



# Pecos Independent School District

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## School Board

**Grady Barrens**, President  
**Harold J. Garcia**, Vice President  
**Darlene Ortiz**, Secretary  
**Claudette Roybal**, Member  
**James Tanuz**, Member

## Administration

**Debra Sena-Holton**,  
Superintendent  
  
**Vacant**,  
Director of Finance

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**BOARD MEETING AGENDA  
PECOS BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 21, 2023  
PECOS SCHOOLS BOARD ROOM  
PECOS, NM  
6:00 PM**

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- 4. GOLDEN PANTHER RECOGNITION**
- 5. GRADUATION DISCUSSION**
- 6. FY24 BUDGET PREPARATION**
- 7. UNIT/DIRECTOR REPORTS**
- 8. BUSINESS REPORT**
  - A.** Financial Status
- 9. CONSENT AGENDA**
  - B.** Check Register for Month of February 2023
  - C.** Cash Transfer(s), BAR's (if any) and Journal Entries
  - D.** Minutes of Regular Board Meeting-January 19, 2023
  - E.** Minutes of Regular Board Meeting-February 21, 2023
- 10. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**
- 11. POLICY**
- 12. ACTION ITEM(S)**
  - F.** Approval/Disapproval of Bilingual Application
  - G.** Selection of NMSBA Excellence for Student Achievement Award Recipient
- 13. OTHER**

**14. ADVANCE PLANNING**

- NMSBA Spring Region II Meeting-March 22, 2023, 5:30 pm, Espanola Public Schools
- NSBA 2023 Annual Conference-April 1-3, 2023, Orlando, FL
- Work Session-April 4, 2023; 5:30 pm, Pecos Schools Board Room
- Regular Board Meeting-April 18, 2023, 6:00 pm, Pecos Schools Board Room

- 15. EXECUTIVE SESSION-** to discuss limited personnel matters-status of employees and pending litigation-update and litigation timeline with New Mexico Public Schools Insurance Authority as per *NM Statutes Article 15 Open Meetings 10-15-1 Subparagraph H (2 & 7)*.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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 PECOS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
 PECOS SCHOOLS BOARD ROOM  
 PECOS, NEW MEXICO  
 MARCH 21, 2023  
 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  
March 21, 2023  
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. Darlene Ortiz, Board Secretary  
Ms. Claudette Roybal, Board Member  
Mr. James Tanuz, Board Member  
Ms. Debra Sena-Holton, Superintendent

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

None

### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Glinda Esparza	Adela Mariscal	Miguel Vega	Miguel Vega Jr.
Denisha Moodley	Pete Vallejo	Cathy Gallegos	Jolene Jaramillo
Vanessa Gonzales	Frances Romero	Paul Romero	Justina Romero
James Romero-Varela	Kimberly Romero	Allysha Romero-Varela	
Kevin E. Vigil	Sunny Vigil	Kevin C. Vigil	Gabriel Pacheco
Ramona Medina-Pacheco	Melissa T. Valencia-Flores		

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Base on Superintendent Sena-Holton's recommendation, Vice President Garcia motioned to approve the amended agenda; shift Item #8. Business Report to make Item #5, seconded by Member Tanuz. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

## **GOLDEN PANTHER RECOGNITION**

Principals announced March award recipients and stated the distinctive features meriting the individual deserving of the award. The Golden Panthers recognized were Kevin E. Vigil-Freshman, Miguel Vega-6<sup>th</sup> grader and Allysha Romero-Varela-4<sup>th</sup> grader. Dr. Vallejo presented the Staff Golden Panther Recipient, Ms. Ramona Medina-Pacheco. He touched on the qualities expressed by her colleagues warranting her of the honor/award; serves as a model for all teachers to follow, her dedication to all students & staff is remarkable and to be emulated, provides support to PHS Students, is a light to not only HS Staff, but the community, uplifting and encouraging to everyone she comes by, always willing to lend a helping hand, truly cares about the well-being and success of the youth. Dr. Vallejo added she is a natural leader and offers guidance to new staff, assists non-Spanish speaking staff with bilingual needs, offers advice and contributes without hesitation to help with any activities that support PISD Students. He stated her colleagues hold her in the highest regard and appreciate her for all she does for Pecos High and expressed gratitude in a Spanish message.

