

**DOUGLAS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT #27
DOUGLAS, ARIZONA**

Board Room
Central Administration Building

10:00 AM
June 23, 2020

**Special Board Meeting
Minutes of the Board**

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS:

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Ray Borane, President

PRESENT: Mr. Natalio Sabal, Member (Telephonically)
Dr. Edward Gomez, Member
Mr. Mitch Lindemann, Member
Mr. Mario Ramos, Member (Telephonically-Joined at 10:02 AM)

Others Present: Ana C. Samaniego, Superintendent
Cesar Soto, Chief Financial & Operations Officer
Alma Valenzuela, Superintendent's Secretary

Moment of Silence was observed in Mr. Vicente Abril's memory.

II. ACTION ITEMS:

A. Discussion/action on the approval of certified hires.

Mr. Lindemann motioned to approve the certified hires as presented. Mr. Sabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 5/0 ¹.

- | | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-----|
| • Henry Jones | Principal (Sarah Marley) | \$62,000.00 | M&O |
| • Maria Escarcega | ESS Teacher (Joe Carlson) | \$36,500.00 (BA) | M&O |
| • Angel Vidal | Assistant Principal (PHMS) | \$55,000.00 | M&O |

B. Discussion/action on the approval of certified resignation.

Mr. Lindemann motioned to approve the certified resignation as presented. Mr. Sabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 5/0.

- Anthony Arvayo Head Coach – Freshman Basketball (DHS)
 Assistant Coach – Football (DHS)

C. Discussion/action on the approval of classified resignations.

Mr. Lindemann motioned to approve the classified resignations as presented. Mr. Sabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 5/0.

¹A unanimous (5/0) vote will show the members voting in this manner throughout the minutes:

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Mr. Mario Ramos	√		
Mr. Mitch Lindemann	√		
Mr. Natalio Sabal	√		
Dr. Edward Gomez	√		
Mr. Ray Borane	√		

- Arianna Ibarra Instructional Aide (Joe Carlson) Resignation effective 06/05/20
- Maria Moreno Secretary (Sarah Marley) Resignation effective 06/12/20
- Maria Escarcega Instructional Aide (Stevenson) Resignation effective 06/18/20

D. Discussion/information only for certified internal transfer.

Mrs. Samaniego commented that this is for information only.

- Michelle Yanez From 3rd Grade Teacher (Faras) to 4th Grade Teacher (Stevenson)

E. Discussion/action on the approval of the Revised District Annual Expenditure Budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

Mr. Soto commented that this is the final revision to the budget for this school year. The only changes were the number of students enrolled.

Mr. Lindemann asked if any information has been received in regards to funding for next year? Mr. Soto replied no, we have not. The state education budget has been approved for next school year but we haven't heard anything but do know it will be a tight year. We are still working on the numbers based on our enrollment but haven't heard anything specific from the State.

Dr. Gomez asked if the tax rate listed is for the current year or next year? Mr. Soto replied that it is for the current but under the proposed budget it will also be the same as we don't know at this time what the amount will be for next year.

Mr. Lindemann motioned to approve the Revised District Annual Expenditure Budget for FY 2019-2020 as presented. Dr. Gomez seconded the motion. Motion carried 5/0.

F. Discussion/action on the approval of the Proposed District Annual Expenditure Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

Mr. Soto commented that his this is the proposed budget for the upcoming 2020-2021 fiscal year. This is what the legislature approved as a skinny budget. The restriction to the District Additional Assistance (Capital) funds got reduced which means more money for the schools. We met the goal of the 20% raise for teachers that the State was requiring with the additional monies. This year includes the 5% that the State is giving us to give the teachers but the Board approved the 7% and this budget includes the 7% increase to teachers; the 3% for directors and principals; and the raise for classified (depending on the category).

Mr. Lindemann commented that the City is expecting additional CARES Act funds in the future, does that apply to the District too? Mr. Soto replied that the District received the CARES Act allocation about a month ago but hasn't heard anything on additional monies. We are not using the funds to support any fixed position, only temporary if needed (i.e. temperature check, etc.). Our main goal is to purchase needed supplies to be ready for schools reopening.

