboard from the Soffit at Alpine High School. (Goals 2, 4)

A motion was made by Adrian Billings, seconded by Mary McCallister, to approve the bid received from R. L. Abatement, Inc, for the removal and disposal of approximately 180 square feet wallboard (3 feet from the ground and up) and approximately 70 square feet of wallboard from the soffit at Alpine High School, at a cost of \$5,000.00.

Roll Call Vote:

Eddie Natera - aye
Mary McCallister - aye
Justin Cross - aye

Adrian Billings - aye
Rachel Carvajal – aye
Billy Ray Laxton - aye
Joe Portillo - aye

Motion carried – 7 – 0

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

Campus principals provided an update on HB3 Board goals.

Justin Gonzales, AHS principal, discussed the progress on CCMR and Closing the Gaps. He said the CCMR percentage had dropped slightly due to withdrawal of some students who were CCMR compliant, while gaining some students who were not compliant. Additionally, Mr. Gonzales provided updates on activities and test scores.

Verl O’Bryant, AES principal, discussed progress on Reading Progress Measures for Kindergarten students and Closing the Gap for 3rd grade Reading and Math. He said campus personnel are working on activities to help with progress.

XI. Reports (Goal 2)

.A. Chief Financial Officer

1. Monthly Report

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

2. Discussion of Financial Topics

Mr. Durham reviewed information on the amount of money being added to fund balance following the audit.

XII. Consideration of Budget Amendments (Goal 2)

Discussion of budget amendments was tabled until after discussion of Item XIV.

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

Ms. McCutchen told board members that one bid had been received for each building, in the amounts of \$50 and \$150.

A motion was made by Rachel Carvajal, to approve and accept the bids received for purchase of the surplus buildings. The motion died for lack of a second.

Board members requested that Ms. McCutchen re-advertise for new bids on the buildings.

XIV. Review and Consideration of Action to Authorize a One-Time Annual Payment per District Compensation Plan (Goal 2)

Mr. Durham presented the Board with three options for a one-time annual payment per the district compensation plan, for all employees, and the projected cost for each option. Options included:

- \$250 for part-time employees, and \$500 for full-time employees at a cost of \$87,000.
- \$375 for part-time employees, and \$750 for full-time employees at a cost of \$130,000.
- \$500 for part-time employees, and \$1,000 for full-time employees at a cost of \$174,000.

Mr. Durham discussed his concerns due to the drop in ADA and low interest rates.

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Justin Cross, to authorize a one-time annual payment per District Compensation Plan of \$1,000 for full-time employees and \$500 for part-time employees.

Roll Call Vote:

Eddie Natera - aye

Adrian Billings - aye

Mary McCallister - aye

Rachel Carvajal – aye

Justin Cross - aye

Billy Ray Laxton - aye

Joe Portillo - aye

Motion carried – 7 - 0

Board President Eddie Natera returned to consideration of Item XII. **Consideration of Budget Amendments (Goal 2)**

XII. Consideration of Budget Amendments (Goal 2)

Mr. Durham recommended a budget amendment in the amount of \$174,000, to be appropriated from Fund Balance and transferred to multiple Employee Incentive accounts, to fund the one-time annual payment to employees.

A motion was made by Justin Cross, seconded by Mary McCallister, to approve the budget amendment in the amount of \$174,000, as presented. A copy of the amendment will be included with the minutes.

Roll Call Vote:

Eddie Natera - aye

Adrian Billings - aye

Mary McCallister - aye

Rachel Carvajal – aye

Justin Cross - aye

Billy Ray Laxton - aye

Joe Portillo - aye

Motion carried – 7 - 0

XV. Consent Items

A. Board Minutes of Previous Meetings (Goal 3)

1. October 21, 2020 - Regular Meeting

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

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

Roll Call Vote:

Eddie Natera - aye	Adrian Billings - aye
Mary McCallister - aye	Rachel Carvajal – aye
Justin Cross - aye	Billy Ray Laxton - aye
	Joe Portillo - aye

Motion carried – 7 – 0

XVI. Review and Consideration of Revisions to Board of Trustee Policy EHBD (Local) (Goals 1, 2)

Ms. McCutchen discussed the proposed revision to Board Policy EHBD (Local) to include verbiage relating to comparability of services, a requirement for federal programs.

