



MINUTES
Las Cruces Public Schools Board of Education
Regular Meeting

Tuesday, February 16, 2016 • 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 6:30 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 as well as Ellyssia Forbes, Student Advisor, was in attendance.

C. Pledge of Allegiance

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

D. Oñate High School Choir

The audience enjoyed a short performance by the Oñate High School Choir under the direction of Mr. Ryan Fellman.

E. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Maury Castro and seconded by Chuck Davis to approve the December 1, 2015 Special Meeting Minutes; January 19, 2016 Regular Board Meeting Minutes; January 26, 2016 Closed Executive Session Minutes; and the February 2, 2016 Regular Board Meeting Minutes. 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 Ed Frank and seconded by Mrs. Barbara Hall to approve consent agenda items 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.A.5. Employee Waiver; V.B.1. Approval of Student Out of State Travel; V.B. 2. Approval of Head Start Self-Assessment Program Development Plan. The motion passed unanimously.

II. PUBLIC INPUT

Sra. Flores reminded the audience that persons wanting to speak in public input must complete a request form to do so. She stated each person is limited to three minutes per board policy and group speakers are limited to five minutes. The Board will not respond to questions raised in public comment and disorderly and inappropriate conduct will not be allowed. Please refrain from using profanity or personal attacks and do not discuss any students that are not your own child. She also stated that specific complaints are addressed through a complaint process and not through public input.

Ray Jaramillo, parent, spoke regarding early childhood development, mandated testing, and his support of Board members.

Irma Valdespino, President CSEC-LC, shared her beliefs in the integrity of the school board and the best interests of staff and students.

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. *Report on Eighth Grade Recruiting Rule*

Superintendent Rounds spoke to board members regarding out-of-zone eligibility. He stated it is a complex matter as parents have the right to place their students. A proposed directive is for all eighth grade students to only be eligible to play in the zone in which they physically reside. Superintendent Rounds welcomed feedback from the community in this regard and stated the policy will not be implemented this year. Mr. Ernie Viramontes, Athletic Director, will work with board members in answering questions regarding the Athletic Handbook. Sra. Flores asked about students wearing school colors at the eighth grade level and Superintendent Rounds responded that recruiting is an issue and wearing colors is a way of influencing the students. Mr. Michael Montoya, Principal at Centennial High School, shared that principals addressed the issue and students can only wear jerseys purchased by the District on game days.

Andre Gonzales, student, shared concerns he received from student athletes regarding the new directive regarding eighth grade students. Mr. Viramontes will meet with the Student Advisory Council.

2. *Certified Classified Employee Report*

Dr. Elizabeth Marrufo presented the report. There were no comments.

IV. OTHER REPORTS

A. *Finance: Items #1, #2, #3, #4, and #5 were on consent* and approved earlier in the meeting.*

6. *Audit Report Ending June 30, 2015*

Amy Carter, Auditor from Moss Adams, shared the findings from the June 30, 2015 audit report. The audit was found to be materially correct. There are no significant deficiencies. An unmodified opinion was issued for federal awards; there were no federal findings. The audit reflected a directive to board members to receive training for violations of the Open Meetings Act.

7. *Second Quarter Report for LCPS*

For the quarter ending December 31, 2015, the District received \$125,929,407.33 in revenue and expended \$126,244,929.51. The Operational cash balance was \$29,178,131.60 and total cash is \$56.8 million. The report was submitted to the Public Education Department.

8. *Board Financial Report*

There were no comments.

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

3. *Teacher Perspective on UVA Mid-Year Retreat*

East Picacho, Jornada and Sonoma Elementary Schools are in their third year of UVA. Andrea Baker, first grade teacher at Jornada Elementary School, Wyatt Cornelius, fourth grade teacher at Sonoma Elementary School and Jules Janezka, fifth grade teacher at E. Picacho Elementary School, shared their perspective on the empowerment of those who are closest to the students, and the UVA process of groups of teachers working together to share the same goal.

C. *Operations*

1. *Construction Projects Report*

Gloria Martinez, Construction Projects Director, provided a report on the status of the current construction projects throughout the district which included an overview of Las Cruces High School, Alameda Elementary School, Sierra Middle School, Court Charter Complex, Doña Ana Elementary School, Mesilla Elementary School, Las Montañas Charter High School, Hermosa Heights Elementary School, Jornada Elementary School and security fencing.

2. *Discussion of Financial Plan for LCHS-Phase II*

Mr. Terry Dean, Chief Financial Officer, shared that there is about \$10 million challenge based upon the initial estimate due to a change by the Public Schools Facility Authority (PSFA) which costs the

district \$4 million. The change in Gross Receipts Tax law also costs the district \$1.2 million. Mr. Dean explained the district has \$2 million in cost savings from other projects and \$2 million from the current bond election that could be used to make up the \$4 million dollar difference. He also stated that student growth does not warrant the district to acquire property at this time; therefore, the \$2 million set aside for that purpose could be used as well to fund Phase II of the LCHS remodel project.

