

**New America School-Las Cruces**

Governing Council

Thursday, March 10, 2016,

5:00 PM

207 S. Main

Las Cruces NM

**Board Members Present:** Susie Kimble (Vice-President), Jennifer Garcia Kozlowski (Treasurer), John Munoz (President), Martha Valdez (Secretary)

**Regrets:** Toby Rue

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

**Minutes of the GC**

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:01.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. The mission statement was read by Susie Kimble.
4. Students of the months were introduced. If parents/relatives were in attendance they were introduced. Students answered questions from the GC members. The following students received awards:
  - Adrian Garcia, 14
  - Ramon Ramos, 15
  - Manuel Aguirre, 17
  - Elias Rivas, 18
  - Bryan Moctezuma, 18
  - Isaac Diaz, 31
  - Silda Garcia, 48
5. The consent agenda and minutes were unanimously approved.
6. The principal reviewed a number of policies and some changes were suggested. Moved by Susie Kimble and seconded by Jennifer Garcia Kozlowski that the following policies be approved with the changes suggested:
  - Complaint Policy
  - Gift Acceptance Policy
  - Grade Change Policy
  - Textbook Policy
  - Distance Learning PolicyThe motion passed unanimously.
7. The Finance Committee met prior to the GC meeting as normal to discuss the financial reports as of 2/29/16. Both the revenue and expenditure reports had very little change from the reports ending 1/31/16. A BAR for presentation and action later will cover a few of the line items currently showing as over budget. Maintenance will have to occur later on in the school year to cover the remaining lines that are over budget. The school did expend about \$15k more than it brought in for revenues during the month of February. But the bank balanced to the GL at \$904,052.32 so the school's cash flow is still in good shape. The activity account balanced to the GL at just over \$5k. There are 4 BARs for approval. BAR #0014-I is for an SEG increase for growth to be used to cover a handful of lines currently

over budget. Remaining line items over budget will be eliminated through the use of a maintenance BAR in the future. BAR #0015-I is an increase to Title I for carryover. This will be used to cover current line items over budget and to increase budget for General Supplies and Materials for the Title I program. BAR #0016-I is an increase to IDEA-B for carryover. This will be used to fund a new position plus benefits for an EA/tutor to the special education program. BAR #0017-I is an initial budget for the IDEA-B "Risk Pool" fund. If all of the IDEA-B fund is utilized, this funding can be used to cover a small portion of the special education teacher's salary. Moved by Susie Kimble and seconded by Martha Valdez that the 4 BARs be approved as presented. Votes: Unanimous.

8. Moved by Susie Kimble and seconded by Martha Valdez that the board move into executive session. Votes: Unanimous.
9. Moved by Martha Valdez and seconded by Susie Kimble that the Board move back into public session. Votes: Unanimous.
10. Moved by Jennifer Garcia Kozlowski and seconded by Susie Kimble that only matters concerning the principal's evaluation was discussed and that no action was taken. Votes: Unanimous.
11. The principal provided her perspective on the evaluation report. Moved by Susie Kimble and seconded by Jennifer Garcia Kozlowski that the GC offer the principal a one year contract with salary to be determined during the budget process. Further the GC directed the Superintendent to conduct periodic reviews of staff morale to assess school climate. Votes: Unanimous.
12. The dashboard presented indicated fall to winter MAP results. Students meeting growth targets: Language Usage 54.55%, Math 64.79%, and Reading 43.48%.
13. Principal report
  - School
    - Graduates: 102 (21 from December)
    - Graduation: May 21, 10am LC Convention Center
    - Parent/Teacher Conferences; February 26
    - Holocaust Project, Mesilla Valley Mall, March 14-18
    - 11 new students were invited to Honor Society
    - Early Warning Systems, John Hopkins/PED
  - Community
    - March 1, Anti-bullying Meeting with DAC CAB
    - Clothing Drive: challenge between Honor Society and Student Council
    - Partnership with immigration law firm, Lauren Armstrong
  - Professional
    - NMCCS Board member
    - NWEA Conference
    - Budget Conference, March 29-April 1
    - Board Training, April 8
14. Craig indicated that the Finance Committee has reviewed the draft 2016-17 budget and has made some revisions. Two public hearings will take place one in April and one in May before the Board will act on the budget in June. The draft budget will come back to the GC next month for discussion.
15. No lobbyist report.

16. No FMP report.

17. Public Input: The Superintendent indicated the National Board meeting would be held in Phoenix either May 17<sup>th</sup> or May 18<sup>th</sup>.

18. Adjournment 7:50 pm

Next Meeting will be held at 5:00 pm on Thursday, April 14, 2016 at New America School 207 S. Main, Las Cruces, NM.

Signed

  
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Martha Valdez, Secretary