

Union Colony School Board Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2023

Members In Attendance:

Heather Bunyan, President
Veronica Armendariz, Vice President
Ashleigh Jacks, Secretary
Jeremy Herndon, Member
Betzy Valdez, Member

Administration in Attendance:

Jemiah Fowler, UCS Executive Director
Carrie Leffler, UCPS Principal
Mandy Bailey, UCES Assistant Principal

Members Absent:

Ron Lamb, Member
Kristin Arnold, Treasurer
Dave Warner, UCES Principal
Eric Dudley, UCPS AP/AAD

The board meeting was held at Union Colony Elementary School on February 11, 2023.
Meeting was called to order at 8:00 am by Bunyan.

Pledge of Allegiance

School/Student Highlights

There were no student highlights.

Approval of the Agenda

Agenda was approved as provided.

Public Comments

Marissa Hutchins reported to the board that WIDA Testing was completed.

Action Items

- Consent agenda was approved. Motion by Armendariz, Second by Valdez. Motion passed, unanimously.
 - Approval of minutes from January 14, 2023 Board Meeting
- Approval of Policies. Motion by Jacks, Second by Valdez. Motion passed, unanimously.
 - IKA and IKA-R - Grading/Assessment Systems
 - JLF - Child Abuse Reporting
- Approval of Personal Resignation. Motion by Armendariz, Second by Jacks. Motion passed, unanimously.
 - Heather Barnett, Kindergarten Teacher

Discussion Items

- Policy Review:
 - IKE - R - Promotion, Retention & Acceleration of Students -
 - This is the regulation policy that follows IKE, it was discussed that this regulation is needed to expand and clearly define the differences between the grade levels and the process of the retention at each grade level. It was also discussed that processes for 9-12 do not have retention policies or regulations due to the state's graduation requirements. It was also discussed that the policy should remain consistent when using parent/guardian throughout the policy as well as consistent language with the same subject matter.
 - IC/ICA - School Year/School Calendar/Instruction Time -
 - This is a new policy that is recommended to be added specifically to define what school year, calendar and instruction time is. This policy as defined is in alignment with state requirements at all grade levels.
- Board of Director Seat Opening:
 - It was discussed that one seat will be open at the end of May. We also discussed the process to get the new candidate certified.
- 2023/2024 Calendar Proposal:
 - The calendar that was presented to the board has some changes from past year calendars. Fowler discussed that there has been a lot of work in putting this calendar together taking into consideration and input from staff, parents and students. There was a lot of discussion regarding these changes and how they would affect our staff, students and families. It was also discussed that there will be a vote during next month's board meeting.
 - Fowler indicated that ultimately it was presented and approved by Faculty Council with the following changes:
 - Days off moved to Fridays for students (except for federal holidays on Mondays and some school business days)
 - Providing more school improvement/school business days for staff, totalling 15 for the year. This is more from current 2022/2023 calendar
 - Decreased faculty days from 175 to 173. Student contact days will be 157 for K- 5 and 158 for 6-12. This is still within the state standards for CDE
 - This calendar will also eliminate early release on Thursdays for both schools
 - Moving the end of school in May back one week and graduation to the Saturday of Memorial day weekend.

Reports

- Board:
 - There were no board modules this time, this will resume next month.
- Administration/Principals:
 - Elementary- Warner was not able to attend, but did provide an update via memo.
 - Preparatory- Leffler reported that field trips are continuing with the Spanish one class. She also reported that five students did participate in the Honor band within the district. There was an interactive presentation on teen driving in January. During parent teacher conferences the Weld County Department of Health will be providing vaping education to the parents. Parent Teacher Conference will take place in person on Wednesday (2/15/23) and virtually on Thursday (2/16/23). She also reported that the middle school had recently had a dance and the high school dance is coming up. Leffler also reported that she has enrolled several students for next year as well as a few students that have current siblings at one of the schools. The Preparatory school is looking at providing a presentation with each level at the high school to include programs available for the students as well as graduation requirements.
- Departments:
 - Assistant Principal/Activities/Athletic Director - There was no report.
 - Assistant Principal - Bailey provided an update on the WEDA testing and talked about the sundae party for the growth for students. Soon the elementary school will start the GT testing for the second graders. She also stated that Parent Teacher Conferences will be coming up on 2/15/23 and 2/16/23. Bailey also talked about how the combined PTO meeting with the prep school went well. She also talked about the elementary night at the prep school during the varsity games and how much fun the elementary intermals students had. Art, Music and PE intermals are taking place and the students are enjoying themselves. There are currently 39 students that are taking advantage of the after school reading program, this way the students can get their home reading steps at school.
- Director
 - Fowler reported that the annual public lottery was held on January 25th and they are working on getting potential selected students offer letters as well as the waitlist made for the 2023/2024 school year. He said that there are a few grades that they are trying to prioritize, which are Kindergarten, 6th and 7th grade. Fowler is hoping that this will help with keeping students enrolled so they can continue their schooling all the way through at Union Colony and help stabilize the enrollment from each grade level. He also reported that Charter School Capital is working on our website and has been tracking which pages are most visited so those can be right up front. He said for instance that since they moved athletics to the main page, easier to access, they saw a huge jump in site visits. Fowler also reported

that the budget is right on track through December 31, 2022 and noted that the next board meeting will include the amended budget.

Communications to the Board

- There was not any provided.

Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 9:18 am.