



MINUTES
Las Cruces Public Schools Board of Education
Regular Meeting

Tuesday, October 20, 2015 • 6:30 p.m.
LCPS Administration Building Board Room • Televised by LCPS.TV

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Call to Order

Sra. Maria A. Flores called the meeting to order at 6:29 p.m.

B. Roll Call

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

- Sra. Maria A. Flores, President
- Mr. Chuck Davis, Vice President
- Barbara Hall, Secretary
- Mr. Maury Castro, Member
- Mr. Ed Frank, Member

Superintendent Stan Rounds was also in attendance and Andre Gonzales, Youth Advisor, was in attendance.

C. Pledge of Allegiance

Sra. Flores led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. East Picacho Elementary School Ballet Folklorico

The audience enjoyed a brief performance by the East Picacho Elementary School Ballet Folklorico under the direction of dual language teachers, Silvia Mariscal and Lucia Gutierrez.

E. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Mr. Maury Castro to approve the August 18, 2015 and October 6, 2015 Special Meeting Minutes. The motion passed.

F. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Mr. Ed Frank to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

G. Approval of Consent Agenda Items

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Maury Castro to approve consent agenda items V.A.1. Vendor Payments, V.A. 2. Approval of Budget Adjustments, V.A.3. Property Dispositions, and V.B.1. Student Out of State Travel. The motion passed unanimously.

H. Report on Closed Executive Session of October 20, 2015

Sra. Flores reported the board met in closed executive session from 5:05 p.m. to 6:12 p.m. to discuss Collective Bargaining Strategies Preliminary to Bargaining Negotiations, as Permitted under Section 10-15-1(H)(5) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act. No other matters were discussed; and no action was taken.

II. RECOGNITIONS

A. Universal Public Procurement Certification Council Recognition

The Board recognized LCPS Contracts Administrator and Material Management Supervisor, Will Manning, for earning the Universal Public Procurement Certification Council (UPPCC) by obtaining the Certified Public Procurement Officer (CPPO) credential. Mr. Manning is now among a select group of procurement professionals to be distinguished by this certification.

B. 2015 Action for Healthy Kids Healthy School Heroes Award

Thomas Esparza III, is a 25-year veteran PE teacher with LCPS was recognized the Board as the recipient of the 2015 Healthy School Hero Award by Action for Healthy Kids. Mr. Esparza achieved this award for his diligent work in fighting childhood obesity to improve child health and readiness to learn.

C. *LCPS Foundation Teacher Grant Awards*

Betsy Geery, LCPS Foundation Executive Director, presented teacher grant awards totaling more than \$124,000. She stated that individual grants were awarded in the amount of up to \$1,000 and group grants were awarded in the amount of up to \$5,000. There were a total of 32 grant recipients.

III. PUBLIC INPUT

None.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. *Successory Presentations from Arrowhead Park Early College High School and Vista Middle School*

Superintendent Rounds presented a video submitted by Arrowhead Park Early College High School highlighting students who “Thanked a Teacher” for their support. He also presented a video submitted by Vista Middle School showcasing their unsung hero, Officer Montoya, the Safety Resource Officer at Vista Middle School. Officer Montoya shared how much he enjoys working with the students at Vista Middle School. Officer Montoya was recognized in the audience by Sra. Flores.

2. *Discussion on Voting Convenience Centers for SB-9 Mill Levy Election*

Jo Galvan, Chief Communications Officer, discussed the options for the voting convenience center locations for the SB-9 Mill Levy election in February 2016. Twelve locations were recommended: Doña Ana County Government Center, Mayfield High School, Doña Ana Community Center, Jornada Elementary School, Thomas Branigan Library, Sonoma Elementary School, Desert Hills Elementary School, Farm & Ranch Museum, University Hills Elementary School, Las Alturas Fire Station, Tombaugh Elementary School, and Mesilla Elementary School. The sites will be submitted to the County Clerk and will be included in the Proclamation and Resolution for approval at the November regular meeting. Ms. Galvan stated the total budget for the cost of the election is \$31,000.

Mr. Davis asked with regard to the East Mesa and White Sands Missile Range (“WSMR”) residents and their voting location. Ms. Galvan stated that by agreement with the garrison commander WSMR residents will be voting early or on Election Day, and statistics show that East Mesa residents, as a norm, drive into the City to vote.

3. *Certified Classified Employee Report*

Dr. Elizabeth Marrufo, Chief Human Resource Development Officer, presented the report. There were no comments.

