



ALAMOGORDO PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
Administrative Complex – 1211 Hawaii Ave., Alamogordo, NM

MINUTES
Special Board Meeting
(Virtual Meeting)
Thursday, March 11, 2021, 5:30 p.m.

Upon Roll Call of the Board, the following board members present were:

President Angela M. Cadwallader (*Joined By Phone*)
Vice-President Ryan Sherwood
Secretary Carol Teweleit
Member Judy Rabon
Member Anthony Torres

Holloman Ex-Officio Col Bryan Callahan was absent from this meeting.

District Staff Members present:

Jerrett Perry, Superintendent
Lisa Patterson, Executive Assistant
Colleen Tagle, Deputy Superintendent
Cara Malone, Deputy Superintendent

Minutes were prepared by Executive Assistant Lisa Patterson.

The meeting was live-broadcasted to the public.

A. Introductions

1. Call to Order

President Cadwallader called this meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and Salute to the Flag of the State of New Mexico

3. Adoption of Agenda

Member Rabon made a motion to adopt the agenda. Vice-President Sherwood seconded.

Executive Assistant Lisa Patterson conducted a roll call vote.

President Cadwallader voted “aye”

Vice-President Sherwood voted “aye”

Secretary Teweleit voted “aye”

Member Rabon voted “aye”

Member Torres voted “aye”

All Board members voted “aye”, motion passes unanimously

B. Consider approval of the date for the Alamogordo Public Schools to return to full time face to face learning – ACTION

Superintendent Perry stated that the NM Governor and the NM Public Education Department have mandated that all schools return to face to face learning by **April 5, 2021**. Parents have choices and do have the opportunity to stay virtual if they don't feel comfortable returning their children to school. We are excited about having students return to school and will ensure that kids and staff are safe. We ask that everyone be understanding as we approach this endeavor.

Deputy Superintendent Tagle provided a briefing on the safety of the schools, gave an overview on our air filtration system and explained the measures being followed for training staff on COVID safe practices. Deputy Tagle stated that over 500 educators have been vaccinated. The district will continue to follow all safety and health procedures; we still have the extra sanitizers and will continue with deep cleaning. Rules may have changed but the heart of the people working to make sure our staff and students are safe has not changed. We are ready for staff and students to return to the buildings and will do everything we can to keep people safe.

Deputy Superintendent Malone gave a presentation on instruction and spoke about class sizes. Teachers, EAs, Principals and the entire team have been doing an amazing job. This year has been like no other. Deputy Malone shared information about the timeline from the announcement of school closures to the announcement of reopening schools to face to face learning and NM PED guidelines. Every principal has a plan and they have been re-examining their procedures. As students return to the buildings, there are still approximately 1400 students who prefer to remain virtual. There are a little over 700 students in elementary that are virtual, about 450 at the high schools and around 300 at the middle schools. Deputy Malone also shared information about student instruction schedules and teacher schedules. We are ready to go and see our students and will abide by all rules to keep our students safe.

Vice-President Sherwood including his constituents and Col. Callahan prefer a date after Spring Break, preferably March 29. This will give the district enough time to prepare and will also give staff an opportunity to receive their vaccines.

Public input was allowed at this point in the meeting.

- Ms. Melanie Hallbeck, NEA Representative strongly urged the Board to select April 5 to return to school in full time face to face learning and stated that students and parents would benefit from more time to be fully informed about their options and to make decisions. Educators will benefit from having time to reconfigure their classrooms and familiarize themselves with the changes.
- Ms. Christina Hastings addressed concerns about students that must quarantine or have decided to stay virtual and inquired if they would have the opportunity to watch a live stream of their class instruction while at home. Ms. Hastings also prefers April 5 as the date to return to full time learning.
- Mr. Zachary Easley expressed his gratitude to all that have worked tirelessly to serve our students' best interest. Everyone has gone above and beyond their job descriptions in an inspiring way. Mr. Easley urged the board to select a date no sooner than April 5 to return to school in full time face to face learning.

