

## **Union Colony Schools Board Meeting Minutes December 17, 2020**

### **Members in Attendance:**

Heather Bunyan, President  
Veronica Armendariz, Vice President  
Kristin Arnold, Treasurer  
Jamie Wood, Secretary  
Sarah Mitchell, Member  
Matt Walsh, Member  
Tim Marquart, Member

### **Administration in Attendance:**

Jim Anderson, UCS Executive Director  
Dave Warner, UCES Principal  
Aycia Burns, UCPS Principal  
Jemiah Fowler, UCPS Assistant Principal

The board meeting was held virtually via Google Meet on December 17, 2020. Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Ms. Bunyan.

### **Public Comments**

Board listened to public comments.

### **Action Items**

- Consent agenda was approved. Motion by Mr. Walsh, Second by Ms. Armendariz. Motion passed. Consent agenda included:
  - Approval of November 21, 2020 Minutes, as corrected
  - Approval of 2019 Form 990 - Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax
- Approval of plan for return to in-person instruction with K-7 to do remote learning from January 5-8 and return to in-person learning on January 11 and grades 8-12 to do remote learning from January 5-15 and return to in-person learning on January 19. Motion by Ms. Wood. Second by Ms. Arnold. Motion passed 5-2.
  - There was a lengthy discussion by Board on the spring semester plans. UCES Administration proposal was for K-5 remote learning from January 5-8 and in-person learning beginning on January 11. UCPS Administration proposal was for 6-12 remote learning from January 5-15 and plans beyond that date would be determined no later than January 8<sup>th</sup>. One point of discussion centered around the prior communication that a decision for spring semester would be made at this Board meeting and that waiting until January 8<sup>th</sup> was undesirable. Another point of discussion centered on the role of Faculty Council at both buildings in this decision. Discussion on the return to in-person learning centered on the agreement that in-person learning is more effective than remote learning, the importance of maintaining a safe space and the data showing with proper protocols the school environment is relatively safe, the interpretation of the advice of our attorney, and a review of the CDPHE dial guidelines. In addition, there was agreement that these plans for spring semester need to be communicated to our families in a timely manner. Ultimately, the majority of the Board approved a staggered plan to return to in-person learning for all grades.

### **Discussion Items**

- Board reviewed the YTD financials.
- Board reviewed the preliminary amended budget. Because of the decline in enrollment, it is projected that approximately \$650,000 will need to be transferred from the reserves to have a balanced amended budget.

- The posting for the Executive Director position has been published and has a deadline of January 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Mr. Anderson gave an update on plans to utilize the bond funds – the preliminary proposals are to use the UCPS construction funds for asbestos abatement and to finish the campus and to use the UCES construction funds for a variety of projects including redesigning the library area, the creation of an outdoor classroom space, additional storage, and the purchase of smart boards.
- The bidding process for the asbestos abatement is in process with bids due on January 13th. The estimated date to start this project is June 1, 2021 with an estimated finish date of August 15, 2021.
- Mr. Stokovaz gave a technology update. The final shipment of our chromebooks is scheduled to arrive by February.

### **Board Reports**

- Board reviewed policies, KFB and KHC and recommended no changes.
- Board reviewed policies KFA and KI, which both have the exact same wording. Mr. Anderson will research to see if a correction needs to be made for one or both of these policies.

### **Administration Reports**

- Ms. Burns reviewed the activities at UCPS. Remote finals have been going well.
- Mr. Warner reviewed the activities at UCES. The deadline for additional professional development requirements for K-3 teachers has been extended until January 2022. Teachers have been working hard to complete the middle of the year DIBELS assessments. District 6 has added UCES to their bus routes for meal distribution during remote instruction. UCES has opened up their building to a small group of students who lack internet access during this remote instruction period.

### **Director's Report**

- The UCES free and reduced lunch percentage may qualify the school for additional funding through Title 1 funding. The District will determine the cut off for funding later this spring.
- We had 22 families who referred students to UCPS this school year.

### **Adjournment**

- Meeting was adjourned at 7:58 pm.