

AMES Board of Trustees

February 11, 2021

Called to Order: 5:03 p.m.

Attendees:

Board:

Richard Anthony

Liliana Diaz

Julie Faure

Alison Flanders

Shwan Javdan

Don Saxon

Lisa Taylor-Swanson

Staff:

Brett Wilson

Hema Katoa

Richard Welch

Nancy Carpenter

Visitors:

Isaac Arens

Stacey Arens

Cindy Hackett

Sara Whitbeck-Zacharias

Amy Noyce

David Robinson

Jodi Gardberg

Lila Howells

Paige Bird

Robin Abramowitz

Robert Aullman

Carter Jensen

Martha Taylor

Paul Ramsey

Kim Domacilio

Educational Excellence

1. Minutes of January 13, 2021 –

Motion to approve the minutes of January 13, 2021 as written: Donald Saxon

2nd: Alison Flanders

Vote: Unanimously approved

2. PTSO Report – Julie Faure reported that the AMES PTSO had a very useful and productive meeting in February. They discussed that since Parent/Teacher conferences were online that there was no need for dinner. Alison Jones would like to do a joint Environmental club with Cottonwood High. They talked about AMES graduation and having a parent involved. They are considering bringing breakfast in on Fridays when teachers come in. They would like to help with virtual clubs to get students involved with AMES. They are also looking for a few non-senior parents to help review scholarship applications.

3. COVID 19 – Vaccine Status – Brett Wilson sent the AMES Board a report on the status of faculty vaccines, if specific information is needed it can be discussed in a closed session.

4. **AMES In Person Opening** – Brett Wilson reported what AMES teachers and administrators have been working on to open the school to in person attendance. AMES may need to purchase tables that are 6 to 8 feet long and 18 inches wide, this will help to better maintain social distancing. Teachers may need to clear extra items from their rooms in order to help with distancing. Because of our small classrooms, a Hybrid A-B-A-B schedule with Friday being a distance learning day would allow for social distancing. We would have A-K in the alphabet attend on Monday and Tuesday and L-Z attend on Wednesday and Thursday. A parent survey was sent out and there didn't seem to be a middle ground, either parents want students back in person or to stay online, AMES teachers may have to adapt to teaching online and in person. One of the AMES math teachers has been successfully doing this with the use of the Smart Boards that teachers use in the classroom. If students come back for the 4th quarter we will need to test every student in order for them to stay in the building, this could present an issue with permission from parents to test. If students test positive, we will work with the Health Department and follow protocols.
5. **Fee Schedule** – The AMES Board was presented the 2021-2022 fee schedule for final approval.
Motion to approve the 2021-2022 Fee Schedule: Shwan Javdan
2nd: Julie Faure
Vote: Unanimously approved
6. **2021-2022 School Calendar** – The AMES Board was presented the Granite School District calendar for the 2021-2022 school year. AMES recommends that we follow this calendar since we are in a Granite School District building.
Motion to approve AMES follow the 2021-2022 Granite Calendar: Donald Saxon
2nd: Alison Flanders
Vote: Unanimously approved
7. **Trustlands Funding** – The AMES School Trustland Committee met on 1/7/21, they discussed 4 goals in the areas of Reading, Mathematics, Writing & Technology. their plan was presented to the AMES Board for approval.
Motion to approve the Trustland School Plan with 2 typographical errors corrected: Julie Faure
2nd: Shwan Javdan
Vote: Unanimously approved
8. **2021 Graduation – June 3, 2021** – AMES would like to host an in person Graduation for the Class of 2021. We are looking at possible choices Kingsbury Hall with limited attendance, the Cottonwood High Football field or the auditorium or gym in case of inclement weather.

Fiscal

1. **December/January Fiscals** – Richard Welch presented the fiscal report. Richard added a new column for the AMES Board to see what funds are mandated and what funds are general funds.
Motion to approve fiscals as presented: Shwan Javdan
2nd: Donald Saxon
Vote: Unanimously approved

Board Organization

1. **Board Leadership Transition & Mentoring** – The AMES Board discussed the fact that Lisa Taylor-Swanson’s term would expire at the end of June and if the Board could decide at this point on a new Chair there would be time for training and mentoring of a new Chair.

Motion to nominate Shwan Javdan as AMES Board Chair: Liliana Diaz

2nd: Julie Faure

Vote: Unanimously approved

2. **Board Fiscal Training** – Brett Wilson will send out a link for the fiscal training Board members are required to complete by the March meeting. AMES will also need a sub-committee from the Board to oversee the yearly audit, this will be decided at the March meeting.

Foundation

No Business

AMES Mission

1. **Applications & Enrollment** – The AMES application opened on January 4th, we have over 257 applications so far, the application will close on February 26th.

Public Comment was held at the beginning of the meeting because of interest in the subjects being discussed.

Stacey Arens, AMES parent says that she realizes that face coverings and following CDC recommendations is important and that she is in favor of a hybrid model. She hopes that AMES can accommodate those that won’t feel comfortable coming back in person.

Cindy Hackett, AMES Special Education director has seen students struggle with online learning. She would like to encourage the AMES Board to return to in person learning for 4th quarter. She also doesn’t think that the teachers will need a week to prepare to open.

Amy Noyce, AMES teacher stated that she had sent the Board an email with her feelings about opening for 4th quarter.

Lila Howells, AMES students says she would like to stay online. We need to start looking at other ways to help with mental health issues, not just coming back in person. That won’t solve the problem.

Jodi Gardberg, AMES parent stated that the AMES Board made the right decision to stay online for 3rd quarter. She thinks we should only consider the hybrid schedule for social distancing.

Paul Ramsey, AMES teacher just got his 2nd vaccine so he isn't worried about himself. He is glad that we stayed closed another quarter and is worried about the hybrid schedule, another educator that he talked to described it as a nightmare. He thinks that we should stay closed for the rest of the year. He doesn't think that we have room to open and is concerned about the students, especially with the new virus strains. He thinks we are doing fine online.

6:55 p.m.

Motion to adjourn: Donald Saxon

2nd: Alison Flanders

Vote: Unanimously approved

Next Meeting – March 10, 2021

Approved 3/10/2021