



*DRAFT 01/05/2023*  
*FINAL 01/12/2023*

**REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES**  
*For December 8, 2022*

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

Introduction  
And Roll Call

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

Pledge &  
Mission Statement

2. The Pledge of Allegiance and the Pledge to the New Mexico flag were led by Elisa Bautista and Derek Morales.

Superintendent's  
Report

3. Superintendent District updates and recognitions:
  - A. Superintendent Dempsey introduced Mr. Bruce Beach, Coordinator for Cultural Arts. Mr. Beach presented an update on the Winter Festival.
  - B. Principal Gema Suggs introduced Mr. Ross Robles and Mr. Saul Nuñez, sponsor for the STHS Computer Science: Governor's STEM Challenge. More than 400 students participated in the Fourth Annual New Mexico Governor's STEM Challenge, a competition testing high school students' ability to use science, technology, engineering and math to solve real-world problems. Each team was composed of up to 10 students who designed and developed a project model to address the question posed by NMSU, "Imagine New Mexico as a state known for sustainable and green manufacturing. What innovations or developments could be produced to foster our schools, jobs and communities?" Each of the following students will receive a \$500 reward.
  - C. Superintendent Dempsey and board members presented the area legislators with a plaque for their service and dedication to Gadsden ISD: NM State Senator Joseph Cervantes; State Representative Ray Lara (no show); State Representative Willie

Madrid (no show); and State Representative Doreen Gallegos (no show).

- D. Superintendent Dempsey acknowledged the Gadsden ISD Board Members that were recognized with a certificate and lapel pins at the NMSBA Annual Conference for reaching cumulative training hours within the program/training year.
- E. Student Representative-Briana Hernandez, a sophomore from Alta Vista Early College High School, reported that this week they have been taking the DACC finals and next week will have high school finals. The Alta Vista media students will be competing in the Business Professionals of America regional on January 10th at Arrowhead Park Early College High School. Students are competing in 10 different events, some of which are individual competitions, such as Digital Media Production and Graphic Design Promotion, while others are team events, such as Podcast Production Team and Visual Design Team. We wish them good luck. Last month, seniors took their cap and gown pictures and had advising with DACC to select their classes for their last semester. Juniors continue their volunteering partnership with Berino Elementary. They thanked Mrs. Carnevale, again, for the opportunity to volunteer on her campus and make a difference in the lives of young students. Brandi Apodaca (a 2020 graduate of Alta Vista Early College High School and former District Student Leadership Council member) is continuing her internship on our campus and providing our students with guidance from her experience as a student at AVECHS. They are excited to continue the school clubs and organizations such as Chess Club, Science Club, and National Honor Society. The Academic Counselor, Ms. Angel, has begun her recruiting process for the 2023-2024 school year. Last week she and a few seniors visited each middle school. The seniors presented to the 8th graders and were able to answer any questions they had. There were 216 students who signed up with interest in attending Alta Vista Early College High School. They had 76 from Chaparral Middle School, 69 from Gadsden Middle School, and 71 from Santa Teresa Middle School. The application process is online and they have received 26 applications so far. Eleven from Chaparral, 7 from Gadsden, and 8 from Santa Teresa. The maximum number of students that can be accepted is 66 and the deadline to apply is January 13th. All application information is located on the school website under the Admissions link. They look forward to reviewing the applications and selecting their incoming Mighty Owl Freshmen

students! On Tuesday they had an 8th Grade Virtual Parent Meeting to provide information to the parents about their school and the application process. They had 48 parents that attended the virtual meeting.

- F. Mrs. Murillo thanked Principal Marques for their hospitality. She congratulated Sunland Park Elementary Choir for winning the New Mexico All-State Choir. She stated she has been seeing the schools being involved with the community which is amazing. The WIC Program recognized Principal Leon Smith at Santa Teresa Elementary for contributing the most of the food canned drive. Santa Teresa High School participated in the Toys for Tots. She thanked the Santa Teresa Charitable Foundation for their contribution to STHS senior breakfast. She congratulated the STHS Stem Challenge recipients. She thanked Briana Hernandez for her updated report. She stated she is looking forward for Desert Pride Academy graduation next week.

Mr. Cano thanked Mr. Beach and Principal Suggs for hosting the Winter Festival. He congratulated the STHS STEM Challenge Recipients. He thanked the legislators for their service as they go into the legislative session in February.

Mr. Castillo also thanked Principal Marquez for her hospitality. He stated he is proud of the Ballet Folklorico performance. He congratulated the STHS STEM Challenge recipients. He stated he attended the NMSBA Annual Convention.

Mrs. Rodriguez congratulated Mrs. Urrea, music teacher. She stated she also attended the NMSBA Annual Convention. She also congratulated the STHS STEM Challenge recipients. She thanked Principal Marquez for her hospitality. She also thanked the social workers for everything they do to support our children. She stated it was very inspirational and motivating.