A motion was made by Justin Cross, seconded by Mary McCallister, to approve the revisions to Board of Trustee Policy EHBD (Local), as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Eddie Natera - aye	Adrian Billings - aye
Mary McCallister - aye	Rachel Carvajal – aye
Justin Cross - aye	Billy Ray Laxton - aye
	Joe Portillo - aye

Motion carried – 7 – 0

XVII. Review and Consideration of Approval of Early Dismissal for Elementary School and Middle School on December 2, 2020, for Virtual UIL Competition (Goal 1, 3)

Ms. McCutchen discussed the reasons for the early release, as well as the schedule for the virtual UIL competition.

A motion was made by Mary McCallister, seconded by Adrian Billings, to approve an early dismissal time of 12:00 p.m. for Alpine Elementary School and Alpine Middle School on December 2, 2020 for the Virtual UIL Competition.

Roll Call Vote:

Eddie Natera - aye	Adrian Billings - aye
Mary McCallister - aye	Rachel Carvajal – aye
Justin Cross - aye	Billy Ray Laxton - aye
	Joe Portillo - aye

Motion carried – 7 - 0

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

A. Enrollment Report

Total enrollment stands at 957, with an ADA of 95.03 %.

Enrollment for the campuses is:

Alpine High School: 314 enrollment; ADA of 96.18 %.

Alpine Middle School: 281 enrollment; ADA of 94.33 %.

Alpine Elementary School: 362 enrollment; ADA of 94.87 %.

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

The Board adjourned to executive session at 7:09 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

XX. Open Session: Consider and take possible action on Closed Session deliberations

The Board reconvened in open session, at 7:29 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

No action taken

2. Superintendent Recommendations for Employee Contracts for 2020-2021

No action taken

XXI. Schedule Future Meetings

- Wednesday, December 16, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. – Alpine High School Library, Regular Meeting

XXII. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Adrian Billings, seconded by Mary McCallister, to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Eddie Natera - aye

Mary McCallister - aye

Justin Cross - aye

Adrian Billings - aye

Rachel Carvajal – aye

Billy Ray Laxton - aye

Joe Portillo - aye

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: December 16, 2020

ALPINE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
 PROPOSED BUDGET AMENDMENT
 Wednesday, November 18, 2020

ACCOUNT NAME	ACCOUNT #	2020-2021 BUDGET	AMEND TO	INCREASE (DECREASE)
LOCAL MAINTNANCE - 199				
BUDGETARY FUND BALANCE	199-00-3700-00-000-100000	\$ -	\$ 174,000.00	\$ (174,000.00)
LOCAL MAINTNANCE - 199				
EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE	199-11-6119-00-999-100056	\$ -	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 80,000.00
EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE	199-11-6129-00-999-100056	\$ -	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 18,000.00
EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE	199-12-6119-00-999-100056	\$ -	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE	199-12-6129-00-999-100056	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE	199-13-6119-00-999-100056	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE	199-23-6119-00-999-100056	\$ -	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 6,500.00
EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE	199-23-6129-00-999-100056	\$ -	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 6,500.00
EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE	199-31-6119-00-999-100056	\$ -	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00
EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE	199-33-6129-00-999-100056	\$ -	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE	199-34-6129-00-999-100056	\$ -	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE	199-35-6129-00-999-100056	\$ -	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 13,000.00
EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE	199-36-6119-00-999-100056	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE	199-41-6119-00-999-100056	\$ -	\$ 3,400.00	\$ 3,400.00
EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE	199-41-6129-00-999-100056	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE	199-51-6129-00-999-100056	\$ -	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 17,500.00
EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE	199-52-6299-00-999-100056	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE	199-53-6119-00-999-100056	\$ -	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,300.00
EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE	199-53-6129-00-999-100056	\$ -	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,300.00
				\$ 174,000.00
CHANGE OF FUND BALANCE				\$ (174,000.00)

 BOARD APPROVAL

 SUPERINTENDENT APPROVAL

 DATE
 11-18-2020

 DATE

 SECRETARY

 BUSINESS OFFICE APPROVAL

 DATE
 11/18/2020

 DATE