



ALAMOGORDO PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Administrative Complex – 1211 Hawaii Ave., Alamogordo, NM

MINUTES

BOARD WORK SESSION

Thursday, September 23, 2021, 4:00 p.m.

APS Board Room

Board Members present were: President Judy V. Rabon
Vice-President Ryan Sherwood
Secretary Carol Teweleit
Member Angela M. Cadwallader
Holloman Ex Officio Col. Nicholas Pederson

Member Anthony Torres was absent from this meeting.

District staff members present: Dr. Ken Moore, Superintendent
Lisa Patterson, Executive Assistant
Colleen Tagle, Deputy Superintendent
Cara Malone, Deputy Superintendent

The work session was called to order at 4:01 p.m. Executive Assistant Lisa Patterson recorded the minutes.

The meeting was live-broadcasted to the public.

Meeting Objective: Discussion of a Petition to NMPED
Annual Review of APS Board of Education Handbook

Petition to NMPED

Superintendent Moore led the discussion on the proposed petition to the NM Public Education Department (NMPED). Superintendent Moore read the petition to the Board. The petition is requesting more time to review the NM Public Education Department's proposed social studies standards. Our district and community need more time to thoroughly study these standards and to offer suggestions and provide input to NMPED. The proposed standards are 129 pages long and the current standards are only 26 pages.

Superintendent Moore stated that the public comment period on the proposed standards is expected to begin in October 2021 with the final rule expected in December and the final standards to be released in January 2022. Alamogordo's proposed petition is requesting that the public comment time be extended to July 2022 to allow enough time to understand and evaluate what is in the proposed standards.

Holloman Ex-Officio Col Pederson offered a suggestion to include a section in the petition about the time and development of the curriculum. Vice-President Sherwood responded stating this particular petition isn't about the curriculum. This proposed petition is to adopt the standards as the state wants; the district will then have the opportunity to develop the curriculum to meet those standards.

Member Cadwallader commented stating that the district should stand firm and not accept the proposed standards that the state is recommending.

Vice-President Sherwood shared his thoughts stating he does not see a downside to requesting more time to review and understand the proposed standards. It is incumbent upon the Board to take every avenue to get questions answered. If we just say no and do not accept these standards, we are on our own and are no longer a part of the process. We do have some leverage with regard to what syllabus we decide to adopt and how to meet those standards. Vice-President Sherwood would like the opportunity to address his concerns about the standards to the leadership in the state and will not be able to do this if he removes himself from the process.

Secretary Teweleit suggested that a section about professional development be included in the proposed petition.

President Rabon stated that the proposed standards going from 26 pages to 129 pages is quite concerning and is not happy with the content of the proposed standards. In response to Member Cadwallader's comment, President Rabon stated that the district would not benefit from just saying "no" without having input from teachers and the community. If the district chooses to go against the proposed standards, NMPED could potentially pull anything from funding to administrator and teacher licenses. Deputy Malone stated that we are, required, by statute, to teach standards once they are adopted.

Deputy Superintendent Malone briefly explained the differences between the standards and benchmarks in curriculum and also shared information about the timeline for textbook adoption.

Deputy Superintendent Tagle stated that the petition being presented for approval during tonight's Special Board Meeting is simply just asking for more time. The district is requesting more time for everyone on every level to respond to NMPED before anything is adopted.

Board of Education Handbook

Superintendent Moore led the discussion on the Board of Education Handbook. Superintendent Moore reviewed each section of the handbook, explaining all proposed changes. The Board shared their input on the proposed revisions. Superintendent Moore stated that the handbook will not be finalized tonight and if more revisions are recommended, there is still time to make the changes. The handbook will be sent to the district's counsel for legal review.

Vice-President Sherwood suggested including a statement under meeting attendance that board members will notify the Superintendent and Board President if they will be attending a meeting or not, and if so, whether they will attend in-person or virtually.

The Board will consider approval of the handbook at the October or November Regular Board Meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:46 p.m.

Andy Rabon Oct 20, 2021 Carol Teweleit 10/20/21
Board President Date Board Secretary Date