



## MINUTES

### Las Cruces Public Schools Board of Education Regular Meeting

Tuesday, February 18, 2014 • 6:30 p.m.  
LCPS Administration Building Board Room • Televised by LCPS.TV

#### I. INTRODUCTION

##### A. *Call to Order*

President Dr. Connie Phillips called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

##### B. *Roll Call*

Roll call was taken by Mr. Chuck Davis. Those present:

- Dr. Connie Phillips, President
- Mr. Chuck Davis, Secretary
- Mrs. Barbara Hall, Member
- Dr. Bonnie Votaw, Member

Sra. Maria Flores was absent. Superintendent Stan Rounds was also in attendance.

##### C. *Pledge of Allegiance*

President Phillips led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance

##### D. *Performance by Mesa Middle School Orchestra*

The audience enjoyed a performance by the Columbia Elementary School Chorus comprised 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students led by their Director, Emily Fricke.

##### E. *Approval of Minutes*

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Dr. Bonnie Votaw to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2013 Work Session, January 21, 2014 Regular Board Meeting and the January 29-January 30, 2014 Special Meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

##### F. *Approval of Agenda*

A motion was made by Mrs. Barbara Hall and seconded by Dr. Bonnie Votaw to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

##### G. *Approval of Consent Agenda Items*

Mr. Terry Dean, Associate Superintendent of Finance & Technology, advised the board of a change made to BAR No. 76I-Title I Fund 24101 pursuant to the request made by the Public Education Department. The change had no impact on the BAR amount. The item remained on consent.

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Mrs. Barbara Hall to approve the consent agenda items, which are V.A.1. approval of Property Dispositions; V.A.2. approval of Budget Increases/Adjustments; V.A.3. approval of Vendor Payments; V.A.4. approval of Bids; and V.B.1. approval of Student Out-of-State Travel. The motion passed unanimously.

#### II. PUBLIC INPUT

##### A. *Non-agenda items.*

None.

##### B. *Agenda items*

Kris Nielsen spoke regarding the NMTEACH – Value Added Model.

### III. RECOGNITIONS

There were no recognitions.

### IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- A. *Authorization to execute on behalf of the Board of Education a Sublease Recognition Agreement between the Board of Education, Mesilla Valley Youth Foundation and the City of Las Cruces regarding Court Youth Center*

The Court Youth Center is presently leased by the District to the City of Las Cruces and subleased by the City to the Mesilla Valley Youth Foundation to the Alma D'arte Charter School. The City of Las Cruces no longer wants to maintain the lease with the District due liability concerns surrounding construction activities on the Court Youth Center project. Superintendent Rounds requested the authority to execute a Sublease Agreement with Mesilla Valley Youth Foundation and the City of Las Cruces and a Termination Agreement with the City of Las Cruces on behalf of the Board.

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Dr. Bonnie Votaw to authorize Superintendent Rounds to execute on behalf of the Board of Education a Sublease Recognition Agreement between the Board of Education, Mesilla Valley Youth Foundation and the City of Las Cruces regarding Court Youth Center. A roll call vote was taken. Dr. Votaw – “aye;” Mr. Davis – “aye;”, Mrs. Hall- “aye” and Dr. Phillips – “aye.” The motion passed unanimously.

- B. *Authorization to execute a Release and Termination Agreement between the Board of Education and the City of Las Cruces regarding Court Youth Center*

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Mrs. Barbara Hall to execute a Release and Termination Agreement between the Board of Education and the City of Las Cruces regarding Court Youth Center. A roll call vote was taken. Dr. Votaw – “aye;” Mr. Davis – “aye;”, Mrs. Hall- “aye” and Dr. Phillips – “aye.” The motion passed unanimously.

- C. *Certified/Classified Report*

There were no comments.

- D. *NMTEACH – Value Added Model*

Mr. Tim Hand, statistician, Accountability, Assessment & Research Department, presented to the board the Value Added Model for NMTEACH. He stated this is just one component amongst others that teachers will be evaluated on. Mr. Hand shared data on schools that are in the bottom 25%; educator effectiveness distribution; and LCPS high and low scores. A more in-depth presentation will be done for the board at a future retreat or work session if the board desires.

Dr. Votaw also questioned the VAM score for teachers who do not teach academic classes. Mr. Hand responded that the PED uses discovery scores, etc. for those not teaching academic courses and for those whose subject matter does not fit within the parameters established by the PED.

- E. *Update on Turnaround Schools Initiative*

There was no report.

### V. OTHER REPORTS

- A. *Finance: Items #1, #2, #3 and #4 were on consent\* and approved earlier in the meeting.*

5. *Audit Report ending June 30, 2013*

Mr. Terry Dean, Associate Superintendent of Finance & Technology, introduced Amy Carter, of the Moss Adams Accounting Firm, who shared with the Board its findings for the Las Cruces Public Schools District. LCPS received an unqualified audit opinion indicating the information contained in the audit report fairly represents both the District's and Charter School's financial position.

Dr. Phillips announced that Mr. Davis is now on the audit committee replacing Dr. Votaw.

