

New America School-Las Cruces

Governing Council

Thursday, February 20, 2020

5:00 PM

207 S. Main

Las Cruces. NM

Board Members Present: Susie Kimble (President), Martha Valdez (Secretary/Treasurer), Jennifer Garcia Kozlowski

Regrets: Oscar Juarez, Fernando Macias (Vice-President)

Staff Present: Margarita Porter, Craig Cook, Kyle Hunt, Dom DiFelice

Special Guest: Kelly Callahan

Minutes of the GC

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:01 pm by Susie Kimble
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. The mission statement was read by Susie Kimble
4. Moved by Jennifer Garcia Kozlowski and seconded by Martha Valdez that the agenda be approved.
Votes: Unanimous.
5. Moved by Martha Valdez and seconded by Susie Kimble that the minutes of January 16, 2020 be approved. Votes: Unanimous.
6. The principal reviewed the background policy with the GC. The policy was reviewed by Susan Fox. The big change is that the school will reimburse a successful applicant who receives an employment contract. Moved by Martha Valdez and seconded by Jennifer Garcia Kozlowski that the background policy be approved as amended. Votes: Unanimous.
7. The finance committee met prior to the meeting to discuss the financial reports ending January 31, 2020. Kyle Hunt reviewed the various aspects of the reports to the GC. Revenues were little changed. There were a number of negative line items in the expenditure report but all will be zeroed out by BARs in the upcoming months. The school has one more year to encumber the \$10,000 capital outlay grant. It was also announced that the school received an additional \$50,000 for capital outlay. No issues with outstanding POs. Bank reconciliation of \$1,404,724. The activity account has a \$3,969 balance. Two BARs were presented. BAR #14 is for the SB-9 State Match fund. This is a small yearly award/distribution PED provides if a district has SB-9. Unlike in previous years, this year's state match has a new fund number 31703 instead of 31700 as the cash/revenue will be distributed to each school yearly now instead of being on a reimbursement basis like in previous years. BAR #15 is the SEG decrease from the 40th day counts. There were a few earlier discussions about this cut being close to \$85-90K, but with the small increase in unit value, the decrease is actually only \$76K.
8. Kelly will resend the GC survey link to members for completion.
9. The principal presented data on student demographics (age) and several data points on attendance, school year retention and summer retention.
10. Principal's Report:
The principal reviewed her written report. Highlights:
 - Student count 225
 - CLR sessions set for February 25-26 and March 11-12
 - Two open houses held
 - Feedback from students and staff to see if 10 extra "fun Fridays" be incorporated into next year's calendar
 - 2 additional social workers from NMSU MOU assigned to the school
11. Item 9 was tabled

12. Board development was imbedded as part of the GC meeting.
13. Once Brian Kavanaugh finds an appropriate lawyer school staff and building reps will meet to discuss the lease purchase of the school building.
14. Public Input: None
15. Adjournment 6:39 pm
16. Next Meeting March 19, 2020

Signed _____
Martha Valdez, Secretary