

## **New America School-Las Cruces**

Governing Council

Thursday, June 9, 2016

5:00 PM

207 S. Main

Las Cruces NM

**Board Members Present:** Susie Kimble (Vice-President), John Munoz (President), Toby Rue, Martha Valdez (Secretary), Judge Fernando Macias

**Regrets:** Jennifer Garcia Kozlowski (Treasurer)

**Staff Present:** Dominic DiFelice, Margarita Porter, Veronica Gonzalez, Craig Cook, Mike Vigil II

### **Minutes of the GC**

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:01 PM.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. The mission statement was read by Susie Kimble.
4. The agenda was modified: item #6 was moved to item #3, an authorization item was added to the finance item, and a facility update was added to information. Moved by Susie Kimble and seconded by Martha Valdez that the agenda be approved as amended. Votes: Unanimous.
5. Moved by Susie Kimble and seconded by Toby Rue that the minutes of May 12, 2016 be approved. Votes: Unanimous.
6. Craig Cook, Mike Vigil II and the principal discussed the FY 2016-17 draft budget. The budget has undergone multiple iterations. Some of the more salient changes included an increase to staff benefits from 60% to 80%, an increase of \$5,000 to the lobbyist line, and a move of \$27,000 from Title I to accommodate the career counselor position. The Finance Committee recommended approval of the budget. Votes: Unanimous.
7. The principal presented the proposed school calendar. Highlights included: alignment with LCPS, three mandatory Friday instructional days, no school on October 10<sup>th</sup>, community service day on MLK day, graduation on May 20<sup>th</sup>. The calendar meets all state requirements. Moved by Toby Rue and seconded by Susie Kimble that the 2016-2017 school calendar be approved. Votes: Unanimous.
8. The Lottery policy was presented. It has a number of changes from the previous policy. In particular, daytime capacity is 250 and night time capacity is 200. Total enrollment cap is 450. There is a sibling preference. Moved by Susie Kimble and seconded by Martha Valdez that the Lottery policy be approved. Votes: Unanimous.
9. The principal presented the 2016-17 food services contract with Cravings Catering. Final costs were not available and will be adjusted from last year when prices have been finalized. The principal was directed to establish an Advisory Board before school start as mandated in the contract. Moved by Susie Kimble and seconded by Toby Rue that the food services contract with Cravings Catering be approved as presented and that an Advisory Board be established. Votes: Unanimous.
10. The discussion of adding a new member to the Board was tabled till the August meeting.
11. Mike Vigil II, Business Manager, presented the financial reports for the month of May 2016. The reports were reviewed in detail with the finance committee prior to the GC

meeting as normal. One revenue for the USDA Food Equipment Grant is still outstanding. Veronica is working to get the invoice from CES paid for the equipment so the school can request reimbursement from the state. The Expenditure Report is very similar to the prior month and all functions are currently in compliance. The month of May had about \$50k of expenditures exceeding revenues. A large portion of this was due to a payment to Pearson for instructional materials which was in the form of renewing licenses for an ELL program. It is the goal of the school to have spending slowed for the month of June to close out the fiscal year. The bank statement reconciled to the GL with a balance of \$931,701.70 while the activity fund ended at \$1,641.58. No BARs were presented for action. The GC granted authority for Mike Vigil II or a delegate from The Vigil Group to enter any BARs for the purpose of maintenance as needed to close out the fiscal year. If any BARs are entered they are to be presented to the GC at the August meeting for retroactive approval as has been done in the past. This authority was voted on and granted unanimously.

12. Moved by Susie Kimble and seconded by Martha Valdez that the Board authorize the Financial Services Group to act on any budget adjustments at the closeout and report back to the Board in August. Votes: Unanimous.
13. The principal presented the end of year measures in the student/school performance matrix. Each specific measure and target were addressed and end of year results presented. One area of concern was the MAP growth in Reading and Math.
14. Principal Report
  - There is no conclusive evidence that a block schedule in the evening is more effective for passing rates. Students will be surveyed upon registration their preference for a block or regular night time schedule.
  - 6 classes in attendance for summer school
  - Three staff positions still unfilled
  - Two non-renewals
  - Toby and Margarita attended a charter renewal workshop
  - Very productive meeting at Alma d'Arte for the Southern Charter School group
  - The site visit report was distributed
15. Public Input: None
16. Adjournment 6:30 pm

Next Meeting will be held at 5:00 pm on Thursday, August 11, 2016 at New America School 207 S. Main, Las Cruces, NM.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Martha Valdez, Secretary