



MINUTES

Las Cruces Public Schools Board of Education

Work Session

Tuesday, March 4, 2014 • 4:00 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 4:05 p.m.

B. *Roll Call*

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

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

Superintendent Stan Rounds was also in attendance.

C. *Approval of Agenda*

There was no change of order requests by Board members.

II. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. *Legislative Update*

Superintendent Rounds provided an update to the Board on legislative bills focusing primarily on SB 313 General Appropriations Act. SB 313 is the largest appropriation increase for public schools and was passed by the Senate and is currently awaiting approval by the Governor. SB 313 includes increases in appropriations for public education, SEG to school districts, ERB contributions, funding for at-risk students and small districts, employee raises (3%) and 6% for educational assistants, and a \$2,000 increase in base minimum entry level salaries for three-tier teachers. For the "above the line" funds, LCPS meets most of the minimums now. There is a substantial increase in "below the line" funds for K-3+. A discussion ensued in regards to the effect of K-3+ on teacher's salaries.

Superintendent Rounds also briefly discussed the following senate bills: SB 35 Additional Funding Units for Some Schools, SB 271 Breakfast After The Bell, SB 44 High School Equivalency Credential, and SB 307 School District PE & Graduation Requirement. Dr. Steven Sanchez shared with the Board that a policy is currently being developed that will specify the approved courses the Board will accept as qualifying PE credits. The policy will be ready in March.

Further discussions ensued in regards to clarification requests from Board members on the following bills: SB 153 Home School Program Unit Calculation

(Mr. Davis), SB 280 Return to Statutory School Class Loads (Mr. Davis), and SJM 12 Transporting School Students (President Phillips).

The PARCC Assessment Testing was discussed which included the performance based, traditional and simulated/open-ended components of the assessment. Dr. Sanchez will forward to the Board his presentation on the PARCC Assessment which includes links to performance assessment questions. The presentation will also be posted on the district's website.

2. *Update on Arrowhead Park Medical Academy*

Superintendent Rounds updated the Board on the progress at Arrowhead Park Medical Academy through a PowerPoint presentation. The school is projected to open in July 2014; with 228 applications for admissions received. The first year curriculum will be developed by June 2014. The presentation included the school's vision and mission statement, needs assessment, targeted curriculum, and challenges.

Jennifer Amis, principal, Arrowhead Park Early College High School, will be the administrator at both campuses, with one assistant principal designated for each site.

The target population for Arrowhead Park Medical Academy is the first generation college student. The school will align with real world experiences.

Sra. Flores requested to hear from Jennifer Amis regarding the progress at Arrowhead Park Medical Academy. Dr. Sanchez will forward to the Board a link to an articulated pathway spreadsheet.

3. *Beginning Budget Discussion on FY 2014-15 Budget*

Superintendent Rounds discussed with the Board the 2014-15 budget calendar of deadlines highlighting the deadline for the Board to establish budget priorities. He reminded the Board of the budget priorities discussed and established in the fall by the Board and stated that the list of priorities discussed will be provided to the Board in the weekly for their review. The list will also be put into a bulleted timeline. Budget updates will be provided to the Board monthly.

Sra. Flores suggested that Board members attend the various budget discussion meetings. Superintendent Rounds stated a calendar of meetings will be provided to the Board.

III. OTHER REPORTS

A. *Instruction*

1. *Report on K-12 Insights Community Survey*

Dr. Steven Sanchez, Deputy Superintendent, discussed with the board the preliminary results of the K-12 Insights Community Survey which was completed in December 2013. Over 700 persons participated in the survey; 97% of responders are a parent/guardian of a child attending LCPS. A large percentage of the responses received were from parents/guardians of high school students. Dr. Sanchez shared the highlights of the survey, as well as the next steps, values and outcomes. He also discussed the parent's

overall perception of the quality of Las Cruces Public Schools and suggested a further discussion at a board retreat.

Dr. Votaw suggested putting out the survey on Parent Night to attract more responses from elementary and middle school parents/guardians. Sra. Flores asked if the surveys are offered in Spanish and Dr. Sanchez affirmed the survey was offered in Spanish. Sra. Flores requested the percentage of participants who took the survey in Spanish.

2. *Progress Report on Rio Grande Preparatory Institute*

Kathie Davis, Principal of Rio Grande Preparatory Institute (“RGPI”), shared the progress at RGPI with the Board focusing on the school’s motto, “Grit then Glory” meaning work and beyond. She discussed the school’s goals for students; how core classes incorporate summer school pacing; and how afternoon classes are structured by students participating in co-op classes, DACC classes and executive internships.

Sra. Flores will participate in the school’s advisory board .

VI. BOARD ITEMS

A. *New Business:*

1. *Board Retreat*

President Phillips asked that Board members to send their dates of availability for a Board retreat in April, and asked that they check their availability on March 14, 2014 as well.

2. *Review of Board Re-Organization Timeline*

LCPS policy states board reorganization to be conducted in March. President Phillips asked Board members to waive the policy in order to have further discussion at the next Board retreat.

B. *Old Business:*

1. *Review of nominees for 2014 NMSBA Excellence for Student Achievement Award*

President Phillips announced the nominations were placed in the Board’s packet. President Phillips suggested the board consider a retired teacher nominee or community partner. The Board will vote on a nominee at the March 18, 2014 regular board meeting.

V. PUBLIC INPUT

There were no comments.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Board President

Board Secretary

