

Central A&M Community Unit District #21  
Board of Education Meeting  
March 24, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 7pm by Board President, Josh Burgener. The roll was called and members present were: Bender, Boltz, Jordan, Rutan, Just, and Townsend, and Burgener.

Also present:

- Superintendent Sacha Young
- Elementary School Principal Courtney Hiler
- Middle School Principal Alexis Black
- High School Principal Charles Brown
- Kemmerer Village School Principal Carol Dance
- Business Manager Kristy Keown

Guests:

- Larry Daly
- Mrs. Ginger Handy, RTI teacher at Bond Elementary
- Coach Brent Weakly, high school football coach

Others Present: Mick McLain, Jerry Medler, Craig Plain, Sean Hayes, Holly Taylor, Josh Evans, Jennifer Moore, Jackie Moore, Dayle Schinzler, Jess Lehman, Kim Higgins, Shana Sloan. There were other community members present in the entry hall of the board room, but they left after the discussion of the football co-op before their names could be recorded.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Brock Boltz.

## **Public and Employee Comments or Questions**

- Student Talk - NA
- Teacher Talk - Mrs. Ginger Handy presented information about the Response to Intervention (RTI) program at Bond Primary School.
- Citizens Agenda - the opportunity for those present to address the Board
- Public comment on the possible football co-op between CAM and Okaw Valley
  - Principal Brown presented information about the possible co-op with Okaw Valley. He shared information about the status of talks between the districts and how the co-op could work. Principal Brown shared some ideas about the benefits to Central A&M as well as Okaw Valley. He also alerted the Board to the timeframe that would be necessary for a successful co-op to work and the potential changes in Class that could result with a co-op.
  - Coach Weakly was present to share information about the current status of the football program, which has seen fewer numbers of players recently like other area districts. He answered questions from community members about the current program, the potential co-op, and the potential options the program would face if numbers continue to decline or if there were a significant number of injuries without making any changes to our current program.
- Request for Use of Facilities -
  - Abby Corzine - Assumption Community Pride Association Easter Egg Hunt on the track from 7-9pm on 4/18/2025
- Items to be Added to the Current Agenda - NA

## **Administrator Reports**

- Elementary Principal Hiler presented the report on Bond and Gregory
- Middle School Principal Black presented the report on the Middle School
- High School Principal Brown presented the report on the High School
- Kemmerer Village School Principal Dance presented the report on KV School
- Superintendent Young presented the District report.

## **Financial Report**

- Business Manager Kristy Keown presented the monthly financial report noting the current fund balances.

## **Executive Session**

A motion was made by Boltz and seconded by Just to enter into executive session for discussion of matters relating to employment, compensation or other matters appropriate for Closed Session as mandated per 5ILCS120/2-Motion. The roll was called and members voted as follows: Bender - aye, Boltz - aye, Jordan - aye, Rutan - aye, Just - aye, Townsend - aye, Burgener - aye. The motion passed unanimously.

Time: 8:16pm

## **Return to Open Session**

A motion was made by Just and seconded by Boltz to return to Open Session. The roll was called and members voted as follows: Boltz - aye, Jordan - aye, Rutan - aye, Just - aye, Townsend - aye, Burgener - aye, Bender - aye. The motion passed unanimously.

Time: 9:05pm

## **Adopt Agenda - Motion**

A motion was made by Townsend and seconded by Just to adopt the agenda as presented. The roll was called and members voted as follows: Jordan - aye, Rutan - aye, Just - aye, Townsend - aye, Burgener - aye, Bender - aye, Boltz - aye. The motion passed unanimously.

## **Consent Agenda - Motion**

A motion was made by Townsend and seconded by Just to approve the Consent Agenda as presented to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting - February 24, 2025, to approve the Executive Session Meeting Minutes - February 24, 2025, to approve the payment of current bills, and to approve the IHSA Membership for SY2026. The roll was

called and members voted as follows: Rutan - aye, Just - aye, Townsend - aye, Burgener - aye, Bender - aye, Boltz - aye, Jordan - aye. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Items for Discussion and/or Action**

#### **Employment Needs for the District**

A motion was made by Boltz and seconded by Bender to accept the retirement of Bond Secretary, Diane Odle, effective December 31, 2025, as presented. The roll was called and members voted as follows: Just - aye, Townsend - aye, Burgener - aye, Bender - aye, Boltz - aye, Jordan - aye, Rutan - aye. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Townsend and seconded by Just to approve the submission of the Consolidated District Title Grant Plan to ISBE. The roll was called and members voted as follows: Townsend - aye, Burgener - aye, Bender - aye, Boltz - aye, Jordan - aye, Rutan - aye, Just - aye. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Boltz and seconded by Rutan to authorize the development of a tentative FY26 budget. The roll was called and members voted as follows: Bender - aye, Boltz - aye, Jordan - aye, Rutan - aye, Just - aye, Townsend - aye, Burgener - aye. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Boltz and seconded by Bender to approve the school calendar for school year 25-26 as presented. The roll was called and members voted as follows: Boltz - aye, Jordan - aye, Rutan - aye, Just - nay, Townsend - aye, Burgener - aye, Bender - aye. The motion passed 6/1.

A motion was made by Boltz and seconded by Just to set board meetings for the 2025-2026 school year as presented. The roll was called and members voted as follows: Jordan - aye, Rutan - aye, Just - aye, Townsend - aye, Burgener - aye, Bender - aye, Boltz - aye. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Committee Items for Discussion**

- Student and District Activities -  
Baccalaureate is scheduled for May 11, 2025  
Graduation is scheduled for May 16, 2025.
- Building and Grounds - update on progress of door project and the work being done on baseball and softball fields.
- Transportation - update on the change in the Governor's new State Budget to reduce the reimbursement rate for transportation from 81% in 2023, 79% in 2024 and 69% in 2025.

### **Consideration for Request for Use of Facilities -**

A motion was made by Townsend and seconded by Boltz to all the use of facilities as requested by the ACPA for the community Easter Egg Hunt. The roll was called and members voted as follows: Rutan - aye, Just - aye, Townsend - aye, Burgener - aye, Bender - aye, Boltz - aye, Jordan - aye. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Additions to the Agenda - NA**

### **Correspondence - NA**

### **Announcements/Reminders**

- Strategic Planning meeting on April 14th at 6pm.

### **Adjournment**

A motion was made by Townsend and seconded by Boltz to adjourn the meeting at 9:36pm. The roll was called and members voted as follows: Boltz - aye, Jordan - aye, Rutan - aye, Just - aye, Townsend - aye, Burgener - aye, Bender - aye. The motion passed unanimously.

Time: 9:37pm

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Josh Burgener, Board President

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Aaren Rutan, Board Secretary

**Next Regular Board of Education Meeting - Monday, April 28, 2025, in the Central  
A&M District Office at 7pm.**