

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

February 7, 2024

A Special 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 7th day of February 2024.

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

ROLL CALL: Board President Quintana called for roll call:

Board Member Romero – Present
Board Member Cordova – Present
Board Secretary Meserve – Present
Board Vice President Gonzales – Present
Board President Quintana - Present

RECORDER: Marsha G. Archuleta

ALSO PRESENT: L. Larryssa Archuleta, Superintendent

Fenicia Ordoñez	Juan Carlos Fulgenzi	Samantha Fulgenzi	Maria Sanchez
Chaylene Sena	Lorenzo Aragon	John Tiernan	Martha Peña
Elaine Martinez-Gonzalez	Mari Hillis	Christina Gonzales	Donna Valdez
Thomas P. Trujillo	Mike Yara	Rosanne Dimas	Mark Dominguez
Tren Hillis	Karen Archuleta	Kristina Korte	Randel Gartin
RaeDawn Price	Denice Spicer		

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Board Member Romero inquired about who prepared the agenda and stated that there was no public input. Board Vice President Gonzales stated that the policy stated that special meetings are not required to have public input. Board President Quintana stated that he and the board counsel Ortiz prepared the agenda. Board Member Romero asked if there was a new policy about the agenda preparation he was not aware of. Current policy states the Board President and Superintendent create the agenda. Board President Quintana deferred the question to Mr. Ortiz. Board President Quintana asked if it was true that the Superintendent has to be involved with regards to the agenda. Mr. Ortiz (from the audience) addressed the public comment section on the agenda and stated it is only required for a regular meeting not a special meeting. Stated the Board President asked him (Mr. Ortiz) some questions about the agenda but Superintendent Archuleta had time to review it. Superintendent Archuleta stated that she was not given an opportunity to provide input and Mr. Ortiz insisted the agenda be posted. Superintendent Archuleta asked Mr. Ortiz for time to review the agenda and send it back and Mr. Ortiz denied the request without input from the Superintendent. Mr. Ortiz stated that he had created the agenda. Superintendent Archuleta advised Mr. Ortiz that he is not the board, district or Superintendent. She stated that she would have appreciated the courtesy as she was dealing with a family emergency on a Sunday. She stated that she would like Mr. Ortiz to understand that in the future that the Superintendent and the Board are to create the agenda and could send it to legal for review if needed. She stated that was the policy and attesting to what occurred. Mr. Ortiz stated that the Board President contacted him asking for feedback on the agenda and its contents. Stated it was a Sunday and asked if the agenda met all the requirements and wanted the meeting Wednesday, February 7, 2023. Mr. Ortiz stated that it was a Sunday and stated

Board President Quintana asked him to contact the Superintendent to have the agenda posted. Mr. Ortiz stated Superintendent Archuleta did ask to review the agenda, he responded by saying he was comfortable that it met all the OMA requirements. Stated there was nothing improper about what occurred. Stated it was the board's meeting and they should work together if possible.

***Motion by Board Vice President Gonzales to approve the agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Board Member Cordova. Motion passed by majority vote 4-1; Board Member Romero opposed.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Board of Education will convene in closed session pursuant to the New Mexico Open Meetings Act to discuss the following:

- A. Pending or threatened litigation: Review of complaints by licensed administrator.
- B. Limited personal matters: status of superintendent contracts; Discussion of district leadership; Possible misconduct/discipline of licensed administrator; Review of complaints by licensed administrator.

***Motion by Board Vice President Gonzales to convene in closed session pursuant to the New Mexico Open Meetings Act to discuss the following:**

- A. Pending or threatened litigation: Review of complaints by licensed administrator.
- B. Limited personal matters: status of superintendent contracts; Discussion of district leadership; Possible misconduct/discipline of licensed administrator; Review of complaints by licensed administrator.

Motion seconded by Board Member Cordova.

ROLL CALL: Board President Quintana called for roll call:

Board Member Romero – No
Board Member Cordova – Yes
Board Secretary Meserve – Yes
Board Vice President Gonzales – Yes
Board President Quintana – Yes

Motion passed by majority vote 4-1; Board Member Romero opposed.

