



Pecos Independent School District

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School Board

Grady Barrens, President
Harold J. Garcia, Vice President
Claudette Roybal, Secretary
Edna Herrera, Member
James Tanuz, Member

Administration

Debra Sena-Holton,
Superintendent

**BOARD MEETING REVISED AGENDA
PECOS BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 17, 2024
PECOS SCHOOLS BOARD ROOM
PECOS, NM
6:00 PM**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
4. GOLDEN PANTHER RECOGNITION
5. DRESS CODE
6. ELEMENTARY PTO INTRODUCTION
7. UNIT/DIRECTOR REPORTS
8. PUBLIC COMMENTS
9. BUSINESS REPORT
 - A. Financial Status
10. CONSENT AGENDA
 - B. Check Register for Month of August 2024
 - C. Cash Transfer(s), BAR's (if any) and Journal Entries
 - D. Minutes of Special Board Meeting-June 25, 2024
 - E. Minutes of Regular Board Meeting-July 16, 2024
11. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
12. POLICY
13. ACTION ITEM(S)
14. OTHER

15. ADVANCE PLANNING

- NMSBA Fall Region II Meeting-September 16, 2024, Penasco, NM
- Work Session-October 1, 2024, 5:30 pm, Pecos Schools Board Room
- Regular Board Meeting-October 15, 2024, 6:00 pm, Pecos Schools Board Room

ADJOURNMENT

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 PECOS SCHOOLS BOARD ROOM
 PECOS, NEW MEXICO
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MINUTES

**Regular Meeting
Pecos Board of Education
Pecos Independent School District
Pecos, New Mexico
Pecos Schools Board Room
Pecos, NM
September 17, 2024
6:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

The President, Mr. Grady Barrens called the meeting to order @ 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Grady Barrens, Board President
Mr. Harold J. Garcia, Board Vice President
Ms. Edna Herrera, Board Member
Mr. James Tanuz, Board Member
Ms. Debra Sena-Holton, Superintendent

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ms. Claudette Roybal, Board Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT

Brenda Tanuz	Vanessa DeJesus	Russell Montano	Santiago Carreon
Teresita Montano	Gilbert S. Morales	Cathy Gallegos	Chris Moore
Mary Catherine A. Vigil		Danielle Seaboy	Melissa T. Valencia-Flores

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Based on Superintendent Sena-Holton's recommendation, Member Herrera motioned to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Member Tanuz. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

GOLDEN PANTHER RECOGNITION

Principals announced September award recipients, noted the characteristics of the individual deserving of the award and presented those in attendance with a recognition certificate. The Golden Panthers recognized were Teresita Montano-5th grader, Zaid Rascon-7th grader and Thomas Garcia-Freshman.

DRESS CODE

Mr. Morales alluded to the directive and efforts to fulfill; met with students-on more than one occasion, formed committee, input from students not in the committee, pointed out the number of students in the committee and stated others joined to inform of their thoughts. He conveyed the 2024-2025 Student Dress Regulations is provided, pointed out students were being conservative, deciphered the color-coding and stated students were thankful for having the opportunity to share their opinions. He presented the highlighted amendments, indicated the guidelines have been formulated and are awaiting approval. Superintendent Sena-Holton conveyed the proposition is not a policy, stated under those circumstances won't be on the agenda as an Action Item, noted the review with the Board and announced it's the regulation at the middle & high school. President Barrens touched on ambiguous course of events, recommended finding a balance perhaps evaluating on a case by case basis and remarked on seeking other solutions to consider providing. Mr. Morales indicated he would discuss alternatives with Superintendent Sena-Holton and conveyed the enactments can be utilized as guidance, as opposed to being part of district policy. President Barrens stated he liked the idea of using as guide, as opposed to some ironclad document.

ELEMENTARY PTO INTRODUCTION

Ms. Brenda Tanuz introduced herself as the newly elected president of the elementary PTO, pointed out the organization formed in the school year of 2021-2022 (at the request of Ms. Gallegos), conveyed there have been positive and negative points, acknowledged a real problem with recruiting parents, their commitment and following through and reported that through it all, this year they've had the best group there's been so far. Ms. Mary Catherine Vigil, PTO member stated there are nine members, announced their names and title. Ms. Tanuz expressed excitement regarding initiatives, mentioned the intent of providing monthly activities and briefed on upcoming events. She commented on fundraising, presented on the two fundraising events held the previous school year, gave a quick overview of other prior fundraising and sponsored events. She expressed hope of informing about the initiatives and ideas/insights/visions, with the intention of others in the community becoming enthusiastic about wanting to contribute to the organization. Vice President

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Garcia suggested initiatives aimed at promoting/improving father involvement. Ms. Vigil made aware of the collaboration with the American Legion Auxiliary. She noted that joining the organization was one of the best decisions she's made. President Barrens emphasized on celebrating successes and proposed keeping the Board acquainted with affairs. Vice President Garcia extended an invitation to attend a Work Session, if there is a need to discuss ideas etc. Superintendent Sena-Holton presented ideas on measures for promoting.

