

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

Governing Council

Thursday, March 17, 2022

5:00 PM

207 S. Main

Las Cruces. NM

**Board Members Present:** Susie Kimble (President), Fernando Macias (Vice-President), Oscar Juarez, Roberta Stathis

**Regrets:** Margarita Porter, Martha Valdez, Jennifer Kozlowski

**Staff Present:** Ashley Wolfel, Jack Fitzpatrick, Christina Montoya, Lorynn Guerrero,

**Special Guest:** Craig Cook

### **Minutes of the GC**

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. The mission statement was read by Susie Kimble.

Students of the Month were recognized both online or in-person.

Skylar Chavez	Ethan Bautista
Gabe Montoya	Hanna Magana
Alondra Casas-Sanchez	Marina Medina
Maria Garcia	Lee Ferguson

3. There was no public input.
4. Quorum was reached at 5:39 pm.
5. Moved by Fernando Macias and seconded by Roberta Stathis that the agenda be accepted as presented. Votes: Unanimous.
6. Moved by Fernando Macias and seconded by Oscar Juarez, that the minutes of February 17, 2022 be approved. Votes: Unanimous.
7. Ashley presented the budget reports, the reimbursements in May and BARs 0034-I, 0035-T, 0036-M, 0037-T, 0038-IB to the finance committee. Discussion of open requisitions and PO's being closed in May. The finance committee had already reviewed the reports prior to the general board meeting to identify any irregularities. Moved by Fernando Macias and seconded by Oscar Juarez that the financial report and BAR be approved as presented. Votes: Unanimous.
8. Discussion about the outcome of the zoning for cannabis within 300 feet of the school. Susie Kimble and Margarita Porter were present at the hearing. It was approved.
9. Went over audit findings and briefly discussed changes that would be made moving forward.
10. ARP fund usage was tabled.
11. Superintendent report:

### **Renewal Update**

- We have received the rough draft of the FMP. It was reviewed and returned to Colleen for final changes.
- Negotiation hearing: April 11 from 2-4 in Santa Fe. Our negotiations will be based on teacher feedback. One mission specific goal is to continue Work Keys to show growth. Another might be to monitor short cycle growth. Teachers and admin will meet on April 1 to create goals to be presented to the PEC. Our team consists of Ms. Susie, Judge Macias Dr. Stathis, and Ms. Montoya. Another topic that we can consider is our mission statement. I would like to look at identifying a way to change the mission to be more inclusive.

Something like: To empower ~~new immigrants, English language learners~~, **all students**, **including the** academically underserved, with the educational tools and support they need to maximize their potential, succeed, and live the American Dream.

## **School**

- The second meeting with Mr. Ramos and the LCPS team with was on March 14<sup>th</sup> regarding Spaceport money. However, in a personal conversation, Mr. Ramos would like to give the requested money to NAS-LC from the past 5 years. One request from Ms. Ramos is to create a plan on how to use the money. According to the MOU with Dona Ana county, the money can be used to support math and science teachers in and out of the classroom through professional development and purchase materials.
- Quarter 4 has started. We are currently at 152 students. Our budget for next year will be based on 159 students. this decrease in enrollment means that the number of teachers will be reduced. We are working on revamping our night program for next year based on numbers. This semester, we are averaging only 12 students in our night program. We are going to use the summer school model to provide full credits. Our school hours will be from 8am to 7:15pm. Another program we would like to provide is a fully remote options for families. This might increase our numbers.
- One initiative we have implemented is the “intervention” program. These are meetings after school with seniors and their parents to create a plan for graduations. During these meetings, we review their attendance and a contract is signed by the parent and student. We have noticed that these interventions are having a positive impact.
- ELTP/K-12 Plus: These are the two programs that are available to support learning loss. ELTP adds 8 days to the calendar. K-12 is a new initiative. This program adds 5 days to the calendar and the other 5 days can be added to the calendar in minutes. NAS-LC will apply for the K-12 and integrate Friday School in to the minutes. However, this too is a topic for April 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **Community**

- CYFD, La Vida Project which is across Main Street, met with NAS-LC to begin a partnership to support students.
- Ms. Porter was asked to be a guest speaker at the Soroptomist monthly meeting. This is an organization that provides support to young high school girls.

## **Professional**

- Ms. Porter traveled to T or C to attend a meeting with Sec. Steinhaus. He reviewed the salary increases and ELTP/K-12 Plus program in great detail.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm. Next general meeting is April 21, 2022 at 5pm.

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