

Board Meeting Agenda
American International School of Utah
4998 South Galleria Drive, Murray, UT 84123
May 1, 2019 @ 8:00 p.m.

Welcome— Roll Call Meeting started about 10 mins late around 8:10pm

Board Members Present: Kent Burggraaf; Craig Lawson (by phone); Kenneth Grover (by phone); Mindy Young; Diane Longhurst-Johnson; Tasi Young (School Director; non-voting); and April Todd (Secretary; non-voting)

Excused Board Members: Dan Griffiths

Absentee Board Members: none

Staff: Jandy Stelter, Abbey Wallace, Katie Hedman and others

Public: Royce Van Tassell, Jennifer Lammert, Scott Jones, Lincoln Fillmore, Syd Dixon, about 300 community members

This is a continuation of yesterday's meeting.

Tasi Young - about a month ago there was a finding that AISU will need to pay back a reduced fee of 500K SpEd funds will need to be paid back. Those finding have put us in a tight place. And has made it impossible for us to be removed from warning status at this point. However it was not that concerning, because we were currently making all of the financials were being made appropriately and documented appropriately. But an additional complication was that future funds were going to be either delayed or reduced, which put us financial hard spot. But it was even further complicated by the notification of future potential pay backs. So we have to consider the hard decisions and realistically look at our current situation. We have additional compliance issues, will the state allow us to continue and if we are allowed to continued to move forward can we financial continue.

Kent Burggraaf- Reminder about details reviewed yesterday. If no financial concessions were/are made AISU would not be able to make the full payroll on May 20th. However, after conversations today our Landlord has allowed us to delay our rent till the end of each month.

Kent Burggraaf- I want feedback on option 1 - which is close the school immediately. I would like to take it off the table. Can we have all board members to weigh in and can we agree to take it off the table.

Craig Lawson- Yes

Kenneth Grover- Yes

Diane Longhurst-Johnson - Yes

Mindy Young- Yes

Option 2- Close doors August

Option 3 - Close end of fiscal year 2020

Option 4 - plan to stay open indefinitely

There currently doesn't look like a financially viable play to stay open indefinitely.... And even it looks uncertain to stay open for the 2020 fiscal year.

Items of the agenda may be taken out of order. Times included are only estimations.

Members or formally designated representatives may join by phone.

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Kent Burggraaf: want to leave the option open for a VSIP option. There was support during the AISU community meeting feedback where people voiced the sentiment that they wanted to support AISU and the hope of moving forward and rallying to get additional funding for the school.

Mindy Young- Hopes and dreams are to create a plan where we could create a smaller version of what makes AISU wonderful but a financially viable for the 2020 year and then look for someone else to come in and create something new that can merge with our current AISU community.

Tasi Young- VSIP would be handing over the keys to someone else and allowing them to take over and decide what to take and what not to take. We would not have surety to even say that it was going to be a K-12 school, so we could not guarantee the jobs to anyone.

Mindy Young- We have never had security here at AISU so this is not a new hurdle. Hopes and dreams are to work with the state to create a totally new plan.

Jennifer Lammert - the way we interpret the statute is that the only way a school is eligible to apply for the VSIP is if the school is open. Because the premise is that you would be handing over an open school with a current charter. So if we are voting to close even on a future date the VSIP would not be an option.

Mindy Young- can we delay this decision? What about delaying one week? What additional plans can be made.

Diane Longhurst-Johnson- One of my big concerns is students that are juniors this year that want to come back and graduate from AISU. What about the students that haven't been successful elsewhere that have been able to be successful here? I don't think I could feel comfortable making a decision that doesn't allow our Juniors to graduate from here. But we need at least one more week to decide to give a decision.

Craig Lawson- Want to congratulate Tasi and his staff on the job well done. Want to postpone the decision but at minimum to continue through the end of the summer. Current goal would be to continue through the 2020 year. But we would have to review the financials again and look at all options.

Kenneth Grover - Thanks to all those that reached out. Would like to also wait a week to truly consider all the options.