Mrs. Samaniego commented that the CARES Act funds is allowing us to pay employees for positions needed. Once the Board approves our proposed plan, it will be presented as soon as we receive final information from the State. We are not closing schools again unless the Governor closes them. We are definitely going to be utilizing some of our staff that are hired under one capacity to assist us in another capacity, if needed. This will be addressed with staff once we know what direction we are going. We are also looking at a District COVID Coordinator, that is a

position that we have never needed before and will be the point of contact for staff and students. Another position that we are looking at is a bus temperature check, a staff that will ride the bus and take student temperatures. We need to be very savvy in the positions we have and if extra positions are needed, we will see how we can shift staff around to fill them and that way we can utilize the CARES Act funds for the resources, supplies, materials, and technology to make schools a safe, learning environment for students and staff. There are a lot of factors that add to the unknowns of this situation, but these funds are available in order to make things like this happen during this pandemic. Mr. Borane stated that the Board wants to reassure everyone that they are not remotely suggesting that anyone be laid off but Mrs. Samaniego has the authority as Superintendent to reassign staff, based on the circumstances, to those positions. Everyone will maintain their job.

Mr. Lindemann motioned to approve the Revised District Annual Expenditure Budget for FY 2019-2020 as presented. Dr. Gomez seconded the motion. Motion carried 5/0.

G. Discussion/action on the approval of the Direct Service Agreement between Vail Unified School District and DUSD #27 for the AZEDS Outreach Program.

Mrs. Samaniego commented that this is a 2-year agreement for school years 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 and is used to assist us with State (SAIS) reporting.

Mr. Lindemann motioned to approve the Direct Service Agreement between Vail Unified School District and DUSD #27 for the AZEDS Outreach Program as presented. Mr. Sabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 5/0.

H. Discussion/action on the approval of the following Job Description:

- Systems Administrator

Mrs. Samaniego commented that this is a position in the IT Department that has not been filled and the change made is the job title. The position will fall under Marco Durazo. The position will be a great asset to the department.

Mr. Lindemann motioned to approve the Job Description as presented. Mr. Sabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 5/0.

I. Discussion/~~action~~ information on reopening of schools update.

Mrs. Samaniego commented that there are three (3) subcommittees meeting for each of the school levels. Mrs. Cox is overseeing the elementary school group, Mrs. Samaniego is overseeing the middle school group, and Mrs. Walker is overseeing the high school group. Each subcommittee has had parent, student, and staff input. Once we hear from the State as to what we will be allowed to do, the subcommittees are proposing a hybrid model. **Douglas High School:** The hybrid model will be an A/B schedule with AM/PM sessions. For example, on a Monday, Group A will have face-to-face instruction and Group B will be home doing distance learning and then on Tuesday, it would be a swap. This would allow the student size to be reduced, allow teachers to work with a doable number, and allow for social distancing with about 25% of students on campus. Doing the complete schedule of all classes, on an online platform, proved to be very difficult and overwhelming for students and staff so they are recommending having three (3) 6-week classes

per quarter. **Middle Schools:** The hybrid model will also be an A/B schedule with 50% of students on campus. **Elementary Schools:** The hybrid model will also be an A/B schedule with 50% of students on campus. If we are allowed, we will also be proposing a 2-1-2 calendar. This means that students will go to school on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Wednesday would be a distance learning day with no students on campus to allow for sanitizing/disinfecting. If need be, we might have evening custodians come in on Friday afternoons and Saturdays to sanitize/disinfect. On a daily basis, sanitizing/disinfecting will still take place. All staff will report to work Monday through Friday. All early release days would also be removed. None of these plans/suggestions will be proposed until we receive a Governor's Executive Order. This is affecting all school districts in the state. Keeping students and staff safe is our number one concern, which is why we are looking at the hybrid model. Before we even start, we need to take care of our own staff, they have a lot of anxieties, questions/concerns, and in order for them to start teaching, we have to take care of the staff first. Mrs. Samaniego has been in constant communication with Candyce Pardee, who is the DUSD Attorney, regarding legalities for mandatory face masks and temperature checks for students and staff. This morning, Udall Shumway sent a Board Resolution for review that will allow the Board to do some things in regards to COVID-19 and reopening schools. As soon as the resolution is reviewed, it will be brought to the Board for review and approval. Parent Survey results were received and 977 parents responded. For the question, "are you planning on sending your children to school when DUSD opens in the Fall", 70% responded yes and 29.4% responded no. That is an average consistent amongst school districts in America. Most parents were also comfortable with the A/B schedule. For "if DUSD decides to go online learning only, would your child participate?", 81% responded yes and 18.9% responded no. Overall, we have a portion of responses waiting to see what DUSD is going to do. We also have a staff survey currently open and are waiting results. It is also highly recommended that the school start date for students be pushed back about two (2) weeks to allow us to work with the staff to go over the policies/procedures and reorganize classrooms. There are a lot of challenges that we are facing and we don't have guidelines from the State or the Governor. Every single District and Superintendent is doing the same thing we are doing, hoping that whatever we have our guidelines as proposal will work and be able to take place.

