

**AFSA K-12**  
**Work Session Minutes**  
**K-8 Cafeteria**

**Feb 28, 2023**  
**4:00 - 5:00 pm**  
**AGENDA TOPICS**

**Board Members Present:** Katie Crowley, Gerard Cramer, David Smith, Jodi Stumpner, Jessica Goodwin, Kate Plaisance, Brady Jones,

**Board Members Arrived at 4:30 pm:**

**A. PROCEDURAL ITEMS:**

1. Call to Order: Board Chair Kate Plaisance called the work session to order at 4:05 pm.

**B. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. Director Evaluation: Kate Plaisance updated the google form for the director evaluation and submitted it to the executive committee for review. The form will be emailed out 3/01/2023 to the Board Members and select staff for completion on 03/10/2023. Kate will meet with Becky Meyer on 03/20/2023. Director Contract to be completed for March Board Meeting agenda.
2. AIPAC Committee (American Indian Parent Advisory Committee): Becky Meyer updated that we have not had a parent meeting for this requirement yet. The School Board will discuss AFSA involvement with American Indian students at the March Board meeting.
3. Other topics that come before the board:
  - Katie Crowley invited the school board to attend the Agriculture Advisory Council meeting Thursday March 2nd held during presentation night at the high school.
  - Next all staff work day is on March 10th, 2023, and will include a Cake Wars Event.
4. 2023-24 AFSA School Calendar was reviewed and discussed.
5. Board Evaluation: Julie Cox discussed the google form created for board members for self reflection and the evaluation will be discussed at the April 2023 Work Session. Julie is using resources from the Board Governance Book for ideas on how to conduct the evaluation.
  - Becky Meyer emailed out to AFSA parents a notification with information for interest in open Parent Board Positions for next election.

**C. ADJOURN:** The work session was adjourned at 4:55 pm.

**Regular board meeting to begin at 5:00 pm in K8 Cafeteria**

**AFSA K-12**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING Minutes**  
**K-8 Cafeteria**

**Feb 28, 2023**  
**5:00 - 6:30 pm**  
**AGENDA**

**Board Members Present:** Katie Crowley, Gerard Cramer, David Smith, Melissa DeGidio, Jodi Stumpner, Jessica Goodwin, Brady Jones, Julie Cox, Kate Plaisance

**Board Members Absent:**

**Others Present:** Becky Meyer, Erik Bruner-Wiltse, Carrie Reid, Liz Burkwald

**A. PROCEDURAL ITEMS**

1. Call to Order: Board Chair Kate Plaisance called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm

**Mission:** The Academy for Sciences and Agriculture (AFSA), a public charter school for grades K-12, engages learners in academically rigorous, student-centered, hands-on experiences and leadership opportunities within a science, environmental education, and agricultural context.

**Vision:** AFSA will develop lifelong learners who are curious, care for others and have high skill levels in applied sciences, and will be prepared for a future in a diverse, global and changing society

**Honoring Native Peoples:** We would like to acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the Dakota People, and pay our respect to elders both past and present.

2. Determination of Quorum (5 members minimum): A quorum was determined.
3. Approve Agenda: A motion to approve the February 28th, 2023 amended agenda with added speaker Ryan Moller as presented was made by Brady Jones. Jodi Stumpner seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
4. Determination of Conflict of Interest: No conflict of interest was determined to be present.
5. Approval of Minutes: A motion was made to approve the January 2023 Board minutes as presented by David Smith. Jodi Stumpner seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Guest Speaker Ryan Moeller: Ryan Moeller is an AFSA first year Social Studies teacher at the K-8 and AFSA K-12 Athletic Director. He discussed the fall sports held at AFSA including volleyball, cross country running, and co-op soccer. The current boys and girls basketball season is coming to an end. Invitation was extended to attend the boys home game 03/01/2023 at AFSA High School at 5:30 pm. Spring athletic sports at AFSA include baseball, softball, and track. Informational session will be held at Presentation Night at the High School March 2nd. Ryan shared the positive outcomes of AFSA sports including increased involvement, AFSA school spirit, student pride, relationship building between 7th/8th graders and AFSA high schoolers. Discussion was also held among the board on fundraising, student enrollment costs for sports and interest in an inhouse soccer team for next fall.

