

# AMES Board of Trustees

November 13, 2018

Called to Order: 5:19 p.m.

## Attendees:

### Board:

Richard Anthony

Melanie Brock

Don Saxon

Liz Taylor

Lisa Taylor-Swanson

### Staff:

Brett Wilson

Hema Katoa

Nancy Carpenter

Richard Welch

### Excused:

Gonzalo Palza

### Visitors:

Gary Bigelow

Anthony Giorgio

Amy Noyce

## Educational Excellence

### 1. Minutes of September 12, 2018 –

**Motion** to approve the minutes of September 12, 2018 as written: Melanie Brock  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Richard Anthony

**Vote:** Unanimously approved

2. **PTSO Report** – Melanie Brock reported that the PTSO meeting earlier in the afternoon had a great turn out. Melanie reported on the pre-dance activity, quite a few new parents helped out and attended the dance and we impressed. Melanie has also set dates at libraries around the valley for information meeting for student recruitment. Melanie & Lisa are also working on the PTSO board for next year. The senior graduation party will be May 23<sup>rd</sup> if Chase Mill is available.
3. **National Merit Qualifiers** – AMES had 2 students who are National Merit Scholarship qualifiers, Cristina Novac and Isaac Bromley Dulfano. Isaac also scored a 36 on the ACT.
4. **ACT Results** – The AMES Board was shown how AMES students scored on the ACT when compared to state and national averages. AMES students scored over 2 points above the state average. We are attributing this to the Digital Teaching and Learning Grant which has helped us with ACT prep information.

- 5. Assessment Snapshot** – The AMES Board was also presented with information about our assessment growth and proficiency. In Language Arts we are one of the top 3 schools in the state. Our school grade PACE shows 188 out of 200 show growth.
- 6. Swimming Certification** – Don Saxon proposed have a requirement to pass a swim test in order to graduate from AMES. All current students would be exempt from this requirement and we would start with the 2019-2020 freshman class. If they can pass a swimming test, they will fulfill the requirement. If they don't pass, they will be required to take a swimming class in order to pass. Some of the issues brought up by board members were the cost of the program, the liability issues, the burden for school administration and adding another graduation requirement.  
**Motion** for all incoming freshmen starting August 2019 to take a swimming test and pass in order to graduate from AMES: Don Saxon  
**2<sup>nd</sup>**: Lisa Taylor-Swanson  
**Vote:** 4 opposed – 1 in favor  
Brett Wilson will look in to adding a swimming class for PE credit and Don Saxon will continue to work with USA Swimming on a grant for a swim program.

## **Fiscal**

- 1. September/October Fiscals** – Richard Welch presented the fiscal report, right now we are showing a net loss due to the signing and retention bonuses. We are right on budget.  
**Motion** to approve the September/October fiscal report: Melanie Brock  
**2<sup>nd</sup>**: Richard Anthony  
**Vote:** Unanimously approved

## **Board Organization**

- 1. Revised Bylaws** – The changes made at the July Board retreat were presented to the AMES Board for final approval.  
**Motion** to approve the revised bylaws as presented: Richard Anthony  
**2<sup>nd</sup>**: Melanie Brock  
**Vote:** Unanimously approved
- 2. Board Training** – Brett Wilson will provide updates along with associated videos and power points to board members for training. Every board member should watch 2 videos and attend 1 training. AMES would also like to have a background check from each board member before the January board meeting.
- 3. Accreditation Self Reflection** – There are 8 areas of self-reflection for accreditation. Brett Wilson, Hema Katoa and 2 AMES teachers attended a training that will help the AMES staff and administration have all requirements completed for the accreditation process. AMES will need some board members to attend and be interviewed during the Accreditation Review on March 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>. Lisa Taylor-Swanson will be willing to help prepare for the review.

## **Foundation**

- 1. Addresses for Recruitment** – The AMES foundation voted at their July 10<sup>th</sup> meeting to pay up to \$1000.00 for the addresses of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in targeted areas of the valley that have fed AMES in the past.

## **AMES Mission**

1. **Upcoming Events** – The AMES Board was provided with dates of upcoming events.

## **Public Comment**

A written public comment was handed to Nancy Carpenter before the end of the meeting by Anthony Giorgio. He stated that he was against the swimming graduation requirement but is in favor of a swim class for PE credit. He also supports the recruitment process to purchase addresses and reach the low-income and underserved students.

**Motion** to move into closed session: Lisa Taylor-Swanson  
**2<sup>nd</sup>**: Melanie Brock

Meeting adjourned to closed session.

**Next Meeting – January 9, 2019 – 5:00 p.m.**

*Approval Pending*