

Approved Minutes
SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION
Albany Area Schools – ISD #745
Blattner Energy Arts Theatre
September 23, 2020

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Winkels at 6:02 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Winkels, Kreuzer, Hansen, Carbajal, Paulsen,

Pennie

Absent: Sand

3. Safe Learning Plan Updates

Mr. Johnson reviewed the COVID-19 numbers and trends and how they impact the school (elementary and secondary). The board also reviewed data both at the county and school district level. Mr. Johnson also reviewed COVID-19 Albany Area Schools numbers and responses to incidences within campuses as well as campus data and communication with families. Mr. Johnson further reviewed successes from the in-person meetings/entrance conferences as well as from the first weeks of school. It was also presented that we have received feedback on opening of the BECC as well as how other districts have responded to similar requests, keeping the safety of students our first concern.

4. MSHSL Updates

Mr. Johnson provided an update on MSHSL's decision on volleyball and football. The board also expressed the district to ensure other student activities that may not grab media attention be looked at to ensure opportunity for all students. The board also discussed the League's decision to attempt to assess additional fees to school districts. The board voiced strong opinions surrounding this assessment. Mr. Johnson also reviewed the revenue sources the district will be receiving to help with the Coronavirus Relief Funds and allowable expenses to both protect students and enhance digital learning.

5. School Board Policies

5.1 Policy 522 Title IX Sex Nondiscrimination Policy, Grievance Procedure and Process

5.2 Policy 904 Distribution of Materials on School District Property by Nonschool Persons

5.3 Policy 915 Political Campaigns and Activities

6. Strategic Planning

Mr. Johnson reviewed 3-pilars which will command focus for the 2020-21 academic year. Although other areas merit consideration, with the significant impacts of distance learning and Covid-19, it is felt implementing all areas immediately may water down or be too much to focus on for this academic year. The following pillars were reviewed as well as some action items, time lines, plans, etc.

Pillar 1 – social emotional learning

Pillar 2 – facilities

Pillar 3 – continue to expand and enhance business and collaborative opportunities

While the board appreciates the district's initiatives, it was very concerned to not overwhelm teachers and administration with all of the new measures while dealing with distance learning, COVID-19, and other burdens. The board deeply appreciates all the efforts of teachers and administration and encourages balance as we move forward as to not overwhelm team members.

7. Adjournment

Agenda completed at 7:22pm.

Matt Kreuzer, Clerk