



## MINUTES

### Las Cruces Public Schools Board of Education

#### Regular Meeting

Tuesday, November 18, 2014 • 6:30 p.m.

LCPS Administration Building Board Room • Televised by LCPS.TV

## I. INTRODUCTION

### A. *Call to Order*

Vice President Barbara Hall called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

### B. *Roll Call*

Roll call was taken by Mrs. Hall. Those present:

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

Superintendent Stan Rounds was also in attendance. Mr. Chuck Davis was absent. Vice President Barbara Hall presided over the meeting.

### C. *Pledge of Allegiance*

Vice President Barbara Hall led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance

### D. *Performance by Jornada Elementary School Razzle Dazzle Cheer/Dance Group*

The audience enjoyed a brief performance from the Jornada Elementary School Razzle Dazzle Cheer/Dance Group under the direction of Ms. Bailey Williams.

### E. *Performance by Oñate High School Choir*

The audience enjoyed a performance by the Oñate High School Choir under the direction of Mr. Derek Gilmour.

### F. *Approval of Minutes*

A motion was made by Dr. Connie Phillips and seconded by Dr. Bonnie Votaw to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2014 Regular Board Meeting; October 24, 2014 Board Retreat; and November 4, 2014 Work Session. The motion passed unanimously.

### G. *Approval of Agenda*

A motion was made by Dr. Bonnie Votaw and seconded by Dr. Connie Phillips to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

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

A motion was made by Dr. Bonnie Votaw and seconded by Dr. Connie Phillips to approve consent agenda items V.A.1. Approval of Vendor Payments; V.A.2. Approval of Budget Adjustments; V.B.1. Approval of Student Out of State Travel; V.B.2. Approval of Head Start Program Governance and Management Responsibilities Documents; and VI.A.1. Second Reading and Approval of Policy DIG Bond Disclosure Compliance. The motion passed unanimously.

## II. RECOGNITIONS

### A. *Comcast Cares Day Check Presentation*

Nyeta Haines, LCPS Foundation President, accepted a check in the amount of \$11,512.39 from Comcast Communications, on behalf of the Foundation, for Comcast Cares Day at Mesilla Elementary School on April 26, 2014.

Vice President Hall acknowledged students from Arrowhead Park Early College High School in the audience.

## II. PUBLIC INPUT

### A. Non-agenda items

None.

### B. Agenda items

None.

## IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

### 1. *Approval of Resolution and Proclamation of Regular School Board District Election*

Superintendent Rounds shared a timeline of deadlines for upcoming school board election on Tuesday, February 3, 2015. He stated that board member districts 4 and 5 are up for election. Voters may use voting consolidated centers at the Doña Ana County Government Center, Thomas Branigan Memorial Library, Doña Ana Community Center, Mesilla Elementary School, Desert Hills Elementary School, and Sonoma Elementary School. These voting locations are set forth in the Resolution and Proclamation.

A motion was made by Dr. Connie Phillips and seconded by Dr. Bonnie Votaw to approve the Resolution and Proclamation of Regular School Board District Election. A roll call vote was taken. Sra. Flores – yes; Mrs. Hall – yes; Dr. Phillips – yes; Dr. Votaw – yes. The motion passed unanimously.

### 2. *Approval of Resolution Authorizing and Directing School Election Procedures*

A motion was made by Dr. Bonnie Votaw and seconded by Dr. Connie Phillips to approve the Resolution Authorizing and Directing School Election Procedures. A roll call vote was taken. Sra. Flores – yes; Mrs. Hall – yes; Dr. Phillips – yes; Dr. Votaw – yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Rounds stated that at the Advisory Board meeting for Doña Ana Community College (“DACC”) held November 6, 2014, it was decided to share the election ballot with the school district to share the costs of the voting locations. He reminded voters that the DACC bond and mil-levy are not related to Las Cruces Public Schools. Superintendent Rounds also stated that previously we had suggested using Doña Ana Elementary School as a voting location; however, the County Clerk’s Office recently informed us that Doña Ana Community Center is a facility used in county elections; not Doña Ana Elementary School. The voting locations have been changed to reflect the use of Doña Ana Community Center so that the same locations the County uses for elections are utilized.

### 3. *Student Presentation by Logan McNamara*

Superintendent Rounds introduced Logan McNamara, a third grade student at Sonoma Elementary School, who shared a presentation on prosthetics. Logan was accompanied by his teacher, Nicole Harder.

### 4. *Certified/Classified Report*

There were no comments.

### 5. *2014-15 Aspiring Administrators Academy*

Dr. Elizabeth Marrufo, Associate Superintendent of Human Resource Development, shared with the Board the goals and tools used at the academy in preparing teachers for administrative roles. Ms. Kathleen Gardner and Ms. Michelle Ronga were recognized as participants of the 2014-15 Aspiring Administrators Academy, who were in the audience.

