Travis L. Dempsey Superintendent



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DRAFT 09/17/2021 FINAL 09/23/2021

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

For September 16, 2021

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

Introduction And Roll Call

Members present: Armando Cano, Daniel Castillo, Laura Salazar Flores, Claudia Rodriguez, and Jennifer Viramontes

Pledge & Mission Statement

- 2. The Pledge of Allegiance and the Pledge to the New Mexico flag was recited. Jennifer Viramontes read the mission statement.
- 3. Superintendent District updates and recognitions:
 - A. Mrs. Villalobos, Director for Federal Support Services, introduced Mrs. Jacquez, Federal Programs Coordinator for SEL, and Mrs. Forti, Lead Counselor in which they presented information on the GISD Emotional Supports: Olweus and Capturing Kids Hearts. Mrs. Jacquez presented information on The Olweus Program (OBPP) which is a comprehensive approach that includes school wide, classroom, individual and community components.

Program Focus: The focus is on long-term change that creates a

safe and positive school climate. Goals: Goals is to reduce an prevent bullying problems among

Main Steps: BPCC members get trained and in turn train their staff on July of 2021, a kick off event was done at the schools, and implemented the program at school included weekly classroom meetings.

school children and improve peer relations at school.

Mrs. Forti presented information on the Capturing Kids Hearts. Capturing Kids Hearts focuses on: cultivating relational capacity, improving school culture, strengthening trust between teachers and students, building self-managing classrooms, creating accountability, improving academic performance, and fostering trauma-informed care.

Superintendent's Report

- B. Mr. Wohlgemuth, Director for Secondary Schools, presented information on the Update on Edmentum (Online Learning Platform). He presented a review of the most Current Status, Future Opportunities for SY 2021-2022, Future Opportunities for SY 2022-2023, and Additional Opportunities.
- C. Mrs. Hernandez, Chief Academic Officer, presented information on the Proficiency Grading Scale Implementation Process. She presented an over view of last board meeting discussions on Grading Scale Implementation Process and put together pieces that were issues and concerns.
- D. Student Representative-Isaias Alvidrez, a senior from Alta Vista Early College High School, reported that Alta Vista has recently received a facelift. They have had various school improvement projects such as painting the doors red and black to their school colors. Also, the benches, trash cans, and picnic tables have been painted. During Senior Seminar, students are working on digital portfolios. The purpose of the portfolio is to have a resource that has already been started and can be added to during university studies and internships. It showcases what they have worked on during job interviews and show their experience. He stated that last Friday, Dr. Parra, an Admissions Advisor from NMSU, came to their Senior Seminar class to help submit their admission applications for the fall of 2022. The following new teachers on campus are: Dr. Acuña, Chemistry teacher and will teach the DACC Chemistry course in the spring; Mr. Martin Del Campo, Special Education teacher; Mr. Rosales, Physical Education teacher; and Ms. Angel, Academic School Counselor. Mrs. Almeida has recently started Chess Club on Tuesdays. Mr. Martin Del Campo has juggling classes in the morning before class time under the pavilion. The Alta Vista Media class has created an Instagram account to keep students informed on school activities. The National Honor Society induction ceremony will be held later this month. Seniors are applying for the Gates' Scholarship with the help of Ms. Angel and Principal De La Garza. The school sunrises were held on August 13th and August 20th near the DACC Gadsden Campus and Anthony Rest Area where balloons were released, pictures were taken, and had a senior breakfast at IHOP. The seniors volunteered to speak to the freshmen class during an assembly. They provided the younger students with academic advice, spoke about their experiences at Alta Vista and DACC, and shared their perspectives. This was beneficial to encourage students to seek help from upperclassmen and collaborate with them. Alta Vista has been invited to participate in the UNM Diversity Summit Panel along with Middle College High School in Gallup, New Mexico and the Master's Program Early College High Schools in New Mexico and what they are doing to promote a head start in college for students from underserved

- populations. Principal De La Garza will be attending the summit which will be held virtually on November 5th. Lastly, he thanked the school board, Superintendent Dempsey, and the Gadsden community for their continued support.
- E. Mr. Cano thanked all administrators for their continued support in the Proficiency Grading Scale. He thanked the administrators and teachers for trainings they attend to help move the district in the right direction in helping our students move forward for college.

Mrs. Rodriguez reported that she visited the San Miguel Special Services building. She stated she was excited to see a lot of good things coming out of the special education services. She encourages parents to attend Coffee with the Principal and Coffee with the Superintendent. It is very informative and is excited to see more parents participating and being engaged in their child's education. Also, she asks parents to attend the Weekly Wrap Up Sessions that Superintendent Dempsey hosts for parents to be well informed.

