



MINUTES

Las Cruces Public Schools Board of Education Regular Meeting

Tuesday, March 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 6:32 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
- Sra. Maria Flores, Member

Those absent: Dr. Bonnie Votaw. Superintendent Stan Rounds was also in attendance.

C. *Pledge of Allegiance*

President Phillips led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance

D. *Performance by LCHS Chamber Strings Ensemble*

The audience enjoyed a duet performed by the Tony Perez and Elizabeth Greene of the LCHS Chamber Orchestra.

E. *Approval of Minutes*

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Mrs. Barbara Hall to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2014 Regular Board Meeting and the March 4, 2014 Work Session. Sra. Flores abstained from the vote. The motion was passed.

F. *Approval of Agenda*

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Sra. Maria Flores to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

G. *Approval of Consent Agenda Items*

A motion was made by Mrs. Barbara Hall and seconded by Mr. Chuck Davis 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; and V.B.1. approval of Student Out-of-State Travel. The motion passed unanimously.

II. RECOGNITIONS

Superintendent Rounds took a point of personal privilege to recognize audience members Mr. Shawn Tyco, Director of Child Youth & School Services, and Ms. Dolores Lopez, Outreach Services Director at White Sands Missile Range.

A. *District and Spanish Spelling Bee Winners*

The District Spelling Bee was held on January 17, 2014 at the Performing Arts Center at Oñate High School. Forty-three (43) 3rd-8th grade students competed in the spelling bee. The winners were: Sandra Franco, a 5th grader at Alameda Elementary School took first place; Sarah Soward, 7th grader at Lynn Middle School, finished in second place; and Diego Montoya, 7th grader at Lynn Middle School finished in third place.

The LCPS District Spanish Spelling Bee was held on February 21, 2014 at the LCPS Performing Arts Center at Oñate High School. A total of forty-eight (48) 4th-8th grade students from 24 schools

competed in this year's district event. First place winner was Ernesto Castillo, a 6th grader at Lynn Middle school; second place winner was Nicol Barragan, also a 6th grader at Lynn Middle School; and third place winner was Luis Maraz, a 5th grader at MacArthur Elementary School.

Both Ernesto and Nicol will represent LCPS in the New Mexico Association of Bilingual Educators' State Spanish Spelling Bee on Saturday, April 12, 2014 in Albuquerque.

B. Business Professionals of America Champions

Alicia Pardo, a senior at Mayfield High School and Belle Morrow, a junior at Mayfield High School were crowned state champions at the Business Professionals of America (BPA) state leadership conference held February 17-19, 2014 in Albuquerque.

C. Blue Ribbon Committee Chairperson

Superintendent Rounds recognized Sherley O'Brien, Jo Galvan and Dane Kennon for their outstanding work on the bond election this year.

D. Energy Conservation Award

The travelling trophies for Outstanding Energy Conservation were awarded to: Booker T. Washington Elementary School, Mesa Middle School, Centennial High School and Crossroads. Total saved between the four schools was \$29,348.00; 22% of what the entire district saved over the winter shutdown.

E. Vista Middle School MESA Team

Students on the MESA team at Vista Middle School led by their advisor, science teacher Joshua Wisner, competed in the MESA Day state competition held on February 24, 2014 in Albuquerque. Out of 220 teams competing, 4 teams from Vista Middle School placed in the academic portion of the competition. Those students recognized were: Samantha Costales, Iris Vaudrey, Conrad Brooks, Kevin Brooks, Bennett Morgan, Daniel Chavez, Jessica Tavizon, Abrianna Morales, Timothy Trujillo, Leah Mc Donald, Zelia Barela, Tyana Zapien, Veronica Frausto, Joseph Reser, Diane Schulmiester and Katherine Jaramillo.

F. Winter Sports State Champions

Dylan Udero, a sophomore at LCHS, was recognized as the state champion in wrestling. Dylan maintains a GPA of 3.5 and is a two-time state champion in wrestling, as well as a member of the LCPS Boys State Champion Soccer Team. Dylan is coached by Kevin Marks.

III. PUBLIC INPUT

A. Non-agenda items

None.

B. Agenda items

None.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Report to Community

Superintendent Rounds discussed bond money for the district with an emphasis on the remodel projects at Las Cruces High School and Loma Heights Elementary School. He shared the Appropriations Act and legislation regarding the PE credit requirement were both signed into legislation by Governor Martinez. Superintendent Rounds also stated that salary negotiations are underway with the unions. Mr. Rounds commended the talented teachers within our district and recognized board members' dedication to our kids and commended them for producing a quality educational environment for our kids.

