



# Pecos Independent School District

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## School Board

**Grady Barrens**, President  
**Claudette Roybal**, Secretary  
**Edna Herrera**, Member  
**Robert Romero**, Member  
**James Tanuz**, Member

## Administration

**Debra Sena-Holton**,  
Superintendent

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**BOARD MEETING AGENDA  
PECOS BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 20, 2026  
PECOS SCHOOLS BOARD ROOM  
PECOS, NM  
6:00 PM**

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- 4. ACTION ITEM(S)**
  - A.** Reorganization of the Board
- 5. GOLDEN PANTHER RECOGNITION**
- 6. UNIT/DIRECTOR REPORTS**
- 7. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- 8. BUSINESS REPORT**
  - B.** Financial Status
- 9. CONSENT AGENDA**
  - C.** Check Register for Month of December 2025
  - D.** Cash Transfer(s), BAR's (if any) and Journal Entries
  - E.** Minutes of Regular Board Meeting-October 21, 2025
- 10. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**
- 11. POLICY**
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading-J-5350 JLD—Administering Medicines to Students
- 12. OTHER**

### **13. ADVANCE PLANNING**

- Work Session-February 3, 2026, 5:30 pm, Pecos Schools Board Room
- NMSBA Board Member Institute-February 5-7, 2026, Santa Fe, NM
- Regular Board Meeting-February 17, 2026, 6:00 pm, Pecos Schools Board Room

### **ADJOURNMENT**

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 PECOS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
 PECOS SCHOOLS BOARD ROOM  
 PECOS, NEW MEXICO  
 JANUARY 20, 2026  
 6:00 P.M.

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## **MINUTES**

**Regular Meeting  
Pecos Board of Education  
Pecos Independent School District  
Pecos, New Mexico  
Pecos Schools Board Room  
Pecos, NM  
January 20, 2026  
6:00 P.M.**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The President, Mr. Grady Barrens called the meeting to order @ 6:01 p.m.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mr. Grady Barrens, Board President  
Ms. Claudette Roybal, Board Secretary  
Ms. Edna Herrera, Board Member  
Mr. Robert Romero, Board Member  
Mr. James Tanuz, Board Member  
Ms. Debra Sena-Holton, Superintendent

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

None

### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Mary Daves	Monica Montoya	Danielle Seaboy	Chris Moore
John Baldy	Gretchen VenKatesh	Melissa T. Valencia-Flores	

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Based on Superintendent Sena-Holton's recommendation, Member Tanuz motioned to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Member Herrera. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

**ACTION ITEM(S)**

**REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD**

**INSTALLATION OF THE SECRETARY**

President Barrens entertained nominations for the office of Secretary of the Pecos Independent School District Board of Education. President Barrens nominated Mr. James Tanuz as secretary, who accepted the nomination. President Barrens moved to elect Mr. James Tanuz as secretary, seconded by Secretary Roybal. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

**INSTALLATION OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT**

President Barrens entertained nominations for the office of Vice-President of the Pecos Independent School District Board of Education. President Barrens nominated Ms. Claudette Roybal as vice president, who accepted the nomination. President Barrens moved to elect Ms. Claudette Roybal as vice president, seconded by Secretary Tanuz. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

**INSTALLATION OF THE PRESIDENT**

Vice President Roybal nominated Mr. Grady Barrens as president, who accepted the nomination. Secretary Tanuz moved to elect Mr. Grady Barrens as president, seconded by Member Herrera. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

**GOLDEN PANTHER RECOGNITION**

Principals announced January award recipients, specified the distinct attributes warranting the individual deserving of the award and presented the recipients in attendance with a certificate of recognition. The Golden Panthers recognized were John Baldy-December staff member, Celestina Varela-1<sup>st</sup> grader, Jalen Sena-7<sup>th</sup> grader, Francis Constable-Freshman and Debra Sena-Holton-January staff member.

President Barrens welcomed Golden Panther Families to stay, expressed understanding for the need to leave and stated the meeting will continue to proceed.

## **UNIT/DIRECTOR REPORTS**

### **Middle School**

President Barrens noted despite some rough spots in the overall data, 8<sup>th</sup> grade math has shown real improvement, conveyed the decrease in ‘needs support’ and growth in ‘near/on target’ is impressive and commended the team for making encouraging gains. Ms. Montoya mentioned attendance efforts, reporting December attendance had experienced a minor dip, with 7<sup>th</sup> grade sustaining a 90% rate and 8<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade levels hovering just below. She touched on attendance impacting higher test scores; indicating that student presence/consistent attendance leads to better learning and improved short-cycle assessment results, noted Panther Power Hour serves as a dedicated intervention block, offering targeted practice in literacy and numeracy and acknowledged the math teacher’s implemented instructional classroom management system, results in incredible productivity. Ms. Montoya notified of two new student enrollments, bringing the total to 101.

### **High School**

Ms. Seaboy reported Dual Credit Spring semester enrollment holds at 40 students-38 attending SFCC and 2 attending LCC, following the withdrawal of two students due to athletic commitments. She expressed a desire to host a Senior Day, with an intent to incorporate with next school years academic calendar, to provide students another opportunity to take their placement tests on-site-particularly for those who missed the mark by a few points, noted students are exempt from the English placement-with many qualifying through high grades and teacher recommendations, acknowledged Math is the biggest challenge; few students place into SFCC math, though they qualify for LCC’s, showing the hurdle is the specific placement test at each site rather than overall ability and conveyed while the CTE pathway faces foundational math readiness challenges, it excels at driving student engagement and overall achievement. She conveyed that the substitute teacher has brought such invigorating energy, noted that the substitute’s inspiring energy transformed a reluctant learner, creating a rewarding experience where they finally embraced learning and expressed amazement to see the transformation in the kids. Ms. Seaboy proposed initiating an incentive for staff attendance, indicating that their presence ensures active learning, as a gesture of gratitude.