UNIT/DIRECTOR REPORTS

Support Services/Student Nutrition

Vice President Garcia suggested discussing with the Board an email received on the present day.

Ms. Daves revealed the picture that was attached to the email. She noted the concern was immediately looked into and it was determined that students had other food item options and pointed out the items missing from the picture. She stated one of the corrective actions; all middle school students will be served-required to go through the lunch line, to ensure all trays have all necessary items. Superintendent Sena-Holton remarked on the treatment as young adults, advised on applying to high school as well and stipulated it's not a reimbursable meal. She commented on the perception of miscommunication. Vice President Garcia asked Ms. Daves to reach out to the parent and discuss the state of affairs. President Barrens presented his standpoint on the extent of immediate staff efforts to address complaints based upon misinformation and expressed concern with a habitual tendency, as opposed to following chain of command. Ms. Daves made aware principals are consistently present in the cafeteria during meals and can verify and validate students self-selected the food items of their choice.

President Barrens inquired on the communication of the Child Find. Ms. Daves stated the methods of communication; circulation of a flyer, posting on marquee, making teachers aware and informing elementary teachers. She informed kindergarten students who were not screened the previous year will be evaluated, conveyed parents have submitted the consents to evaluate and briefed on the screening arrangement. She mentioned an invitation was extended to out of district entities. Superintendent Sena-Holton alluded to posting the Child Find announcement on social media, in an effort to reach out to the community.

Secondary

Member Herrera expressed concern with the vacant secretary position and recommended providing telephone etiquette training to those who assist. Mr. Morales provided a hiring status update for the vacant position and briefed on the office support that is provided meanwhile; students are serving in the capacity of office clerks, a substitute is provided when available and made mention of the supervision and protocol. Superintendent Sena-Holton extended an invitation to assist and volunteer as the secretary.

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Vice President commended the presentation of the Golden Panther recognitions and asked Mr. Morales how he felt about the initiative, to recognize students and staff. Mr. Morales stated his intent to recognize the recipients at the next assembly and touched upon the objective of the assemblies. He mentioned students are utilized to recite the Pledge of Allegiance and announcements will be made as needed.

President Barrens requested clarification on the type of the Curriculum and Instruction pending recommendations. Mr. Morales reported the middle school is in the process of taking the BOY assessments, for the purpose of assessing weaknesses and strengths, as opposed to speculation. He weight in on various factors that can contribute to student diagnostic scores and emphasized on identifying the academic level and progression. He conveyed SPSS-Statistical Package for the Social Sciences is a remarkable software program to utilize for consolidating data and raw data that would be beneficial, which a candidate for the position is willing to learn.

President Barrens requested feedback on classroom walk-thrus. Mr. Morales pointed out the use of the NMPED Teacher Evaluation Rubric as a guiding principle and explanation, based on the states standards to the districts standards. He mentioned specifics that are informally notated, discussed with staff and attested to with their signature. He notably stated we have some good teachers and teachers with good mindsets. Mr. Morales defined areas to improve upon, briefed on improvement measures and components that will be part of his 90-day plan; work on school culture, community relations and encouragement. He acknowledged being compelled to having a balance among everything and stated the role he will take in doing so.

President Barrens asked how the two administrators have been received by staff and their thoughts, some opportunities are to solidify their leadership and leadership styles. Mr. Morales noted their understanding of his transparency, make a ruling as is, fairness and consistency. He stated his perspective is from a neutral position and outcomes may be based on Board Policy and the Superintendent's directives. He noted his compassion and conveyed he will see/consider the opposing side as well. Mr. Morales acknowledged that he and the Assistant Principal have proven that they are willing to learn and willing to work with the staff.

Ms. Seaboy stated she felt she was very well received, perceived a greater sense of support from the high school and acknowledged it was much more difficult for the middle school to adjust, although have accepted her fairly well. She expressed appreciation to the staff, conveyed it appears they are able to seek assistance and she is able to assist when needed at both levels. She reported the secondary staff is now very receptive, willing to extend assistance as requested and are supportive. Ms. Seaboy noted the level of support is greatly appreciated.

