



# Pecos Independent School District

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## **School Board**

**Darlene Ortiz**, President  
**Harold J. Garcia**, Vice President  
**Grady Barrens** Secretary  
**VACANT**, Member  
**CLAUDETTE ROYBAL**, Member

## **Administration**

**Debra Sena-Holton**,  
Superintendent  
  
**Brenda Gallegos**,  
Director of Finance

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**BOARD MEETING AMMENDED AGENDA  
PECOS BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
January 18, 2022  
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-Virtual**

#### **5. UNIT DIRECTOR REPORTS**

#### **6. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

#### **7. BUSINESS REPORT**

A. Financial Status

#### **8. CONSENT AGENDA**

B. Check Register for Month of December 2021

C. Cash Transfer(s), BARs (if any) and Journal Entries

#### **9. POLICY**

#### **10. ACTION ITEM(S)**

#### **11. OTHER**

#### **12. ADVANCE PLANNING**

Work Session- February 1, 5:30 PM, Pecos Schools Board Room

Regular Board Meeting- February 15, 6:00 PM, Pecos Schools Board Room

NMSBA 2022 Board Institute, February 2-5, 2022, Eldorado Hotel, Santa Fe

#### **13. ADJOURNMENT**

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 PECOS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
 PECOS SCHOOLS BOARD ROOM  
 PECOS, NEW MEXICO  
 JANUARY 18, 2022  
 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 18, 2022  
6:00 P.M.**

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### CALL TO ORDER

The President, Ms. Darlene Ortiz called the meeting to order @ 6:00 p.m.

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Darlene Ortiz, Board President  
Mr. Harold J. Garcia, Board Vice President  
Mr. Grady Barrens, Board Secretary  
Ms. Claudette Roybal, Board Member  
Ms. Debra Sena-Holton, Superintendent

### MEMBERS ABSENT

None

### OTHERS PRESENT

Leslie Damon	Elissa Flores	Brenda Gallegos	Cathy Gallegos
Denisha Moodley	Emily Ortiz	Jodaiah Padilla	Theresa Padilla
Christina Perea	Pedro Vallejo	Isequel Villegas	?

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Based on Superintendent Sena-Holton's recommendation, Member Roybal motioned to approve the amended agenda; the addition of #13.-Adjournment and NMSBA 2022 Board Institute, February 2-5, 2022, Eldorado Hotel, Santa Fe to #12.-Advance Planning seconded by Vice President Garcia. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

## **GOLDEN PANTHER RECOGNITION-Virtual**

Principals announced January award recipients, identified the traits that qualified the individual for the award and presented those present with a recognition certificate. The Golden Panthers recognized were Jodaiah Padilla-Junior, Briel Perea-4<sup>th</sup> grader and Isequel Villegas-7<sup>th</sup> grader.

President Ortiz and Board Members congratulated recipients and encouraged them to keep up the good work.

## **UNIT/DIRECTOR REPORTS**

### **Athletics**

Ms. Ortiz identified the positives; the playing of games, successful with gate and concession receipts, positive janitorial staff and the ability to have practices. She commented on putting forth effort to ensure district athletics are occurring. She identified the cancellation of games and tournaments as a challenge, as a result of COVID cases throughout New Mexico. Ms. Ortiz complimented the efforts of the Concession Manager. She summarized events listed in the report; varsity basketball teams' participation in tournaments and JV Boys Basketball Shootout. She touched on middle school boy's basketball, noting they started practicing and had their first game. Ms. Ortiz reported on wrestling; mentioning boys & girls' participation in the Albuquerque Academy Wrestling Invitational, a hosted QUAD match by Pecos and announced placements during the Socorro Invitational. She reported on cheer team event cancellations, as a result of COVID issues, discussed exemption for required competitions and stated Pecos has asked NMAA for an exemption. She reviewed game and activity cancellations. Ms. Ortiz reported a Homecoming date change to Saturday February 12<sup>th</sup> with opponent Santa Rosa Lions/Lady Lions. She announced an eSports sponsorship, who is currently recruiting student's participation.

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She identified transportation as a continuous challenge and expressed her best hopes for Spring Sports.

