



Las Cruces Public Schools Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, June 20, 2017 • 6:30 p.m.
LCPS Administration Building, Board Room

I. Introduction

A. *Call to Order*

President Flores called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m

B. *Roll Call*

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

- Sra. Maria A. Flores, President
- Mr. Ed Frank, Vice President
- Mr. Ray Jaramillo, Secretary
- Mrs. Terrie Dallman, Member
- Mr. Maury Castro, Member

Dr. Gregory Ewing, Superintendent, was also in attendance.

C. *Welcome Student Advisor*

Sra. Flores welcomed the Student Advisory Council (SAC) member, Cameron of Centennial High School (CHS,) as well as Superintendent Emeritus, Dr. Steven Sanchez, to the meeting.

D. *Pledge of Allegiance*

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

E. *Performance*

Dr. Ewing welcomed Victoria, graduate of Rio Grande Preparatory Institute, who performed a piece vocally for attendees.

F. *Approval of Minutes*

Sra. Flores entertained a motion to approve the minutes for the April 18, 2017 Closed Executive Session, the April 18, 2017 Regular Meeting, the April 21, 2017 Board Training, the May 2, 2017 Closed Executive Session, the May 2, 2017 Special Meeting (Work Session), the May 16, 2017 Closed Executive Session, and the May 16, 2017 Regular Meeting/Public Budget Hearing. Mr. Jaramillo made a motion and it was seconded by Mr. Castro. The motion was approved unanimously.

G. *Approval of Agenda*

Sra. Flores entertained a motion to move item III. Public Input to item IV., immediately following the Superintendent's Report as well as to move items V.E.1. Approval of Service Agreement between City of Las Cruces, the Town of Mesilla and Las Cruces Public Schools for School Resource Officers in Schools for SY 2017-2018, V.E.2. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with City of Las Cruces to

Authorize School Staff to Direct Traffic, V.E.3. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with City of Las Cruces for K-9 and Special Event Police Services, V.E.4. Approval of SY 2017-2018 Contracted Food Services between Las Cruces Public Schools and Families & Youth, Inc., Dona Ana County Head Start, Las Cruces Catholic Schools and Gym Magic, V.E.5. Approval of SY 2017-2018 Fleet Service Contract, V.E.6. Approval of Service Agreement for SY 2017-2018 Ancillary Student Transportation, V.E.7. Approval of Supplemental Agreement Provisions for SY 2017-2018 School Transportation Services, V.E.8. Approval of SY 2017-2018 Preventive Maintenance Plan from Consent Agenda to standard Approval. A motion to amend the agenda was made by Mrs. Dallman and seconded by Mr. Castro. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Jaramillo made a motion to approve the agenda as amended; it was seconded by Mr. Castro. It was approved unanimously.

H. *Approval of Consent Agenda Items*

Items on the consent agenda include: V.C.1. Approval of Student Out-of-State Travel, V.C.2. Approval of SY 2017-2018 IDEA -B Application Allocation, V.C.3. Approval of SY 2017-2018 Title II Application, V.C.4. Approval of SY 2017-2018 Title I, Part C Migrant Application, V.C.5. Approval of FY 2017 Proposed Cost of Living Adjustment Head Start Grant, V.C.6. Approval FY 2017 Head Start Staff Changes, V.C.7. Approval of SY 2017-2018 Fine Arts Education Act Application for Elementary Arts Funding, V.D.1. Approval of Budget Adjustments, V.D.2. Approval of Property Dispositions, V.D.3. Approval of Vendor Payments, V.D.4. Approval of Bids, VI.B.1. Third Reading and Approval of Policy JLJ Student Nutrition, and VI.B.2. Third Reading and Approval of Policy EFD Meal Applications, Prices, and Charges. Mr. Frank made a motion to approve the consent agenda items, which was seconded by Mr. Jaramillo. The motion was approved unanimously

