

# AMES Board of Trustees

September 8, 2021

Called to Order: 5:07 p.m.

## Attendees:

### Board:

Liliana Diaz  
Julie Faure  
Alison Flanders  
Shwan Javdan  
Don Saxon

### Excused:

Richard Anthony

### Staff:

Brett Wilson  
Hema Katoa  
Richard Welch  
Nancy Carpenter

### Visitors:

Carol Lear  
Janna Martin  
Kim Spencer

## Educational Excellence

### 1. Minutes of June 9, 2021 –

**Motion** to approve the minutes of June 9, 2021 as presented: Alison Flanders  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Julie Faure

**Vote:** Unanimously approved

- ### 2. PTSO Report –
- Julie Faure reported on the online meeting that was held on September 2. Brett Wilson reported on the beginning of the school year and having school back in. Stephanie Southwick also reported about the beginning of the school year. Jenica Barber gave a financial report, they have \$4,270.00 but all of the scholarships have not been claimed yet. One parent is interested in starting an Environmental Club which can include AMES and Cottonwood students. They are also looking forward to feeding teachers before Parent/Teacher Conferences on the 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>, along with providing breakfast for our senior when they come in for college application day on October 16<sup>th</sup>. Julie is pleased to have so many parents involved this year.
- ### 3. Bus Contract –
- The Red Star Transportation contract that was presented in August had an increase of \$3,000 per month. With that large of an increase, Brett Wilson felt that he needed AMES Board approval before he signed the contract. The Board would like to see the price extended for 2 years and if not, they suggested an RFP be put out in March to look for competitive pricing.

**Motion** to approve the increased contract: Alison Flanders

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

**Vote:** Unanimously approved

- 4. Sex Education Policy – 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading** – The AMES Sex Education policy was Presented to the AMES Board members with changes as suggested in the June 9, 2021 Board Meeting.

**Motion** to approve the AMES Sex Education Policy: Julie Faure

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

**Vote:** Unanimously approved

- 5. Review of COVID-19 Data & AMES Status** – Brett Wilson reported that we are suggesting that students wear masks, approximately 30-50% have been doing so. We are asking students to stay home if they are sick. So far this year we have had 4 students and 1 staff member who have tested positive, we would also like to have a vaccination clinic if we can work it out with the County Health Department.
- 6. Granite School District MOU** – Carol Lear, AMES Attorney, is working with Granite School District and Cottonwood High School to develop a Memorandum of Understanding regarding rent, fees and use of the building. She presented a draft and asked all board members to read it carefully. Some of the issues that have come up are the reasonable rate that we pay for our space compared to another charter school. The document will protect both schools and we want it to be comprehensive enough for all parties involved. Don Saxon suggested drafting an MOU for AMES Board use only at this time. It will be on the October agenda as a 1<sup>st</sup> reading.
- 7. AMES STEM Waiver for USBE** – Brett Wilson informed the AMES Board that the STEM waiver approved by the AMES Board in June went through the Charter School Board in June, the USBE sub-committee in July and was just approved by the Utah State Board of Education in September.
- 8. Summer School Credit Recovery Results** – At the end of the 2020-2021 school year, AMES student had a total of 445 credit to make up. The month of June, AMES provided students with the opportunity make up core credits with the help of AMES teachers. 187 credits were made up during summer school. Adasa Pascual will be working with students to help complete their credit recovery.
- 9. University of Utah Chemistry** – We have had to drop the University of Utah Chemistry class from AMES student schedules, Dr. Kelley did not sign her contract and the University and they did not replace her. We reached out to SLCC but they are also have a hard time finding Chemistry teachers. AMES is hoping to have a teacher for the Winter Semester. Shwan Javdan will check with people he knows that can teach Chemistry.

## **Fiscal**

- 1. Fiscals** – Richard Welch presented the end of year fund balance. AMES did end up with an excess of over \$662,000 in income.

**Motion** to approve the June balance sheet: Donald Saxon

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

**Vote:** Unanimously approved

Richard also presented the August balance sheet and fiscals, the WPU has increased this year and we have 145,000-150,000 that we can spend in funds from the ESSER ESSER II grant.

**Motion** to approve the August fiscals & balance sheet: Julie Faure

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Alison Flanders

**Vote:** Unanimously approved

## **Board Organization**

1. **Board Training** – Shwan Javdan thanked the AMES Board for attending the August 23<sup>rd</sup> training. The Board also received a calendar of other trainings throughout the 2021-2022 school year.

## **Foundation**

**No Business**, we will need to replace a Board Member, that item will be on the October Agenda.

## **AMES Mission**

1. **Personnel – New Teachers** – The AMES Board was give the resumes of four newly hired teachers to replace those that left at the end of the 2020-2021 school year.

Taylor Christenson was hired to teach Biology

Daane Helmus was hired to teach Earth Science and Environmental Science

Dino Munoz-Tapia was hired to teach Physics and Astronomy

Carrie Strecker was hired to teach Internship and Teaching as a Profession

**Motion** to approve the four teachers hired: Alison Flanders

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

**Vote:** Unanimously approved

2. **Parent/Teacher Conference** – The AMES Board discussed the options of having conferences in person or on Zoom. They felt that the AMES administration could make the decision. **Note:** *Decision was made to do first night on Zoom and second night in person.*

## **Public Comment**

**Kim Spencer**, AMES teacher thanked the Board for putting in the time on behalf of AMES. As far as Parent/Teacher Conference goes, she saw more parents on Zoom last year than she has had attend in previous years. Her second choice would be to do one day in person and one day on Zoom.

**Motion** to adjourn to a Closed Session: Donald Saxon

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Alison Flanders

**Vote:** Unanimously approved

RE: Contract Litigation, Personnel discussion

**Motion** to open session and close meeting: Donald Saxon

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Alison Flanders

**Vote:** Unanimously approved

**Meeting adjourned – 7:15 p.m.**

**Next Meeting – October 13, 2021**

*Approval pending*