

# **Alvord Unified School District**

Special Board Meeting - Board of Education Workshop  
October 14, 2021, 4:00 PM  
District Office Board Room, 9 KPC Parkway, Corona, CA 92879

## **MINUTES**

### **Attendance Taken at 4:00 PM:**

#### **Present:**

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

**1. We are following the current guidance of state and county health and safety officials. Masks are required for all participants and must be properly worn at all times.**

### **2. INTRODUCTORY PROCEDURES**

#### **1. Call to Order and Welcome - 4:00 p.m.**

Minutes:

Board President, Ms. Lizeth Vega called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

#### **2. Establishment of Quorum**

Minutes:

A quorum was established.

#### **3. Pledge of Allegiance**

#### **4. Public Comment**

Minutes:

Board President, Ms. Lizeth Vega extended an invitation to the audience to present matters of concern to the Board. No one came forward.

### **3. PRESENTATION - English Learner Support Services Department**

Minutes:

Ms. Martha Martinez, Director III, English Learner Support Services provided a presentation with an overview and update of the English Learner Support Services Department.

Trustee Julie Moreno asked what was requested of parents when they participated in the task force. Ms. Martha Martinez stated that the task force was for reclassification purposes and was temporary. Ms. Martha Martinez also stated that the temporary task force was created to receive input from parents to review practices and discover potential refinement to provide additional access to students and parents.

Trustee Robert Schwandt asked how many students that currently participate in the Dual Language Immersion program in the elementary schools transferred to the middle school Dual Language Immersion program at Loma Vista. Ms. Martha Martinez stated that two-thirds of the students in the elementary Dual Language Immersion program continued the program at Loma Vista Middle School.

Trustee Dr. Joanna Dorado commended Ms. Martha Martinez for having gone through the strenuous Federal Program Monitoring process. Trustee Dorado asked if there is academic data of Dual Language Immersion (DLI) students that have gone through the (DLI) program. Ms. Martinez stated that the data has shown when dual language students have taken the Spanish assessment from the State of California; dual language students were slightly outperforming English learners in mainstream classes. Ms. Martinez also stated that another layer of success is that English learners in the Dual Language Immersion program are reclassified at about the same rate as their English learner counterparts.

#### **4. PRESENTATION - Child Nutrition Services Department**

Minutes:

Mr. Eric Holliday, Director I, Child Nutrition Services provided a presentation with an overview and update of the Child Nutrition Services Department.

Superintendent Dr. Allan Mucerino commended and extended his appreciation to Mr. Eric Holliday for having a positive attitude amidst the challenges his department faces, such as food and staff shortages due to the COVID pandemic.

Trustee Carolyn Wilson asked why is there a decline in meals being served, since free meals are being offered to all students. Mr. Eric Holliday stated that some families are still packing their student's lunch due to concern because of the pandemic. Another reason there is a decline in meals being served is due to the time it takes students to receive their meal during lunchtime. Mr. Holliday stated that the staff shortage does not help in being able to provide students their meals in less time.

Trustee Julie Moreno extended her appreciation to Mr. Eric Holliday and the entire CNS Department for serving the district's students and families since the beginning of the pandemic. Trustee Julie Moreno asked what is the percentage of overage the CNS Department calculates to accommodate unexpected meal orders from students. Mr. Eric Holliday stated the CNS Department has approximately a ten percent overage and has frozen pizzas available to warm up if needed.

Trustee Robert Schwandt asked Mr. Eric Holliday if he is having difficulty recruiting employees. Mr. Eric Holliday stated that it is difficult, but they are receiving plenty of applications. Trustee Schwandt asked what is the percentage of students that participate in receiving school meals. Mr. Eric Holliday stated that every day is different, and the approximate percentage of student participation in the lunch program is 60 to 70 percent.

Trustee Lizeth Vega asked how does the "free meal for all" program affect the revenue and funds for the CNS Department. Mr. Eric Holliday stated that if students are not eating meals provided by CNS then the revenue would decline, and the need to continue to keep food costs down as well as being appropriately staffed becomes even more important. Mr. Holliday also stated that the largest expenditures the department has is food costs and labor.

## **5. PRESENTATION - Assessment Department**

Minutes:

Mrs. Erin Askier, Coordinator of Assessment provided a presentation regarding an overview and update of the Assessment Department.

Trustee Julie Moreno asked if the i-Ready Program reads to students in their native language. Mrs. Erin Askier stated that the program does not read to students in their native language, but the program does allow teachers to monitor and assign lessons based on the student's level and educational needs.

Trustee Carlolyn Wilson asked how many students signed-up to take the PSAT this school year. Mrs. Erin Askier stated that 700 students district-wide signed-up to take the PSAT.

Trustee Carolyn Wilson asked what are the chances that transitional kindergarten and high school students can have i-Ready implemented in their learning programs. Mrs. Erin Askier responded that it is more likely that i-Ready implement the high school level lessons sooner than transitional kindergarten.

Trustee Julie Moreno asked what kind of feedback is being provided by teachers using the i-Ready program. Mrs. Erin Askier responded by stating that most of the feedback has been positive and trainings have been well attended. Mrs. Askier also stated that teachers are excited to be able to have the diagnostic student data provided by the i-Ready program.

Trustee Dr. Joanna Dorado mentioned that students in other districts that provide the Dual Language Immersion program are offering 8th graders the Spanish AP Test. Trustee Dorado stated to Mrs. Erin Askier that this is something we could possibly offer our 8th grade students in the future.

Trustee Robert Schwandt asked as the students' scores and levels are identified by i-Ready, did i-Ready provide information on what can be expected as far as academic growth due to use of the program? Mrs. Erin Askier responded by stating that i-Ready provides students a Typical Growth target and a Stretch Growth target which improves academic levels overall.

Superintendent Dr. Mucerino stated that i-Ready is a great tool that will assist teachers in

helping students move forward after the learning loss due to the pandemic.

## **6. BRANDING WORKSHOP**

Minutes:

Branding Expert, Mr. Patrick Sinclair conducted a branding workshop with the Board of Education.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

Minutes:

Board President, Ms. Lizeth Vega adjourned the meeting at 6:29 p.m.

Dr. Allan J. Mucerino,  
Superintendent