



MINUTES
Las Cruces Public Schools Board of Education
Regular Meeting

Tuesday, February 17, 2015 • 6:30 p.m.
LCPS Administration Building Board Room • Televised by LCPS.TV

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Call to Order

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

B. Roll Call

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

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

Superintendent Stan Rounds was also in attendance.

C. Pledge of Allegiance

President Dr. Votaw led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. Las Cruces High School Sax Quartet

The audience enjoyed a performance by the Las Cruces High School Sax Quartet under the direction of Saul Garland.

E. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Dr. Connie Phillips and seconded by Mr. Chuck Davis to approve the January 20, 2015 Regular Board Meeting Minutes and the February 3, 2015 Special Meeting Minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Dr. Connie Phillips and seconded by Mr. Chuck Davis to approve the January 20, 2015 Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Mrs. Barbara Hall abstained from the vote. The motion passed.

F. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Mrs. Barbara Hall and seconded by Mr. Chuck Davis to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

G. Approval of Consent Agenda Items

A motion was made by Sra. Maria Flores and seconded by Mr. Chuck Davis to approve consent agenda items V.A.1. Approval of Vendor Payments; V.A.2. Approval of Budget Adjustments; V.A.3. Approval of Property Dispositions; V.A.4. Approval of Bids; V.B.1 Approval of Student Out of State Travel; and VI.A.1.Third Reading and Approval of Policy EB Environmental and Safety Program. The motion passed unanimously.

II. RECOGNITIONS

Superintendent Rounds recognized and welcomed newly elected board members, Mr. Maury Castro and Mr. Ed Frank to the District.

A. Citizens Bank High School Debit Card Program

Brigitte Zigelhofer, Community Outreach Liaison, recognized Citizens Bank for their dedication to students and ongoing partnership in education through the high school debit card program.

III. PUBLIC INPUT

A. Non-agenda items

Ms. Donna Ehmeyer spoke regarding the Lego Robotics Competition. Students Nathaniel Wallace and David Johnson spoke regarding their experience in the robotics program.

B. Agenda items

Mr. David Morales, of the ENLACE program at Mayfield High School, spoke with regard to their request for out of state travel which was approved earlier in the evening. Laura Cruz, student, spoke with regard to her experience in the ENLACE program.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Approval of Inter-Governmental Agreement with Village of Los Ranchos for the Transfer of the Challenger Center

Superintendent Rounds shared the Agreement for approval by the Board which transfers the Challenger Center program to LCPS. The Agreement was approved by the Village of Los Ranchos Board of Trustees on February 11, 2015. Dr. Phillips acknowledged the dedication of Dr. Sanchez and his department in bringing this program to the District.

A motion was made by Dr. Connie Phillips and seconded by Mrs. Barbara Hall to approve the Inter-Governmental Agreement with Village of Los Ranchos for the Transfer of the Challenger Center. The motion passed unanimously.

2. LCPS Foundation Update

An update of LCPS Foundation business was provided by Nyeta Haines, LCPS Foundation Board President, which highlighted teacher grant award recipients.

3. 2014 Graduation Rate Report

Superintendent Rounds shared the report provided by the Public Education Department on the 2014 cohort graduation rate by school for Las Cruces Public Schools. Dr. Steven Sanchez, Deputy Superintendent, shared that ELL completion rates are currently being investigated by Mr. Tim Hand, Director of Assessment, Accountability & Research. Dr. Sanchez hopes have a report for the Board on the findings by Mr. Hand at the next board meeting.

4. Certified/Classified Report

Dr. Elizabeth Marrufo presented the Certified/Classified Report. There were no comments.

V. OTHER REPORTS

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

5. Approval of the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Career (PARCC) Agreement

Mr. Terry Dean discussed the contract for the PARCC testing at 85% of the projected cost and shared that procurement laws prohibit paying the contractor directly. The contractor must be paid through the Public Education Department. A discussion ensued with regard to the legislature doing away with the PARCC testing and the percentage of students who have taken the test. The Math segment is available in Spanish.

A motion was made by Mrs. Barbara Hall and seconded by Mr. Chuck Davis to approve the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Career (PARCC) Agreement. Sra. Flores opposed the motion. The motion passed.

6. Board Financial Report

There were no comments.

7. Second Quarter Reports for LCPS and Las Montañas Charter High School

Mr. Terry Dean, Associate Superintendent of Finance & Technology, shared with the Board the second quarter reports for LCPS and Las Montañas Charter High School. LCPS report reflects the District received \$120,528,702.17 in revenue and expended \$130,748,412.75 and has an operational cash balance as of December 31, 2014 of \$25,282,892.22. Las Montañas Charter High School's report reflects total revenue of \$1,090,617.33 and an operational cash balance of \$417,687.22, total cash of \$478,834.95, and expenditures of \$1,068,840.35 as of December 31, 2014. Mr. Dean stated the report is consistent with the other reports and appears to be accurate. There was a discussion regarding the historical approval of carry-over funds.

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. Approval of Lease for Municipal Well Site and Related Infrastructure between Las Cruces Public Schools and the City of Las Cruces

This is a proposed lease for a tract of real property consisting of 0.152 acres (approximately 6,000 sq. ft.) located south of Isaacks Lane for use as a municipal well site and related infrastructure. It is a 40 year lease with a continuation option upon approval of both parties.

