

New America School-Las Cruces

Governing Council

Thursday, March 9 2017

5:00 PM

207 S. Main

Las Cruces NM

Board Members Present: Susie Kimble (Vice-President), Toby Rue, Fernando Macias, Martha Valdez (Secretary), Jennifer Garcia Kozlowski (Treasurer), Oscar Juarez

Regrets:

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

Minutes of the GC

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 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

Roxanne Ruiz, 14

Miriam Gonzalez, 15

Abraham Morones-Rodriguez, 16

Josh Parson, 17

Angelique Sanchez, 17

Teresa Martinez, 19

Celeste Lopez, 21

Desiree Medina, 27

Desiree Quintana, 33

5. Moved by Fernando Macias and seconded by Toby Rue that the agenda be approved. Votes: Unanimous.
6. Moved by Fernando Macias and seconded by Martha Valdez that the minutes of February 9, 2017 be approved. Votes: Unanimous.
7. Margarita presented the Sick Leave Bank policy. The policy is mandated by the state. It has been prepared and vetted by legal counsel. Questions from the GC were addressed. Moved by Fernando Macias and seconded by Martha Valdez that the Sick Leave Bank policy be approved as presented. Votes: Unanimous.
8. The finance committee met prior to the GC meeting as normal to discuss the financial reports ending 2/28/17. Revenues are flowing as expected. One new item for revenues, which is to be presented as a BAR, is a grant awarded from the USDA for food service equipment. The equipment in specific is earmarked for a refrigerator and an ice maker. Expenditures had very little change from the month before. It was noted that there were a few PO's opened to Government and Educational furnishings for additional furnishings for the school. Revenues were exceeded by expenditures by about \$57k. Although it was a heavier spending month, cash remained at a strong enough balance to cover all obligations with no issues. The bank reconciled to the GL at about \$1.15M. There was no change to the activity account. The GC was informed that there was a forthcoming additional cut to SEG funding in the current year due to the legislative session (SB114). The amount, however, is still unknown even though the SEG for March is set to be wired to the school tomorrow (3/10/17). The GC will be kept apprised of any further cuts. Finally, the intention for this meeting was to have federal award letters for carryover amounts received and have BARs created for action. The PED has not mailed award letters out as of yet. Mr. Cook added that along with federal carryover BARs at the April meeting,

maintenance BARs would be created for action as well. BAR #0017 was presented for action for the USDA Food Equipment grant in the amount of \$12,106 for the aforementioned purposes. Moved by Toby Rue and seconded by Jennifer Garcia Kozlowski that BAR 0017-IB be approved as presented. Votes: Unanimous.

9. Craig indicated that staff have indeed executed POs as directed by the GC from the February meeting. However, he cautioned the GC that given uncertainty with pending funding legislation and the fact that the school is projecting a 40 student decrease in enrollment that the GC pause in fully executing the directive. There was considerable discussion as to the merit to fully execute the POs or to partially fill them, viz. the science zspace equipment and three Computer on Wheels carts. Moved by Fernando Macias and seconded by Martha Valdez that the principal spend the STEM money in addition to \$60,000 from the fund balance to purchase the zspace equipment plus three COWs. Votes: Unanimous.
10. Susie Kimble read John Munoz's letter of resignation. His resignation was accepted by the GC. As a result of Mr. Munoz's departure, the GC conducted elections to fill the vacancies created by the resignation. Moved by Fernando Macias and seconded by Jennifer Garcia Kozlowski that Susie Kimble be appointed President. No further nominations. Acclaimed. Moved by Jennifer Garcia Kozlowski and seconded by Fernando Macias that Toby Rue be appointed to Vice-President. Votes: Unanimous. Moved by Martha Valdez and seconded by Jennifer Garcia Kozlowski that Fernando Macias be appointed as National Board director. Votes: Unanimous.
11. Moved by Toby Rue and seconded by Oscar Juarez that the GC move into executive session to discuss the principal's evaluation. Votes: Unanimous.
12. Moved by Fernando Macias and seconded by Toby Rue that the GC move back into public session. Votes: Unanimous.
13. Susie Kimble indicated that only matters pertaining to the principal's evaluation were discussed in executive session.
14. Moved by Fernando Macias and seconded by Oscar Juarez that the principal be given a three year contract effective July 1, 2017 and that an interim assessment be scheduled for the 18 month mark and a formal evaluation at the 30 month mark. Craig Cook was directed to prepare the contract with legal counsel and bring it back to the April meeting. Votes: Unanimous.
15. Margarita outlined the four measures that will be presented to the PEC that will form the basis of the charter contract.
16. The principal was directed to arrange GC training with the aim to develop strategic goals for the board.
17. Principal's report : Some highlights included :

Cafeteria Grant, \$12,000

Optimist Club 1st place essay

Open Houses, 3, post card mailings

Jamar Cotton, Adoption of School

NMSU tutors, college of Ed, Meeting March 17

Student Council; Feeding the homeless

Community Night, April 5 4-6

NAS Network meeting: March 14

Mr. Munoz, Nominee for the Champion of Children, April 1

18. Public Input: Toby Rue enquired whether the gym could be used for community use. Craig mentioned the school does not have a community use policy because of interference with the night program and possible liability issues.
19. Adjournment 8:28 pm

Next Meeting will be held at 5:00 pm on Thursday, April 13, 2017 at New America School 207 S. Main, Las Cruces, NM.

Signed _____

Martha Valdez, Secretary