

LAS VEGAS CITY SCHOOLS  
"BOARD OF EDUCATION"  
Regular Board Meeting

September 20, 2018

A Regular Board Meeting of the Las Vegas City Schools Board of Education was held at the Administrative Building Board Room located at 901 Douglas Avenue, in Las Vegas, New Mexico at 5:15 p.m. on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of September 2018.

A quorum was present; the meeting was called to order by Board President Romero. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Those present were as follows:

**ROLL CALL: Board President Romero called for roll call:**

**Board Member Lujan – Present (stepped out – 6:50 pm)**  
**Board Member Lovato Pacheco – Present**  
**Board Secretary Lucero – Present (arrived – 5:38 pm)**  
**Board Vice President Duran – Present**  
**Board President Romero – Present**

**RECORDER:** Marsha G. Archuleta

**ALSO PRESENT:** Kelt L. Cooper, Superintendent

Michell Aragon	Gary Sena	Gabriel Garcia	Cathy Gallegos
L. Carla Pacheco	Teresa Salas-Moreno	Christopher L. Rodriguez	Ryan Lowery
Mark Hidalgo	John Tiernan	Ida Sue Gonzales	Cleo Gonzales
Pat Baca	Mari Hillis	Tom Meserve	

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

\*Board President Romero asked to review the agenda and make any adjustments that may be required. Superintendent Cooper recommended approval of the agenda as presented. **\*Motion by Board Member Lujan to approve Superintendent Cooper's recommendation. Motion seconded by Board Vice President Duran. Motion passed unanimously.**

**PUBLIC INPUT:**

None

**PRESENTATION:**

**Employees of the Month** – Board President Romero and Superintendent Cooper announced the employees of the month: Gabriel Garcia, Robertson High School; Christopher Rodriguez, Memorial Middle School; Marie Kavanaugh, Central Office; Gary Sena, Los Niños Elementary; Eugene Garcia, Mike Mateo Sena Elementary; Teresa Salas-Moreno, Silas Lopez Early Childhood Center; and Mark Hidalgo, Sierra Vista Elementary.

**DISTRICT ACCOLADES:**

Robertson High School Red Wave Band – Ida Sue Gonzales addressed the board on behalf of Band Director Martin Sena. Ms. Gonzales shared the achievements the RHS Red Wave Band received at the annual State Fair Parade: 1<sup>st</sup> place in the category of marching bands and 1<sup>st</sup> place in Judge's Award. The band also participated in a competition during the summer in Canon City, Colorado and earned 1<sup>st</sup> place in concert performance and 1<sup>st</sup> place in marching. Superintendent Cooper expressed the importance of music and the arts in education.

**MINUTES:**

- A. Discussion/Approval: Minutes for Regular Board Meeting – August 16, 2018 – **\*Motion by Board Vice President Duran to approve the minutes for regular board meeting August 16, 2018. Motion seconded by Board Member Lovato Pacheco. Motion passed by a majority with Board Member Lujan abstaining.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Discussion/Approval: Policy Advisory 157 – Staff Conduct with Students (2<sup>nd</sup> reading) – Recommendation by Superintendent Cooper to accept the policy as a final/amended 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. **\*Motion by Board Member Lovato Pacheco to accept Superintendent Cooper's recommendation as a final/amended 2<sup>nd</sup> reading for Policy Advisory 157 – Staff Conduct with Students. Motion seconded by Board Member Lujan. Motion passed unanimously.**
- B. Discussion/Approval: NMAA ESport Activity – John Tiernan, Director of Information Technology, provided information about the ESport Activity recently introduced by the New Mexico Activities Association (NMAA). Gabriel Garcia will be the coach for the activity. Students will compete competitively against other school districts in online video gaming. Mr. Garcia stated that ESports provides students who don't choose to participate in athletic activities another way to be part of a group that will teach them leadership and communications skills as found in other teams. Students would compete at a competitive level. Students would meet after school for two hours of practice on the games selected by NMAA. New Mexico is the first state to offer ESports at the high school level while other states offer video gaming at the college level. Mr. Tiernan stated some colleges offer gaming scholarships to students. Board Vice President Duran inquired about travelling for competitions. During the regular season from January to April the students would compete from the computer lab at Robertson. Travel would be required for state competition. Board Member Lujan stated he personally does not support the program. Feels that it would take away from face to face competition; if there is evidence that demonstrated an intellectual component that would help with STEM he might reconsider his opposition. Mr. Garcia stated that the program would not only allow the students to compete but teach them about game development and the computer science of software development which directly relates to STEM. Mr. Tiernan stated he could provide data about the competitive online video gaming that demonstrates the teamwork aspect and students strategizing. Superintendent Cooper recommended the approval of ESports as an NMAA recognized activity at Robertson High School. **\*Motion by Board Member Lovato Pacheco to accept Superintendent Cooper's recommendation for ESports as an NMAA recognized activity at Robertson High School. Motion seconded by Board Vice President Duran. Motion passed by a majority vote 4-1 with Board Member Lujan voting against.**
- C. Discussion: Closed Campus at Robertson High School – Superintendent Cooper discussed the seriousness of safety and student attendance at Robertson. Stated that student attendance suffers after lunch. Would like the board to closely consider a closed campus which would improve attendance, graduation rates and safety. Board President Romero stated he has noticed students leaving campus and would like a plan in place to keep students on school grounds. Board Member Lovato Pacheco recognized the importance of safety but stated in order to keep students on campus we need to engage them with activities during the lunch period with intramurals, clubs, various activities, tutoring and meals. Superintendent Cooper shared that the high school has increased activities for students with new clubs, organizations and student recognition assemblies.

