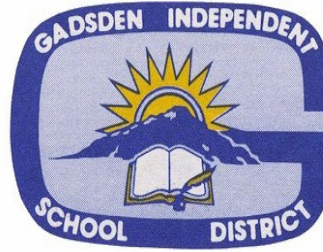


**Laura Salazar Flores** Board President  
**Claudia I. Rodriguez** Board Vice President  
**Arlean Murillo** Board Secretary  
**Daniel Castillo** Board Member  
**Armando Cano** Board Member  
**Travis L. Dempsey** Superintendent

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*DRAFT 10/19/2023*  
*FINAL 10/26/2023*

**REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES**  
*For October 12, 2023*

1. The Gadsden School Board convened in regular session at 5:01 p.m. President Flores presided the meeting held at the Gadsden Administrative Complex.

Introduction  
And Roll Call

Members present: Daniel Castillo, Laura Salazar Flores, Arlean Murillo, and Claudia Rodriguez.

Armando Cano was absent.

Pledge &  
Mission Statement

2. The Pledge of Allegiance and the Pledge to the New Mexico flag was recited. The mission statement was read by Daniel Castillo.

Superintendent's  
Report

3. Superintendent District updates and recognitions:
  - A. Mr. Rapanut, Director for Special Education, recognized the recipients for the 2023 New Mexico Association for the Gifted: Maria Acosta, Gadsden High School Teacher of the Year; Lisa Aguilar, Special Education Specialist-Advocate of the Year; and MaryAnn Clark-Coordinator, Administrator of the Year.
  - B. Mrs. Villalobos, Associate Superintendent for Federal Support, introduced Dominique Muller, Instructional Specialist for Science. Mrs. Muller recognized the participants for the Weather Fest: NVE, SRE, STM, CMS, GMS, STHS, CHS, GHS, and AVECH. She also recognized the Weather Fest winners: CMS-Best Middle School from Gadsden; NVE-Best Elementary from all District; and STHS-Best High School from all Districts.
  - C. Dr. Torres, President for Doña Ana Community College, presented information on the DACC General Obligation Bond. The DACC Bond will provide funding for security, safety, and infrastructure, plus upgrade and re-purpose instructional areas. Additionally, it will advance and update DACC information technology at all locations, the Sunland Park Center facility will replace portables with permanent classrooms, science labs and student areas.

D. Student Representative-Matthew Portillo, a junior from Desert Pride Academy, reported that he is proud to represent his school. He stated what motivates him to come to school is his relationships with his teachers and the administrators. He has good attendance and always on time. He reported that the December grads will be graduating December 15<sup>th</sup> at Magoffin Auditorium at UTEP. The seniors have ordered their caps and gowns and took their senior pictures as well as under classmen. He mentioned this coming Friday some students will be going on a field trip for Construction Career Day in Las Cruces. He stated that the students have been preparing for the SAT for October 26<sup>th</sup>. The counselors will be hosting a Career Day Fair with local businesses and several colleges for November 16<sup>th</sup>. He stated that materials have been ordered to build a Greenhouse and hopefully, completed by the time they graduate. Desert Pride students have organized a “Never Been Absent Initiative Award” (NBAIA) that rewards students who have not been absent within two consecutive weeks for a prize. He thanked everyone for letting him represent Desert Pride Academy.

4. Mr. Castillo thanked Mary Ann Clark for the Gifted and Talented Special Education for the students. He congratulated the Weather Fest participants.

Mrs. Rodriguez reported that she is very passionate about the Gifted Program and has been a part of the advisory for many years. She stated that she is excited to see the district make an impact on Gifted and Talented students. She congratulated the schools that participated in the Weather Fest competition. She thanked Matthew for his report on Desert Pride Academy. She asks parents to be part of their children lives and be interested in what they are doing. We need to be cautious on how we go about reacting to things and should be the role models of our kids. She reminds parents to participate in the Coffee with the Principal and Coffee with the Superintendent. She stated there are many opportunities to be part of your child’s education.

Mrs. Murillo stated she was not able to attend the Weather Fest competition, however, was able to see the participation and contribution through social media. She thanked the parents for driving their children to school and practices. She requested if DACC can share information on the General Obligation Bond to market on Gadsden’s social media. She thanked Jerry Pacheco, President of Santa Teresa Charitable Foundation for advocating our Gadsden students. She also thanked Matthew for his update report on Desert Pride. She stated she attended the NMMEA at the Field of Dreams in Las Cruces and saw talented band groups from the area. Santa Teresa High School band was awarded Division I.

President Flores also thanked Matthew for his report on Desert Pride. She stated she attended the Equity Council meeting. She also attended the Weather Fest and congratulated all the schools that participated. She reminds everyone that October month is Breast Cancer Awareness. She stated she hopes to see everyone at the football game Panthers vs Lobos Battle of the Gap. October is also National Principal Month and she thanked the administrators for their dedication. She reminded everyone about Early Voting. She thanked Principal Legaretta for allowing her to be a chaperon at Gadsden’s homecoming.

- Personnel Report 5. The personnel report is included for the Board’s information with no action required.
- Approval of the Agenda 6. President Flores made a motion to modify the agenda by adding 12D. DACC Advisory on October 19, 2023 at 6:00 pm. Motion carried.
- School Board Minutes 7. Mr. Castillo made a motion to approve the September 21, 2023 Motion carried unanimously.
- Consent Agenda 8. Mrs. Rodriguez made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- Open Forum 9. Open Forum: Shae Vierra addressed to the board regarding the Santa Teresa athletics facilities.
- Action 10. Action Items: None
- Discussion  
Broadband Project:  
Internet Filtering 11. Discussion Items:  
A. Mr. Snoddy, Director for Technology, presented information on the Broadband Project: Internet Filtering.
- 2024-2025 School  
Calendar B. Mr. Wohlgemuth, Director for Secondary Schools, presented information on the 2024-2025 School Calendar.
- Graduation Rates C. Superintendent Dempsey presented information on the Graduation Rates.
- GISD Wellness  
Policy JL D. Mrs. Guerra, Director for Student Nutrition Program, presented information on the GISD Wellness Policy JL. She explained that the following paragraph needs to be added for the GISD SNP to remain in compliance with guidelines and laws: “The GISD nutrition program will promote serving locally grown products to students and provide nutritional education facts on the products to encourage the Gadsden student community to eat and support locally grown items”.
- 6-Year CES Study E. Superintendent Dempsey presented information on the 6-Year CES Study.

Monthly Budget  
Report For The  
Month Ended August  
31, 2023

F. Mrs. Villarreal, Director for Finance, presented information on the Monthly Budget Report For The Month Ended August 31, 2023.

Upcoming Board  
Meetings and Events

12. Superintendent Dempsey announced the upcoming board meetings and events:

- A. Next Regular Board Meeting: Thursday, October 26, 2023 (Deadline for Item Requests Monday, October 16, 2023)
- B. NMSBA Fall Region VII Meeting October 17 @ 5:30 – Gadsden High School
- C. Legislative Primer Event-November 2<sup>nd</sup>-Desert Pride Academy
- D. DACC Advisory-October 16, 2023

Adjourn

13. President Flores made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

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Arlean Murillo, School Board Secretary

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Laura Salazar Flores, School Board President

Minutes taken by MaryLou Delgado