Board entered into Executive Session at 5:20 pm.

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

ROLL CALL: Board President Quintana called for roll call:

Board Member Romero - Yes
Board Member Cordova – Yes
Board Secretary Meserve - Yes
Board Vice President Gonzales - Yes
Board President Quintana – Yes

Board reconvened to regular session from Executive Session at 7:45 pm. Board President Quintana stated that the Board of Education convened into Executive Session pursuant to the New Mexico Open Meetings Act to discuss the following:

- A. Pending or threatened litigation: Review of complaints by licensed administrator.

- B. Limited personal matters: status of superintendent contracts; Discussion of district leadership; Possible misconduct/discipline of licensed administrator; Review of complaints by licensed administrator. Stated the meeting was in regular session.**

Board Member Romero asked if the district had a client engagement letter from Ortiz and Zamora. Board President Quintana stated, "I believe he was going to get it to me". Board Member Romero stated that the auditor is stating that since the board does not oversee the day-to-day operations the district cannot hire another legal firm. Also, the transaction had not gone through the proper approval channels and a purchase requisition is required with the supporting documentation then a purchase order is approved by the Superintendent and then generated by the business office. Board Member Romero asked if the any of the information was provided and didn't want that to be an audit finding. Board President Quintana deferred the question and asked for Mr. Ortiz's opinion. Mr. Ortiz (from the audience) stated that once the board takes the action to hire the firm, then it's contract can be codified. Mr. Ortiz's stated he didn't feel that was a matter of concern. Board President Quintana stated that the board took a vote and roll call and it passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Discussion/Action: Possible Open Meeting Act violations regarding administrator contracts – Board President Quintana asked for a motion. No discussion or motion was made.
- B. Discussion/Action: Ratification/Non-ratification of prior Board votes – Board President Quintana asked for a motion. No discussion or motion was made.
- C. Discussion/Action: Regarding all matters listed in Executive Session – ***Motion by Board Vice President Gonzales that the Las Vegas City Schools Board of Education place Superintendent Larryssa Archuleta on Paid Administrative Leave effective immediately. Motion seconded by Board Secretary Meserve.**

ROLL CALL: Board President Quintana called for roll call:

**Board Member Romero – No
Board Member Cordova – Yes
Board Secretary Meserve - Yes
Board Vice President Gonzales - Yes
Board President Quintana – Yes**

Motion passed by majority vote 4-1; Board Member Romero opposed.

Motion by Board Vice President Gonzales that the Las Vegas City Schools Board of Education offer a contract as Acting Superintendent to Dr. Barbara Casey for a term and compensation as outlined in the document that will be attached to the minutes of this meeting. Motion seconded by Board Secretary Meserve.

ROLL CALL: Board President Quintana called for roll call:

**Board Member Romero – No
Board Member Cordova – Yes
Board Secretary Meserve - Yes
Board Vice President Gonzales - Yes
Board President Quintana – Yes**

Motion passed by majority vote 4-1; Board Member Romero opposed.

- D. Discussion/Action: Regarding Legal Representation of School Board – ***Motion by Board Vice President Gonzales that the board request all bills, correspondence and phone records from its counsel Cuddy & McCarthy from January 2022 to present. Motion seconded by Board Secretary Meserve.**

ROLL CALL: Board President Quintana called for roll call:

**Board Member Romero – No
Board Member Cordova – Yes
Board Secretary Meserve - Yes
Board Vice President Gonzales - Yes
Board President Quintana – Yes**

Motion passed by majority vote 4-1; Board Member Romero opposed.

ADJOURNMENT:

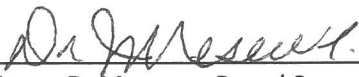
***Motion by Board Member Romero to adjourn. Motion seconded by Board Vice President Gonzales. Motion passed unanimously to adjourn at 7:50 pm.**

****Denotes Action Required***

LAS VEGAS CITY SCHOOLS
"BOARD OF EDUCATION"



Michael A. Quintana, Board President



Joyce D. Meserve, Board Secretary

APPROVED: