

AMES Board of Trustees

September 13, 2017

Called to Order: 5:18 p.m.

Attendees:

Board:

Richard Anthony

Melanie Brock

Abby Nelson

Don Saxon

Liz Taylor

Staff:

Brett Wilson

Hema Katoa

Nancy Carpenter

Richard Welch

Excused:

Gonzalo Palza

Visitors:

Dr. Marissa Diener

Educational Excellence

1. Minutes of June 9, 2017 –

Motion to approve the minutes of June 9, 2017 as written: Don Saxon

2nd: Abby Nelson

Vote: Unanimously approved

2. **PTSO Report** – Melanie Brock reported that the PTSO meeting earlier in the afternoon had a great turn out. They discussed the new format for Parent Teacher Conferences where the parents will go to each teacher's classroom during seven minute intervals, there will be time at the end of the night for parents to talk to teachers one on one. We will also have tables set up for clubs and organizations who want to let parents see what they are doing.
3. **Year End Testing Data** – The AMES Board was presented the results of the SAGE end of year testing and the 11th grade ACT results from February. In both tests, AMES students scored above state average. The same tests will be used for year end testing in 2018.
4. **Cottonwood Update** – AMES students owe \$25,000 in Cottonwood fees, AMES covers qualifying fees for students on fee waiver. If students carry over fees, they are not allowed to walk at graduation until all fees are paid. We are working with Cottonwood to help get a handle on fees.
5. **STEM Waiver** – The Utah Early College High Schools are applying to the Utah State Board of Education for a STEM waiver. The schools would like to take one half fine arts credit and one half P.E. credit and replace them with STEM credits. The AMES Board was given a copy of the waiver request.

Fiscal

- 1. End of Year Fiscals** – Richard Welch presented the 2016-2017 Fiscal report to the AMES Board. We had a \$68,594 excess in income which will be used to update Technology with Smart Boards and iPads.
Motion to approve the 2016-2017 final fiscal report: Don Saxon
2nd: Abby Nelson
Vote: Unanimously approved
Richard also presented the fiscal report for July and August, money is coming in as expected.
Motion to approve July and August fiscal report: Don Saxon
2nd: Liz Taylor
Vote: Unanimously approved
- 2. Cost of Living Increase – Classified Employees** – Brett Wilson reported to the Board that the classified staff has not had an increase in pay for the last two years. He suggested that they receive a 2% increase. Brett and Richard Welch will meet to look at finances and make sure this works.
- 3. December Bonus** – Brett Wilson and Richard Welch have looked at the number to discuss a bonus in December. AMES should have the funding to approve this.
- 4. Equalization of Teacher Salary Schedule** – Most of the surrounding districts in the valley gave teachers a substantial salary increase for the 2017-2018 school year. The AMES Board needs to look at ways to equalize our starting pay, lanes and steps with other districts. The Board has been good about helping to keep our salaries equal to Granite and providing lanes and steps. We can't levy like the districts can so this will be the challenge facing the Board.

Board Organization

- 1. New AMES Board Members** – The following board members were presented to represent Granite School District and PTSO on the AMES Board:
Richard Anthony – Granite School District
Melanie Brock – AMES PTSO
Abby Nelson – AMES PTSO
Motion to approve the new board members as presented: Liz Taylor
2nd: Don Saxon
Vote: Unanimously approved
- 2. Election of New Board Chair** – Liz Taylor volunteered to be AMES Board Chair if there was no other interest. Don Saxon felt that it would be better to have a parent as the Board Chair. After further discussion it was decided to have Co-Chairs.
Motion to nominate Liz Taylor and Melanie Brock as Co-Chairs of the AMES Board: Don Saxon
2nd: Richard Anthony
Vote: Unanimously approved

Foundation – No Business

AMES Mission

1. **Personnel** – AMES has hired a new Arabic/Russian teacher. Paul Cushing is licensed in both languages.

Motion to approve the hire of Paul Cushing: Donald Saxon

2nd: Richard Anthony

Vote: Unanimously Approved

2. **Student Population** – The AMES Board was given the current school demographics.

3. **Upcoming Events for 2018-2019** – The following items are areas of review for the 2018-2019 school year:

- a. Accreditation
- b. Comprehensive Guidance Audit
- c. Title I Audit

Public Comment

In response to Board member Don Saxon's question about AMES marketing, Dr. Marissa Diener from the University of Utah indicated that she would check into having a University of Utah marketing student come up with a plan to help with recruitment for AMES.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Next Meeting – November 8, 2017 – 5:00 p.m.

Minutes Approved – November 8, 2017