

# AMES Board of Trustees

November 10, 2021

Called to Order: 5:05 p.m.

## Attendees:

### Board:

Richard Anthony

Liliana Diaz

Julie Faure

Shwan Javdan

Don Saxon

### Excused:

Alison Flanders

### Staff:

Brett Wilson

Richard Welch (Electronically)

Nancy Carpenter

### Visitors:

Liz Bunker

## Educational Excellence

### 1. Minutes of October 13, 2021 –

**Motion** to approve the minutes of October 13, 2021 as presented: Donald Saxon

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Julie Faure

**Vote:** Unanimously approved

Due to a prior conflict, Richard Welch has asked that the Fiscal Report be moved up so he could leave early.

**Motion** to move the Fiscals to be discussed next: Julie Faure

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Donald Saxon

**Vote:** Unanimously approved

## Fiscal

1. **October Fiscals** - Richard Welch discussed how the regular funding sources were coming in as planned but items funded by grants look like we are overspending, the case is that the grant funds need to be applied for even though the grant has been approved. Some of the items that have been purchased using these funds are new computers and computer carts and our textbook spending is up. Some of these items are covered under the Trustlands grant also.

**Motion** to approve the October balance sheet: Julie Faure

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Donald Saxon

**Vote:** Unanimously approved

2. **PTSO Report** – Julie Faure reported on the meeting that was held on November 4. Julie talked about the activity that was held before the AMES Dance on November 5, they had a great turn out with a lot of parent help. They fed 100-150 students, had several activities going on and a bus took the students over to the dance afterward.

They have parents lined up to help with the activities on November 29<sup>th</sup>, when AMES will be having a tie-dying activity and will also sponsor a vaccination clinic for students and teachers who want boosters or their first COVID vaccination. They will also be working on letters and gifts for teachers and staff for Christmas. PTSO has \$8,600 in their account at this time. \$1,000 will be used for scholarships and Heather Haley has volunteers to chair the scholarship committee.

- 3. Special Education Handbook** – After this item was tabled in October for more review, the AMES Board reviewed the changes in the handbook and feel that it can be approved as presented.

**Motion** to approve the Special Education Handbook: Julie Faure

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Liliana Diaz

**Vote:** Unanimously approved

- 4. Fee Schedule – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading** – The Fees Schedule for the 2022-2023 school year was given to the AMES Board for their review and input. The Board made formatting suggestions and wondered if parents would have questions about what they are paying for when they pay their fees. They wondered about increasing fees but Brett Wilson assured them that for now we feel that AMES is doing well fiscally and we don't need to raise them. The fee schedule will be re-formatted and presented in January for final approval.

- 5. Spending Plan for Collected Fees** – In discussing the Fee Schedule this item was covered. Some of the items that the school fee covers are student publications, textbooks and workbooks, transportation costs and Granite School District bill for Cottonwood high classes. We will discuss this along with the fee waiver policy in January.

- 6. PTSO – Potential Policy or Handling Revenue** – This item will be covered during the AMES Foundation Board Meeting Update.

**Motion** to move discussion of Item #6 to Foundation Discussion: Donald Saxon

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Julie Faure

**Vote:** Unanimously approved

- 7. University of Utah Chemistry and Biology** – Shwan Javdan, AMES Board Chair reached out to the Chemistry and Biology departments at the University of Utah to see if we can reinstate our U of U Chemistry class and start a U of U Biology class. He contacted Dr. Tom Richmond in the Chemistry department, he has come up with 3 options for Chemistry:

1. Have a senior Chemistry student or Chemistry fellow teach the class. The downfall of this is that they would need to find a new teacher every year and the consistency wouldn't be there.
2. Shwan reached out the Greg Owen former AMES U of U Chemistry teacher, he suggested Ryan Deluca might be interested in teaching at AMES. He is a full professor which would be a better option.
3. The third option is to find a professor at Salt Lake Community College but they are also having a hard time finding Chemistry teachers.

Shwan is still waiting to hear back from Mr. Deluca and has a meeting with Dr. Richmond on November 11.

In reaching out to the Biology Department, Shwan talked to Tanya Vickers, former AMES Science Fair Coach. AMES would be interested in offering Biology 1610

and at this time Tanya teaches Biology 1010 which isn't a Biology credit. Shwan is waiting to hear back from Dr. Neil Vickers to see if there would be a way to add 1610 to the AMES offerings.

The AMES Board liked the 2<sup>nd</sup> Chemistry suggestion with the full professor. Don Saxon suggested reaching out to Westminster for Biology also.

- 8. Shopping Cart Advertising** – The AMES Board was given a copy of the advertisement that will appear on shopping carts in the Smith's grocery stores in North Salt Lake. We are hoping that this will help draw students to AMES that are in the desired demographics for the AMES Mission. The ad will be out before the holidays and will be on 50% of the store's carts.

## **Board Organization**

**No Business**

## **Foundation**

- The AMES Foundation Board met on November 9. This is the first time the Board was able to meet in over a year. They established officers, Donald Saxon is the President, Shwan Javdan is Vice President and Julie Faure is Secretary. Julie Faure presented the needs to the Foundation. Since the PTSO doesn't have an EIN, they have a hard time collecting funds through other organizations like Paypal. The PTSO's mission is to support student, parents, teacher and staff and to provide volunteers. This follows the Foundation mission to help support AMES and their families. The PTSO will work with the foundation with a new banking account for the foundation. The Foundation Board approved this plan. The Foundation would also like to look into offering dental care to students in need. They have reached out to the University of Utah Dental School but have not heard back. They would like to hire a fundraiser who works for a percentage of the funds raised instead of a straight salary. They are going to check in to Amazon Smile and Venmo and would also like to add a Foundation tab to the AMES website. They will follow-up and report in January.

## **AMES Mission**

- 1. Calendar** – The AMES Board was given a list of upcoming important dates.

## **Public Comment**

Liz Bunker, AMES portfolio manager and representative of the Utah State Charter School Board commented on how much she enjoyed the meeting. She is looking for "Best Practices" at schools. She offered her services and told Don that she may be able to help him find a mobile dental screening company.

**Motion** to adjourn meeting: Donald Saxon

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Liliana Diaz

**Vote:** Unanimously approved

**Meeting adjourned – 6:34 p.m.**

**Next Meeting – January 12, 2022**

*Approval pending*