I. *Report on Closed Executive Session of June 20, 2017*

Sra. Flores reported the Board met in closed executive session on June 20, 2017 from 4:28 p.m. to 6:13 p.m. to discuss limited personnel matters, specifically so the Superintendent can update the Board regarding investigations of certified and classified employees as well as to complete the Superintendent's mid-year performance review with discussion of possible extension of Superintendent's contract and contract terms, as Permitted under Section 10-15-1(H)(2); and to discuss communications with legal counsel regarding pending litigation as permitted under Section 10-15-1(H)(7) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, specifically *Christina Herrera v. Las Cruces Public Schools, Belinda Lopez and Cristina Salazar*; Appellate Case No.16-2179 in the U.S. Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit Court. No other matters were discussed and no action was taken.

II. Recognitions

A. *Vista Middle School Track and Field First Responders*

Dr. Ewing recognized Ms. Kari Reyes, Ms. Jeannie Ghelardini, Ms. Jennifer Black, Ms. Denielle Faras, Ms. Kim Schulmeister, and Mr. Ngassa Mssika for their quick, life-saving response when a student collapsed and went into Cardiac Arrest at a Track and Field meet on April 28, 2017.

B. *Community Member's Courageous Act*

Dr. Ewing recognized Maria and Isabella, fourth-graders at MacArthur Elementary, and Mr. Johnny Villa, a former volunteer for the Dona Ana Fire Department for their

roles in rescuing another student whom nearly drowned while swimming in an irrigation canal.

C. *Track and Field State Championships*

Mr. David Nunez, Onate High School Track and Field Head Coach, congratulated seniors Forest and Gabriel on their successes at the New Mexico Track and Field State Championships.

D. *2017 New Mexico School Board Association Scholarship Program Recipient*

Mrs. Terrie Dallman congratulated Olivia on her official selection for the 2017 New Mexico School Board Association (NMSBA) Scholarship. She presented Olivia with the official certification of her scholarship as well as her \$1,000 check.

III. Superintendent's Report

A. *Superintendent's Update*

1. *Announcements*

1a. Report from Executive Director of Athletics

Dr. Ewing advised that at the June 6, 2017 Special Meeting (Work Session) he made a presentation discussing the possible addition of Centennial High School (CHS) and Onate High School (OHS) to play at the Aggie Memorial Stadium. He shared that a compromise had been made to allow CHS and OHS to play at the stadium on Thursday night while the historical Las Cruces High School (LCHS) vs. Mayfield High School (MHS) would continue as planned on Friday night. He advised that a task force would be developed to evaluate the cost efficacy of these plans in the coming school year. There were no Board member questions or comments.

2. *Budget Update*

Dr. Ewing asked for the community's further support on the school budget as well as backing at the Capitol in Santa Fe. He stated that once budgetary funds have been encumbered the district proceeds forward as planned, and any cuts thereafter are incredibly detrimental to its' operations. He advised that the Legislative Special Session was recently completed, and the State has decided not to proceed with any additional cuts at present.

3. *NEA-LC/CSEC-LC Report*

Mr. Bruce Hartman, National Education Association (NEA)- Las Cruces President, advised they had no items to discuss. Ms. Irma Valdespino, Classified School Employees Council (CSEC)- Las Cruces President, reported that CSEC and LCPS negotiations are set to begin tomorrow. She advised there is a large number of employees who work behind the scenes to support education, aside from teachers, who are essential to the continued operations of the district. She shared that many of these employees live below the poverty level and she feels that it quite shameful. She stated they look forward to a productive and collaborative negotiation process.

IV. Public Input

Matthew King, Las Cruces Public School (LCPS) employee spoke regarding two colleagues whose positions had been eliminated due to the reduction in force as well as the alterations within his own job description.

Michael Bradley, Coach of Mayfield High School Football, stated that the LCHS vs. MHS football game has been the biggest event for the City of Las Cruces for the past 50 years, and it is an undeniable source of pride for the community. He vocalized his interest in participating in the task force to evaluate future game plans going forward.