Jennifer Lammert - Clarification of the VSIP, It is dependent upon the proposal that the new school puts forward. It could be a closure of one school and an opening of another or the continuation of one school under new management. You would remain in control until you accept new proposal. The idea is that the warning status would not move forward with the new school but there is not certainty on the matter.

Scott Jones - Federal Requirements, there is a past evidence/precedence that federal funds would still be required to be paid back. And can't speak for the board but they would still need to follow the law and it is too early to say and what would or would not be required.

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- No matter what the situation we must move forward following board rule. We are accountable to act on whatever information we have non the timing of AISU's decision.
- It is not my place to make a decision or to advise it is the responsibility

Tasi Young- I think we might have forgotten about what brought us together today. The potential legal litigation that are iminite. And those litigations would have to stop our authorizers.

There are several meetings that are happening in the next week, where there will be even more scrutinizing, and where we will be held accountable to agreements that we don't want or can't stand behind. I had even forgotten what brought us together yesterday. This decision will always want to push off.

Diane Longhurst-Johnson - We are being held accountable for past issues,

Kent Burggraaf- the difference between yesterday to today in urgency, is that yesterday we did not know if we could make payroll starting today, verses now we have surety that we can make payroll.

Mindy Young - I don't think any of us are under the impression that we are closing but now we need to come up with a plan and proposal about when we are going to close.

Next year will be significantly different but some of the

Tasi Young- we should take a look at the VSIP, but I don't want to give false hope.

Diane Longhurst-Johnson- We need to look at the options and numbers more closely. And the parents and students have to make their own decisions and then we at a school have to react to that.

Jennifer Lammert - One of the schools that was able to get approval of a VSIP was also on warning status.

Royce Van Tassell- As you have heard you won't know what the state can offer until we ask. As it relates to the state board of education. If we consider the regulatory feedback as a yardstick we request that we might take to them that we need some flexibility. A school that was not in any trouble when to the board and asked for an inch of flexibility was denied that amount of flexibility.

Lincoln Fillmore- Its the boards decision to make. But consider delaying the decision is asking the parents and teachers to make decisions about their future without certainty from us. COnsider that you are also using taxpayer money. Please ask yourself what level of uncertainty would be needed to allow. Not acting today might be a reasonable decision but the answers you want to be able to have certainty about if we can be successful next year, this is out of our control and we will never have all the answers that we want. We will have to ask ours how much risk we are willing to take.

Kent Burggraaf - Is there any objection to taking a 10 min break? - All board members approve.
Back in session 9:54pm

More discussion if needed or a motion for action, hearing none.

Motion to table the decision to postpone the decision to a future date.

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Mindy Young- I recognize that closure is the option, but when is what we really need to consider and make the right plan to create a smooth plan with our partners at the state and make it smooth for our community. But wants more time to figure out a plan.

Kent Burggraaf- Table this issue of whether to close AISU if and when?

Tasi Young- We are working towards ending AISU and we know it.

Mindy Young - Make a motion to direct Tasi Young to look into VSIP and other funding

Tasi Young- I don't the community to go out and feel like the school to stay open if they just would have worked a little harder. There are things that are out of our control.

Motion to go into executive session to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation. Invite Lincoln Fillmore, Jennifer Lambert, Scott Jones, Sid Dixon, Royce Van Tassell, Jandy Stelter and Abbey Wallace.

Motion: Diane Longhurst-Johnson

Second: Mindy Young

For: Unanimous

Against: None

Executive Session

Closed/Executive Session will be held in accordance with the Utah Open and Public Meetings Act for the following or other purposes outlined in the law: 1) to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of individuals; and 2) to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation.

At 10:43 back in open session

Welcome— Roll Call

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Excused Board Members: Dan Griffiths

Absentee Board Members: none

Staff: Jandy Stelter, Abbey Wallace, Katie Hedman (on phone)

Discussion of Assignments, Future Agenda Items, or Items Related to AIS, LLC

Motion for Adjournment

Motion: Diane Longhurst-Johnson

Second: Mindy Young

For: Unanimous

Against: None

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