

New America School-Las Cruces

Governing Council

Thursday, April 13, 2017

5:00 PM

207 S. Main

Las Cruces NM

Board Members Present: Susie Kimble (Vice-President), Toby Rue, Fernando Macias, Oscar Juarez

Regrets: Martha Valdez Jennifer, Garcia Kozlowski (Treasurer)

Staff Present: Craig Cook, Margarita Porter, Dominic DiFelice, Christina Montoya

Minutes of the GC

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:05 pm by Susie Kimble
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. The mission statement was read by Susie Kimble
4. Students of the month awards were presented to the following students
 - Alexandra Padilla
 - Ariana Maese
 - Angela Chavez
 - Joanna Hernandez
 - Kimberly Baca
 - Breana Nunez
5. The principal announced that a public hearing would take place for the draft 2017-18 school budget. Members of the audience were invited to attend the presentation and provide feedback.
6. Craig Cook reviewed the details of the draft budget. Key line items were highlighted. An additional teacher was added bringing the total to 10 FTE. The principal was directed to bring back a plan to recruit more adolescents to the school. The second hearing of the school budget will be at the May GC. Final budget determination scheduled for June GC.
7. Moved by Fernando Macias and seconded by Toby Rue that the agenda be approved. Votes: Unanimous.
8. Moved by Toby Rue and seconded by Fernando Macias that the minutes of March 9, 2017 be approved. Votes: Unanimous.
9. Susan Fox was on the phone to outline her concerns in offering a three year contract to the principal. She indicated that the Bateman Act would require that the full three salary be encumbered. A number of questions from the GC were addressed. Moved by Fernando Macias and seconded by Toby Rue that a three year contract effective July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2020 be offered to the principal with the modifications discussed subject to severance authorization. Votes: Unanimous.
10. It was announced that the financial audit came back with no findings. It was a clean report.
11. Margarita presented the Title III grant application. She will be entering a consortium with NAS-NM and South Valley Academy in order to pierce the \$10,000 threshold. Activities and purchases for the Title dollars were outlined. Moved by Toby Rue and seconded by Oscar Juarez that the Title III application be approved. Votes: Unanimous.
12. The principal requested the GC approve waivers for 10 students who have not met state competencies in order to receive their high school diplomas. The methodology and rationale were outlined. A number of questions from the GC were addressed. In the future there will need to be some indication that the school has provided sufficient interventions before a waiver will be granted. Attendance was

recommended to be included in the criteria for waivers. Moved by Toby Rue and seconded by Oscar Juarez that the waivers for students presented to the GC be approved. Votes: Unanimous.

13. Moved by Toby Rue and seconded by Oscar Juarez that the Part-time Resolution 2017-04-13-01 be approved. Votes: Unanimous.
14. Craig indicated that the Finance Committee met earlier in the day to discuss the financial report. There were no significant issues with the budget vs. actuals. Moved by Fernando Macias and seconded by Toby Rue that BARS 0018 to 0023 be approved as presented. Votes: Unanimous.
15. The dashboard indicated passing rates, attendance and behavior trends for the first three quarters. The principal was directed to bring back a chart that would indicate EOC passing rates for each core subject compared with in-class passing rates.
16. The principal report was reviewed. Highlights included College of Ed follow-up, PARCC testing, community night, John Munoz recipient of the Champion of Children award, and the national charter conference.
17. Public Input: Options for GC training were discussed. Each member must obtain a minimum of 5 hours of training. Susie updated the GC on the meeting with the landlord to initiate discussions on a lease to purchase arrangement.
18. Adjournment 8:05 pm

Next Meeting will be held at 5:00 pm on Thursday, May 11, 2017 at New America School 207 S. Main, Las Cruces, NM.

Signed _____
Martha Valdez, Secretary