

MINGUS UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT #4
1801 East Fir, Cottonwood, AZ 86326

GOVERNING BOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING

Mingus Union High School Library
Thursday, March 9, 2023, at 6:00 PM

Governing Board:

Lori Drake
Carol Anne Teague
Anthony Lozano
Misty Cox
Austin Babcock

Also Present:

Mike Westcott, Superintendent
Lynn Leonard, Finance Director
Jennifer Reed, Admin Asst.

OPENING

Call to Order

Board President Lori Drake called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Roll Call

Board President Lori Drake, Vice President Carol Anne Teague, Board Member Anthony Lozano, Board Member Misty Cox and Board Member Austin Babcock are all present.

Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge was led by Barbie Duncan.

Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was observed.

Adoption of Agenda

Motion was made by Board Member Lozano to adopt the agenda as presented. Second was made by Vice President Teague.

Roll Call Vote:

Board President Lori Drake - Aye
Vice President Carol Anne Teague - Aye
Board Member Anthony Lozano - Aye
Board Member Misty Cox - Aye
Board Member Austin Babcock - Aye

Motion passed 5-0.

Public Comments

No comments from the Public.

Board Meeting Not Previously Approved

February 9, 2023 Regular Meeting

Motion was made by President Drake to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 9, 2023 as presented. Second was made by Board Member Babcock.

Roll Call Vote:

Board President Lori Drake - Aye

Vice President Carol Anne Teague - Aye
Board Member Anthony Lozano – Aye
Board Member Misty Cox - Aye
Board Member Austin Babcock – Aye
Motion passed 5-0.

PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS

Superintendents Report:

Superintendent Mike Westcott gave the Governing Board an update on the latest Capital Bond Design Committee Meeting.

Site Administrative Report

Principal Genie Gee gave an overview of the MUHS Prom Closet and showed a presentation created by Sarah Garrett. Ms. Gee also gave an overview of the PLC Summit that she and several other staff members attended. Teachers Jason Teague and Calvin Behlow spoke about their experiences while attending the summit.

ACTION ITEMS – CONSENT *Specific information on routine vouchers and personnel will be available at the District Office 24 hours prior to Board Meetings. Please see Governing Board Secretary during regular office hours. (All items listed hereunder are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Board member so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be discussed separately.)*

Approval of Routine Vouchers

Expense, Payroll, and Bookstore Activity

Personnel

HR Report & Spring Sports Coaching Stipends

Certified Staff

Teacher Employment Renewals

Classified Staff

Athletic Trainer Job Description, Athletic Trainer Contract, and Authorization to compensate Support Staff for District closure March 2, 2023 as prescribed in Policy EBCD/EBCD-RB.

Donations

- Hope Closet Report
- Choir Department- Verde Valley Concert Association Donation- \$1,429 for Choir Honor Registration
- Band Department- Kent Graham, DO- Saxophone & Clarinet
- Band Department- Tammy Rehborg- Trumpet & Saxophones (2)
- Band Department- Ruth Ann Carter- Clarinet, Flutes (2), Auto Harp & Metronome
- Auto Shop- Brad & Emily Miller- '04 Chrysler Mini Van
- Art Department- Joan & Jess Tyler- Photo Paper
- Hope Closet- AZ Flywheelers- \$500 donation.
- Hope Closet- Prom Attire- Barbara Braun, Diane Phelps, Pricilla Minjarez, and Ann Klassen

Agreements

- Contract with Grad Solutions for the establishment of a DRP within the Mingus Academy
- Waiver of Conflict with Yavapai County Attorney's Office

Club & Group Organization

- Mingus Baseball RBI Club
- Mingus Connection

Disposal of Vehicle

The Auto Department has completed their training on the '91 Ford Pickup and the '03 Oldsmobile and would like to recycle them. U PICK IT will come to pick them up and will pay the current scrap rate for it.

Board Member Cox would like to pull Items 5.3 Donations & 5.4 Agreements. Board Member Babcock would like to pull item 5.5 Clubs & Organizations.

