



MINUTES
Las Cruces Public Schools Board of Education
Special Meeting Work Session
Tuesday, May 3, 2016 • 4:00 p.m.
LCPS Administration Building Board Room

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Call to Order

Sra. Maria A. Flores called the meeting to order at 4:08 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 André Gonzales, Student Advisor, was in attendance.

C. Approval of Agenda

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

D. Recognition of Student Advisory Council

Sra. Flores recognized members of the first Student Advisory Council for their participation in the Student Advisory Council for SY 2016-17. Each member received a Certificate of Recognition.

II. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Budget Update

Superintendent Rounds provided a chart by steps which outlined 1) changes in revenue, 2) increased expenses from revenue, 3) budget reductions and 4) budget cuts needed. He discussed vacancy savings through attrition, retirements, resignations and temporary terminate contracts and stated every employee in good standing with the District will have a job in the new school year. Furlough restoration was also discussed and Sra. Flores asked Mr. Dean to restore furlough days to employees and asked that right sizing numbers to be cut by half.

III. OTHER REPORTS

A. Human Resources

1. None.

B. Instruction

1. Approval of Revised SY 2016-17 Student School Calendar

Dr. Wendi Miller Tomlinson, Director of Secondary Education, reviewed the revised calendar with board members. She stated the calendar is consistent with NMSU and DACC calendars. She stated that the SY 2016-17 student calendar for Arrowhead Park Early College High School and Arrowhead Park Medical Academy will be brought to the next regular board meeting for approval by the Board.

2. *Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) Program*

Brenda Lewis shared a college readiness program implemented last year at Sierra Middle School. She stated that AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) is a systematic approach to preparing students for college readiness. Its mission is to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society. A brief video was viewed by the audience showcasing students in the AVID program.

Mr. Castro asked if IQ testing used for recruitment of students. Mrs. Lewis responded that recruitment is done through referrals by fifth grade teachers and counselors. Standardized testing is not used.

3. *Update on ELL/ESL Spanish Literature Materials*

Cari Aguilera, Coordinator of Secondary Education, presented The Las Cruces Public Schools 6-8 ELA/Reading, CORE Reading Intervention, Modern, Classical and Native Languages Adoption process occurred between October 2015 and March 2016. She stated the only area of adoption still in review is the ELL/ESL area of adoption. ELL/ESL Spanish Literature instructors from across the district requested to further review the books/materials for newcomers/recent arrivals who speak little or no English. A discussion meeting was held and further ELL/ESL sample materials have been ordered for each middle school. Materials are currently at each of the middle school sites. Samples have been requested by the Board to review.

C. *Finance*

1. *Approval of Bid for Award of Contract of Phase II of the Las Cruces High School Construction Project.*

Will Manning, Purchasing Director, discussed the recommendation to award contract to Wooten Sundt to begin construction for Phase II of the Las Cruces High School remodel project. He stated that funding for the project is support by state capital outlay funding and is separate from operational and other district funds.

Mr. Dean added that the District's portion of the funding for the LCHS remodel comes from the sale of bonds. A proposed timeline and a rendering for the Phase II project was also shared with the Board. There are currently 1,600 students enrolled at LCHS and the current building is designed for a total enrollment of 2,000.

D. *Operations*

1. *None.*

IV. BOARD ITEMS

A. *New Business*

1. *Approval of Waiver of Policy KF Community Use of School Facilities*

Mr. Davis requested a waiver of the fees for the use of school facilities for the Democratic Party. The fees collected are used for custodial services, kitchen use, etc. Jo Galvan discussed the schedule for fees for political parties. Mr. Castro stated that if the board waives the policy for one party, all should be exempt. Mr. Davis and Mr. Frank will make recommendations to the Superintendent in changes to the District's current regulation.

2. *Public Forum on High School Schedules*

Superintendent Rounds shared a proposal from high school principals to move to a 7 period day to ease staffing concerns for budgetary reasons. He shared a proposed schedule with time per class calculation. The schedule is only for the four comprehensive high schools.

Patrick Sanchez, NEA-LC President, spoke with regard to the budget process and move to a new process to obtain stakeholder input on priorities.

Margaret Sanchez Maes, parent of an incoming 9th grader, shared her concern in the changing of high schedules and the effect it will have on advanced placement students.

Amy Carpenter, shared her thoughts on the proposed high school schedule.

Karen Hanson-Sharp, teacher at Mayfield High School, spoke with regard to the proposed 7 period schedule for high schools. She believes a block schedule is better for students, but has not been correctly utilized.

André Gonzales, Student Advisor, shared the Student Advisory Council opposes the proposed schedule change.

Mike Gaume, AES facilitator at Mayfield High School spoke with regard to the proposed change and the differences between the proposed change and the current schedule. He discussed teacher load and classroom average adding that with a 7 period day teacher load would decrease.

Jeff Brilliant, Assistant Principal at Centennial High School, shared his concern of an increase of instructional time with a 7 period day. He stated that teachers are overworked. He stated the current schedule in place is too expensive for the budget and high academic expectations can still be achieved with a 7 period day.

Mary Underwood, former teacher at Mayfield High School, shared her concerns with students in dual credit classes in going with proposed 7 period schedule.

Robert Wofford, AES facilitator at Las Cruces High School, shared a handout with the board on facilitator caseloads. facilitator. With new 7 period day impossible, teachers are overworked. Hard work in balancing budget. Please don't balance on te backs of teachers.

Amy Simpson, NEA-LC Representative, spoke with regard to class sizes.

Christina Cervantes Vanderlugt, parent, spoke with regard to the proposed high school schedule and its effect on athletics.

Mary Parr Sanchez, NEA-LC Vice President, stated administrators should share changes with students. Concerned with proposed budget cuts.

B. Old Business

1. Approval of 2016 NMSBA Scholarship Program Nominee

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Mrs. Barbara Hall to submit Elyssia Forbes as LCPS' nominee for the 2016 NMSBA Scholarship Program. The motion passed unanimously.

V. PUBLIC INPUT

Christy Salgado, teacher, shared concern in AES facilitators teaching more than two general education classes.

Rachel Kinney and Emmitt Freeman, Future Farmers of America (FFA) students at Centennial High School, shared the purpose of FFA and its involvement in the community in educating about agriculture.

Tonya Sanchez, first year teacher at Sunrise Elementary School, shared her concern of the current principal being moved to another school and the school becoming a turnaround school. She asked what rationale was used in determining what schools in the district become turnarounds schools.

Sra. Flores asked for a presentation on the rationale used in determining which schools become turnaround schools.

Donna Fry, Joy Millan, and Yvette Crawford, teachers at Sunrise Elementary School, all shared their opposition to the school becoming a turnaround school. She stated the way it was presented by Mrs. Fletcher, the staff did not feel it was a deserved honor.

Mary Parr-Sanchez, NEA-LC Vice President, spoke with regard to the Moody's bond rating. She asked if the District is overbuilding.

Bruce Hartman, NEA –LC Representative, spoke on behalf of all students and students with disabilities in cutting staff and increasing class sizes. He stated that AES students are going to achieve regardless of what the district does.

VI. BOARD MEMBER BUSINESS

A. Board Member Reports

There were no reports.

B. Student Advisor Report

André Gonzales invited the audience to a student forum at KRWG.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Ed Frank and seconded by Mr. Maury Castro to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Board President

Secretary

Minutes taken by Tina Gonzalez.