Elementary

Member Herrera asked how things are going. Ms. Gallegos reported experiencing positive and negative aspects and pointed out nonetheless they remain unified. She mentioned they currently have ongoing initiatives with the special education person and expressed appreciation for the support. She gave a shout out to the security guard, who has been on deck for several incidents. Ms. Gallegos announced completion of the BOY testing and mentioned the commencing of progress monitoring. She noted she is midpoint with the completion of formal classroom observations and declared there is some great stuff happening. She complimented the breakfast and lunch meals served. Ms. Gallegos briefed on incentive preparation efforts in regard to awaited assessment results, mentioned the data from the previous year remains on display, recognized the anticipation of the last results and formulate plans toward toping last year's scores. She pointed out findings on the playground and recognized there are a lot of fun things that happen in school as well. Superintendent Sena-Holton stated the need of an ADA sidewalk and told of the difficulty in finding contractors to bid. Ms. Gallegos noted the intercom system is very much missed.

President Barrens referenced the focus is math once again this year, inquired on any plans of another math book club and cited his recollection of reasoning; teachers weren't very strong in the math that needed to be taught. Ms. Gallegos touched upon the issue for the previous book club initiative; the curriculum was new, introduced during COVID, pointed out the lack of traditional Professional Development in receiving the new curriculum. She alluded to the time in between, stated teachers are now acclimated to and stronger with the curriculum and conveyed she does not feel the need to implement a book study. She noted the distinction it's making with students and their way of thinking about math. Ms. Gallegos briefed on plans she intends to put forward on math night.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

BUSINESS REPORT

FINANCIAL STATUS

Mr. Christopher Moore, K 12 Accounting Business Manger stated he was grateful to be in attendance and noted he is filling in for Bryan Runyan and Gowan Hays, who are out on Professional Development in California. He analyzed the Budget Adjustment Request(s)-BAR's and Journal Entry recommended for approval. He reviewed the Cash Balances and highlighted the major increases or decreases.

CONSENT AGENDA

Check Register for Month of August 2024
Cash Transfer(s), BAR's (if any) and Journal Entries
Minutes of Special Board Meeting-June 25, 2024
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting-July 16, 2024

Based on Superintendent Sena-Holton's recommendation, Vice President Garcia moved to approve the Check Register for the Month of August 2024, BAR's #3, Journal Entry, Minutes of Special Board Meeting-June 25, 2024 and Minutes of Regular Board Meeting-July 16, 2024, seconded by Member Tanuz. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Sena-Holton reported the completion of the main insurance roof project, made aware issues were detected that were not covered by the insurance and informed SB 9 monies were used for the repairs. She gave kudos to the first issue of the newsletter and to Aleah, who did an amazing job with the production. She mentioned the addition of a Board corner and noted the submission deadline for inclusion of the highlight in the next newsletter. Superintendent Sena-Holton announced the anticipated date of release regarding the district test data and mentioned her plan for review. She shared her thoughts on the fast-paced dynamics of the workplace, indicated the first nine weeks is fast approaching and alleged that overall, a lot of positive things are happening. She noted positive feedback has been received from new hires and announced the hiring of a psychologist.

Vice President Garcia inquired on the commencing of the Dual Credit Program. Ms. Seaboy reported classes have been in session three weeks and two weeks transporting students to SFCC. Superintendent Sena-Holton informed the percentage of Juniors and Seniors participation in Dual Credit. Ms. Seaboy pointed out the utilization of Luna Community College as well as SFCC. Superintendent Sena-Holton made aware CTE Program is immense.

Superintendent Sena-Holton reported on the status of busses. She pointed out how/on what the Volleyball Calendar Fundraiser will be directed towards.

POLICY

None

ACTION ITEM(S)

None

OTHER

Member Tanuz inquired on the status of the surveyor. Superintendent Sena-Holton reported he has not responded to her text message. She provided an update on the door project. President Barrens presented a progress report on the East Pecos Property.

ADVANCE PLANNING

- NMSBA Fall Region II Meeting-September 16, 2024, Penasco, NM
- Work Session-October 1, 2024, 5:30 pm, Pecos Schools Board Room
- Regular Board Meeting-October 15, 2024, 6:00 pm, Pecos Schools Board Room

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:48 p.m., Vice President Garcia moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Member Tanuz. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0. Minutes approved and signed on this 19th day of November 2024.



GRADY BARRENS, PRESIDENT

ATTEST: 

CLAUDETTE ROYBAL, SECRETARY