## V. OTHER REPORTS

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

#### 3. *Adoption of Resolution Authorizing Issuance and Sale of General Obligation Bond*

Mr. Terry Dean, Associate Superintendent of Finance & Technology, and Paul Cassidy, from RBC Capital Markets, shared a brief presentation to the Board on the issuance and sale of District general obligation bonds in the principal amount of \$15,000,000. Mr. Cassidy discussed a debt management plan, bonding capacity, refunding opportunity, a history of assessed valuation and tax rates for the general obligation bonds. Mr. Rounds clarified the action this evening is to authorize the sale of the bonds for the first sale on December 16, 2014. The bids will be brought back to the Board for approval at a future meeting.

A motion was made by Dr. Connie Phillips and seconded by Dr. Bonnie Votaw to adopt the Resolution Authorizing Issuance and Sale of General Obligation Bond. A roll call vote was taken. Dr. Votaw-aye; Sra. Flores-aye; Mrs. Hall-aye; and Dr. Phillips-aye. The motion passed unanimously.

4. *Approval of Amendment to Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan (Cafeteria Plan)*

Mr. Terry Dean, Associate Superintendent of Finance & Technology, stated that the amendment to the Cafeteria Plan is to comply with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) notice 2014-55 which permits two elected changes for 125 Plan participants. The amendment now allows for an additional election change at mid-year.

A motion was made by Dr. Bonnie Votaw and seconded by Dr. Connie Phillips to approve the Amendment to Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan (Cafeteria Plan). A roll call vote was taken. Dr. Votaw-aye; Sra. Flores-aye; Mrs. Hall-aye; and Dr. Phillips-aye. The motion passed unanimously.

5. *First Quarter Report for LCPS and Las Montañas Charter High School*

Mr. Terry Dean, Associate Superintendent of Finance & Technology, discussed the first quarter reports for LCPS and Las Montañas Charter High School. He stated that Las Montañas Charter High School's report reflects total revenue of \$546,919.34 for the quarter ending September 30, 2014, and expenditures of \$514,494.76. Mr. Dean stated the report is consistent with the other reports and appears to be accurate. LCPS received \$57,769,323.32 in revenue and expended \$67,296,067.63. The operational cash balance as of September 30, 2014, was \$24,221,836.70 and total cash is \$53 million. Mr. Dean stated the operational fund will continue to increase throughout the year until we pay our employees their summer pay.

Dr. Votaw stated a general concern with regard to the LCPS marginal budget. She suggested a budget review at a work session or board retreat to discuss strategies. Superintendent Rounds suggested a board retreat in January 2015 to review the expenditures and the management of the budget. Sra. Flores also suggested that Dr. Votaw sit in on the Finance Committee meeting in Mr. Davis's absence. Terry Dean will provide her with the Committee meeting dates.

6. *Board Financial Report*

There were no comments.

B. *Instruction: Items #1 and #2 were on consent\* and approved earlier in the meeting.*

3. *Student Presentation by Cohen Rush*

Dr. Steven Sanchez, Deputy Superintendent, introduced Cohen Rush, a junior at Las Cruces High School, who recently attended the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership ("HOBY") State Seminar in Chicago, Illinois. Cohen is chairman of the HOBY New Mexico Advisory Board. He shared a presentation with Board on his experience while attending the HOBY seminar.

4. *Head Start Meal Report*

There were no comments.

C. *Operations*

1. *Construction Projects Report*

Gloria Martinez, Construction Projects Manager, shared a full report with the Board on the progress of construction projects throughout the District. The report outlined the project status, funding source, budget amounts and project completion dates for each site currently under construction. There was a discussion regarding the use of Senate Bill 9 funds and the remodel of the Finance Department.

2. *Presentation on Energy Cost Avoidance*

Jim Mulhauser, Physical Plant Coordinator, and Ray Swinney, Invitational Education/Energy Specialist, presented trophies to Columbia Elementary, Vista Middle, Oñate High School and the Professional Development Center for their outstanding efforts in having low energy costs over the 2014 summer break.

3. *District Roof Report*

Mr. Dane Kennon, Associate Superintendent for Operations, shared with the Board a report on the roof conditions at LCPS sites which total approximately 4 million square feet. A discussion ensued regarding the warranty of the roof at Doña Ana Elementary School. Superintendent Rounds stated the district is contemplating filing litigation against the roofing company's surety bonds and Dr. Votaw suggested implementing a communication plan with those schools who are experiencing roofing issues.