## **BUSINESS REPORT**

## **FINANCIAL STATUS**

Superintendent Sena-Holton introduced Ms. Vanessa Gonzales, the K 12 Accounting Business Manager assigned to the district, noted a transition is occurring, therefore two business professionals will assist with the operations of the district. Ms. Jolene Jaramillo informed she will fill in upon Ms. Gonzales's absence and going forward, Ms. Gonzales will be the primary administrator. She noted within the packet are four Budget Adjustment Requests and reported there is not much change in the months activity. She stated her intent to determine any feedback, specific

## **Regular Board Meeting**

**March 21, 2023**

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modifications or changes the Board would like included. Ms. Jaramillo indicated if the Board is not prepared, discussion may transpire during the next meeting.

President Barrens voiced his liking of what Ms. Jaramillo has included so far, stated his hesitation to recommend removal of information without discussing with the group. He expressed appreciation for the work gone into the initiative.

Ms. Jaramillo reported as far as this month's activity, there isn't any flags to report on, touched on the Yearly Expenditure Comparison by Month and Monthly Cash Balance. She reviewed the Budget Adjustment Requests being presented for approval. The Payroll and Accounts Payable Payment Vouchers for February 2023 were within the Board Packet for evaluation.

### **GRADUATION DISCUSSION**

Dr. Vallejo notified graduating students are making good progress and conveyed the two summer graduates are on track. He reported students are providing their information about future plans, regarding colleges and mentioned an upcoming ASVAB Test for those students joining the military. He mentioned the compilation of the information provided is under way, in preparation for announcement during the graduation ceremony. Dr. Vallejo stated official invites have been distributed, Senior trip is pending and hoodies have been received. He notified the district will loan gap & gown to four students. Superintendent Sena-Holton gave kudos to Ms. Ortiz-Rivera, Ms. Leal and Senora Medina-Pacheco who took responsibility of the Senior Class, following the departure of their Sponsors.

Vice President Garcia inquired on scholarships. Dr. Vallejo reported the submission of scholarship information and the ongoing distribution of information as it is received. He noted ENLACE- Engaging Latino Communities for Education will be on site to assist with the completion of FAFSA and stated a number of students have not completed their FAFSA. He mentioned several students have received a response. Vice President Garcia informed the Viles Foundation has not received any applications. Dr. Vallejo and Superintendent Sena-Holton stated there are no qualifying students this school year, he expressed gratitude for the availability.

President Barrens inquired on students needing assistance with the completion. Dr. Vallejo explained the scheme of work corresponding to the assistance requested. He notified Ms. Leal has presented Seniors with two \$1,500.00 Superhero Scholarships for one female and one male student. He mentioned students are reminded of the New Mexico Lottery Scholarship opportunity and conveyed students will be informed/reminded of other resources. President Barrens suggested mentioning to the Junior Class.

## **FY24 BUDGET PREPARATION**

Superintendent Sena-Holton informed NMPED has not provided a deadline, noted her request to be pushed back to the end and mentioned one of the reasons districts do not have a due date; the budget has just been released to the Governor. She pointed out the increase of instructional hours, which has a direct impact on the school budget.

## **UNIT/DIRECTOR REPORTS**

### **Middle School**

Vice President Garcia asked how the school is reaching out to parents in regard to Family Engagement Initiatives. Ms. Moodley pointed out the methods of communication/notification used. She mentioned the cancellation of the original scheduled date-due to inclement weather, stated the date held and gave feedback on the participation; 26 students and 52 families who signed up.

Member Tanuz remarked on the reading data comparison, highlighting the higher the grade level, the higher the percentage. Ms. Moodley requested consideration, in review of the data stating 6<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders have had lots of change in their daily instruction; getting accustomed to a different style of teaching, that could account for the reason 6<sup>th</sup> graders dropped slightly.

President Barrens inquired on the start of the Math tutoring sessions. Ms. Moodley announced the sessions did not begin as planned, on account of the number of teachers out.

### **Elementary**

Member Tanuz commended the students who made tremendous growth in reading and mathematics and advanced in grade level(s). Ms. Gallegos reported those students received recognition certificates and liked the idea other students were aware of their scores/growth. She briefed on recognition plans for the next school year and spoke on the i-Ready Program toolkit.

President Barrens asked if any of the staff have improved enough to where they are teaching some of the mathematic concepts learned, from the Book Study initiative in their classroom. Ms. Gallegos noted teachers were scheduled to meet to review the next portion of chapters targeted on strategies, informed the meeting was postponed on account of several teachers who had to make-up LETRS Training. President Barrens inquired on the implementation projection for the next school year. She expressed her belief, touched on her oversight/involvement with specifics and conveyed it will take work on her part as well.

President Barrens noted he is a big fan of accountability, remarked on the commitment of time and resources and stated there should be an expectation.

## **High School**

Member Tanuz inquired on reasons for the drop-in enrollment. Dr. Vallejo reported the enrollment number is within the planned number and presented the reasoning for the two disenrollment's. He noted efforts are being made to support students and conveyed family circumstances impact the decision.