Stacy Alley, President of the LCHS Football Booster Club, opened by stating there is no opposition to CHS and OHS playing at the Aggie Memorial Stadium, however, due to the sheer magnitude of work that goes into preparing for the game she feels it is not feasible. She shared an experience from a double-header that had many complications and ultimately resulted in a loss for LCHS. Ms. Alley stated that equity should not be at the expense of others and should not be confused with equality. She expressed her thanks for the development of the task force.

Max, a CHS student, shared his support and gratitude for the compromise that had been reached.

Jeremy Gonzales, President of the OHS Football Booster Club, expressed his appreciation in allowing students the opportunity to play on a collegiate field. He stated OHS in no way wish to retract from the competitive history of the LCHS vs. MHS game but instead wish to add to it. He advised student athletes should be the focal point of these decisions. He again thanked the Superintendent and Board members for their support of all the athletic programs.

Janine Trujillo, community member, vocalized the football events require too much work to be played on the same day as the teams would be rushed. She thanked the Superintendent for arriving at a satisfactory compromise.

Kim Frost, community member, stated the supporters of the CHS vs. OHS football game in no way wish to detract from the current LCHS vs. MHS history but instead wish only for all the students to receive equal treatment. She stated that CHS vs. OHS would be glad to be an opener for the LCHS vs. MHS event.

Chris Ortiz, community member, thanked the Superintendent and Board members for reaching a compromise. He expressed his interest in participating in the task force.

Drizzt and Caul, CHS students, vocalized CHS' support of the community and their wish to contribute to the rich history. He stated they do not wish to change the past, but to change the future for the benefit of all students at CHS. Drizzt stated there are now four comprehensive high schools and the LCHS vs. MHS game is not inclusive of the total student population in Las Cruces.

David Tellez, community member, advised the compromise that was reached is just that, a compromise; however, it is not a solution. He shared his brief history as a LCHS alumni, and asked that CHS and OHS students be offered the same opportunity to develop a rivalry and enjoy the memories that are created in the process.

Brandon, a LCHS student, shared that he does not feel it is fair for CHS and OHS to be rushed by a double-header nor for LCHS and MHS to have their event detracted from. He expressed support of the compromise that was reached.

Hanii Ziehl, community member, expressed discontent in the compromise due to the funding required to reserve the Aggie Memorial Stadium. She stated that the expenditure takes away from educational funding and not all students are student athletes.

V. Other Reports

A. Student Advisor Report

Cameron thanked Mrs. Wendi Hammond for her support of the SAC and shared they would miss her greatly though they wish her the best of luck in her new endeavor. Additionally, he expressed that the passion of the LCHS and MHS rivalry is to be respected; however, the double-header is not intended to retract from that passion. Instead, he only wished all students be afforded the opportunity to play on a collegiate field. He expressed his happiness with the compromise that was reached.

Mr. Castro commended Dr. Ewing on the “win-win” compromise that was reached.

Mr. Jaramillo shared his pride in being an elected official of the Las Cruces Public Schools and the community. He reminded attendees that the same passion brought forward by the double-header should be applied to budget constraints, employee cuts, and other issues experienced throughout the district.

Sra. Flores expressed how much she enjoys hearing peoples’ hearts and souls being bared, and how delightful it is to see all school colors represented in the audience.

B. Human Resources Development

1. Certified/Classified Employee Report

Dr. Ewing advised that an interview task force had been developed when beginning the principal hiring process. He shared that all selections had been made with community input. He then introduced new leadership appointments to attendees, to include: Monica Marquez as Principal of Booker T. Washington Elementary, Michelle Valdez as Principal of Columbia Elementary, Gail Estrada as Principal of Fairacres, Joan Howard as Principal of Highland Elementary, Yuri Castillo as Principal of MacArthur Elementary, Taryn Landin as the Director of the Teaching and Learning, and Andres Armijo as Coordinator of Ethnic Studies.

