

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 SEPTEMBER 21, 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. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**-to discuss pending litigation-update with New Mexico Public Schools Insurance Authority as per *NM Statutes Article 15 Open Meetings 10-15-1 Subparagraph H (7)*.
5. **GOLDEN PANTHER AWARDS**
6. **UNIT/DIRECTOR REPORTS**
7. **BUSINESS REPORT**
 - A. Financial Status
8. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - B. Check Register for Month of August 2021
 - C. Cash Transfer(s), BAR's (if any) and Journal Entries
 - D. Minutes of Regular Board Meeting-August 10, 2021
9. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**
10. **POLICY**
11. **ACTION ITEM(S)**
 - E. Approval/Disapproval of Fixed Assets Inventory
 - F. Approval/Disapproval of Athletic Handbook
12. **OTHER**
13. **ADVANCE PLANNING**
 - Work Session-October 5, 2021, 5:30 pm, Pecos Schools Board Room
 - Regular Board Meeting-October 19, 2021, 6:00 pm, Pecos Schools Board Room

ADJOURNMENT

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 PECOS BOARD OF EDUCATION
 PECOS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
 PECOS SCHOOLS BOARD ROOM
 PECOS, NEW MEXICO
 SEPTEMBER 21, 2021
 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
September 21, 2021
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
Mr. Michael Flores Sr., Board Member
Ms. Debra Sena-Holton, Superintendent
Mr. Ginger Nickell, Student Representative

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

OTHERS PRESENT

Pedro Vallejo	Emily Ortiz	Cathy Gallegos	Leslie Damon
Denisha Moodley	Brenda Gallegos	Melissa T. Valencia-Flores	

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:01 p.m., Vice President Garcia made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss pending litigation update with New Mexico Public Schools Insurance Authority as per *NM Statutes Article 15 Open Meetings 10-15-1 Subparagraph H (7)*, seconded by Member Flores. Action item as a result of executive session if necessary. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

At 6:32 p.m., Secretary Barrens made a motion to exit from executive session, seconded by Member Flores. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

President Ortiz noted Vice President Garcia would conduct the remainder of the meeting.

At 6:33 p.m., Member Flores made a motion to reconvene from executive session, seconded by Secretary Barrens. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

GOLDEN PANTHER AWARDS

Principals announced September 2021 award recipients, noted the characteristics that deemed the student deserving of the award and presented those present with a recognition certificate. The Golden Panthers recognized were Elvis Romero-3rd grader, Estevan Olivas-7th grader and Cynthia Terrazas-Junior.

Vice President Garcia announced the time was suitable to introduce the student liaison, Ms. Ginger Nickell-10th grader. Superintendent Sena-Holton noted the desire of a student representative on the Board, touched on how the initiative fell into place, acknowledging Ms. Nickell's ambition to advocate for all students and spoke of her approach/presentation of information in challenging the dress code issue. She pointed out the need of someone that is going to be an advocate and voice for students, recognizing Ms. Nickell as the student representative.

Board Members welcomed Ms. Nickell. Dr. Vallejo mentioned seniors and upper classmen contact her for advice and guidance. He congratulated her on the appointment.

UNIT/DIRECTOR REPORTS

High School

Dr. Vallejo acknowledged a considerable amount of successes are transpiring, informed extra efforts are directed at additional student interventions and noted a decrease in the number of F's students have, in comparison to the past. He summarized the current numbers, mentioned the intent to continue working with students, aiming to diminishing numbers. He mentioned the utilization of the counselor and the SAT process for new students with numerous F's, as additional intervention sources. Dr. Vallejo reported getting everyone back on track in their return to school as a challenge and remarked on assisting students and parents with the adjustment, transition back to school. He recognized the initiative is a process and acknowledged the staff and students he's spoken with are excited about having those conversations to move forward.

Support Services/Student Nutrition

Ms. Damon mentioned an Autism Consultant has been providing online and onsite training. She announced the transition to PowerSchool, a new IEP software system, briefed on the system training she provided to SPED Teachers and touched on the software features. She reported department vacancies and noted Teletherapy Services will recommence for applicable vacant positions.

Ms. Damon announced the continuation of serving meals and mentioned the transitioning of the Food Manager and the secondary level. She pointed out the production of food as a concern, informing food distributors do not have food items available on stock and identified food preparation conservativeness as a concentration area.

