

MINGUS UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
1801 East Fir, Cottonwood, AZ 86326

GOVERNING BOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING

Mingus Union High School Library
Thursday, August 22, 2024 5:00 PM

Governing Board:

Lori Drake
Misty Cox
Anthony Lozano
Carol Anne Teague
Austin Babcock

Also Present:

Melody Herne, Superintendent
Bridget Hillman, Admin Asst.
Josh Fant, IT Director
David Beery, Interim Principal
Katherine Forbes, Dean of Students
Shannon Anderson, Assistant Principal
Guiding Coalition Members

OPENING

Call to Order

Board President Drake called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

Roll Call

Board President Lori Drake, Vice President Misty Cox, Board Member Anthony Lozano, Board Member Carol Anne Teague, and Board Member Austin Babcock are all present.

Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge was led by Interim Principal Beery.

Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was observed.

President Drake asked if there are any changes to the agenda. Superintendent Herne requested that agenda item 5.1, Band Private Lessons be removed.

Adoption of Agenda

Motion was made by Board Member Babcock to adopt the agenda with item 5.1 removed. Second was made by Vice President Cox.

Roll Call Vote:

Board President Lori Drake - Aye
Vice President Misty Cox - Aye
Board Member Anthony Lozano - Aye
Board Member Carol Anne Teague - Aye

Board Member Austin Babcock - Aye

Motion passed 5-0.

Public Comments

President Drake states that only one public comment request has been submitted and this item is also an agenda item. It is asked if Jamie Alcala would like to comment after this item is discussed. Jamie Alcala request to speak after the agenda item is discussed.

ACTION ITEMS - CONSENT

(Specific information on routine vouchers and personnel will be available at the District Office 24 hours prior to Board Meetings. Please see the Governing Board Secretary during regular office hours. All items listed hereunder are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Board member so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be discussed separately.)

Approval of Routine Vouchers

Payroll

Personnel - HR Report

Certified/Classified/Administration, Fall Sports Coaching Stipends, Extra Duty Stipends

Travel Request

FFA out of state travel to Indianapolis, Indiana from October 22, 2024, to October 27, 2024 to attend the National FFA Convention.

Motion was made by President Drake to approve the conscet agenda as presented. Second was made by Board Member Babcock.

Roll Call Vote:

Board President Lori Drake - Aye

Vice President Misty Cox - Aye

Board Member Anthony Lozano - Aye

Board Member Carol Anne Teague - Aye

Board Member Austin Babcock - Aye

Motion passed 5-0.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Academic Syllabi - *Future Consideration item from July 11th. Process by which stakeholders can view/access course information. (Staff Resource Interim Principal Dave Beery and Guiding Coalition Members)*

Superintendent Herne welcomed the board, Leadership Team, and Guideing Coalition to the Work Session. The Work Session is designed to be a colabrative effort with the Leadership Team, Guiding Coalition and the Board.

Interim Principal Beery presented information on Academic Syllabi, how to access teacher websites, what is required to be present on each website and syllabi which outline the course timeline for the year. Interim Principal Beery displayed Mrs. Jamie Alcala's website and she reviewed it for the board. All teacher sites will follow the same pattern.

Classroom Site Fund Goals - Process for FY2026 Goals - Future Consideration item from July 11th. More academic focused set of goals that measure growth or proficiency (Staff Resource: Interim Principal Dave Beery)

Superintendent Herne gave an update regarding A-F letter grade and how items are calculated. She will bring an indepth presentation to the Board in September. Classroom Site Fund Goals tied into how the school will obtain there goal for growth.

Vice President Cox stated that we need to be mindful that even though we have moved letter grades which is a great accomplishment, work still needs to be done in order for our studnets to become proficient.

Interim Principal Beery presented information regarding history of the Classroom Site Fund, how the funds are distrubuted, how the committee if formed, what information is use by the committe to formulate the objectives and goals for Classroom Site Fund each year. The way we pay out our teachers through the Classroom Site Fund is a huge tool that is used for recruiment and retention of teachers.

