



ALMA D'ARTE CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

Governance Council Minutes

Regular Meeting, Monday, September 20th, 2021 @ 6:00 pm

Alma d'arte Charter High School, Via Zoom

COUNCIL MEMBERS Paul Dulin | Kimberly Skaggs | Ron Fitzherbert | Vernon Wilson |
Richelle Ponder | Cynthia Wise

I. Introduction

- A. Call to Order. (G) – Chairman Dulin called the meeting to order at: 6:01pm
- B. Roll Call of Members (G) Members present are as follows: C. Wise, R. Ponder, R. Fitzherbert, V. Wilson, K. Skaggs. Also present are: K. Martinez, A. Lerner, P. Hernandez & R. Padilla.
- C. Conflict of Interest Disclosures as may be applicable. (G) – N/A
- D. Approval of Agenda. (G) – R. Fitzherbert made a motion to approve the agenda with moving the Equity Council report to item III. C because R. Padilla must make an early exit from tonight's meeting. K. Skaggs seconded the motion. The majority voted in favor and the agenda was approved.
- E. Approval of August 16, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes. (G) – C. Wise made a motion to approve the August 16, 2021 minutes. R. Fitzherbert seconded the motion. The majority voted in favor and the August 16, 2021 minutes were approved.
- F. Approval of the August 26, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes. (G) – C. Wise made a motion to approve the August 26, 2021 special meeting minutes. V. Wilson seconded the motion. The majority voted in favor and the August 26, 2021 minutes were approved.
- G. Announcements. – N/A

II. Public Comment (Three minutes per speaker, 30-minutes for all speakers. No action will be taken.)- N/A

ALL ITEMS BELOW ARE LISTED FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

III. New Business

- A. GC Member Required Training Update, including Charter Renewal Training. (A/G) – There are no updated training numbers from the PED. Updates are pending D. Archuleta's replacement.
- B. Discussion and approval of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the staff and the Governance Council of Alma d'arte Charter High School. (A/G) – Members of the GC heard from R. Padilla regarding the CBA. Aside from typographical errors and some clarification on some items. The agreement seems sound and will be voted on next meeting once a final version is updated & made available.
- C. Equity Council Update. (A/G) – Moved up from Item E – 2. – R. Padilla informed the council that an equity council meeting was held last month. The concept of restorative justice be explored in order to educate and “restore” order when conflict arises. C. Wise also suggested the concept of “on-boarding” when dealing with equity issues in the underclassmen grades. Encouraging older, upperclassmen to help the younger members understand, respect and observe our Alma culture. Mr. Padilla also spoke about starting a high school consortium equity group. This would be comprised of several charter high schools and would be led by an equity leader to help make sure we are doing the right equity work.

IV. Old/Recurring Business

- A. Final reading and approval of policies for operating Alma d'arte Charter High School. (G) – R. Ponder made a motion to approve the 9 policies with the noted two changes. K. Skaggs seconded the motion. Members voted as follows: C. Wise – yes, V. Wilson – yes, K. Skaggs – yes, R. Ponder – yes, R. Fitzherbert – yes, P. Dulin – yes. The motion passed unanimously and the 9 policies were approved.