Dr. Miguel Serrano, Chief Human Resources Officer, presented the Certified Classified report for May 2017. Mr. Jaramillo questioned the totals of resignations/retirees in comparison to new hires. Dr. Serrano advised it was a difference of 16.

C. Instruction

*Item Nos. *1, *2, *3, *4, *5, *6, and *7 were approved earlier in the evening.*

D. Finance

*Items Nos. *1, *2, *3, and *4 were approved earlier in the evening.*

5. Approval of Request for Proposal No. 16-17-04P

Mrs. Crystal Valdez, Chief Financial Officer, presented RFP No. 16-17-04P for Mayfield High School’s kitchen remodel & addition. She advised the MHS kitchen remodel was delayed to prevent two major high school dining facilities (MHS & LCHS) being out of commission at the same time. Additionally, MHS is the last major kitchen remodel project under the 2014 bond projects. There were

no questions or comments. Mrs. Dallman made a motion to approve RFP No. 16-17-04P; it was seconded by Mr. Frank. The motion passed unanimously.

6. *Approval of OMNI Agreement for 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan*
Mrs. Valdez shared the 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan is in addition to the existing 403(b) Deferred Compensation Plan to give employees another option when choosing retirement plans. Dr. Ewing advised the item is being brought forward at his request due to it being a standard in his previous district. He shared this provides employees an opportunity to stow away funds within both accounts, and is an optional benefit to LCPS employees. There were no questions or comments from Board members. Mr. Castro made a motion to approve the OMNI Agreement for 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan, which was seconded by Mr. Jaramillo. The motion was passed unanimously.
7. *Board Financial Report*
Mrs. Valdez presented the Board Financial Report for May 2017. There were no questions or comments from Board members
8. *Finance Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes*
Mrs. Valdez presented the Finance Advisory Meeting Minutes from the May 11, 2017 meeting. There were no questions or comments.

E. *Operations*

1. *Approval of Service Agreement between City of Las Cruces, the Town of Mesilla and Las Cruces Public Schools for School Resource Officers in Schools for SY 2017-2018*
Mr. Gabe Jacquez, Associate Superintendent of Operations, presented the Service Agreement and advised the School Resource Officer program was initiated in the mid-1990's. There were no questions or comments by Board members. Mr. Frank made a motion to approve the Service Agreement; it was seconded by Mr. Castro. The motion passed unanimously.
2. *Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with City of Las Cruces to Authorize School Staff to Direct Traffic*
Mr. Jacquez presented the Memorandum of Understanding that authorizes district staff to be on City streets to direct traffic and cross students at crosswalks. This explained this authorization helps the district proactively address heavy traffic issues at pick up and release. There were no questions or comments by Board members. Mr. Castro made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding, which was seconded by Mrs. Dallman. The motion passed unanimously.
3. *Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with City of Las Cruces for K-9 and Special Event Police Services*
Mr. Jacquez presented the Memorandum of Understanding and explained it allows the district to schedule police officers at special events and use K-9 handlers at schools to conduct proactive sweeps for illegal drugs and contraband. There were no questions or comments by Board members. Mr. Jaramillo made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding; it was seconded by Mr. Frank. The motion was passed unanimously.

4. *Approval of SY 2017-2018 Contracted Food Services between Las Cruces Public Schools and Families & Youth, Inc., Dona Ana County Head Start, Las Cruces Catholic Schools and Gym Magic*

Mr. Jacquez presented the Contracted Food Services and explained the agreements are for LCPS to provide breakfast, lunch, snacks, and dinner to Dona Ana County Head Start, Las Cruces Catholic Schools, Gym Magic, and Family and Youth Inc. to support the children of Las Cruces. There were no questions or comments by Board members. Mrs. Dallman made a motion to approve the Contracted Food Services, and it was seconded by Mr. Castro. The motion passed unanimously.

5. *Approval of SY 2017-2018 Fleet Service Contract*

Mr. Jacquez presented the Fleet Service Contract and explained the contract is with Student Transport Services of New Mexico (STS of NM) for 174 days of student transport in 124 buses for a total amount of \$ 5,359,550.14. There were no questions or comments by Board members. Mr. Frank made a motion to approve the contract, which was seconded by Mr. Jaramillo. The motion was passed unanimously.

