



Pecos Independent School District

North Hwy 63, P.O. Box 368 Pecos, NM 87552 Phone: 505-757-4700 Fax: 505-757-8721



School Board

Darlene Ortiz, President
Harold J. Garcia, Vice President
Grady Barrens, Secretary
Michael Flores Sr., Member
Vacant, Member

Administration

Debra Sena-Holton,
Superintendent

Brenda Gallegos,
Director of Finance

**BOARD MEETING AGENDA
PECOS BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 19, 2021
PECOS SCHOOLS BOARD ROOM
PECOS, NM
6:00 PM**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- 4. ACTION ITEM(S)**
 - A.** Appointing of New Board Member
 - B.** Resolution to Fill Board of Education Vacancy
 - C.** Approval/Disapproval of Speech Language Pathologist Bid
 - D.** Approval/Disapproval of NMDOT Resolution
 - E.** Approval/Disapproval of Athletic Handbook
- 5. SWEARING IN OF APPOINTED BOARD MEMBER (Judge Christian Montano)**
- 6. GOLDEN PANTHER AWARDS**
- 7. 2022 GRADUATION**
- 8. UNIT/DIRECTOR REPORTS**
- 9. BUSINESS REPORT**
 - F.** Financial Status
- 10. CONSENT AGENDA**
 - G.** Check Register for Month of September 2021
 - H.** Cash Transfer(s), BAR's (if any) and Journal Entries
 - I.** Minutes of Regular Board Meeting-September 21, 2021
- 11. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**
- 12. POLICY**
- 13. OTHER**

14. ADVANCE PLANNING

- Work Session-November 2, 2021, 5:30 pm, Pecos Schools Board Room
- Regular Board Meeting-November 16, 2021, 6:00 pm, Pecos Schools Board Room
- NMSBA Annual Convention Conference-December 2-4, 2021, Embassy Suites Hotel, Albuquerque, NM

ADJOURNMENT

INDEX
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
PECOS BOARD OF EDUCATION
PECOS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
PECOS SCHOOLS BOARD ROOM
PECOS, NEW MEXICO
OCTOBER 19, 2021
6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER -----	1
ROLL CALL -----	1
APPROVAL OF AGENDA -----	2
PUBLIC COMMENTS -----	2
ACTION ITEM(S) -----	3
➤ Appointing of New Board Member	
➤ Resolution to Fill Board of Education Vacancy	
➤ Approval/Disapproval of Speech Language Pathologist Bid	
➤ Approval/Disapproval of NMDOT Resolution	
➤ Approval/Disapproval of Athletic Handbook	
SWEARING IN OF APPOINTED BOARD MEMBER (Judge Christian Montano)	3
GOLDEN PANTHER AWARDS -----	4
2022 GRADUATION -----	4
UNIT/DIRECTOR REPORTS -----	4-6
BUSINESS REPORT -----	7
CONSENT AGENDA -----	7
➤ Check Register for Month of September 2021	
➤ Cash Transfer(s), BAR's (if any) and Journal Entries	
➤ Minutes of Regular Board Meeting-September 21, 2021	
SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT -----	7
POLICY -----	7
OTHER -----	8

ADVANCE PLANNING -----	8
ADJOURNMENT -----	8

MINUTES

**Regular Meeting
Pecos Board of Education
Pecos Independent School District
Pecos, New Mexico
Pecos Schools Board Room
Pecos, NM
October 19, 2021
6:00 P.M.**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER

The President, Ms. Darlene Ortiz called the meeting to order @ 6:01 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Darlene Ortiz, Board President
Mr. Harold J. Garcia, Board Vice President
Mr. Grady Barrens, Board Secretary
Mr. Michael Flores Sr., Board Member
Ms. Debra Sena-Holton, Superintendent
Mr. Ginger Nickell, Student Representative

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

OTHERS PRESENT

Claudette Roybal	Pete Vallejo	Esther Gonzales	Albino Gonzales
Estrella Gonzales	David Gonzales	Cathy Gallegos	Cecilia Roybal
Anali Roybal	Emily Ortiz	Michael Flores Jr.	Jessica E. Flores
Denisha Moodley	Leslie Damon	Mr. Luis Aragon	Mrs. Luis Aragon
Justine Aragon	Angelo Aragon	Esmeralda Castillo	Sanjuana Valadez
Brenda Gallegos	Melissa T. Valencia-Flores		

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Michael Flores Jr., Employee read the following:

Public Comment 10/19/2021

Good evening Members of the Board,

I am here this evening to address a matter that was brought to our attention. My wife received a call from one of the applicants for the vacant cheer coach position on Friday. Just to emphasize before I go any further, this person does not live in the District or have any ties to the District, therefore would not know any of this information beforehand. During their conversation the applicant brought up how she was told by Emily Ortiz during her interview on Wednesday that my wife had decided to resign because our daughters had transferred and that the reason for their transfer was because they were being bullied in Pecos.