**Support Services/Student Nutrition**

Ms. Damon stated her appreciation for outside consultation, observation and recommendations for students. She briefed on a student transition, on the basis of a parent passing. She mentioned behavior observation by NEREC and noted a cancellation with Poms & Associates. Ms. Damon announced a Community Child Find. She briefed on a catch-up day, an initiative to bring teachers/personnel up to date. She mentioned the vacant high school position. Ms. Damon reported no change in enrollment. She recognized difficulty with the transition to remote learning, making mention of the issues.

Ms. Damon notified the two new cooks underwent the Food Handlers Training on January 3<sup>rd</sup> and reported their passing. She notified breakfast and lunch is being provided during remote learning and conveyed some of the ordered products have not been available. She noted majority of supplies are on hand and pointed out a decrease in counts. Ms. Damon briefed on the menu adjustment.

**Elementary School**

Ms. Gallegos reported a really good, productive i-Ready training session for staff, referring to diagnostics, the Beginning of Year (BOY) and Middle of Year (MOY) progress monitoring. She noted the BOY and MOY Data were included in the report for review/comparison. She mentioned a planned meeting to review individual grade data, pointing out the data information provided is the entire school. Ms. Gallegos complimented the efforts and initiative of all staff in preparation for remote learning. She mentioned the expression of students wanting to be in school. She announced and expressed excitement on being fully staffed.

Vice President Garcia stated he's really glad to hear students want to be in school.

**Middle School**

Ms. Moodley shared the success titled "Team that Speaks with Actions"; noted not being fully staffed since October, reported the Team has gone above and beyond since October, making things work, in a quality manner and meeting targeted goals. She presented a special shout out to Ms. Amber Ortiz on her testing coordination and facilitation. She expressed appreciation to each teacher, who have all trooped over these past months and gone above and beyond for students. Ms. Moodley reported remote learning went really well, pointing out easy transitions. She noted students and parents comfort level in accessing Google Classroom. She discussed the Cultural Responsiveness Training. Ms. Moodley acknowledged the 80% pass rate as a success. She pointed out an area of growth; desirous of an instrument to gauge the rigor of assessments, to validate the data further to ensure the 80% rate is earned at grade level or above. She presented areas for improvement; recognized students need to be targeted when it comes to test taking strategies and

the need to work on tone, train teachers to create time intervals on the board. Ms. Moodley mentioned the continuation of discussion in regard to the manner of assessment; paper copies or electronic testing. She touched on the intent of students demonstrating their knowledge and work. She noted kids are also more easily drawn to just clicking on through the test in math as opposed to writing out the steps. Ms. Moodley remarked on the cultural sensitivity information presented during Professional Development and alluded to adversities touched upon. She mentioned her research and discovery of activities through mourning sites and teaching social responsibility. Ms. Moodley noted she would share the research with respective sites for their consideration and stated the middle school will go forward next month.

### **High School**

Dr. Vallejo pointed out the start of the second semester, the start of remote learning and noted with the addition of changes in the master schedule. He touched on the master schedule modifications. He reported staff are holding it together and working really well with students, despite of being under stress. Dr. Vallejo informed remote learning was a fairly smooth transition, recognized there are impediments that are typical beginning of semester issues and conveyed everybody made the transition really well for the most part. He discussed the eSports initiative; mentioning the sign up of seven students and reporting of their good academic-GPA standing. He notified the initiative is an NMAA sanctioned sport, mentioned the completion of applicable documentation and pointed to the need on/of meeting GPA requirements. Dr. Vallejo mentioned the minimal need of four student participants and reported there are three seasons over the course of the year, fall, winter and spring. He informed a Library Educational Assistant is in place, announced her name and commented on her personality. He briefed on the stress staff has endured, with the changes that have occurred in the year and informed staff are keeping a brave face and working through it. Dr. Vallejo noted the efforts to take the burden off of them in different areas and mentioned instances. He expressed confidence in getting through the adverse conditions and reported stress is present.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Sena-Holton announced a new Interim Maintenance Director, Ray Valdez, mentioned the transition has been amazing and noted he is receiving a lot of kudos. She recognized his effectiveness, conveyed he takes his job very seriously and commented on the hardship of being an interim and staff attrition. She briefed on the heater replacement and installation of touchless water fountains. Superintendent Sena-Holton noted Mr. Valdez keeps her informed on a daily basis, pointed out the department is continuously busy and applauded them on a job well done. She mentioned an employment application was received and stated she is hopeful. She touched on COVID-the state of the district, reporting up-to-date positive cases at each site, pointed out the district positivity rate is at 9% and noted prior to, NMPED would shut down the district at 4%. She stated her intent for continuous monitoring of numbers, mentioned the next retesting date and conveyed a decision will need to be made for the following week. Superintendent Sena-Holton informed NMPED released a new toolkit and presented the immediate changes. She reiterated the