D. Finance Committee Report –

The Finance Committee met September 19, 2018 and reviewed the bank reconciliation reports for Student Activity Fund and General Fund as of August 31, 2018 and noted no variances between the bank balances and general ledger balances. The Fund Balance Report for Student Activity Fund was reviewed and no variances were noted.

The committee reviewed the Cash Report, Budget versus Actual Report, RFR Report, Bond Building & SB-9 Report, List of Open Purchase Orders, Pledged Collateral Letter and Supplemental Pay Report.

New Mexico Activities Association (NMAA) approved a new activity ESports which is competitive online video gaming. The recommended stipend amount for the ESports sponsor is \$2,000. The committee recommended approval from the board for the new activity and stipend amount.

The committee reviewed information for Hays Plumbing, RBC Capital, Ardor Health and CES and recommended approval for the vendors. In addition, a bus contractor is eligible to receive a new bus. The committee recommended the purchase of the bus.

RFR revenue collected in August was \$171,740. Outstanding RFRs total \$177,581.

The Finance Committee reviewed the following BARs: BAR #069-000-1819-0006-IB for Fund 24106 in the amount of \$339,831; BAR #069-000-1819-0007-IB for Fund 27183 in the amount of \$4,000 for NM Grown Fresh Fruits & Vegetables; and BAR #069-000-1819-0008-I for Fund 24109 in the amount of \$791 for IDEA-B Preschool. The Finance Committee recommended approval of the BARs as presented.

The Finance Committee discussed the percentage of the 2018-2019 budgeted expenditures set aside for students in the classroom versus all other costs. Currently, the district is lower than the recommended percentage of 76%.

1. BARs – Transfers/Expenditures/Awards – **\*Motion by Board Secretary Lucero to approve BAR #069-000-1819-0006-IB for Fund 24106 in the amount of \$339,831; BAR #069-000-1819-0007-IB for Fund 27183 in the amount of \$4,000 for NM Grown Fresh Fruits & Vegetables; and BAR #069-000-1819-0008-I for Fund 24109 in the amount of \$791 for IDEA-B Preschool. Motion seconded by Board Member Lujan. Motion passed unanimously.**
2. Discussion/Approval: Purchase of New School Bus for bus contractor - **\*Motion by Board Member Lujan to approve the purchased of a new school bus for the bus contractor. Motion seconded by Board Member Lovato Pacheco. Motion passed unanimously.**
3. Discussion/Approval: Special Education contracts over \$50,000 – **\*Motion by Board Member Lujan to approve the vendors as recommended by the Finance Committee to include Ardor Health and Cooperative Educational Services (CES). Motion seconded by Board Secretary Lucero. Motion passed unanimously.**
4. Discussion/Approval: Boiler Repair at Transportation and Maintenance – Tom Meserve shared the status of the current boiler and the quote from Hays Plumbing. The bonding capacity wasn't clearly detailed in the quote submitted.

Mr. Meserve indicated he would obtain the clarification prior to proceeding pending approval from the board. **\*Motion by Board Vice President Duran to approve Hays Plumbing for the Boiler Repair at Transportation and Maintenance to include clarification on the bonding capacity. Motion seconded by Board Member Lujan. Motion passed unanimously.**

5. Discussion/Approval: RBC Capital Municipal Advisor Agreement – Mari Hillis shared that the agreement was the standard agreement required by RBC Capital as to serve as the district’s municipal advisor. **\*Motion by Board Member Lujan to approve the RBC Capital Municipal Advisor Agreement. Motion seconded by Board Secretary Lucero. Motion passed unanimously.**
- E. Audit Committee Report – Mari Hillis reported that the Audit Committee met and discussed the recent audit in progress. The committee has a new member Felicia Rivera. The audit is on track to be submitted by October 31, 2018.
- F. Capital Outlay Report – Superintendent Cooper stated that he met with PSCOC regarding Sierra Vista’s standard’s based application which was approved; noted that districts were requesting funding for demolition and reimbursement for portable costs and inquired about submitting a request for consideration from PSFA. Met with Franken during the capital outlay meeting and noted the canopy at Los Niños would be lowered, cement issues at Los Niños involved the specs being read incorrectly by the construction company, separate engineering reports will be completing to ensure all specs and core samples are correct, Greenhouse parts are arriving and soil tests are needed, scope of work for project manager to obtain a quote, and the fencing at RHS was discussed with the schematics.