6. *Approval of Service Agreement for SY 2017-2018 Ancillary Student Transportation*

Mr. Jacquez presented the Service Agreement between LCPS and STS of NM for the 2017-2018 school year. Mrs. Dallman questioned how long it had been since they received an increase in compensation on this particular contract. Mr. Jacquez advised there had been no changes since they came into the district. There were no additional questions or comments by Board members. Mrs. Dallman made a motion to approve the Service Agreement; it was seconded by Mr. Frank. The motion passed unanimously.

7. *Approval of Supplemental Agreement Provisions for SY 2017-2018 School Transportation Services*

Mr. Jacquez presented the Supplemental Agreement and advised the Public Education Department does not allow alteration of the Fleet Service Agreement; therefore, the Supplemental Agreement must accompany the contract each year. He explained there were three provisions added from the original Fleet Service Contract. There were no questions or comments by Board members. Mr. Castro made a motion to approve the Supplemental Agreement, which was seconded by Mr. Jaramillo. The motion passed unanimously.

8. *Approval of SY 2017-2018 Preventive Maintenance Plan*

Mr. Jacquez presented the Preventative Maintenance Plan for the 2017-2018 school year and advised the Public School Facilities Authority (PSFA) requires that all New Mexico public school districts have a Preventative Maintenance Program to ensure that the physical condition, educational suitability and physical infrastructure of all public school facilities meet an optimum level district-wide. Sra. Flores questioned the use of an organizational chart she understood to be out-of-date; Dr. Ewing advised this is due to the item coming forward for approval prior to the July 1, 2017 effective date of the new organizational structure. There were no further questions or comments by Board members. Mr. Frank made a

motion to approve the plan, and it was seconded by Mr. Jaramillo. The motion was approved unanimously.

F. *Technology & Research*

1. *Critical IT Infrastructure Replacement Proposal*

Mr. Matthew Dawkins, IT Infrastructure Manager, presented on the Critical IT Infrastructure Replacement. He provided an overview on the plans for the main data center, wireless security, voice systems, and the sustainability of this plan. Dr. Ewing shared that the rescaling and updating of equipment is necessary for the district to run appropriately. He shared this will be done in phases, with a presentation to the Board in each phase, and it will be brought forward again prior to approval. He stated the technology is simply not where it needs to be and needs an upgrade. Mrs. Valdez advised this will be purchased out of House Bill 33 funds so as not to utilize any operational funding. Mr. Jaramillo questioned when Phase I will begin, and Mr. Dawkins advised they are aiming for the August Regular Board Meeting. He advised Phase I will take three to six months to fully implement without impacting any instructional time. Mr. Jaramillo questioned the length of time required for all three phases; Mr. Dawkins advised three to five years. Sra. Flores questioned if land lines will be phased out, she was advised all sites will continue to have access to a landline in case of a technical outage. There were no additional questions or comments by Board members.

VI. Board Items

A. *New Business*

1. *Possible Action on Superintendent's Contract Including Possible Contract Extension and Approval of Contract Terms*

Sra. Flores advised that Dr. Ewing accepted the position of Superintendent of Schools in November 2016 and officially assumed his duties on December 5, 2016 with an offered salary of \$165,000 on an 18-month contract. She explained the offered salary was well below the budgeted salary of \$173,725 due in large part to the financial situations in the state, the Board's unfamiliarity with the new Superintendent, and in considerations of the upcoming School Board Elections where three positions may have potentially changed. After careful review, the Board was overwhelmingly pleased with his performance over the past six months and determined they should make the salary correction to the budgeted amount and, to remain competitive, adjust the total amount to \$180,000. She explained the contract period begins July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2019. Additionally, the Board added three additional vacation days, removed compensation for internet service at home, and outlined he will not utilize a district vehicle, per Dr. Ewing's request. Dr. Ewing expressed his enthusiasm and humility when accepting this offer, and he is appreciative. Mr. Jaramillo made a motion to approve Dr. Ewing's new contract beginning July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2019; it was seconded by Mr. Castro. A roll call vote was taken. Sra. Flores- yes, Mr. Frank- yes, Mr. Jaramillo- yes, Mr. Castro- yes, and Mrs. Dallman- yes. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Castro made a motion to approve Dr. Ewing's contract under the aforementioned terms, and it was seconded by Mr. Frank. The motion was passed unanimously.