Motion was made by President Drake to approve the Consent Agenda without Items 5.3., 5.4. and 5.5. Second was made by Board Member Cox.

Roll Call Vote:

Board President Lori Drake - Aye

Vice President Carol Anne Teague - Aye

Board Member Anthony Lozano – Aye

Board Member Misty Cox - Aye

Board Member Austin Babcock - Aye

Motion passed 5-0.

Item 5.3 Donations-

Board Member Cox wanted more information on the Hope Center. Principal Gee will provide a presentation at the April Board Meeting.

Vice President Teague thanked anyone who donates to MUHS, she read the list on donors.

Item 5.4. Agreements-

Grad Solutions Agreement- Board members discussed how Grad Solutions would work with the Alternative School. Board Members discussed the need for an alternative school in addition to the traditional brick and mortar school. Board Member Cox asked who determines the curriculum. Administration would propose the curriculum to the Board for them to approve.

Waiver of Conflict with Yavapai County Attorney's Office- Board Member Cox asked about this agreement. Board Members decided to table this agreement until they can read the attorney client privilege letter.

Item 5.5. Clubs and Organization-

Barbie Duncan, President of Mingus Connection gave an overview of the organization. They would like to be officially recognized by the Board to participate in fundraising for Operation Graduation. Their primary function is to provide support for students & teachers.

Board Member Babcock asked about the RBI Club- He asked about their agreement to provide support for MUHS Baseball AND the Buccaneers. How does MUHS know the money that was designated for MUHS was used for MUHS Baseball. Superintendent Westcott said we could ask for allocation if we need to.

Motion was made by Vice President Teague to approve Item 5.3. Donations, Item 5.4. Agreements excluding the Waiver of Conflict with Yavapai Attorney Office and Item 5.5. Clubs and Organizations. Second was made by President Drake.

Roll Call Vote:

Board President Lori Drake - Aye

Vice President Carol Anne Teague - Aye

Board Member Anthony Lozano – Aye

Board Member Misty Cox - Nay

Board Member Austin Babcock - Aye

Motion passed 4-1.

ACTION ITEMS - DISTRICT BUSINESS *(Specific items of District business as listed for consideration - may include various categorical areas as the business of the District necessitates Board discussion, deliberation, and action)*

4-Day school week Advisory Committee- Consideration and possible approval of a Board Advisory Committee for the purposes of studying and making a recommendation to the Board regarding 4-day school week implementation for the 2024-25 school year. (Staff Resource: Mike Westcott)

Public Comment- Dawn Stockbridge, a resident of the District, said her son is a freshman and has always been in a four-day school week until he attended MUHS. He continues to get straight A's. She is in favor of the four-day school week.

Board Member Cox reviewed some her concerns. Superintendent Mike Westcott reminded the Board the decision tonight is to consider creating an advisory committee, not approve the four-day school week. The Board can request items that can be researched first then discuss during the meeting. Vice President Teague said we have done surveys. Students, teachers and parents are overwhelming in favor of this. We need to have this studied.

Motion was made by Board Member Babcock to approve a Board Advisory Committee for the purposes of studying and making a recommendation to the Board regarding 4-day school week implementation for the 2024-25 school year. Second was made by Vice President Teague.

Roll Call Vote:

Board President Lori Drake - Aye

Vice President Carol Anne Teague - Aye

Board Member Anthony Lozano – Aye

Board Member Misty Cox - Nay

Board Member Austin Babcock - Aye

Motion passed 4-1.

Selection of the Governing Board representative on the 2023 Salary and Benefits Committee- Consideration and approval of a Board representative on the Salary and Benefits Committee as prescribed by Board Policy BDF. (Staff Resource: Mike Westcott)

Superintendent Westcott this is an annual determination for the Board. According to Policy BDF, Committee's must consist of a Board Member and the Superintendent as members as well as additional staff members.

Motion was made by Vice President Teague to appoint President Drake to sit on the Salary & Benefits Committee as prescribed by Board Policy BDF. Second was made by President Drake.

