

AFSA K-12

Work Session Minutes

April 25, 2023, 4:00 pm

Board Members present: Gerard Cramer, Jodi Stumpner, Jessica Goodwin, Julie Cox, Katie Crowley, Brady Jones, Dave Smith, Becky Meyer, Erik Bruner- Wiltse, Melissa Degidio arrived late

Board members absent: none

Discussion:

1. AIPAC report- the board was provided with the email from Lasha Tilsen, who is the designated lead for the AIPAC. Lasha and another parent had met and discussed the items in the email. Two board members, Julie and Jessica will connect with Lasha to discuss the email, what the priorities are and help determine next steps. The AIPAC committee was to meet and provide feedback to the board by 3/1/2023, this information was received on 3/31/2023. The school board was to have a response for the committee, which would also be forwarded to MDE by 4/1/2023.
2. The benefits proposal and changes were discussed. Health insurance overall stays the same, Dental insurance costs remain the same by changing from Delta Dental to Met Life. All other insurance costs remain the same.
3. Melissa reviewed the planning template. The board members each selected an area to work on. An admin was assigned to each area as well.
4. Julie discussed the process and importance of doing board evaluations. She provided a handout that board members are to complete and bring to the next board meeting.

The meeting ended at 5:00 pm.

AFSA K-12

School Board Meeting Minutes

April 25, 2023,

Board Members present: Gerard Cramer, Jodi Stumpner, Jessica Goodwin, Julie Cox, Katie Crowley, Brady Jones, Dave Smith, Becky Meyer, Erik Bruner- Wiltse, Melissa Degidio

Board members absent: none

A. PROCEDURAL ITEMS

1. Call to Order Board Chair Kate Plaisance called the meeting to order at 5:02 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.

a. **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

b. **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.

0. Determination of Quorum (5 members minimum): A quorum was determined.

0. Approve Agenda: A motion to approve the March 28th, 2023 agenda as presented was made by Katie Crowley. Julie Cox seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The Martial Arts club, supervised and trained by staff member John Bode demonstrated some of the things they had learned over the past school year.

0. Determination of Conflict of Interest: No conflict of interest was determined to be present.

0. Approval of Minutes: A motion was made to approve the February 2023 Board minutes as presented by Dave Smith. Katie Crowley seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

0. Approval of Financial Report: Erik Bruner-Wiltse presented the Financial Report. A motion to approve the Financial Report, payment of invoices and acceptance of gifts as

presented was made by Brady Jones. Gerard Cramer seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

B. GUEST COMMENTS

None

C. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Administrative Reports:

K-8

Academic:

- MCAs are underway! Students have completed Math MCAs and are currently working on the Reading MCA. We will wrap up next week with the Science MCA for 5th and 8th grade. Results will inform goal areas 4, 5, and 6
- J-term lists have been posted for students in grades 5-8. K-4 term permission forms will go home in May. We are excited for the end of the year fun!

Community:

- Awards Night is coming up on June 1st! AFSA K-8 will honor students in academics, club participation, Agriculture, and Social Emotional accomplishments. This is also our Ice Cream Social event in partnership with the parent group.
- Open House on Thursday night for prospective families
- K8 Field day on June 9th to end the year with a fun-filled day outdoors! The parent group will be joining staff to put on a day of games at the park.
- We are looking forward to having the FFA officers come over to host a dance for our 5-8th graders in conjunction with our April behavior challenge!

Mission:

- FFA State Convention is going on, and AFSA FFA is winning in several categories! For 7th and 8th graders, Science fair placements have been the big announcements along with talent - we have several students placing in the top 3 for Science fair, and our Talent dancing duo is in the top 10!
- Field trips this month included: Recycling center, African American Art Museum, Shoreview Community Center, Science Museum, Pioneer Park, Kroening Nature Center, Library, and Como Zoo

Enrollment:

- Current K8 enrollment is 233
- Next year, reconfiguring to K-6 and 7-12. K-6 registered enrollment is at 149, but with 2 additional classrooms opening, the number is expected to increase to about 190 from accepting students on the waitlist. 7-12 registered enrollment is at 283, with 9th grade starting a waitlist.