1. Employee Policy: Human Resource Development
 2. Governance Council Policy: Principal/CAO Evaluation – section 2A change the word “board” to “council”
 3. Fiscal Management Policy: Disaster Recovery Business Continuity
 4. School Community Policy: Parental Involvement and Family Engagement
 5. Student Management Policy: Student Rights and Responsibilities
 6. Governance Council Policy: Membership Selection and Term of Office
 7. Governance Council Policy: Powers and Authority
 8. Governance Council Policy: Removal of a Governance Council Member
 9. Governance Council Policy: Vacancies on the Governance Council – in section 3A – change the word “two” to “three.”
- B. Date and arrangements of ceremony to formally name the Alma d'arte Auditorium after Irene Oliver-Lewis. (A) - K. Martinez spoke to Ms. Oliver-Lewis and it was decided that arrangements would be made after fall break. Ms. Oliver-Lewis seemed very excited that we are moving forward with the re-naming ceremony. R. Fitzherbert suggested that if restrictions arise with public gatherings again, that we go forward with the official re-naming & have a celebration at a later time.
- C. Discussion of pandemic policies/restrictions regarding returning to in-person teaching and requirements that all staff and students be vaccinated. (A/G) – P. Dulin presented a possible policy for requiring vaccinations for all staff and student to participate in in-person learning. He gave many reasons for this potential policy. Mostly to safeguard the health and safety of our school community. R. Fitzherbert commented that while he is pro-vaccinations, he questions the legality of this policy and wondered what types of considerations would be given to people with exemptions. C. Wise inquired if this policy could be adopted as an emergency policy, forgoing the 1st & 2nd readings of this policy. K. Martinez stated that 2 non-teaching staff members are not yet vaccinated. Additionally we have about 65% of our student body vaccinated. Alma d'arte currently participated in a DOH/FEMA sponsored vaccination clinic. There were approximately 32 persons vaccinated at Alma including 8 Alma d'arte students. Going forward, K. Martinez will present the draft of the policy to school attorney P. Matthews.
- D. Monthly Financial Report
1. Financial Statements as of July 31, 2021. (F)
 2. BAR's Approval (if required). (G) The following BAR's were presented for approval: R. Fitzherbert made a motion to approve the below mentioned BAR's. K. Skaggs seconded the motion. Members voted as follows: C. Wise – yes, V. Wilson – yes, K. Skaggs – yes, R. Ponder – yes, R. Fitzherbert – yes, P. Dulin – yes. The motion passed unanimously.
 - 2122-0001-M 24308 - CRRSA, ESSER II Maintenance
 - 2122-0002-M 24106 - Entitlement IDEA-B Maintenance
 - 2122-0003-M 21000 - Food Service Maintenance
 - 2122-0004-T 11000 - Operational Transfer
 - 2122-0005-M 11000 - Operational Maintenance
 - 2122-0006-T 11000 - Operational Transfer
 - 2122-0007-M 11000 - Operational Transfer
 3. Payroll and Accounts Payable Acceptance and Approval. (G) – K. Skaggs made a motion to approve the Payroll & Accounts payable for August 2021. R. Fitzherbert seconded the motion. Members voted as follows: C. Wise – yes, V. Wilson – yes, K. Skaggs – yes, R. Ponder – yes, R. Fitzherbert – yes, P. Dulin – yes. The motion passed unanimously.
 4. ARP/ESSER III Funding Approval. (G) – K. Martinez spoke about what is planned for the ESSER III Funding. (3rd round of CARES Funding) Monies set aside will be for after-school credit recovery programs, technology & equipment for a literacy program, new staffing in social work & arts instruction, outdoor benches and tables for our courtyard for student lunches. K. Skaggs made a motion to approve the ARP/ESSER III funding. C. Wise seconded the motion. Members voted as follows: C. Wise – yes, V. Wilson – yes, K. Skaggs – yes, R. Ponder – yes, R. Fitzherbert – yes, P. Dulin – yes. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Monthly Administrative Report

1. Monthly Principal's Update Report. (A) – Lots of things happening on the principals' end. Currently working on meeting deadlines for various items. There is a lot going on at Alma. Lots of art going up all over the walls of the school. At the end of August a recruitment event was held out at the NMSU/UTEP game. We will have a recruitment booth at the Las Cruces Southern NM Pridefest on October 2, 2021. We have forged a partnership with NM Workforce solutions to help get our seniors involved in apprenticeships and employment. Chronic absenteeism has dropped over the last couple of years. Currently we have 121 students.
 2. Equity Council Update. (A/G) – moved to Item III. C.
- F. Executive session to address charter renewal. (A/G) – C. Wise made a motion to go into executive session. K. Skaggs seconded the motion. All members voted in favor and the council entered into the executive session at 7:55pm. The Council returned to regular session at 8:05 pm.

VI. Future Business/Next Meeting Agenda Items for Discussion or Revision

- A. Approval on final Collective Bargaining Agreement - (G)
- B. Update on re-naming of the Alma Theater. (A)

VII. Adjournment – K. Skaggs made a motion to adjourn the meeting. C. Wise seconded the motion. All members voted in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 8:09pm.

****** (A) - Administration, (G) – Governance Council, (F) - Finance ****** One or the other of these three notations will appear at the end of each item, depending on who is introducing the item.