Pecos Independent School District

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School Board

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

Administration

Debra Sena-Holton,
Superintendent

BOARD MEETING AGENDA
PECOS BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 19, 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. **GOLDEN PANTHER RECOGNITION**

5. **PRESENTATION OF EXCELLENCE IN STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

6. **FY27 FINAL BUDGET PRESENTATION**

7. **2026 GRADUATION UPDATE**

8. **UNIT/DIRECTOR REPORTS**

9. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

10. **BUSINESS REPORT**

    A. Financial Status

11. **CONSENT AGENDA**

    B. Check Register for Month of April 2026
    C. Cash Transfer(s), BAR's (if any), and Journal Entries
    D. Minutes of Regular Board Meeting-February 17, 2026

12. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

13. **POLICY**

    1st Reading-Visitor Policy

14. **ACTION ITEM(S)**

    E. Approval/Disapproval of FY27 Budget

15. **OTHER**

16. ADVANCE PLANNING

- Class of 2026 Graduation-May 22, 2026, 6:00 pm, PHS Gymnasium
- Work Session-June 2, 2026, 5:30 pm, Pecos Schools Board Room
- NMSBA 2026 School Law Conference-June 4-6, 2026, Albuquerque, NM
- Regular Board Meeting-June 16, 2026, 6:00 pm, Pecos Schools Board Room

ADJOURNMENT

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MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
PECOS BOARD OF EDUCATION
PECOS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

PECOS SCHOOLS BOARD ROOM
PECOS, NEW MEXICO
MAY 19, 2026
6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

Regular Meeting
Pecos Board of Education
Pecos Independent School District
Pecos, New Mexico
Pecos Schools Board Room
Pecos, NM
May 19, 2026
6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

The President, Mr. Grady Barrens called the meeting to order @ 6:02 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Grady Barrens, President
Ms. Claudette Roybal, Vice President
Mr. James Tanuz, Board Secretary
Ms. Edna Herrera, Board Member arrived at 6:13 pm
Ms. Debra Sena-Holton, Superintendent

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Robert Romero, Board Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Roman Salazar	Roman Salazar	Rodney Perea	Manuel J. Lucero
Stephanie Vigil	Cathy Gallegos	Monica Montoya	Danielle Seaboy
Mary Ann Daves	Chris Moore	Janelle Villanueva	Shawney Villanueva
Jonathon Martinez	Cecilia Martinez	Jennifer Romero	Ross Romero
Johnathon Garcia	Alexus Marsh	Melissa T. Valencia-Flores	

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Based on Superintendent Sena-Holton's recommendation, President Barrens motioned to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Vice President Roybal. Motion carried unanimously, 3-0.

GOLDEN PANTHER RECOGNITION

Principals announced May award recipients, pointed out the notable aspects of the individual deserving of the award and presented attending recipients with a certificate of recognition. The Golden Panthers recognized were Shawney Villanueva (April recipient), Alexus Marsh-Senior, Roman Salazar-6th grader, Ronald Romero-5th grader and Cecilia Martinez-staff member.

PRESENTATION OF EXCELLENCE IN STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

President Barrens explained the context behind the initiative; the award is presented by the NMSBA-New Mexico School Boards Association, in cooperation with the local board of education, in recognition of the outstanding role played in improving student achievement. The Board recognized the following individuals for demonstrating exceptional leadership in improving student achievement: Johnathon Garcia, Charles Vigil and, Rose Marie Gonzales.

President Barrens invited Golden Panther recipients and families to stay for the remainder of the meeting, expressing understanding of a busy schedule and the need to leave.

FY27 FINAL BUDGET PRESENTATION

Mr. Chris Moore, K 12 Accounting Business Manager noted the packet represents the final budget, reflecting recommended adjustments following the recent work session and conveyed the review is solely on the specific components that underwent modification. He presented the FY27 Budget updates/highlights; decrease to CTE Program Revenue, corrections to Personnel Costs-position categorization/assignment, FTE's, Stipends, Operational Fund Balance-graph illustrating historical balances and projections over the coming years and inclusion of the 2026-2027 Academic Calendar.

2026 GRADUATION UPDATE

Superintendent Sena-Holton announced that the graduation ceremony will take place on Friday May 22nd at 6:00 p.m. and requested that Board Members arrive by 5:30 p.m.

Ms. Seaboy reported that there are 36 graduates as of today, mentioned that a PowerSchool outage briefly paused Senior Checkout which will resume tomorrow, indicated that ceremony preparations are moving forward; the guest speaker is confirmed, the senior slideshow is underway, both the Valedictorian and Salutatorian have been announced and touched on other planning/preparation initiatives. She announced that the Senior Awards and college signing will take place on Wednesday, May 20th and shared the time of the event.