- Currently space available in kindergarten (10 spots), 6th grade (10 spots), 7th grade (8 spots)

9-12

Clubs and Extracurriculars

- The snow Baseball, Softball, and Track practice has begun. Now that the snow is gone, practices are outside and on fields. Baseball has played 2 games, with 3 more this week. Softball has played 1 game so far. The first track meet will be this Friday, 4/28.
- Girls on the Run is underway. 14 girls participating. Seeing lots of positive growth and friendships building. 5k will be June 2.

School Culture and Community

- April 13 - Regional FFA Banquet at Howard Lake Waverly Winsted
- FFA State Convention - April 23-25. 57 7th-12th grade students attending.
 - 23 Students so far have placed in the top 3 of their agriscience fair division
 - 3 AFSA students announced as state proficiency award finalists
 - 1 student selected to serve as 2023 MN FFA foundation ambassador
- Open House - April 27. Special science activity for incoming students.
- Prom - April 29. Enchanted Forest - at high school
- Plant Sale - May 11 - 3:30 - 6:00, May 12 - 9:00 am - 6:00 pm, May 13 - 9:00 am -12:00 pm. Please come out and help support AFSA!

Academics

- MCA Reading (10) complete. MCA Math (11) in progress. MCA Science begins next week
- Conferences - April 20: We had 182 appointments and 48 families in attendance. (This is an increase from 122 appointments in January.)
- ELP Strategy 2.2 - Water lab O.W. Goal -. Students have completed their water labs that explore chemicals in a variety of water samples, testing for human-introduced pollutants. Pollutants. Tri 2 and 3 of environmental chemistry. Average score - 89.17% (Goal = 80%). City water, Goose Lake water, hard well water.

Enrollment

- Total - 167

3. Committee Reports: None

D. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Osprey Wilds Academic Performance feedback. The board members reviewed the level of performance with the contract goals. Specific questions were asked about how the pandemic years will affect the goals and how to improve in areas we are rated lower. A meeting will be set up with Osprey Wilds to discuss.

E. ACTION ITEMS

1. 990 form: Dave Smith moved to approve the 990 as presented. The motion was seconded by Brady Jones and passed unanimously.
2. Employee Benefits: Quotes for medical, dental and fringe benefits were discussed. Medica did not increase the overall rate and are providing a \$5000 Wellness credit for the school to use. Dental benefits went up 8% with Delta Dental, but remain the same rate if AFSA moves to MetLife Dental. All other benefits stay at current rates for another year. Gerard moved to accept the renewals for Medica and fringe benefits with Mutual of Omaha as they were with a change to Met Life for dental insurance. Julie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
3. Katie Crowley moved to take from the table the motion to keep the admin team the same for the FY 24 school year. Gerard Cramer seconded the motion to take the original motion from the table and it was passed unanimously. Board members discussed the original motion, requesting information on jobs posted, financial ramifications and job duties. The motion failed with Katie Crowley abstaining. All other members present voted no.
Brady Jones moved to adopt the new organizational chart with the associated administrative changes. Gerard seconded the motion. Board members asked if the positions that were not being cut needed to be posted. It was explained that in industry if less than 50% of job duties change, it is not considered a new position. The motion passed with Katie Crowley abstaining and all other board members present voting yes.
4. Positions with board oversight: Kate reviewed the process of evaluations for Liz Burkwald and Bill Lloyd. Their performance reviews were done by Erik Bruner-Wiltse and provided to the Executive committee for review. Brady Jones moved to offer contracts for the FY 24 school year to Liz Burkwald and Bill Lloyd. Dave Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

F. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next meeting:

- Work session and regular meeting May 23, 2023, beginning at 4 pm

G. ADJOURNMENT

Katie Crowley moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 pm. Melissa seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.