First of all, my wife began coaching many years before any of my daughters could cheer for her. She never coached for our kids, she was here to build a program for our community and she did, a very successful one at that. Secondly, whatever the reason we had to transfer our daughters is none of Emily's business or anyone else's for that matter. I am disgusted that Emily felt compelled to discuss a personnel matter and student's personal matters during an interview just to gossip. I always thought that personnel matters and student matters were confidential, but I guess I am wrong. This conduct is unprofessional, especially by an Administrator.

Another topic brought up by Emily during this conversation was that I am no longer the Athletic Coordinator. Emily stated that I didn't have an Administrator's license, so I decided to resign. As an Administrator she should know that you do not need an Administrator's license to be a Coordinator. Anyways, again her gossip is incorrect. I did not want to work for Emily, that is why I resigned from Athletic Coordinator. I was not going to carry the program for her like Mrs. Sena-Holton is now.

You may be wondering why I am bringing this issue to you, the School Board. I have been told for many years to just "let it go", "stay quiet" just because of our positions here at the school. I can't do it anymore. The fact that people, Administrators can go around telling lies and spreading rumors is not what I believe you as Board Members would approve of. We are better than that, or at least I always believed we were.

Thank you for your time.

Michael Flores Jr.

Jessica Flores

Ms. Ortiz asked if she may respond and requested to enter into Executive Session. President Ortiz denied the request, stating Public Comments responses are not permitted.

ACTION ITEM(S)

APPOINTING OF NEW BOARD MEMBER

Secretary Barrens moved to appoint Ms. Claudette Roybal as New Board Member, seconded by Member Flores. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

RESOLUTION TO FILL BOARD OF EDUCATION VACANCY

Member Flores moved to approve the Resolution to Fill Board of Education Vacancy, seconded by Secretary Barrens. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST BID

Based on the Finance Director's recommendation, Secretary Barrens moved to approve the Speech Language Pathologist Bid of \$80/hr submitted by Therapia Options LLC, seconded by Member Flores. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF NMDOT RESOLUTION

Based on Superintendent Sena-Holton's recommendation, Member Flores moved to approve the NMDOT Resolution, seconded by Vice President Garcia. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

Based on Superintendent Sena-Holton's recommendation, Secretary Barrens moved to approve the amended Athletic Handbook presented and the proposal by Ms. Nickell to include teachers and band directors, seconded by Vice President Garcia. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

VIRTUAL SWEARING IN OF APPOINTED BOARD MEMBER (Judge Christian Montano)

Judge Christian Montano I. administered an oath of office to newly appointed School Board Member Claudette Roybal, congratulated Ms. Roybal, stated she was now official and wished her luck.

Superintendent Sena-Holton and Board Members thanked Judge Montano and welcomed Ms. Roybal.

GOLDEN PANTHER AWARDS

Principals announced October 2021 award recipients, pointed out attributes that deemed the individual deserving of the award and presented those present with a recognition certificate. The Golden Panthers recognized were David Gonzales-5th grader, Johanna Loya-8th grader and Justine Aragon-Senior. Translation of the recognition was provided for Spanish speaking family.

2022 GRADUATION

Superintendent Sena-Holton noted the decision to include graduation on the agenda. She indicated a Senior meeting will take place in the present week, to discuss their activities. She reported the state fair trip did not take place, informing only vaccinated individuals were permitted. Superintendent Sena-Holton mentioned review of the class budget and what it can realistically support.