Roll Call Vote:

Board President Lori Drake - Aye

Vice President Carol Anne Teague - Aye

Board Member Anthony Lozano – Aye

Board Member Misty Cox - Aye

Board Member Austin Babcock - Aye

Motion passed 5-0.

Salary and Benefits Committee Guidelines for 2023- Consideration and possible approval of Salary and Benefits Committee guidelines and assurances. As described by Board Policy BDF, the Board shall approve guidelines for advisory committees prior to their first meeting. (Staff Resource: Mike Westcott)
Superintendent Westcott reviewed the guidelines and assurances. He also reviewed the Salary and Benefit process.

Motion was made by President Drake to approve the Salary and Benefits Committee Guidelines and Assurances as presented. Second was made by Board Member Babcock.

Roll Call Vote:

Board President Lori Drake - Aye
Board Vice President Carol Anne Teague -Aye
Board Member Anthony Lozano - Aye
Board Member Misty Cox - Aye
Board Member Austin Babcock - Aye

Motion passed 5-0.

Employee Benefits for School Year 2023-24- Discussion and possible approval of Employee Benefits to include: Medical/Dental/Vision/Short Term Disability/Life Insurance for 2023-24 School Year. (Staff Resource: Lynn Leonard)

Finance Director Lynn Leonard said this is an annual requirement of the Auditor General and reviewed the changes.

Motion was made by President Drake to a approve Employee Benefits for school year 2023-24 as presented. Second was made by Vice President Teague.

Roll Call Vote:

Board President Lori Drake - Aye
Board Vice President Carol Anne Teague -Aye
Board Member Anthony Lozano - Aye
Board Member Misty Cox - Aye
Board Member Austin Babcock - Aye

Motion passed 5-0.

Proposed Support Staff Paid Holidays for SY2023-24- Discussion and possible approval of the proposed Professional Staff and Support Staff Paid Holidays for SY2023-24. (Staff Resource: Lynn Leonard)

Finance Director Lynn Leonard said this is an annual requirement. She explained that all 12-month employees receive the holidays. The Board must determine when holidays are taken.

Motion was made by President Drake to approve the Support Staff Paid Holidays for SY2023-24 as proposed. Second was made by Board Member Cox.

Roll Call Vote:

Board President Lori Drake - Aye
Board Vice President Carol Anne Teague -Aye
Board Member Anthony Lozano - Aye
Board Member Misty Cox - Aye
Board Member Austin Babcock - Aye

Motion passed 5-0.

Information and Discussion Items:

Discussion regarding District Policy FF and the honorary naming of school facilities. Information and Discussion related to the Policy FF requirements for the consideration of naming school facilities.

Superintendent Mike Westcott explained this item was placed on agenda for purposes of discussing the policy. He gave background information on the policy and how they compare to other schools. He said the attorney cautioned against unintended consequences. Board Members agreed that there are a vast number of individuals who have made an impact on our school. President Drake read the policy. Board Member Cox suggested there must be other ways of honoring someone besides renaming a field. Mr. Westcott said something smaller could be considered. President Drake agreed that a memorium might be a way to go. She is concerned that this would open the door to having a lot of others coming forward to be included in the exception.

Representatives from Stifel will present information on District Bonding Capacity and Capital Bond election scenarios.

Stifel Representative Mike Lavalley gave a presentation on the District Bonding Capacity and Capital Bond Scenarios. Stifel has worked with MUHS with past bond efforts.

Board Member Lozano left the meeting at 8:12pm

Future Agenda Items-

Hope Closet/Center Presentation

Waiver of Conflict with Yavapai County Attorney Office

Motion was made by Vice President Teague to adjourn the meeting. Second was made Board Member Cox.

Roll Call Vote:

Board President Lori Drake - Aye

Board Vice President Carol Anne Teague -Aye

Board Member Anthony Lozano - Absent

Board Member Misty Cox - Aye

Board Member Austin Babcock - Aye

Motion passed 4-0.

Adjournment: 8:35pm

Board President Lori Drake

Vice President Carol Anne Teague