Vice President Garcia inquired on any type of food shortage, as a result of food production. Ms. Damon pointed out a shortage in vegetables and local items by New Mexico Grown producers and specified purchases from other vendors.

Athletics

Ms. Ortiz handed out the Athletics Report and acknowledged the late submission. She announced the completion of grade eligibility for Volleyball and Cross-Country Athletes, recognized a struggle in the submission of required forms, emphasized on students turning in paperwork in a timely manner and modifying the submission procedure. She noted the resignation of the varsity volleyball coach, named the individual appointed to the position and pointed out the assistant varsity coach and middle school volleyball coach new to the program. Ms. Ortiz briefed on the stipend modification, in acknowledgment for the coach's efforts and services rendered, throughout the replacement initiatives. She reported the volleyball team is doing well, mentioned the team's placement in the Copper Bracket of the SFIS Volleyball tournament and announced MVP selections, Taya Martinez and Lauren Vigil. She pointed out the resignation of the cheer coach, mentioned the vacancy is posted and stated certainly very appreciative of the years

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Jessica put in, all the acolytes the cheer team has brought over the years. Ms. Ortiz notified game schedules have been uploaded to the NFHS Network, reported the Pixellot Camera System is functioning and the GoFan Digital Ticketing is in operation. She commented on the disadvantages of using the digital ticketing system. She briefed on schedule modifications. Ms. Ortiz reported on the Ron Valdez Invitational Cross-Country Meet and acknowledged the janitorial staff for their efforts. She mentioned her attendance of the Fall AD Conference and announced the district has earned a 1st Place in the 2019-20 Director's Cup. She reviewed the volleyball game schedule for the week. Ms. Ortiz noted coaches in place and student travel logistics as department successes. She recognized the challenges of the ongoing learning curve of the position, NRG Tournament preparation and briefed on the traveling trophy initiative, agreed on. She touched on the operation of the concession and mentioned the acknowledgement of those who assist/volunteer, as a token of appreciation.

Middle School

Ms. Moodley mentioned the participation of the previous Family Engagement Event, pointed out the participation of the Grandparents Brunch held on September 13th and recognized the event as a success. She called attention to the ELA and Math Initiatives, discussed the comparison of the Math & Grammar data and analysis, pointed out the percentage of students who scored 100% and recognized the increase is a great improvement. She reported 100% of teachers have incorporated their Brain-Based Learning Strategy, noted her documentation on Facebook and commented on the feedback received from teachers from other schools and other administrators. Ms. Moodley highly praised the counselor's efforts and services provided and conveyed she is really happy in relation to the step up and initiative the counselors taken to assist students. She expressed concern with the number of students attending tutoring, noted four is the most that have attended and remarked on the parent outreach/contact efforts. Ms. Moodley identified vocabulary and student behavior as areas of growth.

Ms. Nickell inquired on the offering of transportation from the school back home. Ms. Moodley informed there is no method of transportation at this time and stated a large number of students who are part of tutoring are picked up and do not ride a bus. She highlighted on next step measures.

Secretary Barrens inquired on any type of official communication to figure out what some of the barriers are. Ms. Moodley recognized the idea as a next step to pursue. Superintendent Sena-Holton indicated district wide.

Vice President Garcia inquired on the manner infractions were discovered. Ms. Moodley informed student reporting(s) and teacher discovery.

Vice President Garcia inquired on the cell phone use. Ms. Moodley informed the current practice is in place.

Ms. Nickell inquired on the repercussions for the substance/abuse offenders. Ms. Moodley reported on the utilization of a matrix that consists of infraction levels and the degree of the offense.

Elementary

Ms. Gallegos informed behavioral challenges are occurring, specified aggression towards each other and conveyed the behavior stems from socialization with each other, socioemotional factors. She spoke of her classroom presence and targeted bullying presentations. She mentioned a peer interactions initiative, to assist with socialization. Ms. Gallegos gave credit to Pecos Elementary Parents, conveying she at no time has felt threatened by anyone and complimented the manner parents address concerns. She commented on her comfort level when calling parents, noted a parent is contacted with any kind of consequence imposed and expressed her stance with parent partnership. She noted various options/personnel are available to meet students needs. Ms. Gallegos pointed out the joy of having students in school. She reported the department vacancies as a challenge and complimented Ms. Leal for her role in assisting. She gave emphasis to every student can succeed.