UNIT/DIRECTOR REPORTS

Middle School

Ms. Moodley reported an increase in tutoring attendance, pointing out 13 students, whereas previously an approximate of four at each session. She noted students are showing significant growth in grammar comprehension, recognized math and vocabulary are concentration areas and expressed gratification for showing proficiency in one of the prioritization areas. She informed more students are participating in student events and pointed out five elementary scholars were included in the middle school enrichment event. Ms. Moodley accredited parent contact as a contributing factor, in accommodating and providing students with participating opportunities. She mentioned several students & Ms. Quintana decorated the cafeteria for Halloween. She recognized everyone in education are struggling with the transition back in to schools and commended the PMS Staff for doing what they have to do and going above and beyond to drive students learning and student engagement. Ms. Moodley conveyed those are the successes she would like to highlight at this time. She identified improving response rates as an area of growth, based on the Quarter 1 Family Survey responses and briefed on promoting other response platforms, as an incentive. She touched on prioritizing substance abuse, a concern relayed through the survey responses and elaborated on the extent of the concern. Ms. Moodley gave emphasis to ensuring students are safe and making healthy decisions wherever they are. She discussed substance abuse awareness initiatives for Red Ribbon Week, an all site collaboration with a continuous focus on students writing, vocabulary grammar etc.; expressing the intent in getting that awareness of the dangers of substance abuse in some ways to prevent it. She reported on the request of the Board to seek reasoning for low tutoring attendance; respondents conveyed transportation, other obligations and not necessary to participate in tutoring.

High School

Dr. Vallejo noted the dissemination of additional information to students regarding post-secondary academic options, mentioned assessments/events that have been made available for students. He recognized attendance and information is increasing, on account of students being on campus. He touched on assessments and remarked on the influence of the ACT, as a test component for graduation requirements. Dr. Vallejo reported a rise on SEL-Social Emotional Learning referrals, a discovery of students that need the help of a counselor or outside agency to assist in addressing the mental health issues. He commented on the benefit of utilizing resources within the district and the ability to refer outside as well. He acknowledged staff is working towards increasing communication with parents and noted his observation of noticeably more phone calls and outreach by teachers. Dr. Vallejo noted discipline is an area of concentration, recognized the behavior is a lack of being in a structured environment and mentioned several situations have involved drugs and tobacco. He reported majority of the violators are 9 & 10 graders, students who have not been at the high school getting daily reminders on structure and what's needed to do well in class.

Elementary School

Ms. Gallegos spoke of initiatives promoting students within the school, acknowledging organization is the key for the scheme. She mentioned the showcasing of various student achievements on hallway bulletin boards. She informed 4th & 5th grade issues have simmered down. Ms. Gallegos recognized an overall fatigue with teachers, conveyed they continue to carry out their duties and ensure the needs of students are met. She pointed out the overall display of respect as an area of concern; discussing the need to be respectful to students, students being respectful towards adults and ensuring students adults in the building are at hand to keep all safe and emphasized every adult is deserving of respect. She commented on her role in involving parents with the effort. Ms. Gallegos briefed on the utilization of high school students to assist with recess activities, complimented the initiative and expressed appreciation to have them on site.

Athletics

Ms. Ortiz announced the district was awarded the 2019-2020 Director's Cup, informing the Director's Cup is awarded annually to the top New Mexico Activities Association member schools in each classification; a points-based award system and reviewed the criteria. She informed the district has earned 1st Place for 2019-2020 and 2nd Place for 2020-2021. She acknowledged it's a real testament to the hard work that the athletic programs are demonstrating around New Mexico. Ms. Ortiz pointed out the challenge of incomplete schedules, indicated she is currently working to schedule games and gave emphasis to students participating. She informed PISD is hosting the District Cross Country Meet on Friday, October 29, 2021 and announced parent night for Volleyball & Cross-Country Parent Night is Thursday, October 28, 2021. She reported the hiring of a Varsity Cheer Coach, Ms. Danielle Seaboy. Ms. Ortiz mentioned on email received regarding the Tri-City Tournament, touched on the tradition, commented on the revenue generated and suggested consideration. She reviewed sports schedules. She briefed on the Northern Rio Grande Meeting

Regular Board Meeting
October 19, 2021
Page 6

held and discussed the Traveling Trophy plan. She announced her attendance of an Athletic Director's Conference and briefed on the information discussed.

Secretary Barrens inquired on middle school basketball teams. Ms. Ortiz confirmed there are both, a boys and girl team.

Support Services/Student Nutrition

Ms. Damon informed PowerSchool training was provided for teachers and Ancillary Staff, announced the UNM Autism Training was extended to district staff and reviewed onsite and online training provided. She pointed out the vacant positions, reported on the servicing of students and mentioned her role with the IEP's and Case Management at the secondary level. She complimented the efforts of the elementary teacher and secondary substitute teacher for their efforts and assistance. Ms. Damon expressed appreciation for the approval for the Speech Therapist and discussed compensatory services. She reported the current enrollment of 91 students, noting an increase from last year at this time. She pointed out the struggle of creating new documents for the new PowerSchool IEP Software System.

