

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

March 16, 2023

A Regular Board Meeting of the Las Vegas City Schools Board of Education was held at the Administrative Building located at 901 Douglas Avenue, Las Vegas, New Mexico 87701 at 5:15 pm on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of March 2023.

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

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

Student Representative Hernandez – Present (arrived at 5:17 pm)  
Board Member Quintana – Absent  
Board Member Cordova – Present  
Board Secretary Duran – Present (left at 6:28 pm)  
Board Vice President Romero - Present  
Board President Armijo – Present

**RECORDER:** Marsha G. Archuleta

**ALSO PRESENT:** L. Larryssa Archuleta, Superintendent

Elaine Martinez-Gonzalez	William Korte	Jonathan Korte	Vanessa Garcia
Christina Gonzales	Rita Bustamante	Ida Sue Gonzales	Donna Lucero-Valdez
Mari Hillis	Mike Yara	Juan Carlos Fulgenzi	Chris Garner
Ambrosio Castellano Jr.			

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Board President Armijo asked to review the agenda and make any adjustments that may be required.  
**\*Motion by Board Secretary Duran to approve the agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Board Member Cordova. Motion passed unanimously.**

**ACCOLADES:**

- A. Northeastern NM Regional Science Fair winners for Senior Physics and Senior Environmental Science – Superintendent Archuleta shared that several students from Robertson High School recently competed in the Northern New Mexico Regional Science Fair and showcased their science and engineering skills. Robertson sophomores Vadali Krishna and Leon Lucero placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Senior Physics Division. Robertson senior Maximilliano C de Baca and junior Tatiana Kavanaugh placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Senior Environmental Science division. Their projects demonstrated a high level of creativity, innovation and scientific rigor. Both teams' exceptional work earned them a spot at the New Mexico State Science Fair to be held in Socorro, NM in the Spring.
- B. Robertson Boys Basketball – Head Coach James Branch shared the accomplishments of all the teams this season and thanked his coaching staff: Varsity's record 26-6; Junior Varsity 19-3 and C team 15-3. Coach Branch stated he was proud of the team's accomplishments. "A state championship and runner up finish in 2 years speaks for itself."
- C. Robertson Girls Basketball – Head Coach Jose Medina share the accomplishments of the all the teams this season and thanked his coaching staff: Varsity's record 28-2; Junior Varsity 21-1 and C team 16-2. Coach Medina stated was very proud of all the Lady Cardinal Basketball players and

teams. Shared the coaching staff is excited and looking forward to coaching the young ladies and to the future of the Lady Cardinal Basketball Program.

**PRESENTATION:**

- A. 2021-2022 Audit – Chris Garner, Patillo, Brown & Hill, LLP – Chris Garner, Patillo, Brown & Hill, LLP presented the audit results for fiscal year 2021-2022. Mr. Garner reported that the district received an unmodified opinion which is the equivalent of a clean opinion. The financial statements were presented fairly in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. He stated no difficulties were encountered during the audit in regard to communication with the governing body. Mr. Garner reviewed the one current year finding and stated the one finding from the previous year was resolved.

**PUBLIC INPUT:**

William Korte, Robertson High School Band Director, stated that Jonathan Korte auditioned and was accepted into The Macy's Great American Marching Band. Shared that Jonathan would be marching in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City this November, a nationally televised event. Mr. Korte also stated that Noah Probst would be attending the New Mexico School for the Arts to study piano and percussion in the Fall.

**MINUTES:**

- A. Discussion/Action: Minutes for Regular Board Meeting – February 15, 2023 – **\*Motion by Board Secretary Duran to approve the minutes for the Regular Board Meeting February 15, 2023. Motion seconded by Board Vice President Romero. Motion passed unanimously.**
- B. Discussion/Action: Minutes for Emergency Board Meeting – February 24, 2023 - **\*Motion by Board Secretary Duran to approve the minutes for the Emergency Board Meeting February 24, 2023. Motion seconded by Board Member Cordova. Motion passed unanimously.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Discussion/Action: 2021-2022 Audit – Superintendent Archuleta recommended approval of the 2021-2022 as presented by Auditor Chris Garner. **\*Motion by Board Vice President Romero to approve the 2021-2022 audit. Motion seconded by Board Member Cordova. Motion passed unanimously.**
- B. Discussion/Action: ADVISE Law Firm Attorney-Client Fee Agreement, Ambrosio Castello Jr. – Superintendent Archuleta stated that the ADVISE Law Firm Attorney-Client Fee agreement was sent to the district's legal counsel for review and any necessary revisions. Legal counsel was in agreement and had no objections. She reiterated that the agreement would assist the district recuperate or recover any financial losses incurred as a result of the Hermit's Peak Calf Canyon Fire. Ambrosio Castellano Jr. stated that their firm if hired and approved would investigate and potentially pursue claims against the entities alleged to have been responsible for causing the fire to include Federal Emergency Management (FEMA) and other potentially related defendants. Superintendent Archuleta recommended approval. **\*Motion by Board Secretary Duran to approve the ADVISE Law Firm Attorney-Client Fee Agreement. Motion seconded by Board Member Cordova. Motion passed unanimously.**
- C. Discussion/Action: Robertson Red Wave Band request for out of state travel to Amarillo, TX for the Greater Southwest Music Festival April 27-29, 2023 – William Korte, Robertson High School Band Director addressed the board to request financial assistance and out of state travel on behalf of the Robertson Red Wave Band. Shared that the festival has become an annual event for the band and exposes the students to a variety of levels of music and expertise. The band earned an overall "Excellent" rating the previous year. **\*Motion by Board Secretary Duran to provide financial assistance in the amount of \$100.00 up to 10 students (total of \$1,000), approve out**