There was a discussion with regard to the areas that are still to be renovated. Phase I completion cost was \$47,000. Mr. Castro asked if there are plans for a remodel at Mayfield High School and Mr. Dean stated the school does not qualify for state assistance through PSFA as they are not in the top 37 of neediest schools in the state. Mayfield High School will receive a kitchen remodel from funds of the last bond election.

V. BOARD ITEMS

A. *New Business*

1. *Action on Superintendent's Contract*

Sra. Flores explained the board needs to terminate the Superintendent's current contract in order to make changes to it in a second vote. She entertained a motion to terminate the Superintendent's current employment contract effective June 30, 2016. A motion was made by Mrs. Barbara Hall and seconded by Mr. Maury Castro. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Frank-nay; Mr. Castro-nay; Mr. Davis-nay; Mrs. Hall-aye; and Sra. Flores-nay. The motion did not pass.

Sra. Flores read a statement to the audience indicating the board's vote is not intended in a negative way. She stated under board policy extending the Superintendent's contract is optional. Superintendent Rounds remains the leader of Las Cruces Public Schools.

2. *Change of School Board Regular Meeting Date from March 15, 2016 to March 22, 2016*

Sra. Flores stated the March 15, 2016 Regular Board Meeting falls within the week of Spring Break. She recommended the March regular board meeting be moved to March 22, 2016 so district employees may enjoy the holiday break. A motion was made by Ed Frank and seconded by Maury Castro to move the March regular board meeting to March 22, 2016. The motion passed.

3. *Discussion of Policy ILBB District Assessment Program*

Andrea Fletcher, Chief Academic Officer, discussed the current policy as written. There was a concern regarding the sit-and-stare clause. Mrs. Fletcher proposed adding language to the regulation that would address the concern. The policy will be brought back to the Board for a first reading.

B. *Old Business*

1. *Selection of NMSBA 2016 Excellence for Student Achievement Award*

Sra. Flores suggested nominating Mr. Mike Montoya, a Special Education Teacher at Vista Middle School. A motion was made by Mr. Maury Castro and seconded by Mr. Chuck Davis to nominate Mr. Mike Montoya for the NMSBA 2016 Excellence for Student Achievement Award. The motion passed.

2. *Third Reading and Approval of Policy DA Fiscal Management Goals and Concurrent Rescission of Policy #500 Business Policy Statement*

Jo Galván, Chief Communications Officer, shared language with board members that was added to the policy since the January 19, 2016 Regular Board Meeting. Policy DA was recommended for approval with a concurrent rescission of Policy #500 Business Policy Statement. A motion was made by Chuck Davis and seconded by Maury Castro to approve Policy DA Fiscal Management Goals and Rescind Policy #500 Business Policy Statement. The motion passed.

3. *Third Reading and Approval of Policy DBD Budget Development and Concurrent Rescission of Policy #505 Budget Development*

Jo Galván, outlined the changes requested by the Board from the last board meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Mr. Maury Castro to approve Policy DBD Budget Development and the Rescission of Policy #505 Budget Development. The motion passed.

4. *Third Reading and Approval of Policy EFE Competitive Food Sales and Vending Machines*
Jo Galván, outlined the changes requested by the Board from January 19, 2016 board meeting. She recommended approval of the policy. A motion was made by Mr. Maury Castro and seconded by Mr. Ed Frank to approve Policy EFE Competitive Food Sales and Vending Machines. The motion passed.

VI. BOARD MEMBER BUSINESS

A. Board Member Reports

Mrs. Hall visited LEAP, a bilingual third grade class room at Conlee Elementary School, and a LCPS Foundation Board meeting. She invited board members to attend the Celebration of Excellence Dinner scheduled for April 18, 2016 at Hotel Encanto.

Mr. Castro discussed opportunities board members have in lobbying for education at the legislative session.

Sra. Flores visited J. Paul Taylor Academy, the physical education program at Vista Middle School, and Crossroads. She and Mrs. Fletcher shadowed at student at Oñate High School and visited the food trucks at Oñate High School.

B. Student Advisor Report

Ellyssia Forbes shared the Student Advisory Council discussed member structure for SY 2016-17 and attendance issues. She stated a vice president was released of their duties and she was chosen as new vice president.

C. Calendar of Events

Sra. Flores reviewed the calendar with Board members and stated a copy was placed in each of their folders.

X. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Mr. Maury Castro to adjourn the meeting.
The meeting ended at 8:10 p.m.

Board President

Board Secretary

Minutes taken by Tina Gonzalez.