Ms. Damon announced a cleaning day is planned for Friday, October 22, 2021. She mentioned the planning for the Thanksgiving Meal, scheduled for November 18th and noted parents are not invited. She expressed concern with food availability.

Ms. Nickell asked if other food producers have been looked into. Ms. Damon informed the district utilizes three approved vendors by the New Mexico Public Education Department and informed the utilization of unapproved vendors will need to go through the bidding process. She briefed on an opportunity to participate in a kitchen grant, to purchase supplies, appliances, anything that will assist with energy efficiency. She mentioned personality conflicts and limited substitute cooks.

Ms. Nickell presented a complaint regarding the location of the student parking. Superintendent Sena-Holton informed the location is utilized for access to the primary entrance, for COVID procedures. Ms. Nickell inquired on a community cleanup day and presented a proposal. Superintendent Sena-Holton recommended partnership with the Upper Watershed Association and Student Council. Ms. Nickell expressed a high school heating concern. Superintendent Sena-Holton pointed out the replacement/upgrade of heating units with CARES Monies. Ms. Nickell shared a positive; students really enjoy Mr. Padilla's class. She commented on and expressed appreciation for mask breaks and recommended including in Fridays Class Schedule. She requested traffic signage for in front of the secondary school.

BUSINESS REPORT

FINANCIAL STATUS

Ms. Brenda Gallegos, Finance Director announced the report within Board Packet is the Quarterly Cash Report that gets submitted to NMPED, notified of the submission and reviewed its context. She informed all funds are in good standing. She pointed out the negative Food Service Balance, conveyed she is awaiting NMPED reimbursement and pointed out it's an approximate three-month process. Ms. Gallegos summarized the Payroll and Accounts Payable Report, Check Register for the Month of September 2021, Cash Transfers/BAR's, Internal BAR's and Journal Entries.

CONSENT AGENDA

Check Register for Month of September 2021
Cash Transfer(s), BAR's and Journal Entries (if any)
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting-September 21, 2021

Based on Superintendent Sena-Holton's recommendation, Vice President Garcia moved to approve the Check Register for the Month of September 2021, Cash Transfer(s), BAR'(s) #3-#5 (if any), Internal BAR's, Journal Entries and Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting-September 21, 2021, seconded by Secretary Barrens. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Sena-Holton reported the first Parent Academy on October 4th; conveyed attendance was poor and mentioned her advertisement efforts. She recognized the second half day; conveyed principals are utilizing the time to meet and mentioned the login of all Professional Development. She announced the new website will go live on October 20, 2021. Superintendent Sena-Holton mentioned the completion of Title IX Presentations with middle school and gave feedback on the presentation. She reported the resignation of a middle school teacher, recognizing it as a struggle. She spoke of hail damage, reported the damage worth and briefed on an insurance dispute.

Member Roybal asked if teachers have signed up for Sexual Misconduct Training developed by Poms and Associates & Vector Solutions. Superintendent Sena-Holton informed the training was completed by all staff last year and stated it was a requirement this year. She noted the training included coaches.

POLICY

None

OTHER

Superintendent Sena-Holton pointed out a resolution will be presented in November, Year of Literacy and indicated NMPED is encouraging every school board to approve.

Vice President Garcia recommended entering into Executive Session, as per Board Policy B-1700 and Board Policy B-1550; the recommendation is to enter into Executive Session to discuss limited personnel matters as per legal reference *10-15-1*.

At 7:35 p.m., Vice President Garcia recommended taking a short recess to contact the Board attorney for legal ramification purposes. Vice President Garcia moved to take a short recess, seconded by Member Roybal. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

Vice President Garcia stated Mr. Joe Guillen's recommendation was to state Executive Session on all the agendas, although it may not be used.

At 7:43 p.m., Secretary Barrens made a motion to reconvene from recess, seconded by Vice President Garcia. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

The recommendation by Vice President Garcia to enter into Executive Session has been disregarded.

ADVANCE PLANNING

- Work Session-November 2, 2021, 5:30 pm, Pecos Schools Board Room
- Regular Board Meeting-November 16, 2021, 6:00 pm, Pecos Schools Board Room
- NMSBA Annual Convention Conference-December 2-4, 2021, Embassy Suites Hotel, Albuquerque, NM

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:54 p.m., Vice President Garcia moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Secretary Barrens. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0. Minutes approved and signed on this 16th day of November 2021.



DARLENE ORTIZ, PRESIDENT

ATTEST:



GRADY BARRENS, SECRETARY