

AFSA K-12
Work Session Minutes
Elementary Cafeteria

December 19, 2023

4:00 - 4:55 pm

Minutes

Board Members Present: Kate Plaisance, Julie Cox, David Smith, Leslie Scherer, Jennifer Cook, Brady Jones, Jack Roessler, and [Kerry Schulte](#)

Board Members Absent: Scott Stene

A. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Areas of Opportunities- Annual Report. Board members discussed data points in the annual report and the plan to improve. Discussion was around how we set goals for contract renewal with Osprey Wilds and how to set appropriate goals for our school. Discussion on MCA scores, specifically the science test.
2. Strategic Plan Action items: Discussion on the main action items for the board including recruiting members for the Ag Advisory committee and ideas for marketing and recruiting.
3. Executive Director Transition: Discussed having Erik take on the Executive Director role in February with Becky moving to a support/finance role.

B. ADJOURN at 4:55

AFSA K-12
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING - Minutes
Elementary Cafeteria

December 19, 2023

5:00 - 6:22 pm

Minutes

Board Members Present: Kate Plaisance, Julie Cox, David Smith, Leslie Scherer, Jennifer Cook, Brady Jones, Jack Roessler, and [Kerry Schulte](#)

Board Members Absent: Scott Stene

A. PROCEDURAL ITEMS

1. Call to Order
 - a. **Mission:** The Academy for Sciences and Agriculture (AFSA), a public charter school for grades K-12, engages learners in academically rigorous, student-centered, hands-on experiences and leadership opportunities within a science, environmental education, and agricultural context.
 - b. **Vision:** AFSA will develop lifelong learners who are curious, care for others and have high skill levels in applied sciences, and will be prepared for a future in a diverse, global and changing society
 - c. **Honoring Native Peoples** We would like to acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the Dakota People, and pay our respect to elders both past and present.
2. Determination of Quorum - a quorum of board members is present
3. Determination of Conflict of Interest on any agenda items - no conflicts of interest were noted
4. Approve Agenda - Julie Cox moved to approve the agenda, Brady Jones seconded, the motion passed unanimously.
5. Approval of Minutes - Dave Smith moved to approve the minutes as circulated, seconded by Brady Jones, motion passed unanimously
6. Approval of Financial Report. [Erik Bruner-Wiltse](#) presented the Financial Report including the payment of invoices and the acceptance of gifts. Dave Smith moved to accept the Financial Report, seconded by Brady Jones, motion passed unanimously.

B. SCHOOL GUEST SPEAKERS

[Erik Bruner-Wiltse](#) introduced Laura Wyatt, Agriculture Instructor and FFA Advisor at the Highs School. Laura talked about her previous teaching experience and her classes at AFSA.

C. GUEST COMMENTS - None

D. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. School Activities Reports.

Elementary School:

AFSA's Title I program is currently serving 41 students in Reading or Math interventions. Students qualify for intervention services through teacher recommendations based on classwork or struggles noticed, test scores, or parent request. Kate Bald and Kristin Hankwitz are the specialist teachers who provide services for this program. It is also the program that supports Literacy and Numeracy night.

Presentation night happened 11/30, just after the last board meeting. The night was a great success with students showing off their learning by performing in music concerts, hosting a wax museum, and presenting "How to" speeches. We are so proud of our Elementary Eagles!

The Elementary has performed safety drills for Fire emergencies, lockdowns, and holds over the past month. At the beginning of the year, all students had bus and pedestrian safety training, and students in 3-6th grade had bicycle safety as well. Safety is an important part of creating a community at school. By practicing all of these emergency plans, students can feel safe and empowered when they are at school.

In our Staff workday on December 1st, Elementary staff focused on enhanced behavior initiatives. Through inservice training, coaching, and case studies over the past few weeks, staff have been able to add many resources to their classroom management "toolboxes."

On Friday, we are hosting a variety of activities for what we call Healthy Lifestyles Day before winter break. Students in grades 4-6 have choices of 5 activities and will rotate through 3 of them. In grades K-3, students rotate in multi-age groups through 3 activities. Activities have a winter theme, and are intended to provide some fun new learning of potential new hobbies or lifelong learning activities for students before we head out on a two-week break.

After winter break, we look forward to our Winter Carnival! Mark your calendars for January 27th from 9-Noon at the Elementary building! The event will include a Silent Auction and concessions hosted by the parent group, games in each classroom hosted by staff, and our Annual Book Fair!

Parent/teacher conferences are also coming up in January on the 25th and 26th. Winter conferences at the Elementary focus on progress monitoring - data from classroom assignments, testing, and social-emotional skills so far in the year. We look forward to celebrating and brainstorming with parents at these conferences!

High School.

Clubs and Extracurriculars

Basketball - First home game Thursday at Gethsemane at 4:30. Four more home games scheduled.

Clue - We had a successful performance of *Clue*. Anticipated selling an average of 75 tickets per show. The first two nights sold out and two Saturday shows had fewer than 10 seats left. In all, almost 350 tickets were sold.

School Culture and Community

HLD Friday - Students will practice mindfulness, yoga, hikes to the lake, winter wreaths, crafts, basketball, volleyball, and more.

Academics

12/7 - Region 4 CDE Competitions (Forest Lake HS) - (Ag Sales, Food Science, Milk Production, Small Animal/Vet Science)

12/12 - Tri 1 - Theater students toured U of M Rarig Theater Building

E. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Revised budget discussion. Board members discussed the lower student numbers and the need to revise the budget. There is not much that can be cut, so the budget reserve will decrease this year, but should have a small positive fund balance.

F. ACTION ITEMS

1. Meal Charge Policy: We need to update the Meal Charge Policy to meet federal guidelines. Dave Smith moved to accept the Meal Charge Policy updates, seconded by Brady Jones, motion passed unanimously.
2. ESST-Due to law changes regarding paid time off, AFSA's policies need to be updated. Brady Jones moved to update the policies as presented. The motion was seconded by Julie Cox and passed unanimously.

G. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Next meeting:
 - a. Work session and Regular meeting January 23, 2024

H. ADJOURNMENT

Dave motioned to adjourn the meeting. Kerry Schulte seconded, the motion passed unanimously. **Adjourned at 6:22**