

New America School-Las Cruces

Governing Council

Thursday, September 21, 2017

5:00 PM

207 S. Main

Las Cruces NM

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

Regrets: Susie Kimble (President)

Staff Present: Margarita Porter, Dominic DiFelice, Kyle Hunt, Veronica Gonzalez, Christina Montoya

Minutes of the GC

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:03 pm by Toby Rue
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. The mission statement was read by Toby Rue
4. The following students were recognized as students of the month
 - Jose Rivas-Garcia, 16
 - Mariah Diaz, 17
 - Diego Vasquez, 17
 - Angel Maldonado, 18
 - Jade Porter, 18
5. Moved by Jennifer Garcia Kozlowski and seconded by Martha Valdez that the agenda be approved. Votes: Unanimous.
6. Moved by Martha Valdez and seconded by Jennifer Garcia Kozlowski that the minutes of August 17, 2017 be approved. Votes: Unanimous.
7. Domonic Silva was unable to attend. The legislative update will be tabled to the next meeting.
8. Kyle presented the 8/31/17 reports to both the finance committee before the meeting and the GC during the regularly scheduled monthly open meeting. There was discussion of verifying salaries were appropriately applied to the correct lines and certain salary lines being named more specifically (i.e. Vice Principal). The August 31st operational budget balance was shown at \$72,628.58, this number does not reflect the mentioned PSCOC award or the final carryover difference from the audit discussed last meeting. BAR #0003 initial budget for the Spaceport GRT fund was presented. Moved by Fernando Macias and seconded by Jennifer Garcia Kozlowski that the financial report and BAR 0003 be approved as presented. Votes: Unanimous.
9. No update was available regarding the liquor license for the adjacent building to the school. Once more information is received it will come back to the Board.
10. A set of guidelines/procedures that will support administrators in dealing with ICE in their schools was presented. The procedures were developed by Network Counsel and has been approved by the Network's Executive Committee. Moved by Jennifer Garcia Kozlowski and seconded by Martha Valdez that the ICE procedures be adopted subject to amendments. Votes: Unanimous.
11. During an audit by the national lunch program review team the school received a finding in not having an updated School Wellness Policy. The policy needs to be reviewed every three years and the school's last review of the policy was 2012. Christina Montoya presented a revised policy that incorporates all required components. Moved by Martha Valdez and seconded by Fernando Macias that the School Wellness Policy be approved as presented. Votes: Unanimous.
12. The principal indicated three main strategies that staff has been directed to implement to increase student achievement.

- Teaching curriculum with fidelity. This will be monitored by the principal by direct observation and review of lesson plans.
 - Following the school's designated lesson template especially incorporating a warm question from released banks for PARRC, SAT, ACT, SBA
 - A thorough review of end of quarter exams and unit tests to ensure rigor and curriculum alignment.
13. The principal introduced the NM Dash, a template for C, D, and F schools to outline School Improvement Goals/Strategies. The template is due on October 16th. It will come back to the GC for final approval at a special meeting on October 10th. As part of the committee's composition to complete the draft, Jennifer Garcia Kozlowski, Fernando Macias and Dominic DiFelice agreed to sit on the committee.
 14. This month's dashboard reviewed the number of teachers in the various effectiveness categories and the breakdown of students by grade and ages.
 15. The written principal report was reviewed. Included in the discussion were
 - The report card grade
 - Community night
 - GC Training
 - Staffing update
 16. Public Input: None
 17. Adjournment 7:40 pm

Next Meeting will be held at 5:00 pm on Tuesday October 10, 2017 at New America School 207 S. Main, Las Cruces, NM.

Signed _____
Martha Valdez, Secretary