elementary principal's announcement as a positive, reporting the elementary is fully staffed. She touched upon the service provided by Premier Medical Group-PMG; been amazing with Pecos, responsive and have administered five hundred tests since December 15<sup>th</sup>. Superintendent Sena-Holton noted two hundred Rapid Antigen Tests have been ordered for onsite, informed the district nurse has been trained and able to test staff and students. She announced the first session of the Cultural Sensitivity Training took place, noted an NMPED requirement, briefed on discussion, arrangement and commented on the participation. She mentioned the hiring of a bus and activity driver. Superintendent Sena-Holton identified understaffing, insufficient substitutes and insufficient applicant submission for vacancies as challenges. She shared the recommendation for the softball coach. Superintendent Sena-Holton discussed an award letter received from PMG, briefed on the testing procedure and commented on the working relationship.

Vice President Garcia inquired on reasoning for the challenges. Superintendent Sena-Holton noted the naming of the Great Resignation of 2021, a reoccurrence in to 2022 and acknowledged it has impacted the district. She briefed on recruitment efforts.

Member Roybal asked if the ordered COVID tests can be used for nonathlete students. Superintendent Sena-Holton reported anyone may be tested, stated it is open to everyone and explained the testing process.

President Barrens requested explanation of the PMG award. Superintendent Sena-Holton informed there were four options, noted her selection of option B-to partner with PMG (had the district nurse train to test), pointed out her election of the money changed to option D, requiring an equivalent formation as PMG. She mentioned misinformation received, presented her intent to ensure it is the best course of action for the district and shared her thoughts on hiring someone to test/assist with testing (if the district is able to keep the PMG partnership). President Barrens expressed his hope to continue its collaboration, based on having experience with PMG.

Ms. Moodley relayed parent, Ms. Yolanda Yara reached out to her to check on all and ensure all were doing good as a community. She conveyed Ms. Yara relayed to her NMPED is allocating funds towards recruiting National Guard Members to substitute teach/assist in schools. She recognized vacancies within the district, noted the number of vacancies Gallup-McKinley has, their offerings/stipends and recognized the recruiting difficulty.

## **BUSINESS REPORT**

### **FINANCIAL STATUS**

Ms. Brenda Gallegos, Finance Director informed the Quarterly Report within packet is the report that has been submitted to NMPED and noted there are no concerns on any of the funds. She

reviewed the BAR's and mentioned watching the governor's speech today, to gauge with what will be done with public school funding. She remarked on having knowledge fairly quick, attributed to the short legislative session. Ms. Gallegos indicated it would be a matter of working out salary schedules increases based on what is determined. She invited questions on the reports submitted.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Check Register for Month of December 2021  
Cash Transfer(s), BAR's and Journal Entries (if any)

Based on Superintendent Sena-Holton's recommendation, Vice President Garcia moved to approve the Check Register for the Month of December 2021, Cash Transfer(s), BAR'(s) #8 & #9 (if any), Internal BAR's and Journal Entries, seconded by Secretary Barrens. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

**POLICY**

None

**ACTION ITEM(S)**

None

**OTHER**

Superintendent Sena-Holton recommended discussing the position replacement of Mr. Michael Flores Sr., position, noted the position has been advertised and asked if the Work Session will be used to interview. The starting time was decided on.

Board Member? inquired on the advertisement of the Board Member vacancy. Superintendent Sena-Holton mentioned the means of communication used to advertise.

**ADVANCE PLANNING**

- Work Session- February 1, 5:30 PM, Pecos Schools Board Room
- Regular Board Meeting- February 15, 6:00 PM, Pecos Schools Board Room
- NMSBA 2022 Board Institute, February 2-5, 2022, Eldorado Hotel, Santa Fe

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:18 p.m., Vice President Garcia moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Member Roybal. Motion carried unanimously, 4 -0. Minutes approved and signed on this 19<sup>th</sup> day of April 2022.

  
DARLENE ORTIZ, PRESIDENT

ATTEST:   
GRADY BARRENS, SECRETARY