UNIT/DIRECTOR REPORTS

Elementary

Ms. Gallegos spoke about incoming student enrollment for the upcoming school year and noted the Pre-K Program has a waitlist. She presented a comparative analysis of Beginning-of-Year and End-of-Year i-Ready Diagnostic data, demonstrating measurable student growth in reading and mathematics, briefed on targeted strategies to sustain this progress and shared her perspectives on the factors driving the initiative's success.

Support Services/Student Nutrition

Ms. Seaboy informed that the breakfast schedule has been revised to 7:15-7:55 a.m. before school, extending class periods by three minutes. Ms. Daves indicates that the revision raises concern about a potential decline in daily meal participation and expresses hope that strong student reception of menus, popular breakfast offerings, and expanded offerings this year will help maintain steady attendance. She provided clarification regarding the occupational therapy provision detailed in the report. She noted that the meal count's decline compared to the prior year was attributed to reduced middle school participation and frequent omissions of required reimbursable components, indicating that the numbers do not reflect a true count. Ms. Daves stated that the annual certification has been renewed and the summer certification remains under review. Superintendent Sena-Holton announced that this year 50% of the weekly menu required from-scratch preparation and noted the plan to increase this to 80% -per food group from-scratch preparation next year.

Middle School

Ms. Montoya deemed the Panther Crawl initiative a success. She highlighted several key components: noting the fifth graders' nervousness about the transition, leading campus tours alongside the school counselor, and having faculty members demonstrate structured class-change procedures and proper hallway behavior. Overall, she conveyed that students provided positive feedback regarding the initiative, which was further supported by favorable remarks from their older siblings. Ms. Gallegos commended the middle school for the initiative, noting it was one of the most successful fifth-grade transition experiences thus far. Ms. Montoya attributed the recent surge in i-Ready student growth to targeted incentive programs introduced during the latest testing cycle, noted the rewards significantly boosted engagement and yielded substantial growth. She indicated that this substantial growth is an indicator that the students were performing with minimal effort, underperforming, or participating passively in prior assessments and this time they put forth effort.   She highlighted that incremental progress drove the successful completion of the 90-day math and reading targets. Ms. Montoya commented on determining how to incentivize the remaining two components of the assessment.

High School

Ms. Seaboy provided a self-assessment of her first year as principal. She noted that the year began with significant transition challenges as she worked to find the best strategic path for the school and determine what was best for students. She mentioned that struggles to make critical decisions stemmed primarily from inadequate summer preparation. However, she indicated that the upcoming summer would offer a distinct advantage, providing two full months to proactively plan and schedule. With foundational systems now in place, she anticipates a much smoother year ahead. Ultimately, reflecting on the past year has clarified operational needs, replacing past uncertainties with precise, evidence-based preparation. Ms. Seaboy reported that her biggest challenge was time management, specifically adjusting to the lack of a predetermined schedule. She acknowledged that having previously relied on a structured, quarter-by-quarter timeline, she now had a better grasp of the yearly workflow and stated that this allowed her to properly prioritize tasks and address student needs in a timely manner. She acknowledged that transitioning from a teaching role to an administrative mindset required a significant shift, despite her experience as an assistant. Ms. Seaboy shared that her best achievement was building a strong team that truly collaborates and supports one another. Regarding the students, she values the rapport she shares with them, which allows them to communicate openly so they truly understand the ‘why’ behind their learning. She noted a positive upward trend in communication effectiveness. Vice President Roybal expressed her appreciation and presented words of encouragement.

Superintendent Sena-Holton acknowledged the exceptional contributions of all administrators, emphasizing that their calm leadership provides essential support during this demanding peak season.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

President Barrens requested that participants review the procedures for public comments before speaking.

Mr. Manuel Lucero addressed the Board and Superintendent, expressing his pleasure at reconnecting with the community and noting his familiar background as the district’s former school principal and athletic director. He summarized his professional background, highlighting his extensive employment history, military service, and educational credentials. He conveyed that, driven by a desire to transition into public service, he announced his candidacy for Magistrate Judge. In seeking the community's support and vote, Mr. Lucero emphasized that he would be a valuable asset to the bench and pledged to bring fairness, firmness, and consistency to his rulings. While acknowledging that strict rules exist and recognizing human fallibility, he stressed the vital importance of examining each individual situation with common sense while faithfully applying the rule of law. Mr. Lucero thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak. He commended the district, noting how much he enjoyed attending the meeting as a spectator to witness and celebrate the outstanding student awards, achievements, and test scores. He stated that Pecos remains an exemplary school district, recognizing that the ability to maintain institutional continuity since his time here truly makes a profound difference.