4. *Beginning Teacher Induction Program*

Jane Gurnea and Pete Dinger, Professional Development Specialists, shared the Beginning Teacher Induction Program has served new teachers in the Las Cruces Public School District for over 17 years. 1,460 beginning teachers have completed the program to date and many of the same beginning teacher program graduates are now mentors, level III teachers and administrators. A brief PowerPoint was shared with the Board which provided information on funding, the five pillars supporting beginning teachers, program data since inception, and licensure advancement, coaching and support. There are currently 307 teachers enrolled in the program.

V. OTHER REPORTS

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

5. *Board Financial Report*

There were no comments.

B. *Instruction: Item #1 was on consent* and approved earlier in the meeting.*

2. *Update on High School Graduation Assessment*

Dr. Wendi Miller-Tomlinson, Director of Secondary Education, provided an update on high school graduation assessments. She discussed with board members a chart that provided information on students who are lacking the required classes for graduation and shared that tutoring sessions are offered to students. A timeline for assessment re-takes was also provided. There was a discussion regarding the amount of time it takes for students to re-take all of the assessments. Andre Gonzales, Youth Advisor, stated students would prefer to opt out of taking the mandatory assessments. Mr. Frank asked if Algebra II is a requirement, and Dr. Miller-Tomlinson stated it is, but students have the option to opt out of the class.

C. *Operations*

1. *Construction Projects Report*

Gloria Martinez, Construction Projects Manager, presented the construction projects report which included updates on the following projects: Las Cruces High School, Alameda Elementary School, Baseball Complex, Sierra Middle School, Court Charter School Campus, Doña Ana Elementary School Re-roof, Mesilla Elementary School Re-roof, Las Montañas Charter High School, and Security Fencing. Andre Gonzales, Youth Advisor, asked when the Las Montañas Charter High School project is scheduled to be complete. Ms. Martinez responded the completion date is estimated for December 2015.

VII. BOARD ITEMS

A. New Business

1. Columbia Elementary School Heroes Photograph

Sra. Flores shared a picture she took of a student hero’s board at Columbia Elementary School. Students are eligible for the board by reaching their goals. Their names are entered for a drawing to participate in a leadership luncheon and their parents are contacted with regard to their successes at school.

2. Budget Priorities Discussion

Sra. Flores asked board members submit their budget priorities to Tim Hand, Chief of Staff. Andre Gonzales stated that students would like to have diversity in food and snacks choices on campuses, staffing of technology techs at schools, and technology training for teachers as professional development. Sra. Flores stated her priorities as equity and poverty. Mr. Davis would like to see a reduction in class sizes; Mr. Castro would like to maximize teacher salaries as they are underpaid; and Mr. Frank would like to avoid future furloughs. Andre Gonzales stated the Youth Advisory Group supports teacher salaries and eliminating future furloughs. Superintendent Rounds stated it is the administration’s intention to work with board members to outline a set of priorities. He also stated budget issues that would be added on behalf of unions. Jo Galvan discussed with board members the importance of the SB-9 Mill Levy election in February 2016. She stated the SB-9 Mill Levy provides funds for renovations at schools so the funds do not have to come out of the district’s operational funds.

B. Old Business

1. Reconsideration of Approval of Chief Financial Officer to Enter into Negotiations for the Potential Purchase of Bus Complex

A motion was not made to bring the item for reconsideration. There was no discussion.

VIII. BOARD MEMBER BUSINESS

A. Board Member Reports

Mrs. Hall attended the Centennial High School awards, bike to Mesilla Elementary School, she attended a football game, a mission at the Challenger Center and a LCPS Foundation meeting. Mr. Ed Frank served as a monitor at a middle school tennis tournament. Sra. Flores attended a IPE meeting at Zia Middle School, the Challenger Center grand opening, visited with sixth graders at Camino Real Middle School, eighth graders at Lynn Middle School, walk to school at University Hill Elementary School, Leaders Circle of Ngage, and she apologized for missing Onate High School and Centennial High School academic awards.

B. Youth Advisor Report

Two students from Arrowhead Park Early College High School were recognized in the audience. Andre Gonzales shared that elections were conducted for the Youth Advisory Group (“YAG”) and the officers are as follows:

President: Andre Gonzales; Vice President(s): Julian Hill, Kim Rubadeau, Tristan Schlothauer; Parliamentarian: Analyssa Martinez; Secretary: Rose Sherman; Alternates: Ellssia Forbes, Tyler Morris Victoria Munn, Fernando Salinas and Rose Sherman. He also shared items of discussion for future YAG meetings.

C. Calendar of Events

Sra. Flores stated that a calendar of events is in each board member’s folder.

X. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Mr. Maury Castro to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Board President

Secretary

Minutes taken by Tina Gonzalez.