BUSINESS REPORT

FINANCIAL STATUS

Ms. Brenda Gallegos, Finance Director reported the Cash Reconciliation for the month is within packet. She pointed out the efforts on spending CARES Money, referenced the funds listed in the report and informed other than that all funds are in good standing. She summarized the Payroll and Accounts Payable Report, Check Register for the Month of August 2021, Cash Transfers/BAR's, Internal BAR's and Journal Entries. She announced the audit is currently underway, stated the entrance was held and pointed out the firm is new. Ms. Gallegos gave an expected completion time frame and mentioned the due date to State Auditor.

CONSENT AGENDA

Check Register for Month of August 2021
Cash Transfer(s), BAR's and Journal Entries (if any)
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting-August 10, 2021

Based on Superintendent Sena-Holton's recommendation, Member Flores moved to approve the Check Register for the Month of August 2021 and Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting-August 10, 2021, seconded by Secretary Barrens. President Ortiz abstained from Section D-Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting-August 10, 2021. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0 for Section B-Check Register for Month of August 2021 and 3-0 for Section D-Minutes of Regular Meeting-August 10, 2021.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Sena-Holton reported the spending of the classroom supply incentive and referenced the deadline of October 10th. She reported the first scheduled Parent Academy on October 4th at 6 p.m. She acknowledged the socioemotional support the district receives is outstanding and mentioned Memorandum of Understandings/Teletherapy Services. Superintendent Sena-Holton announced her completion of Title IX at the high school, gave feedback on the presentation and mentioned future presentations/trainings. Superintendent Sena-Holton acknowledged the biggest struggle is the hiring of people, reported the current vacancies and pointed out the advertisements on NMREAP.

Vice President Garcia inquired on the background status of potential hires/applications. Superintendent Sena-Holton indicated there are hits and explained how the situation is addressed.

Superintendent Sena-Holton announced Vera Joe Bustos will address the first student assembly on September 23rd directing her address on student confidence. She noted money was appropriated for presenters and mentioned two leads on a Bullying Presentation for elementary.

Vice President Garcia inquired on the new website. Superintendent Sena-Holton reported Oso Grande Technologies approved credentials, to proceed with the design of the new website, at no compensation for all that is needed.

Ms. Moodley briefed on how the school is the heart for Mental Health for majority of our students.

Ms. Nickell reported the dress code petition has been passed on to the Student Council President, Ashley Rodriguez and mentioned the arrangement of a meeting with Dr. Vallejo for approval. She noted the high school student body wants to start a green initiative for the cafeteria, utilizing reusable trays, cutlery etc., and a collection box for non-perishable items not consumed. Superintendent Sena-Holton briefed on an onsite pantry plan, in conjunction with the Food Depot. Ms. Nickell recommended serving water bottles as opposed to milk. Ms. B Gallegos informed Federal Guidelines does not allow the collection of food and donate to someone else and recognized new cooks may not understand the secondary is on an Offer versus Serve School Nutrition Program.

Secretary Barrens inquired on the thought of offering a laundry facility/service.

POLICY

None

ACTION ITEM(S)

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF FIXED ASSETS INVENTORY

Based on Superintendent Sena-Holton's recommendation, Secretary Barrens moved to approve the Fixed Assets Inventory, seconded by Member Flores. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

Secretary Barrens referenced grooming outlined in the handbook, asked if grooming is an absolute and asked if it prohibited participation. He asked to define well-groomed, indicated it is 100% subjective and pointed out discussion points. Ms. Ortiz spoke on the interpretation of the athlete's presentation of school representation.

Based on Vice President Garcia's recommendation, President Ortiz moved to table action of the Athletic Handbook, seconded by Secretary Barrens. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

Further review and verbiage clarification will take place at the upcoming scheduled Work Session.

Ms. Nickell recommend aligning with dress code.

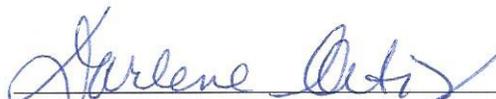
OTHER

ADVANCE PLANNING

- Work Session-October 5, 2021, 5:30 pm, Pecos Schools Board Room
- Regular Board Meeting-October 19, 2021, 6:00 pm, Pecos Schools Board Room

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:04 p.m., President Ortiz moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Member Flores. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0. Minutes approved and signed on this 19th day of October 2021.


DARLENE ORTIZ, PRESIDENT

ATTEST:


GRADY BARRENS, SECRETARY