



**AMA ESD Board of Education  
Regular Board Meeting**

**Thursday, August 12, 2021  
5:00 p.m.- APlex**

**Minutes**

President Lee Fitzpatrick called the meeting to order at 5:01p.m.

PRESENT: Nicholas Brege, Naomi Deo, Lee Fitzpatrick, Joe Gentry, Mike Mahler, and Norm Sommerfeld

ABSENT: Richard Gillies

STAFF: Melissa Cook, Shellie Gohl, Larry Johns, Lisa Krey, Stacy Moors, Scott Reynolds, Ashley Wilmot, Mary Zann

GUESTS: Ben Stevens, WATZ Radio

The group recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Adoption of Agenda:** A motion to adopt the agenda was made by Mahler, supported by Sommerfeld. The vote was as follows: Ayes all, the motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes of [July 8, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes](#):** A motion to approve the July 8, 2021 minutes was made by Gentry, supported by Brege. The vote was as follows: Ayes all, the motion carried.

**Communications:**

- None

**Board Report and Comment**

- Nick Brege spoke briefing about the Facility Committee meeting that was held August 5. The committee reviewed progress on summer projects at Pied Piper School and also received a presentation by Dean Transportation regarding options for bringing better transportation services to the district.

### **Superintendent's Report:**

- Scott highlighted the following:
  - Organizational Chart
  - AMA ESD COVID Preparedness Plan
  - Openings: School Psych, SLP, BSW

**Instructional Services Report:** No questions

**Public Comment:** None

**Adopt Updates to the 5-year Common School Calendar -- [Exhibit 1](#):** A motion to adopt the updates to the 5-year common school calendar was made by Mahler, supported by Deo. Lee mentioned that people don't know this common school calendar exists. Scott indicated that he has plans to send out a press release after the calendar is approved by the board. The vote was as follows: Ayes all, the motion carried.

**Authorize Administration to pay substitutes according to the recommended rates for the 2021-22 school year - [Exhibit 2](#):** A motion to pay substitutes according to the recommended rates for the 2012-2022 school year was made by Sommerfeld, supported by Mahler. By roll call vote, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Brege, Deo, Fitzpatrick, Gentry, Mahler, and Sommerfeld

Nays: None

#### **Approved Substitute Rates for 2021-2022:**

Paraprofessional Hourly Rate: \$14.00

Support Staff Hourly Rate: \$13.00

Certified Teacher Daily Rate: \$140/full day and \$70/half day

**Approval of Second Closing June 30, 2021 -- [Exhibit 3](#):** Melissa presented the second closing financial statements for June 30, 2021. A motion to approve the June financial statements was made by Mahler, seconded by Brege. The vote was as follows: Ayes all, the motion carried.

**Approval of Financial Statements for July 31, 2021 - [Exhibit 4](#):** A motion to approve the July 31, 2021 financial statements was made by Sommerfeld, supported by Deo. The vote was as follows: Ayes all, the motion carried.

### **Board Governance**

- Board members split up into two groups of three to discuss the following questions:
  - Why did you choose to become a Board Member?
  - What is Board Governance and why is it important?

During this time, board members also reviewed the [Board Governance document](#).

## Administrative Updates

- **Superintendent's Update - Scott Reynolds**

- Strategic Plan
  - The AMA Core Values is going to be a focus this year.
  - Organizational Culture
    - Interviewing, Onboarding, and Reboarding
    - Exit Interviews
      - Departing staff provide feedback for organizational improvements
  - Consultant Services
    - Contracted with Hulings and Associates to help with the culture issues within the organization
  - Adaptive Schools, Coaching Conversations and Professional Learning Communities
    - We are slowing the process for PLCs. It is felt that other groundwork needs to be done first (e.g. Adaptive Schools)
    - Adaptive Schools is the “how” of professional learning communities: how to behave in groups, how to lead them, and how to facilitate them for improved leading, teaching, and learning. Forty AMA staff will go through this training throughout the year (4 sessions).
- Administrative Professional Development Plan
  - Book Study - *Better Conversations*
    - *This book helps us learn how to:*
      - *Coach ourselves and each other to become better communicators*
      - *Listen with empathy*
      - *Find common ground*
      - *Build Trust*
- Local Educational Associations (LEAs) Collaborative

- **Business Office - Melissa Cook**

- Melissa Cook provided some insight into the world of the AMA business office.
  - Local Schools District Business Office Support
    - Caryn Centala works in Atlanta 2.5 days a week.
    - Kaylee Skiba works in Hillman 3 days a week. Margaret Gilmet will also be working in Hillman approximately 5 days per month.
  - Grants
  - Audits
    - Financial audit every August including a Single Audit (because of the amount of federal grants we receive)
    - Office of Retirement Services - sporadic

- Workers' Compensation - sporadic
  - Human Resources
    - The ESD does not have a separate Human Resources department.
  - Pupil Auditing
    - We audit our LEAs annually.
- General Education
  - Shellie Gohl provided highlights from the following programs:
    - Great Start Collaborative
    - Great Start Readiness Program
    - Literacy Essentials
    - STARS
    - MICIP
    - Grants
- Special Education
  - Mary Zann shared information about the following:
    - Programs and Services
    - Special Education Count Data
    - Speech and Early On Services
- Transition
  - Larry Johns provided a very informational Transition Program presentation.

### **Board Comment**

- The idea of a consent agenda concept was mentioned. A motion to adopt a consent agenda for the BOE meetings was made by Sommerfeld, supported by Gentry. The vote was as follows: Ayes all, the motion carried.
- Mike Mahler stated that he likes the idea of a consent agenda format. It will provide more time for presentations from staff informing the board of all the great things that are being done in the district.
- Lee thanked the administrators for their presentations stating they were very informative.

A motion to adjourn was made by Sommerfeld, supported by Mahler. President Fitzpatrick declared the meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Krey