Vice President Garcia inquired on the use of other substances besides the marijuana, the occasional cigarettes or nicotine. Dr. Vallejo stated he is not naive enough to think students are not doing the common drugs. He reported there is no unreasonable behavior, noted students are self-medicating at home and informed two of the marijuana vapes belong to one child, a new child to the high school. Vice President Garcia inquired on the implementation of something new or different. Dr. Vallejo briefed on discussion in reference to sensors/detectors. Superintendent Sena-Holton spoke on the addition of a camera(s)/coverage.

President Barrens inquired on the consideration of posting signage, with the intent to deter the behavior.

## **Student Nutrition/Support Services**

Superintendent Sena-Holton briefed on commodities money that needed to be spent by March 3<sup>rd</sup> and informed she placed the order. She discussed her processing of all meal reimbursements. She conveyed she is acquainting herself of the Seamless Summer Program. Superintendent Sena-Holton pointed out equipment needing replacement and touched on carryover money. She pointed out personnel who have assisted her with the operation of the Student Nutrition Department.

Vice President Garcia inquired on the USDA Kitchen Civil Rights & Wellness Training. Superintendent Sena-Holton noted a training offered by POMS & Associates for staff.

Superintendent Sena-Holton reported Ancillary Staff are working on Progress Reports. Member Tanuz conveyed it was superb two students exited from SPED services.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Check Register for Month of February 2023  
Cash Transfer(s), BAR's (if any) and Journal Entries  
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting-January 19, 2023  
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting-February 21, 2023

Based on Superintendent Sena-Holton's recommendation, President Barrens moved to approve the Check Register for the Month of February 2023, seconded by Member Roybal. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

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Based on Superintendent Sena-Holton's recommendation, Vice President Garcia moved to approve BAR'(s) #30-32 & #34, seconded by Member Tanuz. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

Based on Superintendent Sena-Holton's recommendation, Member Tanuz moved to approve Minutes of Regular Board Meeting-January 19, 2023, seconded by Member Roybal. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

Based on Superintendent Sena-Holton's recommendation, President Barrens moved to table the Minutes of Regular Board Meeting-February 21, 2023, seconded by Member Roybal. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Sena-Holton mentioned a meeting with a Tillery & Bluebird Representatives for an electric bus, noted & discussed the amount awarded and mentioned the vendors who submitted a quote. She pointed out a New Mexico Statute that states every bus that is purchased now has to have air conditioning. She notified of her application for additional funding from NMPED. Superintendent Sena-Holton conveyed the bus should be ordered within the next two weeks and briefed on the training that will be provided to bus drivers. She informed on the Capital Outlay matter mentioned in the February Meeting. She notified the Environment Department is moving forward with the Level II Asbestos Hazardous Materials Assessment, by EPA in Dallas TX, of the East Pecos Property. She conveyed the development of the End of Year Calendar is in progress.

**POLICY**

None

**ACTION ITEM(S)**

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF BILINGUAL APPLICATION

Based on Superintendent Sena-Holton's recommendation, Member Tanuz moved to approve the Bilingual Application, seconded by Vice President Garcia. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

SELECTION OF NMSBA EXCELLENCE FOR STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD  
RECIPIENT

Based on Superintendent Sena-Holton's recommendation, Member Tanuz moved to award Ray Valdez and Andrea Apodaca the NMSBA Excellence for Student Achievement Award, seconded by President Barrens. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

**OTHER**

None

**ADVANCE PLANNING**

- NMSBA Spring Region II Meeting-March 22, 2023, 5:30 pm, Espanola Public Schools
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**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

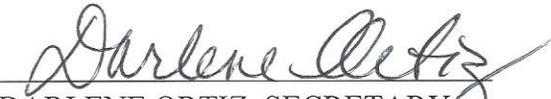
At, 7:52 p.m., Vice President Garcia made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss limited personnel matters-status of employees and pending litigation-update and litigation timeline with New Mexico Public Schools Insurance Authority as per *NM Statutes Article 15 Open Meetings 10-15-1 Subparagraph H (2 & 7)*, seconded by Member Tanuz. Action item as a result of executive session if necessary. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

At 8:29 p.m., Vice President Garcia made a motion to reconvene from executive session, seconded by President Barrens. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:29 p.m., Member Roybal moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Member Tanuz. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0. Minutes approved and signed on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May 2023.

  
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GRADY BARRENS, PRESIDENT

ATTEST:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
DARLENE ORTIZ, SECRETARY

(Mtvf)