

Alvord Unified School District

Special Board Meeting
March 03, 2021, 5:00 PM
Via Teleconference

MINUTES

Attendance Taken at 5:00 PM:

Present:

Ms. Lizeth Vega
Dr. Joanna Dorado
Mrs. Julie Moreno
Mr. Robert Schwandt
Mrs. Carolyn Wilson

1. BOARD MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE

2. CALL TO ORDER - 5:00 p.m.

Minutes:

Board President, Ms. Lizeth Vega called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

a. Establishment of Quorum

b. Pledge of Allegiance

c. Public Comment

Minutes:

Public Comments were received by e-mail.

Ms. Katherine Lunetto, Hillcrest High School Junior expressed the negative impacts COVID has had on her personally, socially, academically, and emotionally. Ms. Lunetto encouraged the Board of Education to consider reopening schools for the well-being of all students.

Mr. Ariyan Ghorbani, an Alvord Unified School District student expressed concern regarding COVID and returning to school. Mr. Ghorbani stated he would like school to continue virtually, until the end of the school year to minimize exposure to COVID.

Ms. Christina Simala, Alvord Unified School District parent expressed concern regarding

students having to endure COVID testing upon returning to school. Ms. Simala stated that studies have shown that children have a low COVID transmittal rate.

Dr. Dale Andelkovic, Alvord Unified School District parent expressed concern regarding the negative impact COVID has had on the social skills of students. Dr. Andelkovic also expressed concern regarding students having to undergo COVID testing upon the return to school as well wearing masks.

Ms. Amy Kelly, Alvord Unified School District parent expressed concern regarding students not attending schools in-person and the negative impact it has had on them. Ms. Kelly also expressed concern regarding COVID testing on students upon the return to school and the requirement to wear masks.

Ms. Carrie Thomas, Alvord Unified School District parent expressed concern regarding the safety guidelines required of students upon the return to school. Ms. Thomas requested that schools reopen.

Ms. Jennifer Savage, Alvord Unified School District parent expressed concern regarding students returning to school. Ms. Savage requested that parents be given the option for returning their students to school in-person or staying virtual.

Ms. Carrie Ramos, Alvord Unified School District parent expressed concern regarding the negative impact COVID has had on students not attending school in-person. Ms. Ramos stated that it is safe to reopen schools and requested schools to reopen.

Anonymous, Alvord Unified School District Secondary Teacher expressed concerns regarding the reopening of schools. The anonymous Secondary Teacher stated that the academic school year should continue in the virtual model to reduce the spread of the COVID virus and potential outbreaks. The anonymous Secondary Teacher also stated that infection rates might increase due to warmer temperatures, spring break, and people gathering in the summer. The anonymous Secondary Teacher also stated that Governor Gavin Newsom was encouraging the reopening of schools for political reasons.

Ms. Bryn Pellegrino, Alvord Unified School District parent and teacher urged the Board of Education to reopen schools. Ms. Pellegrino stated that students are struggling academically and emotionally.

Ms. Carolyn Brodeur, Alvord Unified School District Kindergarten Teacher expressed concern regarding teachers being required to teach students online as well as in-person when schools reopen. Ms. Brodeur stated that all stakeholders should have appropriate expectations for concurrent in-person and online instruction.

Ms. Mimi Velazquez, Alvord Unified School District Community Member expressed concern regarding the reopening of schools. Ms. Velazquez requested that all Board Members visit their assigned schools sites and confirm that all safety measures have been completed prior to the reopening of schools. Ms. Velazquez also expressed concern regarding Riverside County being in the Purple Tier and the current high COVID infection rates.

3. PRESENTATION OF DISTRICT'S REOPENING SAFETY PLAN

Minutes:

Superintendent Dr. Mucerino and staff presented the COVID Safety Plan and discussion followed regarding the reopening of schools for students and staff in the hybrid program.

4. ACTION ITEMS

a. Board of Education/Superintendent

1. Consideration and Potential Approval for Elementary Schools to Reopen for In-Person Instruction for Students and Staff in the Hybrid Program

Motion Passed: The Superintendent recommends elementary schools reopen for in-person instruction for students and staff in the hybrid program on Monday, March 22, 2021.

Passed with a motion by Mrs. Julie Moreno and a second by Mrs. Carolyn Wilson.

Yes Dr. Joanna Dorado

Yes Mrs. Julie Moreno

Yes Mr. Robert Schwandt

Yes Ms. Lizeth Vega

Yes Mrs. Carolyn Wilson

2. Consideration and Potential Approval for Secondary Schools to Reopen for In-Person Instruction for Students and Staff in the Hybrid Program

Motion Passed: The Superintendent recommends secondary schools reopen for in-person instruction for students and staff in the hybrid program on the Monday following the Tuesday the county transitions into the Red Tier, but no sooner than Monday, March 22, 2021.

Passed with a motion by Mrs. Julie Moreno and a second by Mr. Robert Schwandt.

Yes Dr. Joanna Dorado

Yes Mrs. Julie Moreno

Yes Mr. Robert Schwandt

Yes Ms. Lizeth Vega

Yes Mrs. Carolyn Wilson

5. ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

Board President, Ms. Lizeth Vega adjourned the meeting at 8:11 p.m.

Dr. Allan J. Mucerino
Superintendent