



The New America School-Las Cruces
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Lcnas.org

Hon. Jared Polis, Founder
Susie Kimble, President
Margarita Porter, Superintendent

New America School-Las Cruces
Governing Council
Thursday, September 15, 2022
5:00 PM

Board Members Present:

- Susie Kimble (President)
- Roberta Stathis (VP)
- Oscar Juarez
- Martha Valdez (Sec)

Regrets:

- Jennifer Garcia-Kozlowski

Staff Present:

- Ashley Wolfel
- Jack Fitzpatrick
- Margarita Porter

Special Guests: Craig Cook, Kelly Callahan

Students of the Month:

Santiago Avalos	Angel Espinoza
Leslie Flores-Perez	Raylynn Torres
Jaylynn Lara	Gabriel Tairn
Joeanna Morones	

Minutes of the GC

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. The mission statement was read by Susie Kimble.
3. Public input: none
4. Quorum was reached at 5:34 pm.
5. Moved by Roberta Stathis seconded by Oscar Juarez that the agenda be accepted as presented. Votes: Unanimous.
6. Moved by Roberta Stathis seconded by Oscar Juarez that the minutes for the general meeting on August 11, 2022 be approved as presented. Votes: Unanimous
7. Ashley presented the budget reports covering the school until 8/31/2022 BARs 0004-M, 0005-I, 0006-T, 0007-M, 0008-M, 0009-M to the finance committee. The finance committee had already reviewed the reports prior to the general board meeting to identify any irregularities. Moved by Roberta Stathis and seconded Martha Valdez that the financial reports and BARs be accepted as presented. Votes: Unanimous.
8. Discussion: the Covid Policy. Margarita presented the options about exposure, positivity, and “test to stay.” Moved by Roberta Stathis and seconded Martha Valdez Roberta Stathis that the superintendent has the authority to change the current policy according to the recommendations of the CDC. Currently, the policy is: any students positive for Covid must quarantine for 5 full days, and return wearing a mask

for 5 days. All students who are exposed will test at school and stay if they are negative. Moved by Roberta Stathis and seconded Martha Valdez that the Covid policy be accepted. Votes: Unanimous.

Board Training

- On November 13, during the meeting, there will be an extensive finance training.

Superintendent's Report

Dashboard

The SAT test results were released last week. The data shows that our students scored lower than the state averages. Our strategy is to identify where students are in each area and develop a plan to support student growth. Our proficiency rates in ELA and Math are 0%, 19% in Science.

Our next PD will be focused on "what WILL we do to support an increase in proficiency rates.?"

School

- As of 9/8/22, there are 164 students enrolled. For the start of the new quarter, 10/10, there are 179 students enrolled. This includes current students and all newly enrolled. Count day is October
- Our second "Fun Friday" was on 9/9. We had 5 guest speakers (National Guard, DACC, Workforce Solutions, Center for Health Innovation) who presented on topics: enrollment and degrees, Vaping awareness, One Pill can Kill (fentanyl), THC awareness, and jobs. The afternoon was spent at Rockin' Jump. Only students who met the 80% attendance rate attended. Others, stayed behind and completed assignments.
- Fall Break: NAS will be on break Sept. 26- Oct 7. This is aligned to LCPS.
- The ACCESS scores, which measures the growth of English of our ESL students is used to score/measure our school. It is one component that gives points toward an overall school score. These scores will be accessible on the PED Vistas website. It is also a component of the renewal. As we lost our English/ESL teacher on August 25, we need to focus on our ESL teaching and learning. As a result, I have hired an ESL consultant to teach two ESL classes and continue to consult our permanent sub once one is hired. Camerina Saenz has 36 years of experience at GISD. She retired four years ago. She is my second cousin. I have contacted SFox to inform her. Her recommendation is to inform the board. She is a level 3 teacher.

Community

- As you are aware, the City Council approved cannabis sales next door on September 6, 2022. NAS has received many emails and calls in support. I had one gentleman offer to look for a pro bono attorney who would fight to get this overturned. What would the GC like to do?
 - The board would like to continue to move forward with fighting the pharmacy and THC sales next door as voted in 2020.

Professional

- NAS teachers are working with the TNTP, a PED sponsored contractor. They are supporting our school with walk-throughs and feedback. We are receiving PD monthly about at-grade level assignments and instruction. They were on our campus on the 13th.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:37 pm. Next meeting: October 13, 2022

Signed _____
Martha Valdez, Secretary