Mr. Castillo expressed the importance of communication.

Mrs. Viramontes stated she virtually attended Coffee with the Superintendent. She stated she appreciates the principals, counselors, and others that virtually attend. She thanks Santa Teresa Middle School teachers that teach back and forth as 7th and 8th graders have been quarantined. She also reported that STMS gathered on September 10th to honor all Military Services, Sunland Park Police Department, Santa Teresa Fire Department, Dona Ana Sheriff's Office, Nurse's and first responders in the community to honor September 11th. Also, they honored the thirteen soldiers who were killed in Afghanistan. She reported that Riverside Elementary is trying to do more attendance awareness. Santa Teresa Elementary have over 180 students participating in the after school program. Santa Teresa High School have homecoming coming up. Senior sunrise will be Friday, September 10th at Santa Teresa High School. Also she commended the seniors that 42% of high school student body has 100% attendance. She congratulated Julian Cobos, quarter back for Santa Teresa High School, for being recognized in the Las Cruces Sun News as Player of the Week. She thanked Isaias Alvidrez for his high expectations.

President Flores reported she had the privilege to meet Head Security Rene Ortega. She thanked Hector Moreno, Federal Program Media Clerk, for making copies for her. She wished a Happy Birthday to all September babies. She stated she attended Coffee with the Superintendent. She thanked Superintendent Dempsey and his team for being graceful,

patient, and to answer questions. She also attended the DACC Advisory Board with Mr. Castillo last Thursday.

Personnel Report

4. The personnel report is included for the Board's information with no action required.

Approval of the Agenda

5. Mr. Castillo made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Superintendent Dempsey recommended approval of the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

School Board Minutes

6. Mrs. Viramontes made a motion to accept the Regular School Board Minutes for August 26, 2021. Superintendent Dempsey recommended approval of the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

7. Mrs. Rodriguez made a motion to accept the consent agenda as presented. Superintendent Dempsey recommended approval of the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Open Forum

8. Open Forum: None

Action

9. Action Items: None

Discussion Lease Proposal Between GISD and CRRUA

10. Discussion Items:

- A. Mrs. Cadena presented information on the Lease Proposal Between GISD and Camino Real Regional Utility Authority. She stated that the current space leased to CRRUA has been reduced by 600 square feet due to shortage office space at GISD therefore, the lease requires an amendment to reflect the new monthly rent and utility costs. The rate for the lease remains equal to those previously approved by the Gadsden Board of Education.
- GISD Strategic Planning Work Session Agenda
- B. Superintendent Dempsey presented information on the GISD Strategic Planning Work Session Agenda. Superintendent Dempsey stated that a Board Workshop for Saturday, September 18, 2021 is to revisit district mission, vision, core values and goals.

Employee Compensation Enhancement

C. Superintendent Dempsey presented information on the Employee Compensation Enhancement. He discussed options and perimeters in providing GISD employees a one-time monetary enhancement.

Student Quarantine Protocols And Instructional Delivery

D. Mrs. Creegan and Mrs. Hernandez presented information on the Student Quarantine Protocols And Instructional Delivery. They provided an overview of protocols associated with student quarantine associated with COVID and guidance related to instructional delivery during these periods.

Closed Session

11. Closed Session

Mr. Castillo made the motion to go into Closed Session pursuant to 10-15-1, H-2, NMSA 1978 for Superintendent's and Associate Superintendent's report on recent personnel actions and issue such as: employees on administrative leave with pay, employee grievances, and employee issues, and superintendent's evaluation. Superintendent Dempsey recommended approval of the motion. A roll call vote was taken, Armando Cano, Daniel Castillo, Laura Salazar Flores, Claudia Rodriguez, and Jennifer Viramontes all voted "aye". Motion carried unanimously. The Board went into Closed Session at 7:37 p.m.

Reconvene

12. Mr. Castillo made a motion to reconvene in open session. The Board reconvened in Open Session at 10:30 p.m. Mrs. Viramontes made a motion to extend Superintendent Dempsey a three years contract retroactive to July 1, 2021 with an additional 1% increase to his current salary. A roll call vote was taken, Armando Cano, Daniel Castillo, Laura Salazar Flores, Claudia Rodriguez, and Jennifer Viramontes all voted "aye". Motion carried unanimously. Superintendent Dempsey accepted and will therefore, continue to serve as Superintendent of the Gadsden Independent School District until June 30, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn

13. Mrs. Viramontes made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Superintendent Dempsey recommended approval of the motion.
Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:31 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:	APPROVED BY:
Jennifer Viramontes, School Board Secretary	Laura Salazar Flores, School Board President
Minutes taken by MaryLou Delgado	