

Union Colony School Board Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2023

Members In Attendance:

Heather Bunyan, President
Veronica Armendariz, Vice President
Ashleigh Jacks, Secretary
Ron Lamb, Treasurer
Betzy Valdez, Member
Rebecca Thompson, Member

Administration in Attendance:

Jemiah Fowler, UCS Executive Director
Dave Warner, UCE Principal
Carrie Leffler, UCP Principal
Mandy Bailey, UCE Assistant Principal

Members Absent:

Jeremy Herndon, Member

The board meeting was held at Union Colony Preparatory School on October 14, 2023. Meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Heather Bunyan.

Pledge of Allegiance

School/Student Highlights

The board heard about Dallas Rizo and Avani Simons and the great contributions that they both have contributed to the Elementary school and Preparatory School both at the school and outside of school.

Approval of the Agenda

Agenda was approved as provided.

Public Comments

There was no public comment.

Action Items

- Consent agenda was approved. Motion by Betzy Valdez, Second by Ashleigh Jacks. Motion passed, unanimously.
 - Approval of minutes from September 9, 2023 Board Meeting

- Personnel. Motion by Veronica Armendariz, Second by Rebecca Thompson. Motion passed, unanimously.
 - Resignations:
 - Caren Kraft, Office Manager Elementary
 - Mandy Bailey, Assistant Principal Elementary

Discussion Items:

- Amendments to Board Bylaws: The Board had discussions regarding the amendments that will need to be updated to the Board Bylaws based on past board discussions, recommendations and government accounting standards. The discussion included changes to responsibilities of the board, faculty council as well as board voting for future members.
- Unified Improvement Plan (UIP): The board heard about the elementary school's plan regarding their UIP, from Mandy Bailey. It was also noted that the Preparatory school did not have a UIP this year because their rating is Performance. Mandy described that the elementary school is now rated Improvement Plan based on CMAS test scores from 3rd-5th graders. The board heard about the improvement strategies, root causes, and the challenges that the elementary school has identified. There were also in depth conversations on how the elementary schools test scores have not really changed prior to COVID or after and how there needs to be curriculum fidelity throughout the school in order to increase those scores. Mandy and Dave both assured the board that this is their top priority and are considering a lot of options to make sure that the elementary school can improve.

Reports

- Board:
 - Ashleigh Jacks reported on Module 21 - Grant Writing.
- Administration/Principals:
 - Carrie Leffler updated the board on what is going on at the Preparatory School. Carrie reported on what the committees are currently doing in the school. The School Accountability committee is working on reviewing the UIP data and focusing on multi language learning resources, PSAT and SAT resources and graduation requirements. Curriculum Content Readiness is looking at MLA format for all grade levels as well as R.A.C.E.S. format. The Climate & Culture committee is working on retention of teachers, celebrating students during the advisory period, and looking at the possibility of a mentoring program.

- Dave Warner updated the board on what is going on at the Elementary School and what is going on with all the committees. The School Accountability is working on the UIP, testing platforms, reading assessments, and student retention. The Curriculum Content Readiness is working on the curriculum, professional development, reading literacy and working with staff teaching and mentoring programs. The Climate & Culture is working with the swiss platform on social emotional data and student behaviors. Dave also reported on the upcoming events that will be happening in the elementary school.
- Director
 - Jemiah Fowler reported on the current budget and the student count numbers. The budget was based on 659 students and student count day was at 677, however there is some expected change with the final reconciliation with the state. He also reported that the annual audit is almost completed and the board will hear next month about what the audit will look like and information that might be on there.

Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 10:33 am.