## **A. PROCEDURAL ITEMS CONTINUED:**

6. Approval of Financial Report: Erik Bruner-Wiltse presented the Financial Report. A motion was made to approve the Financial Report, payment of invoices and acceptance of gifts as presented by David Smith. Gerard Cramer seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

## **B. GUEST COMMENTS:** None

## **D. INFORMATION ITEMS**

### 1. School Activities Reports

#### **Liz Burkwald presented for AFSA K-8.**

##### Academics:

- Finishing up STAR Testing, a few make-ups from snow days. Currently, 60% of completed tests have shown high growth in Reading and 63% in Math.

##### Community:

- February 10th, AFSA K-8 hosted a successful Literacy Night which was attended by 65 students in grades K-7th grade.
- AFSA K-8 students earned a school wide treat of hot chocolate for respectful, responsible, safe and #beafsa behaviors. The winning advisory within each age group also earned cookies.
- Congratulations to AFSA 7th and 8th grade duo who won the AFSA 7-12 grade talent show February 24th.

##### Mission:

- Contract Goal 1.1: Out of 173 students who completed their Science Fair projects received an average score of 77.44. This is an increase of 14 from last year. Make-up scores will be added to the final reporting data.
- ELP Goal 2.1: 13% of the completed Science Fair projects were in the Environmental Education Category, exceeding the goal of 10%.
- Dave Smith visited Agricultural classes for cheese tasting.

##### Enrollment:

- 25 Registrations received for next school year. March 1st is the deadline, so we expect to see additional applications this week.
- Enrollment for next year is at 393 for K-12, prediction is for approximately 450. 8th graders were surveyed for next year and 44 of 50 plan to stay and attend AFSA High School.
- Lottery was conducted on Feb 6, 2023 by Liz Burkwald and witnessed by Lori Lane. From the lottery, 87 of 102 applications were accepted. Waitlist of 15 students in 3, 4, 5, and 6th grade.
- Since the lottery we have received 10 more applicants, with a total of 126 applications for 2023-24 at this time.

#### **Erik Bruner-Wiltse presented for AFSA High School.**

##### Clubs and Extracurricular Activities:

- Infinite Reach unveiled their mural, "It's Never Too Late," with a dedication for the school on Friday February 24th. The mural represents the infinitely unique qualities of all of our students.
- Ryan Moeller will be speaking during presentation night March 2nd, regarding spring sports.
- Boys basketball season is finishing up and they are having a home game March 1st at AFSA HS.
- E-sports pre-season has begun with 12 members. The official season is starting the week of March 6th.

##### School Culture and Community:

- FFA week began with the national FFA President speaking to 7-12th graders at the High School and concluded with the AFSA Talent Show Friday February 24th.

- February 10th High School Leadership Conference was held at the AFSA High School with 75 students participating in team-building activities, leadership skills from AFSA Officers, and food assembly for the homeless.
- February 28th FFA Day at the Capitol. 12 students participated and met with 11 senators or representatives. Students were able to sit in on the Education and Finance Committee in the senate and the house.

**Academics:**

- AFSA High School February 23rd E-Learning day was productive with 87% attendance of most virtual sessions.
- The 7-9th and 10-12th grade Science Fairs were held with nearly 200 students, 32 judges, with 9 rooms. Resulting in 41 High School students eligible to attend the State Agriscience Fair March 9th at the U of M St. Paul Campus.
- March 2nd is the AFSA High School Presentation night from 4-7:00 pm. It is open to the public, families and friends to attend presentations and tour the building.

Enrollment: Current AFSA High School total enrollment is 166 students.

**2. Committee Reports:none**

**E. ACTION ITEMS**

1. Audit bids: A motion was made to approve the ABDO Audit Bid for the next 3 years as presented by David Smith. Brady Jones seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously.
2. Insurance: A motion was made to approve the Maguire Agency's Insurance Proposal for Liberty Mutual Insurance as presented by Katie Crowley. Julie Cox seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously.
3. Transportation: A motion was made to approve the Charter School Transportation Report 23-24 (AFSA inhouse transportation) as presented by Katie Crowley. Brady Jones seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously.
4. 2023-2024 School Calendar: A motion was made to approve the AFSA 2023-2024 School Calendar as presented by Brady Jones. Gerald Cramer seconded the motion, which was passed with the following votes; Jody Stumpner voted no, all other board members voted yes.

**F. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- a. Next meeting: Regular meeting March 28, 2023 at 5 pm

**G. ADJOURNMENT**

Katie Crowley moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:50 pm. Dave Smith seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.