Presidnet Drake expressed concern on transparcy of previous administration which led to the board to ask more questions regarding the Classroom Site Fund.

Superintendent Herne stated as soon as she started conservaions with MUEA were set in place to begin the open dialog regarding Classroom Site Fund among other topics.

Board Member Babcock wants to make it clear that the board's questioning of the Classroom Site Fund is not a suggestion that they are looking to cut staff pay. It has been presented to the board previously as bouns pay. The only information that had been received was the end product of the goals. Having a better understanding of what goes into the plan and goals aides the board in knowing what it takes to obtain Classroom Site Fund for each teacher. He would like to see the goals be geared toward academic achievement.

Question and answer session took place between the Board, Leadership Team, and Guiding Coalition for a better understanding of what is included in the Classroom Site Fund Goals. It was concluded that transparency and clear communication from all groups will help in the understanding of where we need to go as a school and how each play a role in achieving greater success for students.

Superintendent Herne expressed her apperation and thanks of the open dailog from the group.

Public Comment

Jamie Alcala – After the discuss on the Classroom Site Fund her informaiton that she was going to speak on has been stated. Mingus teachers do everything they can to help students achive. Culture on campus is one of encouragement and growth.

Active Shooter and Safety Protocols - Future Consideration item from July 11th. Information on safety protocols and procedures for staff and students (Staff Resource: Althetic Director Yancey DeVore)

Interim Principal Beery presented in place of Mr. DeVore due to the football scrimmage taking place at the same time as the meeting. Interim Principal Beery reviewed current active shooter and safety protocols. The “Go Folder” information was presented.

Verkada and Securly Pass Update - *Update on the two new systems aiding safety and hallway management on the Mingus Campus. Verkada - cameras and vape sensors: Securly Pass- the pass system for campus safety (Staff Resource: IT Director Josh Fant and Dean of Students Katherine Forbes)*

IT Director Josh Fant and Dean of Students Katherine Forbes updated the board on the Verkada system. In the presentation Dean of Students Katherine Forbes gave information on what the system is capable of and how it is used daily.

Vice President Cox asked who has access to the cameras. Dean of Students Katherine Forbes states that permission is done by titles; Superintendent, Principal, Assistant Principal, Dean of Students, and Director of Security and Safety. The system is cloud based therefore it can be accessed remotely. Additional training is being scheduled.

Board Member Babcock asked if administration feels that the camera views are adequate for the campus. Dean of Students Katherine Forbes states they do see areas where they would like to have the 360 view on certain cameras. Administration Team will bring needs through chain of command to the board.

Board Member Babcock asked if we have enough vape sensors. Vice President Cox asked if the sensors are working as a deterrent for students due to response time from Administration. Dean of Students Katherine Forbes states that she feels we have enough vape sensors and that they are working as a deterrent.

Superintendent Herne informed the board that Administration will bring back data regarding the vape system in October. Dean of Students Katherine Forbes asked that the board to submit information that they would like to have covered for the October presentation. Ms. Forbes thanked all staff members who contributed to the set up of the Verkada system.

Dean of Students Katherine Forbes reviewed what the Securly Pass system and how it is used. Principal Beery gave information regarding additional features of Securly; Academic Flex and Visitor Management.

ACTION ITEMS - DISTRICT BUSINESS

(Specific items of District business as listed for consideration - may include various categorical areas as the business of the District necessitates Board discussion, deliberation, and action)

USTA Serve Tennis Proposal - *The Board will consider and possibly approve an agreement with USTA for the Serve Tennis Automated Tennis Court Booking System and Associated Hardware. (Staff Resource: Girls Tennis Coach Andrea Meyer)*

Superintendent Herne asked the board for resolution regarding the USTA Serve Tennis Proposal due to this being the third time that this item has been presented.

Ms. Andrea Meyer reviewed the USTA Serve Tennis Automated Tennis Court Booking System and how it would benefit local tennis players of the Verde Valley. She also believes this would lead to goodwill to the community.

Board Member Lozano asked to have the floor. President Drake told Board Member Lozano he may have the floor once Ms. Andrea Meyer was finished with her presentation.

