



**Las Cruces Public Schools Board of Education
Special Meeting**

Tuesday, April 1, 2014 • 4:00 p.m.
LCPS Administration Building Board Room • Televised by LCPS.TV

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Call to Order

Dr. Connie Phillips called the meeting to order at 4:01 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

A motion was made by Dr. Bonnie Votaw and seconded by Mr. Chuck Davis to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

II. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Rounds announced to the Board that PARCC Field Tests will be conducted at selected schools within the district. The tests include Performance Based Assessment and EoY which will be conducted on April 8, 2014, April 9, 2014 (if necessary), and May 6, 2014.

A. LEAP Presentation

Kathy Adams shared a short video presentation with the Board on the LEAP program and students Sarah Martinez, an 8th grader, and Madison Manicki, a 6th grader at LEAP shared their experiences and successes with the program.

Dr. Arsenio Romero stated students no longer have attendance issues and are applying themselves academically through project based learning which has increased numeracy and literacy scores. Parents are involved in the IPE program and have become very active in their child's educational progress. Eight students from the LEAP program have been accepted to Early College High School next year.

Dr. Votaw asked about the recruiting process for LEAP. Kathy Adams responded that she and Dr. Romero are in contact with school counselors, principals and staff for recommendations of students who will flourish in the program. Sra. Flores asked about the criteria for acceptance into the program and Dr. Romero advised that there is no specific criteria guideline. The determination is based on whether or not each child will be successful in the program.

B. Review of 2014-15 District Calendar & Five Year Outlook

Dr. Wendi Miller-Tomlinson, Director of Secondary Education, shared with the Board a draft of the 2014-15 District Calendar and proposed calendars for SY 2015-16, SY 2016-17, SY 2017-18, and SY 2018-19. The calendars will be posted online for community input and will come before the board for approval at the April 15, 2014 regular board meeting.

Dr. Votaw asked about alternative options for future graduations schedules. The board would like to revisit graduation options for future years. Chuck Davis also asked about summer activities, i.e. summer school, K-3 plus being listed on the district calendar. Superintendent Rounds suggested a separate calendar for summer activities to be submitted to the Board through the weekly for review; then at a board meeting for approval.

C. Review of FY 2015 General Appropriations Act

Superintendent Rounds reviewed with the Board the final Appropriations Act signed into law by Governor Martinez including changes of any executive action. One of the requests changed was The Reading Foundation. Dr. Sanchez suggested requesting funds from Albuquerque Public Schools Parent Advocacy Project for IPE program.

III. OTHER REPORTS

A. Operational Revenue Projects

Terry Dean, reviewed operational revenue projects with the Board including unit value, SEG calculation and cash balance. Salary, ERB and health insurance increases were discussed, as well as anticipated increases in utilities. The average salary cost for a teacher and EA was also discussed. The ERB increase is on the employer side, and health insurance increase is employer and employee. Mr. Dean stated that a lot of the information needed to build the budget is still not available to the district. Sra. Flores would like more information on the ERB and health insurance increases.

B. Cash Balance

Discussed in Section III. A. Operational Revenue Projects above.

IV. BOARD ITEMS

A. First reading and approval of Policy IKFB- Graduation Ceremonies/Commencement

Dr. Steven Sanchez, Deputy Superintendent, asked the Board to waive its three reading policy and approve Policy IKFB- Graduation Ceremonies/Commencement after the first reading. Feedback received from principals and their recommendations were included in the policy. The policy is being revised to include language that allows students who have earned a certificate of completion to be recognized during graduation ceremonies as state law now requires districts to issue certificates of completion for those students who satisfy all credit requirements; yet have failed state required assessments.

Mr. Davis questioned the language regarding ineligible students for graduation. He asked that a more definitive timeline be developed in advising parents of their child's ineligibility so as families are able to cancel any travel plans in a timely manner. Mr. Davis also asked for clarification regarding the methodology in which high school students may complete their diploma, i.e. return to home school or attend classes online, etc. Sra. Flores also asked what the next steps are for students who receive a certificate of completion. Dr. Sanchez responded students are given five years to

return to their high school to complete what they are missing in order to receive their diploma. The five year deadline is mandated by state law. Dr. Sanchez will follow up regarding the state’s methodology in which a student may complete their diploma.

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Dr. Bonnie Votaw to approve Policy IKFB- Graduation Ceremonies/Commencement with technical changes. The motion passed unanimously.

B. First reading and approval of Policy IKF – Graduation/Credit Requirements

Dr. Steven Sanchez, Deputy Superintendent, requested the Board waive its three reading policy and approve Policy IKF Graduation/Credit Requirements after the first reading. This policy is being revised to reflect significant changes in graduation requirements which include physical education requirements and once a student has entered ninth grade, the graduation requirements shall not be changed for that student from the requirements specified in law at the time the student entered the ninth grade.

A motion was made by Dr. Bonnie Votaw and seconded by Mrs. Barbara Hall to approve Policy IKF – Graduation/Credit Requirements. The motion passed unanimously.

C. First reading and approval of Policy IHAE – Physical Education

Dr. Steven Sanchez, Deputy Superintendent, requested the Board waive its three reading policy and approve Policy IHAE Physical Education after the first reading. This policy allows high school students to meet the physical education graduation requirement by taking and participating in two semesters of marching band, junior reserve officers’ training corps or other co-curricular physical activity.

Dr. Phillips asked if cross country athletes are eligible to receive the PE credit under this policy. Dr. Miller Tomlinson responded they would with a PE class added to the cross country program. Dr. Phillips would like the language added to the regulation.

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by and Mrs. Barbara Hall to approve Policy IHAE – Physical Education. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Third reading and approval of Policy JJID- Student Physicals

Ernie Viramontes, Athletic Director, brought Policy JJID Student Physicals before the board for its third reading and approval. Based on feedback received and the request of the Board at the second reading of Policy JJID, changes in the policy have been made to reflect language regarding health care providers. Upon approval, the physicals process will be communicated to students and parents by having the “LCPS Athletics Physical Forms” available online on the NMAA and LCPS website and at all the LCPS middle and high schools.

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Mrs. Barbara Hall to approve Policy JJID- Student Physicals. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. PUBLIC INPUT

None.

V. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Dr. Bonnie Votaw to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting ended at 6:00 p.m.

Board President

Board Secretary

Minutes taken by Tina Gonzalez.