

AMES Board of Trustees

May 13, 2010

Called to Order: 5:11 p.m.

Attendees:

Board:

Martin Bates
Hiram Alba
Holly Monserret
Gonzalo Palza

Staff:

Al Church
Richard Clark
Nancy Carpenter

Excused:

Martha Bradley
Barbara Kuehl
Lisa Blakemore
Helen Seltzer

Visitors:

Brian McGill
Jennifer Mabey
Craig Haslip
Gretchen James
Leslie Morton
Phil Conder
Joseph Conder
Teresa Larsen

Report to the Board

1. Minutes of March 18, 2010 –

Motion to approve the minutes of March 18, 2010 as written: Martin Bates

2nd: Holly Monserret

Vote: Unanimously approved

Minutes of March 30, 2010 –

Motion to approve minutes of March 30, 2010 as written: Holly Monserret

2nd: Martin Bates

Vote: Unanimously approved

2. PTSO Report – Holly Monserret reported that the AMES PTSO has \$4,000.00 to give in scholarships to AMES Seniors. The students were asked to write an

essay on how their lives have been influenced by AMES teachers. They will give \$1,000 to Mele Folaumoeloa and \$500 to Sharifa Matin, Rachel Howery, Sara Monserret, Carmen Zamora, Sena Belgard and Caitlin Jensen.

Holly also discussed the idea presented to them today about a way to keep parents informed through text messaging and other cell phone technology. The PTSO liked the idea and are in favor of a pilot program. The PTSO also has help lined up for the barbecue on June 3rd.

3. **Preliminary 2010 Senior Survey Report** – This item was tabled until June 17th.
4. **NCSSSMST Conference Report** – As a member of NCSSSMST, a consortium of about 100 STEM schools, Al Church was invited to be a keynote speaker at their conference in March. His main focus was keeping a diverse population interested in these subjects. Tanya Vickers also presented at the conference on running a successful Science Fair. Greg Owens was also invited to represent the University of Utah.
5. **Science Fair Final Results**– The AMES board was given a summary of all participating projects from the AMES Science Fair with awards listed both at the school fair and the Salt Lake Valley Science and Engineering Fair. The final results are posted on the AMES web page.
6. **National Merit Semi-Finalists** – AMES has been informed that they have 4 juniors that have qualified as National Merit semi-finalists. The students are: Chas Blakemore, Christian Butler, Nathan Goodman and Jesse Chillington.

Fiscal

1. **March/April Fiscals** – Richard presented the current fiscals to the board, donations and grants are up this year to help finance programs including; Science Fair, FIRST Robotics and summer teacher internships.

Motion to approve fiscals as presented: Gonzalo Palza

2nd: Holly Monserret

Vote: Unanimously approved

2. **2010-2011 Budget – First Reading** – Richard presented the board with the current proposed budget. The final budget will be approved at the June 17th board meeting.

Board Organization

1. **New Board Members** – Leslie Morton was introduced as Hiram Alba's replacement, she is an engineer at PSOMAS and will be the ACEC representative on the board with her 3 year term starting July 1st. Also new on the board in July, will be Michelle Brockman. Michelle is AMES PTSO President-Elect, she will be replacing outgoing PTSO president, Holly Monserret.
2. **Preliminary Calendar 2010-2011** - A preliminary calendar was distributed to board Members; this included the dates for 2010-2011 board meetings.

Foundation

1. **Update on Grant requests** – Kathy Maxfield, AMES grant writer presented the board with information on grants that she has been pursuing on behalf of AMES. She has several new prospects which she will be exploring. Kathy also showed a thank you letter that has been sent to those companies that have donated to AMES this year.

High School Organization

1. **Dean of Students** – The AMES board was introduced to Craig Haslip and given a copy of his resume. After interviewing several candidates, the committee recommended that Mr. Haslip be hired as Dean of Students.
Motion to hire Craig Haslip as Dean of Students: Martin Bates
2nd: Holly Monserret
Vote: Unanimously approved
2. **Demographics** – The board was given a copy of the current AMES demographics.
3. **Class of 2014 Update** – The current demographics of the incoming Class of 2014 were distributed.
4. **UHSAA Update** – The AMES board was given a copy of current Utah law (53A-1a-519) regarding charter school students. According to Utah code, charter students are only eligible to participate in their home area school. Cottonwood and AMES are out of compliance; therefore, AMES students are ineligible to participate in Cottonwood sports as well as other UHSAA activities. The March 30th change in AMES charter does not help out students due to this law.
Option 1 – This would be a short term solution. AMES could join the UHSAA and field teams in art programs. AMES could contract with Cottonwood faculty or hire its own sponsor, but would have to compete as AMES and not with Cottonwood.
Option 2 – This would be a long term solution. We would need the Utah legislature to change the language of the code to let charter schools physically located in a high school to be able to participate in activities with that school.
Motion (Part 1) To pursue option 1 for immediacy to allow AMES students to participate SY '10-'11. **(Part 2)** Pursue the change in legislative language to allow AMES students to participate with Cottonwood as before the 2008 change in Utah code. **(Part 3)** Explore other long term options to remedy this problem: Martin Bates
2nd: Holly Monserret
Discussion: Gonzalo Palza would like to know the impact on the budget with option 1 and Hiram Alba would like to find another way to solve the problem beyond agreeing to option 1.
Change in Motion Part 1, (leaving parts 2 and 3 the same) to explore option 1 with associated costs and fees: Martin Bates
2nd: Holly Monserret
Vote: Unanimously approved
5. **May/June Calendar** – The board was given an updated calendar of events for the remainder of the school year.
6. **2010-2011 Calendar** - See board organization #2.
7. **Serv-A-Bus Contract** – The board was presented with a new contract for bussing for the 2010-2011 school year. Serv-A-Bus worked to keep the increase as low as possible, therefore our contract amount increased \$3,000.00.
Motion to approve the Serv-A-Bus as presented: Martin Bates
2nd: Holly Monserret
Vote: Unanimously approved

8. Special Education Procedure Manual – The board was given a proposed copy of the Special Education Procedure manual for their approval.

Motion to approve the Special Education Procedure manual: Holly Monserret

2nd: Martin Bates

Vote: Unanimously approved

Public Comment

Phil Conder, AMES parent of Joseph Conder made a public comment asking for the board's help enabling AMES students to take GTI (Granite Technical Institute) classes which they are currently unable to do.

Teresa Larsen introduced herself as a parent of AMES student Hanna Larsen. She was in attendance with a general interest in the AMES board meeting.

Motion to adjourn for a closed session: Martin Bates

2nd: Holly Monserret

Vote: Unanimously approved

Adjourned to closed session at 6:51 p.m.

Next Meeting: June 17, 2010 – 5:00 p.m.