2. *Approval of SY 2017-2018 School Board Meeting/Work Session Calendar*

Mr. Castro made a motion to approve the SY 2017-2018 School Board Meeting/Work Session Calendar; it was seconded by Mr. Jaramillo. The motion passed unanimously.

B. *Old Business*

*Items Nos. *1 and *2 were approved earlier in the evening.*

3. *Third Reading and Approval of Policy ADF Wellness for Students and Staff*

Ms. Nancy Cathey, Executive Director of Operations, presented the third reading of Policy ADF Wellness for Students and Staff. Sra. Flores stated it would be beneficial to detail a School-Based Wellness Center is within all of our comprehensive high schools as well as a nurse in all school sites as it will highlight the positive aspects of the district. There were no additional questions or comments by Board members. Mrs. Dallman made a motion to approve the policy as amended; it was seconded by Mr. Jaramillo. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. *Third Reading and Approval of Policy EFE Competitive Food Sales and Vending Machines*

Ms. Cathey presented the third reading of Policy EFE Competitive Food Sales and Vending Machines. There were no questions or comments. Mrs. Dallman made a motion to approve the policy as amended; it was seconded by Mr. Frank. The motion was passed unanimously.

5. *Third Reading and Approval of Policy BDF and Regulation BDF-R Student Advisors to the Board and Superintendent*

Ms. Jo Galvan, Chief Communications Officer, presented the third reading of Policy BDF and Regulation BDF-R Student Advisors to the Board and Superintendent. Dr. Ewing thanked Mrs. Hammond for her work with the SAC. Dr. Ewing requests that the SAC be included in the process when selecting a new advisor. Cameron expressed his implicit support. Sra. Flores expressed concern in losing a district employee as well as a volunteer, and requested verbiage be included to encourage the acceptance of both as counterpoints. Mr. Jaramillo made a motion to approve Policy BDF and Regulation BDF-R Student Advisors to the Board and Superintendent as amended, and it was seconded by Mrs. Dallman. The motion was passed unanimously.

VII. Board Member Business

1. *Board Member Reports*

Mr. Jaramillo took a moment to thank Mrs. Hammond for her work and the effect it will hold in the future.

Sra. Flores reported the Board attended a training on June 1, 2017 in lieu of traveling to Albuquerque, and she felt it was truly a more meaningful way to discuss district policy and how to improve them. Additionally, she attended a Bridge Board meeting to discuss the concept of Community Schools, a training sponsored by NEA that covered new ways to collectively bargain, a Nacho Party hosted by the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Work Group where information was presented on each of our high schools, and, finally, a Southern New Mexico Service Summit covering community volunteerism. Sra. Flores thanked all the citizens who contacted Board members regarding the football double header, and she expressed members welcome hearing community opinions and ideas. In closing, she notified the public the Board attended a training with no notice as an email had been sent but went unnoted. She

expressed the Board knows how to police themselves and not discuss any current items or policy plans in such a setting.

2. *Calendar of Events*

A calendar of events was given to each Board member. Dr. Ewing shared that an Administrator’s Retreat would be taking place July 26-27, 2017 and he invited the Board to attend as a Notice of Quorum would be posted. There were no questions or comments.

VIII. Adjournment

Mr. Frank made a motion to adjourn the meeting; it was seconded by Mr. Castro. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting ended at 8:45 p.m.

Board President

Board Secretary

Minutes taken by Rebecca Archuleta