President Flores thanked Principal Marquez for her hospitality. She stated the Ballet Folklorico was a wonderful performance. She wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! She stated she also attended the NMSBA Annual Convention. She thanked Dr. Rondon, Cooperative Educational Services, for inviting the board members to be part of the panel discussion. She stated she also attended the Chaparral Middle School design committee. She congratulated the December grads from Desert Pride Academy. She also congratulated the STHS Computer Science STEM Challenge. She congratulated Mrs. Nubia Tarazona for writing a resolution on behalf of Gadsden ISD for

Bilingual stipend. The resolution was presented to NMSBA. Lastly, she congratulated the Chaparral Middle School 8<sup>th</sup> grade basketball team as they played an intense game into overtime.

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| 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. Mr. Cano made a motion to accept the Regular School Board Minutes for November 10, 2022. Superintendent Dempsey recommended approval of the motion. Motion carried unanimously.                                     |
| Consent Agenda  | 7. Mrs. Murillo 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: Analisa Gardea addressed the board regarding GHS swimming pool.   |
| Action<br>GHS Academic<br>Building Metal Roof<br>Replacement                                    | 9. Action Items:<br>A. Mr. Castillo made a motion to accept the GHS Academic Building Metal Roof Replacement. Superintendent Dempsey recommended approval of the motion. Motion carried unanimously.                   |
| Proposed Demolition<br>of the Alamo<br>Building   | B. Superintendent Dempsey recommended to table Item 9B Proposed Demolition of the Alamo Building. Superintendent Dempsey recommended approval of the motion. Motion carried unanimously.                               |
| Proposed Change To<br>Board Meeting<br>Protocols: Adding<br>Work Session                        | C. Mr. Castillo made a motion to table Item 9C Proposed Change to Board Meeting Protocols: Adding Work Session. Superintendent Dempsey recommended approval of the motion. Motion carried unanimously.                 |
| Resolution: Decrease<br>Percentage of<br>Insurance Premiums<br>Paid by all Employees<br>to 20 % | D. Mrs. Murillo made a motion to accept the Resolution: Decrease Percentage of Insurance Premiums Paid by all Employees to 20%. Superintendent Dempsey recommended approval of the motion. Motion carried unanimously. |

Discussion  
Grant of Utility  
Easement to CRRUA

10. Discussion Items:

A. Mrs. Cadena, Associate Superintendent for Support Services, presented information on the Grant of Utility Easement to Camino Real Regional Utility Authority.

Student Nutrition  
Program Survey  
Results

B. Mrs. Cadena presented information on the Student Nutrition Program Survey Results.

2023-24 School  
Calendar

C. Mr. Wohlgemuth, Director for Secondary Schools, presented information on the 2023-24 School Calendar.

Possible  
Consolidation of  
Sunland Park  
Elementary with DVE  
and RSE

D. Superintendent Dempsey presented information on the Possible Consolidation of Sunland Park Elementary with Desert View Elementary and Riverside Elementary. He explained that Sunland Park Elementary (SPE) has experienced a significant enrollment decline along with decreases in enrollment across the district. Desert View Elementary is located close to Sunland Park Elementary and has adequate space for these students which would create cost savings for the district. On Tuesday December 6, 2022, he discussed this with the staff assigned to SPE and allowed them to share their input and thoughts. Community meeting is scheduled for Tuesday December 13, 2022, at Sunland Park Elementary at 4:30 pm.

Possible  
Consolidation of  
Mesquite Elementary  
with NVE and VE

E. Superintendent Dempsey presented information on the Possible Consolidation of Mesquite Elementary with North Valley Elementary and Vado Elementary. He explained that Mesquite Elementary (MQE) has experienced a significant enrollment decline along with decreases in enrollment across the district. North Valley Elementary and Vado Elementary are located close to MQE and have adequate space for these students which would create cost savings for the district. On Tuesday January 10, 2023, he would like to meet with the staff assigned to MQE and allow them to share their input and thoughts. Community meeting tentatively scheduled for Tuesday January 17, 2023, at MQE.

Board Norms

F. Superintendent Dempsey presented information on the Board Norms.

Finance Committee:  
Understanding  
Purpose

G. Superintendent Dempsey presented information on the Finance Committee: Understanding Purpose.

Monthly Budget  
Report For The  
Month Ended October  
31, 2022

H. Mrs. Martinez presented information on the Monthly Budget Report For The Month Ended October 31, 2022.

Adjourn

11. Mr. Cano made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Superintendent Dempsey recommended approval of the motion. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

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Claudia Rodriguez, School Board Secretary

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Laura Salazar Flores, School Board President

Minutes taken by MaryLou Delgado