

# **AFSA PreK-12 Work Session Minutes, PreK-6 Cafeteria**

**May 20th, 2025**

**4:04 - 4:55pm**

**Board Members Present:** Sam Wakefield, Kate Plaisance, Kerry Schulte, Julie Cox, Leslie Scherer, Laura Wyatt, Melissa Farler, Jenny Cook, Scott Stene

**Board Members Absent:** David Smith

**Guests:** Becky Meyer, Teresa Kothbauer, Meghan O'Shea

## **A. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **1. Board Self-Assessment Checklist Review:**

8 responses were provided.

Areas included in the checklist were the following; Mission Statement, Strategic Plan, Art of Incorporation, By-Laws, Role Description and Responsibilities, Conflict of Interest Policy and Form, etc.

### **2. Board Handbook Update:**

Identify sections of the handbook that require revisions and updates. Section #'s 2,3, and 7.

### **3. AFSA Brochure Distribution:**

Sam presented. Primary focus is on apartments within current bus routes, local daycares, recreation centers, libraries, and grocery stores. Sam will have flyers available to distribute. Start working on corporate relationships/partnerships to assist in easing the budgets.

## **B. ADJOURN**

**Adjourning time: 4:55pm**

# AFSA PreK-12 Board of Education Meeting Minutes, PreK-6 Cafeteria

May 20th, 2025

5:00 - 6:33pm

**Board Members Present:** Sam Wakefield, Kate Plaisance, Julie Cox, Kerry Schulte, Laura Wyatt, Melissa Farler, Leslie Scherer, Scott Stene, Jenny Cook.

**Board Members Absent:** David Smith

**Guests:** Becky Meyer, Teresa Kothbauer, Meghan O'Shea

## A. PROCEDURAL ITEMS

1. **Call to Order:** Kate Plaisance called the meeting to order at 5:00pm
  - a. **Mission:** The Academy for Science 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, 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.

**Approve agenda:** Julie Cox moved to approve of the agenda, Leslie Scherer seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes:** Laura Wyatt moved to approve the minutes as circulated, Kerry Schulte seconded, motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Financial Report:** Becky Meyer presented the Financial Report; including the payment of invoices and the acceptance of gifts. Kerry Schulte moved to accept the Financial Report, Julie Cox seconded, motion passed unanimously.

## B. SCHOOL GUEST SPEAKERS

Kerry Schulte shared the chicks that her class hatched and explained their educational benefits to the board.

## C. GUEST COMMENTS

none

## D. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

### 1. School Activities Reports:

Sam Wakefield presented for the Prek-6 building. The final round of STARR testing has been completed. 6th graders visited the 7-12 building. J-Term is upcoming. Field trips have been taken to Wargo Nature Center, Cedar Creek Nature Center, CHS Field, MN Science Museum, and Cardigan Ridge. Elementary Awards night is upcoming on May 29th, 2025. We have hired a new 5/6th grade teacher, as well as a new agriculture teacher and reading specialist.

[Sam Wakefield](#) presented for the 7-12th grade building. STARR testing has been wrapped up for the year. Ms. Warner had horses visit the school. Ms. Wyatt brought students to the MN Fair Ag. day. FFA Banquet went well. 30 students in 9th and 10th grade attended an event at the UMN twin cities campus. Farm and Community Service Day, Summer Kick Off BBQ, FFA and NHS inductions are upcoming. The plant sale this year profited roughly \$4,000. Art and Physical Education teachers have been hired for next year.

Total enrollment: 422.

### 2. Administration Report:

### 3. Committee Report:

Elections Update - Reach out to newly elected members

Donations Update - Event Ideas (fundraiser walk/fun-run?)

## E. DISCUSSION ITEMS

### 1. OW Contract Update:

Feedback on exhibits b, c, d, e, and f will be done. Revise by-laws. Goals for the new contract have been approved. We are on track for renewal, contract to be approved by the board at meeting in June.

### 2. Literacy Plan:

Due 6/16, READ Act updates, Prek-6 teachers do LETRS training.

### 3. ELL Plan:

Revised to accommodate higher ELL student body.

### 4. Teacher Evaluation Plan:

Teacher evaluation survey, trying to meet OW expectations, walk-through observations.

### **5. Lease Aid Budget:**

Becky Meyer presented. 200\$ increase in state aid, 420 students = 472 weighted ADM. \$6.9 million in total funding.

What would we do with funding? New chromebook (current ones are outdated), QCOMP expenses, Access Programs, Prek Incentives.

## **F. ACTION ITEMS**

1. **MACS Membership:** [Kerry Schulte](#) motioned to approve, Julie Cox seconded, the motion passed unanimously.
2. **MSHSL Membership:** [Kerry Schulte](#) motioned to approve, Laura Wyatt seconded, the motion passed unanimously.
3. **Literacy Plan:** Julie Cox motioned to approve, Leslie Scherer seconded the motion passed unanimously.
4. **Teacher Evaluation Plan:** Julie Cox motioned to approve, Kerry Schulte seconded, the motion passed unanimously.
5. **Lease Aid Budget:** [Kerry Schulte](#) motioned to approve, Leslie Scherer seconded, the motion passed unanimously.
6. **Executive Director Contract for FY26:** [Kerry Schulte](#) motioned to approve, Julie Cox seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

## **G. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- a. Next Work Session and Regular Board Meeting is June 24, 2025 at 5:00pm

## **. ADJOURNMENT**

Julie Cox motioned to adjourn the meeting, Laura Wyatt seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously. Adjourned at 6:33.