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Dr. Connie Phillips to approve the Lease for Municipal Well Site and Related Infrastructure between Las Cruces Public Schools and the City of Las Cruces. The motion passed unanimously.

2. *Construction Projects Report*

There were no comments.

3. *Presentation of Design for Sierra Middle School Music/Gym Remodel*

The Williams Design Group provided schematics/plans of the redesign of the music rooms and gymnasium at Sierra Middle School. Input was received from teachers on the remodel. The complete remodel will take approximately 18 months.

4. *Discussion of Addendum to the Facilities Master Plan*

Mr. Dane Kennon, Associate Superintendent of Operations, shared the addendum to the Facilities Master Plan—a white paper that promotes a vision of cooperation among the Las Cruces Public Schools, the City of Las Cruces and Doña Ana County regarding the locations of future school sites. He stated the Public School Capital Outlay Council and the Public School Facilities Authority requires a five year facility master plan as a prerequisite for eligibility to receive state capital outlay assistance. The Facilities Master Plan was prepared by Architectural Research Consultants and the amendment will be brought before the Board at a future date for approval.

VI. BOARD ITEMS

A. *Old Business: Item #1 was on consent* and approved earlier in the meeting.*

2. *Approval to remove Policy IKAB Grading and Reporting from the Table;*

Third Reading and Approval of Policy IKAB Grading and Reporting

Two versions of this policy were presented for third reading at the January 2015 regular board meeting. After discussion by the board, the approval of the policy was tabled. Board members suggested amending language to state that a final exam would not count for more than 20% of a student's final grade, and teachers have the option of calculating the final exam grade at a rate lower than 20%. A discussion ensued with regard to the online grade book and the use of professional development to assist teachers in correctly calculating the final exam in the online grade book.

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Dr. Connie Phillips to remove Policy IKAB from the table for discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Dr. Connie Phillips and seconded by Mr. Chuck Davis to approve Policy IKAB as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Due to substantial changes requested by board members, this policy was brought forward for a first reading on January 20, 2015. There were no public comments received; and no changes were made from the first reading. The policy will move forward for a third reading and approval at the next regular board meeting.

4. *Approval of NMSBA 2015 Excellence for Student Achievement Award Nomination*

President Dr. Votaw shared with the board the nominees: Mr. Eddie Leon, nominated by Ms. Lillian Duran, Principal at Mesilla Park Elementary School; Mr. Andres Armijo, nominated by Ms. Deborah Rosencrans, Principal at Alameda Elementary School; and Ms. Linda Prendez, nominated by Mr. Michael Montoya, Principal at Centennial High School.

A motion was made by Dr. Connie Phillips and seconded by Sra. Maria Flores to nominate Mr. Eddie Leon for the 2015 NMSBA Excellence for Student Achievement Award. The motion passed unanimously.

5. *New Business*

1. *First Reading of Policy FEE School Site Selection*

Ms. Jo Galvan Nash, Director of Policy Development, stated the policy allows for a school site selection committee which would consist of representatives from Doña Ana County, the City of Las Cruces and Las Cruces Public Schools. The policy will move forward for a second reading at the next regular board meeting. Sra. Flores suggested adding language to the policy that a board member (selected by the Board president) be added to the selection committee, *ex-officio*.

2. *Report on February 17, 2015 Closed Session*

President Dr. Votaw stated that the Board met in closed session from 5:01 p.m. to 5:49 p.m. to discuss the Superintendent's Employment Contract. No other matters were discussed; and no action was taken.

3. *Action on Superintendent's Employment Contract*

President Dr. Votaw discussed the evaluation process for the Superintendent stating student data/performance is a factor that is considered as well as monthly budget information. President Dr. Votaw also stated that 80%-90% of principals evaluated the Superintendent's performance and gave him a good to exceptional rating adding that overall there is sufficient evidence that Mr. Rounds is an outstanding superintendent.

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Mrs. Barbara Hall to terminate Superintendent Rounds' current employment contract effective June 30, 2015. A roll call vote was taken. Mrs. Hall – yes; Dr. Phillips – yes; Mr. Davis – yes; Sra. Flores – nay; and Dr. Votaw – yes. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Mrs. Barbara Hall and seconded by Mr. Chuck Davis to offer Superintendent Rounds a new two-year employment contract beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2017 with salary and benefits to be determined in June 2015. A roll call vote was taken. Mrs. Hall – yes; Dr. Phillips – yes; Mr. Davis – yes; Sra. Flores – nay; and Dr. Votaw – yes. The motion passed.

VII. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Superintendent Rounds recognized exiting board members, Dr. Bonnie Votaw and Dr. Connie Phillips, for their years of service and dedication to students and the District. Fellow board members shared their comments in appreciation of Drs. Votaw and Phillips, and both Drs. Votaw and Phillips shared their gratitude and appreciation in serving students and the district.

Sra. Flores visited Mayfield High School's 9th grade health classroom, 50 Year Ball at Mayfield High School, ENLACE class at Centennial High School and the NEO project.

VIII. UPCOMNG EVENTS

A. *Calendar of Events*

President Dr. Votaw shared with the Board 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 Mrs. Barbara Hall to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Board President

Secretary

Minutes taken by Tina Gonzalez.