



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
DOMESTIC DEPENDENT ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS  
GEORGIA / ALABAMA DISTRICT  
MAXWELL ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL  
800 MAGNOLIA BLVD  
MAXWELL AFB, ALABAMA 36112

DDESS – Maxwell

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Minutes of Maxwell AFB School Board Meeting for the Month of November, 2018.

1. The regular meeting of the Maxwell AFB School Board convened at 9:00am on Thursday, 15 November 2018 in the conference room of the elementary/middle school located at 800 Magnolia Boulevard. Lt Col Mendoza called the meeting to order.

2. Attendance

|                       |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Dr. Lisa B. Coleman   | Community Superintendent |
| Lt Col Daniel Mendoza | President                |
| MSgt Steven Martin    | School Board Member      |
| TSgt Phillip DiRoma   | School Board Member      |
| Ms. Rachel Zohn       | School Board Member      |
| Ms. Katie Perkowski   | School Board Member      |

Others Present

|                          |                        |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Mr. Paul Hernandez       | Principal              |
| Mr. Scott Haines         | Admissions Officer     |
| Ms. Marie Shepherd       | Secretary (Recorder)   |
| Mr. Randy Stokes         | School Liaison Officer |
| Mr. Craig Bynum          | Adult MFLC             |
| Milton Parker            | Parent                 |
| Heather Preziosi-Mendoza | Parent                 |

3. Old Business

a. None

4. New Business

- a. Lt Col Mendoza made a motion to approve the September School Board meeting minutes, Ms. Perkowski seconded the motion and all were in favor.
- b. Mr. Haines briefed the MILCON slide. Dr. Coleman mentioned that other schools' construction is delayed as well. She went on to say we do need more communication about move-in dates and delays.

- c. Mr. Haines mentioned the school temperature and that the contractor is working to coordinate the boilers and coolers to see how to best keep the classrooms warm.
- d. Dr. Coleman briefed the budget and said they would let us know when money is approved to be released and spent.
- e. Mr. Hernandez noted that we have a new middle school math teacher on board, Ms. Laura Clark.
- f. Dr. Coleman expressed her thanks to military members and veterans for their service.
- g. Dr. Coleman briefed that it is challenging throughout GA/AL to hire half-time custodians. She mentioned that the transition from DLA to CHRA has been challenging. She said the clearances are taking longer and in that time, selectees find other jobs and then we are back to square one.
- h. Dr. Coleman expressed that teacher recognition is important. Mr. Hernandez has only received one nomination thus far for Teacher of the Year.
- i. Lt Col Mendoza asked how teachers can cover lesson material for those students who may not have understood the material. Dr. Coleman answered that she would like teachers to go to Mr. Hernandez or reach out to Ms. Van Horn, who is a great resource. There are many supports out there. Mr. Hernandez said that teachers can adjust their schedules. However, he went on to say that we have an inordinate number of students who are not where they need to be, across the board. Some states are worse. DoDEA has high standards. Mr. Hernandez commented that we are quizzing the kids at lunch and maximizing every minute we have with the students. Dr. Coleman said we are well resourced to meet the needs. All curriculum is the same across DoDEA; the standards are the same.
- j. Dr. Coleman went on to explain that this curriculum is vastly different from before but we have to implement it in parts. She recommended patience and communication with Mr. Hernandez. She stated that they would never roll out an entire new curriculum on teachers. She said that the keys are not to panic and not become too frazzled; remember this is a process.
- k. Ms. Zohn commented that we should seize the opportunity to incorporate area historical locations into our teaching.
- l. Lt Col Mendoza asked about this year's assessments. Mr. Hernandez answered that these would take place later in the year. Details are still being finalized.
- m. Dr. Coleman mentioned that Ms. Van Horn would be here for training on February 15<sup>th</sup> and April 22<sup>nd</sup>. She has the training dates for next year but they have not begun development of the school calendar yet.
- n. Dr. Coleman passed out the FLES letter noting that FLES would not be continued next school year. She said that DoDEA has been collecting data

on this. The first priority is the staff members. They are trying with due diligence to find them employment within our organization. Mr. Hernandez said he is also trying to mitigate for the students and staff. Also, if there's an opportunity for incorporating Spanish into Middle School we may work this. There will be no change until next year and there is still information being gathered. Dr. Coleman added that they want to provide a quality program and all schools don't have the same quality we do here. She also mentioned that she is looking into expanding the social studies program to try and incorporate other cultures into the curriculum.

- o. The culture and climate survey is out. Dr. Coleman or Mr. Hernandez will brief the outcome once it's complete.
- p. Mr. Hernandez briefed that MEMS current enrollment is 372.
- q. Lt Col Mendoza made a motion to establish a working group as outlined in the school board policy manual to review current school enrollment eligibility policies and research past exception to policy waivers. Once complete, the working group will make a recommendation to the board on what waivers, if any, should be submitted for the 19/20 school year. Ms. Zohn seconded the motion, all were in favor.
- r. Lt Col Mendoza made a motion to establish a working group to review and compile MEMS recent academic achievements and statistics; the working group will take this date and publish a draft pamphlet or equivalent document to present to the board for approval. Once approved the item will be shared with AU schools for incoming students as well as the rest of the base community. Ms. Zohn seconded the motion, all were in favor.
- s. Lt Col Mendoza brought up two points of interest. First was that the air conditioning is only working in 11 of the 14 busses Maxwell has. All 5 busses for MEMS have working AC. Maxwell LRS was approved to purchase 7 new busses with integrated AC systems. They will replace the 5 MEMS busses with new ones. This is currently in the acquisition process. Second, he brought up that there have been 3 near misses between students and traffic. The cross-walk guard program is working very well thanks to TSgt Grant for putting it together and thanks to parent volunteers. Civil Engineering's environmental section evaluated and approved a mulch trail through the arboretum. The project requires some funding and labor. Hunt Housing was a potential funding source but did not work out. The Wing is looking at other options.
- t. Ms. Zohn asked if it was true that parents can pay tuition to have their child or children attend a DoDEA school. Dr. Coleman answered that this is possible with an approved waiver.
- u. The next meeting will be held January 16<sup>th</sup> and will include a mid-year awards ceremony. Dr. Coleman encouraged everyone to attend.

5. Adjournment

- a. Lt Col Mendoza made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by TSgt DiRoma. All were in favor.

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DANIEL MENDOZA, Lt Col, USAF  
School Board President



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LISA B. COLEMAN, Ph. D.  
Community Superintendent, GAVAL Community