Motion made by Board Member Lozano to not approve the USTA Serve Tennis Automated Tennis Court Booking System. Second was made by Vice President Cox.

Call for a discussion made by Board President Drake.

Board Member Lozano does not see how this would benefit our students. He does not believe that the school needs to be tied with a national organization to facilitate how our campus courts are used. Board Member Lozano has consulted with legal advisors that deal with schools and they are advising not to move forward with this system. He is comfortable with his motion. He is finished discussing this item.

Board Member Babcock asked who will monitor the system. Ms. Andrea Meyer stated that the school can add whomever they would like to monitor the system. Board Member Babcock is concerned that this program would add another duty for someone currently on the campus. He also has concerns about how community members would be vetted in order to access the campus.

Vice President Cox stated that the board voted in June to not accept the USTA Serve Tennis Automated Tennis Court Booking System due to financial, security, and liability issues. No new evidence has been presented to change these issues.

Board Member Teague stated that she received many emails from community members in favor of the USTA Serve Tennis Automated Tennis Court Booking System. She did not receive any emails that voiced concern in allowing court use during school hours.

Vice President Cox stated that she did receive emails from community members concerned about allowing community members on the campus to use the tennis courts during school hours.

Ms. Andrea Meyer asked if the community members understood what the USTA Serve Tennis Automated Tennis Court Booking System had to offer in regards to tracking who and when community members would be on the courts.

President Drake states that the motion has been moved and seconded. Roll call is asked to proceed.

Roll Call Vote:

President Drake - Nay

Vice President Cox asked to have the motion reviewed.

President Drake asked Board Member Lozano to repeat his motion. Board Member Lozano states his motion is to not approve the USTA Serve Tennis Automated Tennis Court Booking System. A no vote would approve the USTA Serve Tennis Automated Tennis Court Booking System and yes vote would deny the USTA Serve Tennis Automated Tennis Court Booking System.

Roll Call Vote:

Board President Drake amends her vote to Aye

Vice President Misty Cox - Aye

Board Member Anthony Lozano - Aye

Board Member Carol Anne Teague - Nay

Board Member Austin Babcock - Aye

Motion passed 4-1.

Requests for Future Agenda Items

(The Board will not propose, discuss, comment, or take legal action during the meeting)

Board Member Lozano asked to have information regarding Olympic Athletes using our facilities to be place for a future agenda.

President Drake asked for a vote to put Olympic Athletes using our facilities for future agenda item.

Board Member Teague asked why this is needed.

Superintend Herne states for clarity, items that the board would like to be placed on a future agenda should be voted on. This will differentiate between items that can be an update and ones that need to be future agenda items.

Board Member Babcock asked for a Work Session to discuss how we can support our feeder schools in order to obtain students at a higher level of academic proficiency. Superintendent Herne states that we are currently working with our feeder districts to collaborate what the expectations are when they arrive to the high school as freshmen. Board Member Babcock would like to move this to a reported item.

Vice President Cox would like Superintendent Herne to research in policy time limits for reconsideration of agenda items to be presented to the Education Board. President Drake asked that this be an updated item.

Board Member Teague does not have any future agenda items at this time.

Motion made by President Drake to place Olympic Athletes use of facilities, improve feeder school student preparedness, and time limits per policy for agenda items to be presented. Second by Vice President Cox.

Superintendent Herne request clarification on Vice President Cox request. The request is time limit reconsideration for agenda items to be presented to the Education Board.

Roll Call Vote:

Board President Lori Drake - Aye

Vice President Misty Cox - Aye

Board Member Anthony Lozano - abstain

Board Member Carol Anne Teague - Aye

Board Member Austin Babcock - Aye

Motion passed 4-0-1.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by President Drake to adjourn. Second was made by Board Member Teague.

Roll Call Vote:

Board President Lori Drake – Aye

Vice President Misty Cox - Aye

Board Member Anthony Lozano - Aye

Board Member Carol Anne Teague - Aye

Board Member Austin Babcock - Aye

Motion passed 5-0.

Adjournment: 7:12pm

Board President Lori Drake

Vice President Misty Cox