**Motion by Board President Romero to recess from regular session. Motion seconded by Board Member Lujan. Motion passed unanimously to recess at 6:50 p.m.**

**Motion by Board President Romero to reconvene to regular session from recess. Motion seconded by Board Member Lovato Pacheco. Motion passed unanimously to reconvene to regular session at 7:14 p.m.**

G. Superintendent’s Report –

1. Personnel – The following individuals were hired: Anna Espinoza and Amy Hufnal; the following resigned: Yvette Rene Gomez, Joe D. Lucero and Michele Varner.
2. Curriculum and Instruction – Larryssa Archuleta, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, reported on the following:
  - a. NMHU Partnership – Continuing partnership with the university which will create a better community between the two institutions, counselors will attend a seminar October 4, 2018, creating an onsite campus at RHS to assist students with FAFSA and scholarships and opportunities, work on monthly meetings with parents, train counselors on changes in dual credit, college night is scheduled for October 24, 2018, and NMHU athletes visit with elementary students.
  - b. Data update: I-Ready and PARCC – stated that our commitments to transform our schools include students first with appropriate materials, programs and rigor, data driven decision making with appropriate professional development, analyze data and recreate the social culture where students and staff are excited to be in and at our schools. Reviewed the data trends for students in PARCC. Indicated that staff will participate in more professional development.

3. Maintenance – Tom Meserve, Director of Operations, reported that staff continues to cut weeds and trim around all campuses, move classrooms, prepare fields for games, and the lift station project at Marr gym was completed.
4. Transportation – Tom Meserve, reported that the count of student riders is up from last year and some routes were changed due to student location.
5. Information Technology – John Tiernan, Director of Information Technology, submitted his report for review.
6. Bilingual – Carla Pacheco, Director of Bilingual Education, reported that all new incoming students were tested with the placement test; due to an injured staff member in the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class the bilingual itinerant is currently providing instruction until the teacher returns; English Language Development teacher reports that students at Robertson are actively engaged in the Imagine Learning Program, the program is skill based and allows the teacher to identify the immediate needs of ELL students; and if funding is approved through Title III, the purchase of an ELD ACCESS Learning Toolkit would provide ELL students with the vocabulary concepts and skills needed to test out of ACCESS. The toolkit would be purchased for all TESOL endorsed teachers assigned to those specific grade levels.
7. Special Education – Leasa Martinez, Special Education Coordinator, submitted her report for review.
8. Student Nutrition – Pat Baca, Director of Student Nutrition, reported on the monthly claims summary for August. Stated she is short staffed and has yet to open the A+ Grill. Indicated CYFD conducted a review of the food program July 10, 2018 and during their evaluation, noted no findings or corrective action.
9. Athletics – Juan Carlos Fulgenzi, Director of Co-Curricular Activities, submitted his athletics report for review.
10. Safety and Wellness – Michell Aragon, Safety and Wellness Coordinator, provided an update on the current initiatives throughout the district. SHAC meetings will take place every two months, dental screenings will begin in October, flu shots will be offered for all staff October 30, 2018, CPR classes alternate between full certification and re-certification, professional development for staff, after school tutoring for students will concentrate on Math, fire marshal will be in district October 1-4, 2018 for full inspections in all buildings, conduct evacuation drills, awaiting the approval of the safe schools plan, Title I will focus on ACT preparedness for juniors, teacher mentoring is in progress, and reported the cardinal closet is fully stocked for parents and students to utilize.
11. School Site Reports – The Board of Education congratulated Sierra Vista Elementary for their hard work in earning a “B” on their school grade issued by the New Mexico Public Education Department. The previous year the school earned a “D”.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

The Board of Education chose to forego executive session.

#### **FUTURE PLANNING:**

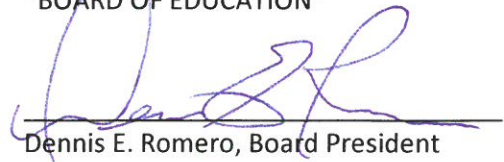
- A. Robertson High School homecoming is scheduled for September 21, 2018; parade is at 1:30 pm and football game at 7:00 pm. Cardinals will play Socorro.
- B. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for October 18, 2018 at 5:15 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**\*Motion by Board Secretary Lucero to adjourn. Motion seconded by Board Vice President Duran. Motion passed unanimously to adjourn at 7:57 p.m.**

***\*Denotes Action Required***

LAS VEGAS CITY SCHOOLS  
"BOARD OF EDUCATION"

  
Dennis E. Romero, Board President  
Gabe V. Lucero, Board Secretary

**APPROVED:    October 18, 2018**