Mr. Lindemann commented that postponing the start of school would be great and maybe consider removing fall break. AM/PM sessions for all schools may work better too.

Dr. Gomez asked what happens to students that don't go to school, who teaches them? Mrs. Samaniego replied that Arizona has online schools that students can attend and maybe parents are looking at that option. It is very difficult when they do return to school, as they don't have things completed or missing credits. Some parents may also be considering becoming a homeschool teacher but there is a State requirement to do so. Another option through the roadmap is for students to remain online but continue being DUSD students. Children belong in school, as this school closure is really affecting them. We received information from local doctors that many children are suffering from anxiety, obesity, child abuse, and depression in these past months. Keeping children at home is a parent's right, but children need socialization and interaction. We don't have COVID-19 in our schools right now, we know it is out in the communities. We need

to do whatever we can right now to protect our children and ourselves so that when we reopen we are prepared and have fewer situations. We hope that parents work with us as it is going to take a village to make this happen. As long as we avoid, as much as we can, having students mixing and interacting during the school day, that will allow us to have a better tracking system if there is ever a case in a school.

Mr. Sabal thanked Mrs. Samaniego and her staff for the work they have put into this, it is amazing what she has done, with the administration, for the children.

Mrs. Samaniego commented that she will have Virtual Town Hall meetings in July to provide information to parents and allow them to ask questions.

Mr. Borane asked how will the cafeteria be affected? Mrs. Samaniego replied that the Food Service Director and his team have been working on plans since the State recommendations are for students to eat in classrooms to avoid social contact. For DHS, they are looking at a Grab & Go meals for both groups. For middle school and elementary, they are looking at having closed containers that can be taken to classrooms. Input from students showed requests for outside shaded areas and tables.

Mr. Ramos thanked Mrs. Samaniego for the exceptional job she is doing and for her hard work. Mr. Borane agreed but also thanked everyone else that is on her leadership team and all the District staff. Mrs. Samaniego stated it would not be possible without all of her leadership team, principals, teachers, staff, parents, and students – THANK YOU!

J. Discussion/action regarding the transfer of Mrs. Denise Cox to the Assistant Superintendent position pursuant to A.R.S. §15-503 (A) (1).

Mrs. Samaniego commented that this is a lateral transfer to oversee Human Resources, with no salary increase, under the authority of the Superintendent. Mrs. Samaniego will continue to oversee the Curriculum Department and Mrs. Cox will continue to oversee the Grants.

Mr. Lindemann motioned to approve the transfer of Mrs. Denise Cox to the Assistant Superintendent position pursuant to A.R.S. §15-503 (A) (1) with the continuing benefits and no extra salary. Mr. Sabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 5/0.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Independence Day: All District Offices Closed Friday, July 3, 2020
- Next Regular Board Meeting July 7, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.
- Public Hearing/Budget Adoption July 7, 2020, at 10:30 a.m.

Mr. Soto reported that there is an agreement with the church next to Joe Carlson Elementary School to utilize their parking lot. In the renewal, the church wants to start charging for the use of the parking lot. We reviewed the parking areas around the school and will be able to accommodate parking spaces. We will not be renewing the agreement.

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Mr. Lindemann motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Sabal seconded the motion. Motion carried 5/0. The meeting was adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Alma Valenzuela, Superintendent's Secretary.

The Board at their meeting on April 6, 2021, approved these minutes.

Public Comments:

Effective immediately and until further notice, the DUSD Governing Board will be enforcing the Center for Disease Control's health precautionary recommendation limiting all public gatherings to 10 people. There will be no call to the public. All Governing Board meetings will be live-streamed and available to view via DUSD's YouTube channel.

Details regarding presentations and discussions are available on the audio and video recordings posted on the Governing Board page on the DUSD website at www.dusd.us (For exact statements made during the board meeting, you may request a copy of the audio).