6. *Second Quarterly Reports for LCPS, La Academia Dolores Huerta and Las Montañas Charter High School*

Mr. Terry Dean, Associate Superintendent of Finance & Technology, discussed the second quarterly reports for LCPS, La Academia Dolores Huerta and Las Montañas Charter High School. He indicated that as of Dec 31, 2013, LCPS has received \$129,000,000; expended \$120,000,000; and has a cash balance of \$30,000 in the operational fund. Mr. Dean noted the cash balance in the operational fund will continue to increase throughout the year until employees receive their summer pay.

La Academia Dolores Huerta and received \$712,537.21; and expended \$693,207.29. The report appears to be correct.

Las Montañas Charter High School received \$1,200,000; and expended \$1,200,000. The report appears to be correct.

B. *Instruction: Item #1 was on consent\* and approved earlier in the meeting.*

2. *Head Start Meal Report*

There were no comments.

C. *Operations*

1. *Construction Projects Report*

Gloria Martinez, Construction Manager, reported to the Board on the Las Cruces High School bridge that will be constructed over El Paseo Road. The construction of the bridge is scheduled to begin in the latter part of May, and will be completed in one weekend; with a temporary closure of El Paseo Road. Superintendent Rounds stated a public relations plan is being developed to notify the public of the construction of the bridge.

**VI. BOARD ITEMS**

A. *Old Business:*

1. *Report on January 28, 2014 Closed Session*

President Phillips stated the Board met in closed session from 5:03 p.m. to 7:35 p.m. to discuss limited personnel matters relating to the mid-year evaluation of the superintendent and no other matters were discussed and no action was taken.

2. *Action on Superintendent's Employment Contract*

A motion was made by Mrs. Barbara Hall and seconded by Mr. Chuck Davis to terminate Superintendent Rounds' current employment contract effective June 30, 2014. A roll call vote was taken. Dr. Votaw – "aye;" Mr. Davis – "aye;"; Mrs. Hall- "aye" and Dr. Phillips – "aye." The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Mrs. Barbara Hall to offer Superintendent Rounds a new two-year contract beginning July 1, 2014 and ending June 30, 2016 on the same terms and conditions as the current contract, but subject to such salary and benefits adjustments as may be negotiated by the Superintendent and the Board prior to July 1, 2014, upon approval of the 2014-15 budget. A roll call vote was taken. Dr. Votaw – "aye;" Mr. Davis – "aye;"; Mrs. Hall- "aye" and Dr. Phillips – "aye." The motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Rounds stated that he is honored to act as the superintendent of this District and thanked the Board for the opportunity.

3. *2014 NMSBA Excellence for Student Achievement Award*

There are five nominees for consideration by the Board. The Board will vote on the nominees at the March 18, 2014 regular board meeting.

**B. New Business:**

**1. First Reading of Policy DIF – Operational Cash Balance**

Mr. Terry Dean, Associate Superintendent of Finance & Technology, presented to the Board the first reading of Policy DIF regarding the cash balance in the operational fund. The policy was reviewed by the finance committee and a recommendation was made to move forward for a second reading at the March 18, 2014 regular board meeting. The policy will be put on the school's website for community input. President Phillips questioned the percentage cap amount of not lower than 5% and not higher than 7.5%. Mr. Dean stated the policy was immolated from another district's and thought it was a fair amount. The Board may change the percentage amounts at any time for non-recurring expenses.

**2. First Reading of Policy JFA – Admissions Procedures**

Jo Galvan, Director of Communications & Policy Development, presented Policy JFA to the board which was updated in September 2013, and brought back for modifications to address parents who share joint physical custody of their children. Policy JFA also addresses required documents at the time of registration and set guidelines for parents/guardians who are unable to enroll a child. The policy will be put on the school's website for community input, and will move forward for a second reading at the March 18, 2014 regular board meeting.

**3. First Reading of Policy IHC – After School Programs**

Erlinda Martinez, Director of Federal Programs, brought to the board Policy IHC for first reading to establish procedures and a safe environment within the District for after school programs. The policy will be put on the school's website for community input, and will move forward for a second reading at the March 18, 2014 regular board meeting.

**VII. BOARD REPORTS**

Mr. Davis attended the NMSBA conference in Albuquerque and stated the committee voted for a \$1000 scholarship for each district. Further information will be forthcoming.

Mrs. Hall attended the Aspiring Administrators' meeting; LCPS Foundation meeting; IPE facilitator meeting; a data meeting with Ms. Andrea Fletcher; and 8<sup>th</sup> grade orientation at Las Cruces High School. She shared that Comcast Shares Day will be held at Mesilla Elementary School this year.

Dr. Votaw attended a data meeting at Dona Ana Elementary School.

**VIII. UPCOMNG EVENTS**

**A. Calendar of Events**

President Phillips advised board members that a calendar of events was placed in each board member's folder. She made note of the dates for senior awards and graduations in May.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Mrs. Barbara Hall to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

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Board President

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Board Secretary

Minutes taken by Tina Gonzalez.