Mr. Rodney Perea expressed appreciation to the board president, board members, superintendent, and staff. He introduced himself, noting his local family roots, his community membership, and his candidacy for San Miguel County Sheriff. He stated his intent to bring a welcoming, community-oriented feeling back to local law enforcement. Mr. Perea highlighted the core tenets of his platform, which include a constant law enforcement presence, dedicated school resource officers, the placement of mental health crisis personnel, drug enforcement strategies, and animal control. Furthermore, he noted his extensive family ties to the area through the Perea family. Emphasizing that he is a regular citizen rather than a career politician, he asked for the community's vote if their values and concepts align.

BUSINESS REPORT

FINANCIAL STATUS

Mr. Chris Moore, K 12 Accounting Business Manager reviewed the Budget Adjustment Request’(s)-BAR’s recommended for approval, touched on the Disbursement Detail Report, briefed on the Purchase Order Report, commented on the Cash Balances, mentioned the Activity Accounts, with a particular focus on the status of the Yearbook Fund, gave a recap of the Revenue Report, summarized the main points of the Expenditure Budget Balance Report, reviewed the Bank Reconciliation Report and provided an explanation for the Journal Entries.

CONSENT AGENDA

Check Register for Month of April 2026
Cash Transfer(s), BAR's (if any) and Journal Entries
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting-February 17, 2026

Based on Superintendent Sena-Holton's recommendation, Vice President Roybal moved to approve the Check Register for the Month of April 2026, BAR'(s) #36, #37, #38, -#39, #40, #41, Journal Entries #1168, #1141, #1159, #1160, #1170, #1236, #1237, #1238, #1253 and Minutes of Regular Board Meeting-February 17, 2026, seconded by Secretary Tanuz. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Sena-Holton briefed on an upcoming retirement and routine administrative updates. She highlighted on the completion of updates to the school district website. Reflecting on her professional development, she identified delegation as her primary area of leadership growth this year, while noting progress in establishing strategic boundaries and setting project priorities.

Superintendent Sena-Holton provided a progress report on the ongoing rollout of the math curriculum adoption. She announced that the requisition for the new visitor badge initiative was officially submitted today, securing the Raptor School Visitor System as the vendor. Following a review of the procurement process, procedural deployment, and budget allocation, leadership expressed strong optimism regarding the safety benefits of this upcoming launch.

Secretary Tanuz commended the high school counselor's outstanding performance and ongoing dedication to a supportive school environment.

POLICY

- 1st Reading-Visitor Policy

ACTION ITEM(S)

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF FY27 BUDGET

Based on Superintendent Sena-Holton's recommendation, Member Herrera moved to approve the FY27 Budget, seconded by President Barrens. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

OTHER

Superintendent Sena-Holton requested confirmation regarding the June 24th Board Retreat date, originally discussed during the recent work session, in order to initiate the planning process. The date of June 25th was confirmed, in alignment with the format utilized for the previous retreat.

President Barrens inquired about the status of the School Resource Officer (SRO) initiative, including related funding and legislative discussions. Superintendent Sena-Holton explained that the process requires a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the San Miguel County Sheriff's Office, where the district reimburses the county for the deployed officer. The Superintendent stressed the urgency of meeting with the Sheriff to initiate this process. She noted that while scheduling has been difficult, she remains committed to securing a meeting in the near future.

Member Herrera requested clarification regarding the community library lease duration and the restriction of student access during the instructional hours. Superintendent Sena-Holton confirmed that the current lease agreement is executed for a one-year term. She stated that restricting daytime student access aligns with current district objectives; however, a formal administrative request has not been submitted or finalized and affirmed that the community library remains fully compliant with all established lease requirements to date. Superintendent Sena-Holton touched on the ongoing operational complexities regarding managing and monitoring the use of campus facilities and external visitor traffic. She affirmed that she would take preemptive measures to advise community library personnel on maintaining compliance with the terms of the agreement.

ADVANCE PLANNING

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ADJOURNMENT

At 7:51 p.m., Vice President Roybal moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by President Barrens. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0. Minutes approved and signed on this 18th day of August 2026.

GRADY BARRENS, PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

JAMES TANUZ, SECRETARY

(Mtvf)