### **Support Services/Student Nutrition**

Ms. Daves addressed the zero attendance at the Parent Training/Support, stating the low attendance may stem from concurrent Parent/Teacher Conferences and noted the training was for parents who have kids with special needs, to go over their rights and help them understand the process. She touched on parents feeling intimidated in meetings, feeling the need for external advocacy and the lack of a collaborative partnership. She highlighted on building collaborative partnerships & trust, where parents no longer feel the need to bring advocates and recognize a unified team working toward the same goal. Vice President Roybal recommended increased communication from our team.

Ms. Daves reported on the noted cook resignation and Superintendent Sena-Holton announced an applicant has applied. Ms. Daves confirmed the share table is operating continuously, with access to milk refrigerators and consistent food/snack availability throughout the day, a service that students have been seen utilizing and noted a share table is available at both school sites. She mentioned that the elementary cafeteria interventions have been effective and conveyed excellent feedback was received regarding new additions to the menu. She commented upon the increase in lunch participation from November through December and indicated it may be attributed to traditional favorites, diversifying menu options, improving the quality of desserts and alluded to the menu rotation cycle requirement. President Barrens recognized the menu is the biggest driver for numbers.

Ms. Daves clarified that advocates are incentivized. President Barrens conveyed the confirmation aligns with his understanding, as to the number of advocate involved cases for a school district our size. Superintendent Sena-Holton differentiated between the two advocates; a PED facilitated IEP and an independent out of state advocate-an approach that is finally stabilizing and becoming more productive.

### **Elementary & Maintenance Department**

Superintendent Sena-Holton welcomed any inquiries regarding the elementary school and maintenance department. She clarified the teacherage that was cleaned is different from the mobile home that was severely neglected and unsuitable for occupation.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

### **BUSINESS REPORT**

#### **FINANCIAL STATUS**

Mr. Chris Moore, K 12 Accounting Business Manager presented the Budget Adjustment Request'(s)-BAR's recommended for approval, noted the Disbursement Detail Report, referred to the Purchase Order Report-outlined the workflow process, briefed on Cash Balances, highlighted key insights of the Activity Accounts Report, summarized the main points of the Revenue Report, pointed out the Expenditure Budget Balance Report, provided an overview of the Bank Reconciliation Report, noted the Bank Statement is attached and summarized the Journal Entries.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Check Register for Month of December 2025  
Cash Transfer(s), BAR's (if any) and Journal Entries  
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting-October 21, 2025

Based on Superintendent Sena-Holton's recommendation, President Barrens moved to approve the Check Register for the Month of December 2025, BAR's #7, Journal Entries #704, #705 & #800, and Minutes of Regular Board Meeting-October 21, 2025, seconded by Vice President Roybal. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Sena-Holton provided a staffing vacancies status update; custodial-vacancy addressed, math (hs)-long term substitute performing well, position remains open for advertisement, Spanish (hs) interest received, science (ms) applications forwarded to principal, cook-application received, social worker-position advertised and mentioned her efforts to encourage a qualified candidate to apply. She brought to the Board's attention a compensation inquiry regarding the sub-route drivers versus contracted drivers and noted her response; stated that salary schedules are not being adjusted at this time, she would make the Board aware of the feedback/concern, which is consistent with how we handle substitute teachers versus contracted teachers. She informed that FEMA has denied the claim and expressed the need to meet with the FEMA Representative to explore appeal options. Superintendent Sena-Holton touched upon the replacement of desktop computers, noted the IT office cleanup is nearing completion, outlined the recycling plan for old-unused equipment to ensure a current inventory/an updated inventory, highlighted the necessity to begin collecting payments from those with outstanding Chromebook/equipment balances and noted that cleaning up the office is definitely a challenging process, but are making steady progress. She expressed appreciation for efforts in securing subs, acknowledging some great candidates for substitutes. She reported on the scheduled homecoming activities.

## **POLICY**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading-J-5350 JLD—Administering Medicines to Students

**OTHER**

Superintendent Sena-Holton notified that she was contacted by a reporter inquiring about the Guaranteed Payment for Attendance (GPA) pilot program and confirmed speaking with the reporter regarding the initiative. She pointed out a significant initiative ahead to develop a graduate profile and stated her intent to meet with the administrative team to develop a plan for achieving goals and ensure state requirements are met.

Secretary Tanuz shared some excellent feedback from some of the parents with regard to this weekend's hunter safety class; were incredibly impressed by the school's support, appreciative for use of the venue and involvement in letting an organization as such use the facility, conveyed parents and the organization are both thoroughly satisfied and remarked on the turnout of participation/outcome.

**ADVANCE PLANNING**

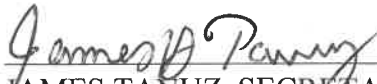
- Work Session-February 3, 2026, 5:30 pm, Pecos Schools Board Room
- NMSBA Board Member Institute-February 5-7, 2026, Santa Fe, NM
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**ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:27 p.m., Vice President Roybal moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Secretary Tanuz. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0. Minutes approved and signed on this 21<sup>st</sup> day of April 2026.

  
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GRADY BARRENS, PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

  
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JAMES TANUZ, SECRETARY