B. Review of SY 2014-15 District Calendar

A short presentation was given by Dr. Wendi Miller-Tomlinson and Dr. Thea Hand on the SY 2014-15 district calendar. A final calendar will be brought to the board for review at the April 1, 2014 Special Meeting and at the April 15, 2014 regular board meeting for approval.

C. *Report on Las Montañas Charter High School*

Herb Torres, Special Master, discussed his findings with the board regarding the charter renewal of Las Montañas Charter High School. A more detailed written report will be provided to the board. Mr. Torres stated that Las Montañas has resolved seven out of the nine non-compliance issues found in the audit conducted by Moss Adams and the school is currently working to resolve the last two final findings. A finance and audit committee was formed at Las Montañas which meet monthly. There are six members on the school's governance council which include of one parent, a community member, a charter school administrator, a banker, an executive director of a local water association. Mr. Torres spoke on the graduation and attendance rates at Las Montañas as well as student academic achievement. He stated there is a great support system amongst the students and the school has a very strong and competent faculty who understand the types of kids in their classroom. Las Montañas has yet to meet all mandates by required Las Cruces Public Schools, but are working diligently to do so.

D. *Certified/Classified Report*

There were no comments.

E. *Teacher Evaluation- Professional Levels of Support*

Dr. Elizabeth Marrufo, Associate Superintendent of Human Resource Development, discussed the three levels of professional support structure for teachers.

Sra. Flores shared her concern regarding teachers' time limitations in using the tools provided within the levels of support. She would like feedback from teachers who have used the tools and its effectiveness.

V. **OTHER REPORTS**

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

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*

Sra. Flores shared her concern of dust control at the schools. A full construction report will be provided at the April 15, 2014 regular board meeting.

VI. **BOARD ITEMS**

A. *Old Business:*

1. *2014 NMSBA Excellence for Student Achievement Award*

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Mrs. Barbara Hall to nominate Jo Paulson for the 2014 NMSBA Excellence for Student Achievement Award. The motion passed unanimously.

2. *Second reading of Policy DIF-Operational Cash Balance*

Mr. Terry Dean, Associate Superintendent of Finance & Technology, brought before the board the second reading of Policy DIF – Operational Cash Balance. This policy was presented as a first reading at the February 18, 2014 regular board meeting. The policy has been posted on the district's website for community input and there have been no changes. This policy is recommended to move forward for a third reading and approval at the April board meeting. Sra. Flores shared her wish to decrease the percentage amount. A further discussion regarding the percentage rate will be held at the next finance committee meeting and any proposed changes will be brought to the board at the April 15, 2014 regular board meeting.

3. *Second reading of Policy JFA- Admission Procedures*

Dr. Steven Sanchez, Deputy Superintendent, brought before the Board the second reading of Policy JFA Admissions procedures. The policy has been posted on the district's website for community input and there have been no changes. This policy is recommended to move forward for a third reading and approval at the April 15, 2014 regular board meeting.

4. *Second reading of Policy IHC- After School Programs*

Mrs. Hall requested the second reading be held until the regulation is developed and reviewed by the Board. A second reading will be done at the April 15, 2014 regular board meeting.

B. *New Business:*

1. *First Reading of Policy GBD- Family Medical Leave Act*

Mr. Eric Fraas, Director of Human Resources, brought for a first reading before the board Policy GBD Medical Leave Act. This policy aligns with the Family Medical Leave Act in Policy GCC, Employee Leaves. It is recommended this policy be placed on the district's website for community input and brought back before the Board for a second reading at the April 15, 2014 regular board meeting.

2. *First Reading of Policy GAA – Human Resource Development Systems*

Dr. Elizabeth Marrufo, Associate Superintendent of Human Resource Development, presented to the Board for a first reading Policy GAA Human Resource Development Systems. This policy is a new policy which focuses on quality in human resources and ensures that effective systems are in place to recruit, mentor and retain high-performing staff. It is recommended this policy be placed on the district's website for community input and brought back before the Board for a second reading at the April 15, 2014 regular board meeting.

VII. BOARD REPORTS

Mrs. Hall met with the three DACC presidential finalists; and attended a great conversation at Las Cruces High School along with Mr. Chuck Davis.

Sra. Flores visited with JUMP classrooms and attended a JUMP data meeting at McArthur Elementary School. She also visited with Mr. Romero at Mesilla Valley Alternative Middle School; attended a great conversation at Mesa Middle School and an Aspiring Administrators' meeting. Sra. Flores also attended a student rally at Centennial High School on the Youth Leadership Conference. She commented on the student testing taking place this week and sends her well wishes to students and teachers and stated she respects those parents who have chosen to opt their students out of the testing this week.

President Phillips attended the first Honor Society induction at Centennial High 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.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Sra. Maria Flores to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Board President

Board Secretary

Minutes taken by Tina Gonzalez.