of state travel to Amarillo, TX, provide transportation and bus driver. Motion seconded by Board Member Cordova. Motion passed unanimously.

- D. Discussion/Action: Southwest Capital Wire Transfer Agreement – Mari Hillis, Director of Finance, stated that Southwest Capital was updating various areas within their financial institution that includes wire transfer agreements, security passcodes and authorized individuals. Superintendent Archuleta recommended approved. **\*Motion by Board Vice President Romero to approve the Southwest Capital Wire Transfer Agreement. Motion seconded by Board Secretary Duran. Motion passed unanimously.**
- E. Finance Committee – The finance committee met March 15, 2023. Minutes for February 13, 2023 were reviewed and approved. The February 28, 2023 bank reconciliation reports for the General Fund and the Student Activity Fund were reviewed and no variances were noted between the bank and the general ledger balances. The Student Activity Fund Balance Report was reviewed as of February 28, 2023.

The committee reviewed the Cash Report by Fund, Budget versus Actual by Fund Report, list of purchase orders, list of donations, Pledged Collateral Report and Supplemental Pay Report. The Bond and SB-9 Report was reviewed and Superintendent Archuleta provided the Capital Outlay Report.

Federal revenues collected in February 2023 totaled \$616,940; outstanding RFRs total \$919,816.

The committee reviewed the following BARs and recommended ratification: BAR #069-000-2223-0034-T Fund 24189 Transfer BAR for Title IV; BAR #069-000-2223-0035-T Fund 24309 SEL for \$75,000; BAR #069-000-2223-0036-I Fund 31100 Increase BAR for \$46,686 and BAR #069-000-2223-0038-I Fund 25171 CYFD for \$111,400. The committee recommended approval of the following BARs: BAR #069-000-2223-0037-I Fund 31100 Sale of Bond for \$2,200,000; BAR #069-000-2223-0039-I Fund 24308 CRSSA for \$162,996; BAR #069-000-2223-0040-I Fund 24330 ARP for \$442,535 and BAR #069-000-2223-0041-I Fund 27415 K-12 Plus Transportation for \$4,345.

Next finance committee meeting is scheduled for April 19, 2023 at 5:15 pm.

- 1. Discussion/Action: BARS/Transfers/Expenditures/Awards/Donations – Superintendent Archuleta recommended ratification of BAR #0034, #0035, #0036 and #0038. **\*Motion by Board Vice President Romero to ratify BAR #069-000-2223-0034-T Fund 24189 Transfer BAR for Title IV; BAR #069-000-2223-0035-T Fund 24309 SEL for \$75,000; BAR #069-000-2223-0036-I Fund 31100 Increase BAR for \$46,686 and BAR #069-000-2223-0038-I Fund 25171 CYFD for \$111,400. Motion seconded by Board Secretary Duran. Motion passed unanimously.**

Superintendent Archuleta recommended approval of BAR #0039, #0040 and #0041. **\*Motion by Board Secretary Duran to approve BAR #069-000-2223-0039-I Fund 24308 CRSSA for \$162,996; BAR #069-000-2223-0040-I Fund 24330 ARP for \$442,535 and BAR #069-000-2223-0041-I Fund 27415 K-12 Plus Transportation for \$4,345. Motion seconded by Board Member Cordova. Motion passed unanimously.**

Superintendent Archuleta recommended BAR #069-000-2223-0037-I Fund 31100 Sale of Bond for \$2,200,000 be tabled for next month's meeting pending documentation from legal counsel. **\*Motion by Board Vice President Romero to table BAR #069-000-2223-**