**VI. BOARD ITEMS**

A. *Old Business*

1. *Second Reading of Policy ILBB State Program Assessment*

Dr. Steven Sanchez, Deputy Superintendent, stated the policy now reflects the requested changes from the Board at the first reading on September 16, 2014, with regard to the use of Individual Education Plans, a parent-opt out provision pertaining to graduation requirements and the parent-opt out form (Parent Refusal) being available in English and Spanish. Dr. Sanchez stated the policy was posted online for community comment; no comments were received.

Sra. Flores suggested adding a statement that the Board of Education understands testing is important; and to add language to the regulation regarding the need to inform parents of what assessments will be administered in a particular grade level at the beginning of the school year. Dr. Sanchez requested a delay of the third reading and approval to January 2015 to allow staff to work on the changes in language requested by the Board and post online for community input.

2. *Second Reading of Policy IHCG K-3 Plus*

Dr. Steven Sanchez, Deputy Superintendent, stated this policy was posted online for community comment; no comments were received. The policy will move forward for third reading and approval at the next regular board meeting.

3. *Second Reading of Policy JLD Guidance and Counseling*

Dr. Steven Sanchez, Deputy Superintendent, stated this policy was posted online for community comment; no comments were received. The policy will move forward for third reading and approval at the next regular board meeting.

Sra. Flores would like to hear input from Dr. Greer on the policy. Dr. Sanchez stated Dr. Greer was the primary author of the policy. Dr. Sanchez requested a delay of third reading to January 2015 to provide a background belief statement in the policy.

4. *Second Reading of Policy GBGC Employee Assistance and Wellness*

Dr. Steven Sanchez, Deputy Superintendent, stated this policy was posted online for community comment; no comments were received. The policy will move forward for third reading and approval at the next regular board meeting.

5. *Second Reading of Policy JIJ Student Nutrition*

Dr. Steven Sanchez, Deputy Superintendent, stated this policy was posted online for community comment; no comments were received. The policy will move forward for third reading and approval at the next regular board meeting.

Sra. Flores inquired with regard to students having adequate time to eat. Dr. Sanchez stated the language will be added to the regulation; not the policy, and stated that Nancy Cathey, Director of Nutrition Services, is currently working on the regulation and will provide a draft copy to the Board prior to the Thanksgiving holiday break.

6. *Second Reading of Policy ADF Wellness for Students and Staff*

Dr. Steven Sanchez, Deputy Superintendent, stated this policy was posted online for community comment; comments received will be incorporated into the regulation. The policy will move forward for third reading and approval at the next regular board meeting.

7. *Second Reading of Policy IHAMD Nutrition Education*  
Dr. Steven Sanchez, Deputy Superintendent, stated this policy was posted online for community comment; no comments were received. The policy will move forward for third reading and approval at the next regular board meeting.

**B. New Business**

1. *First Reading and Approval of Regulation BA-R Board Goals*  
Superintendent Rounds shared with the Board a change to Goal No. 2 of the board’s goals which adds “Human Relations” to the title. Board Goal No. 2 is now entitled “Communication, Trust & Human Relations”. Superintendent Rounds explained the change requires Board approval of the Regulation and the language did not affect the Board’s policy on Board Goals.

A motion was made by Sra. Maria Flores and seconded by Dr. Connie Phillips to approve Regulation BA-R Board Goals. The motion passed unanimously.

2. *First Reading of Policy IKAB Grading and Reporting*  
Dr. Steven Sanchez, Deputy Superintendent, stated changes to the policy reflect standards and district curriculum guides, a background statement, state end-of-course exams, and final exams. The policy will be posted on the district’s website for comments and will move forward for a second reading at the December 9, 2014 Regular Board Meeting.

Sra. Flores suggested a statement to the policy or regulation advising that report cards will be in paper form, unless otherwise requested to be received in electronic format.

**VII. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

Sra. Flores toured a dual language classroom at Sonoma Elementary School; visited Highland Elementary School; and met with a teacher at Mayfield High School and at Oate High School. She stated the Children’s Reading Foundation is now named Children’s Reading Alliance. Dr. Phillips attended honor society inductions at Oate High School and Centennial High School; attended Science evening at Oate High School; attended the Dale Earnhardt, Jr. luncheon at Centennial High School; attended the DACC advisory board meeting with Mrs. Hall and Mr. Davis; and awarded a veteran of the Korean conflict with an honorary high school diploma. Mrs. Hall attended IPE graduation and a Foundation board meeting.

**VIII. UPCOMING EVENTS**

**A. Calendar of Events**

Vice President Mrs. Hall shared with the Board that a calendar of events was placed in each board member’s folder for their review.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Sra. Maria Flores and seconded by Dr. Bonnie Votaw to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

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Mrs. Barbara Hall, Board Vice President

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Dr. Connie Phillips, Board Member

Minutes taken by Tina Gonzalez.