



*DRAFT 03/30/2023*  
*FINAL 04/06/2023*

**REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES**  
*For March 23, 2023*

1. The Gadsden School Board convened in regular session at 5:05 p.m. Vice President Rodriguez presided the meeting held at the Desert Pride Academy Cafeteria.

Introduction  
And Roll Call

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

President Flores was absent.

Pledge &  
Mission Statement

2. The Pledge of Allegiance and the Pledge to the New Mexico flag was led by Jeanelle Marquez.

Superintendent's  
Report

3. Superintendent District updates and recognitions:
  - A. Principal Legarreta at Gadsden High School introduced Mrs. Ramos, sponsor for DECA. Mrs. Ramos recognized the DECA Nationalists: George Ramirez placed second in the area of Hospitality and Tourism Professional Selling; and Andrea Lozoya was a semi-finalist in the area of Professional Selling and was selected to attend the Ignite Academy. They will be attending DECA's International Conference in Orlando, Florida from April 21st – 25<sup>th</sup>.
  - B. Mr. Wohlgemuth, Director for Secondary Schools, presented information on the 2023 Gene Bottoms SREB Pacesetter Award. The Gadsden Independent School District is the winner of a 2023 District Leadership Award from the Southern Regional Education Board. The district will be honored on July 18, 2023, at SREB's Annual Making Schools Work Conference. The Leadership Awards recognize districts and leaders that are leading the implementation of one or more of SREB's Making Schools Work school improvement frameworks. Leaders create the conditions that help schools achieve success in meeting bold goals related to success rates, student achievement, readiness for college and careers, and/or credential attainment.
  - C. Principal Suggs at Santa Teresa High School presented information on the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow competition.

The Samsung Solve for Tomorrow competition is open to both middle school and high school students and the purpose of the competition is to encourage our students to use their creativity, problem solving skills, and to address real world issues that are related to education, environment public safety, and health. Principal Suggs introduced Mr. Nuñez that led the students to be named one of 50 state winners and receive a \$12,000 prize package. Mr. Nuñez recognized the Computer Science winners: Erica Peralta, Lluvia Flores, Jacob Cabrera, Francisco Garcia, Mae Yanez, Alejandro Cano, Andres De La Cruz, and Aubri Navedo.

- D. Principal Ludwig from Desert Pride Academy presented information on the Classroom Demonstration: Anatomage Table. The board participated in a classroom demonstration of an Anatomage Table.
- E. Superintendent Dempsey gave an overview on the Legislative Update: HB 130 Extended Learning Time; SB 4 Free School Lunches; HB 134 Menstrual Products in Schools; HB 126 High School Graduation Requirements; HB 533 Health Insurance for Teachers; HB 127 Educational Assistant Raises; and Budget: 6% Raise for Teachers.
- F. Superintendent Dempsey presented information on the Update on Early Out Wednesday. He explained that Early Out Wednesdays was first implemented during the 2022-23 school year, currently reflected in approved 2023-24 school calendar, aligns with continuous improvement framework, provides opportunities for staff to work in collaborative teams, and hours can be counted toward 1,140 (60 for elementary and 30 for secondary).
- G. Student Representative-Jeanette Marquez, a senior from Desert Pride Academy, stated that she attends DPA due to credit recovery. She dropped out of school due to family issues; however, she attends classes daily. She is currently a straight "A" student and has a 3.4 GPA. She will be graduating in May and applied at Doña Ana Community College to attend in the Fall of 2023. She will be majoring in Elementary Education. She stated that Desert Pride Academy has helped her and many other students. She reported that the CTE Program started two years ago under the direction of Dr. Sonogo and Mr. Lambeth and 220 students have received certifications in the areas of Child Development, Medical Anatomy and Physiology, First Aid and CPR, and AED. She stated that Desert Pride Academy not only helps students to recover credits to graduate but also prepares the students for college and the workforce. The district is in the planning stages of building a new Greenhouse at DPA where they can learn new skills and acquire new certifications. Desert Pride is the best kept secret in the district.

- H. Mr. Castillo stated the Anatomage Table presentation was awesome. He congratulated the DECA finalist and Computer Science recipients.

Mr. Cano thanked Principal Ludwig for her hospitality and for the Anatomage Table presentation. He thanked Jeanelle Marquez for her update report. He congratulated the teachers that were selected for the Teacher of the Year. He thanked Mr. Champagne, Welding teacher at Santa Teresa High School, for being an inspiration to his son in the Welding Program.

Mrs. Murillo thanked Principal Ludwig for her hospitality. She congratulated Mrs. Marquez for her report. She wished Mr. Cano a Happy Birthday. She congratulated Santa Teresa High School Computer Science, Cheerleaders and Band as they qualified for State. She stated that Mr. Castillo and herself are part of the superintendent's evaluation and met on Monday with David Chavez, Cooperative Educational Services. She congratulated all the Teach of the Year.

Mrs. Rodriguez congratulated the Computer Science winners. She thanked Jeanelle for her report. She stated she is proud of Desert Pride Academy and thanked Principal Ludwig for doing a great job. She thanked her fellow board members for the collaboration with CES for working on the superintendent's evaluation tool that is very critical and important for great leadership.

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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 approve the agenda as presented. Superintendent Dempsey recommended approval of the motion. Motion carried unanimously.   |
| School Board Minutes   | 6. Mr. Cano made a motion to approve the March 9, 2023 Regular School Board Minutes. Superintendent Dempsey recommended approval of the motion. Motion carried unanimously.  |
| Consent Agenda         | 7. Mrs. Murillo made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Superintendent Dempsey recommended approval of the motion. Motion carried unanimously.   |
| Open Forum             | 8. Open Forum: Roberto Nieto addressed to the board regarding Mr. Villalobos and Mr. Alvarez from GHS their great impact on his sons. Gloria Gonzales addressed to the board regarding the broadband project. Lorea Schoonover addressed to the board regarding moral for COVID. |

Action  
Limit number of  
discussion items per  
board member

9. Action Items:

- A. Mr. Castillo made a motion to table the Limit number of discussion items per board member. Superintendent Dempsey recommended approval of the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- B. Mr. Castillo made a motion to approve the Banking Resolution. Superintendent Dempsey recommended approval of the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Banking Resolution

Discussion  
Instructional  
Materials Adoption:  
Social Studies Core  
Material

10. Discussion Items:

- A. Mr. Wohlgemuth, Director of Secondary Schools, presented information on the Instructional Materials Adoption: Social Studies Core Material.
- B. Mr. Snoddy, Director of Technology, presented information on the Broadband Project.

Broadband Project

Announcement of  
Upcoming Meetings

11. Superintendent Dempsey announced the upcoming meetings:

- A. Next Regular Board Meeting: March 09, 2023 (Deadline for Item Requests February 27,2023)
- B. National School Board Association Conf. April 1-3 Orlando, FL
- C. NMASBO Spring Budget April 11-13 Albuquerque
- D. NMSBA Region VII Meeting April 18, 2023 Las Cruces
- E. NMSBA Law Conference June 1-3 Albuquerque

Adjourn

- 12. Mr. Cano made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Superintendent Dempsey recommended approval of the motion. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:58 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