**0037-I Fund 31100 Sale of Bond for \$2,200,000. Motion seconded by Board Secretary Duran. Motion passed unanimously.**

- F. Capital Outlay – Superintendent Archuleta shared the status of projects throughout the district. The outdoor classroom canopy at Los Niños arrived; waiting on quotes for concrete slab for canopy. Estimated total is approximately \$12,150. Waiting on conference meeting for Sierra Vista project to be scheduled by Public Schools Finance Authority (PSFA) to review proposal of the deep dive discovery for specific heat, electrical and kitchen. Honeywell hired Havona to assess Robertson Marr Gym ceiling vents/ducts. Noted that excessive ash, dust, dirt and plants were found in the ducts and are scheduled to be cleaned March 18, 2023 by Pro-Serve. The district is moving forward with the district’s insurance carrier to complete the reclamation and will have to pay the \$10,000 deductible. Belfor will be the vendor with a 6-8-week timeline given to complete reclamation. District’s legal counsel has informed Honeywell of the district’s intentions. Las Vegas Police Department has once again expressed interest in leasing Legion Park Elementary as a sub-station. PSFA has submitted approval to use a CES vendor; tentative selection of vendor is scheduled for May for the demolition project at Paul D. Henry. The district is set to receive approximately \$450,000 in capital outlay legislative funding if approved and signed by the governor.
- G. Audit Committee Report – Mari Hillis, Director of Finance, shared that the audit results were a success.
- H. Superintendent’s Report:
1. Student Representative’s Report – Student Representative Hernandez reported that the Robertson dance team competed in March at several competitions. Robertson Wrestling earned a district team championship February 3<sup>rd</sup> in Moriarty. Liana Fernandez earned the first state championship for any woman wrestler from Las Vegas on February 18, 2023. Student Council will be sponsoring a St. Patrick’s Day pep rally to end the 3<sup>rd</sup> grading period. They will feature a student/staff basketball game. A suggestion was made to consider a leadership class in next year’s list of courses and promote more mental health wellness. Memorial Middle School held a PBIS Valentine’s dance. Business Professionals of America traveled to Albuquerque for state competition. Las Vegas FFA traveled to Tucumcari, Carrizozo, and Texico for practice contests. Key Club made bookmarks to support autism awareness. They made hearts to honor cancer survivors and displayed them throughout the school. Several 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls and boys had the opportunity to play C-team and JV basketball this season. Students expressed concern over the serving size of lunch meals. Memorial Middle School will be hosting a STEM night March 29, 2023. Band will be hosting a dessert auction.
  2. Personnel Report – Staff – Superintendent Archuleta reported the new hire: Gladis Romero; and resignation of Felicia Mares.
  3. District Updates – Superintendent Archuleta reported that the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) Local Government Road Funding agreement was submitted and will be focusing on the parking areas at Robertson. 5 principals and teachers will be attending the Problems of Practice training at New Mexico Highlands University that targets mental health. Counselors and principals will be attending an Attendance Workshop. The district will be piloting a Science K-5 program from New Mexico Open Science field. The legislative session includes approximately a 5% salary increase for all school personnel, a minimum salary for Educational Assistants of \$25,000, and bigger increase in employer premiums for insurance should the governor sign and approve the proposed items.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

The Board of Education will convene in closed session pursuant to NMSA 1978 Section 10-15-1-H (2) discussion of limited personnel matters specifically the Superintendent's evaluation and NMSA 1978 Section 10-15-1-H (7) meetings subject to the attorney-client privilege pertaining to threatened or pending litigation in which the public body is or may become a participant.

**\*Motion by Board Vice President Romero to convene in closed session pursuant to NMSA 1978 Section 10-15-1-H (2) discussion of limited personnel matters specifically the Superintendent's evaluation and NMSA 1978 Section 10-15-1-H (7) meetings subject to the attorney-client privilege pertaining to threatened or pending litigation in which the public body is or may become a participant. Motion seconded by Board Member Cordova.**

ROLL CALL: Board President Armijo called for roll call:

Board Member Quintana – Absent  
Board Member Cordova – Yes  
Board Secretary Duran – Absent  
Board Vice President Romero – Yes  
Board President Armijo – Yes

Board entered into executive session at 6:32 pm.

**Motion by Board Vice President Romero to reconvene to regular session from Executive Session. Motion seconded by Board Member Cordova.**

ROLL CALL: Board President Armijo called for roll call:

Board Member Quintana – Absent  
Board Member Cordova – Yes  
Board Secretary Duran – Absent  
Board Vice President Romero – Yes  
Board President Armijo – Yes

**Board reconvened to regular session from Executive Session at 8:09 pm. Board President Armijo stated that the Board of Education convened into Executive Session pursuant to NMSA 1978 Section 10-15-1-H (2) discussion of limited personnel matters specifically the Superintendent's evaluation and NMSA 1978 Section 10-15-1-H (7) meetings subject to the attorney-client privilege pertaining to threatened or pending litigation in which the public body is or may become a participant and no action was taken.**

**FUTURE PLANNING:**

- A. The National School Boards Association Annual Conference is scheduled for April 1-3, 2023 in Orlando, FL.
- B. The New Mexico School Boards Association 2023 Region III Spring Meeting is scheduled for April 17, 2023 in Santa Rosa, NM.
- C. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2023 at 5:15 pm

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**\*Motion by Board Vice President Romero to adjourn. Motion seconded by Board Member Cordova. Motion passed unanimously to adjourn at 8:10 pm.**

***\*Denotes Action Required***

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"BOARD OF EDUCATION"

  
Richard A. Armijo, Board President

  
Robert Duran III, Board Secretary

**APPROVED: April 20, 2023**