

SUZETTE J. HASKIE-OBERLY
Board President
MARION L. WELLS
Board Vice President
MATTHEW TSO
Board Secretary
GARY J. MONTOYA
Board Member
CHRISTINA J. ASPAAS
Board Member



STEVE CARLSON
Superintendent
PETER DESWOOD, III
Assistant Superintendent

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**SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
RANDY J MANNING BUILDING, KIRTLAND, NM
(Tuesday, March 25, 2025)
MINUTES**

Members present

Christina J Aspaas, Suzette J Haskie-Oberly, Marion L Wells, Gary J Montoya, Matthew Tso-Google Meet/In-Person

Meeting called to order at 5:38 PM

1. ROUTINE MATTERS:

Marion L Wells called the meeting to order and verified quorum at 5:38 pm.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A. Convene in Executive Session: Discussion on Personnel Matters regarding the Board's Goals and Expectations of the Superintendent as permitted under NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1(H)(2) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act; Discussion pertaining to Threatened or Pending Litigation regarding legal advice as permitted under NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1(H)(7) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act

Motion to Convene in Executive Session at 5:40 pm.

Motion by Gary J Montoya, second by Marion L Wells.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried, 5-0

Yes: Christina J Aspaas, Suzette J Haskie-Oberly, Marion L Wells, Gary J Montoya, Matthew Tso

B. Reconvene in Open Session stating that the Board has discussed in the executive session only the subject identified in the agenda as the reason for which the meeting was closed: Discussion on Personnel Matters regarding the Board's Goals and Expectations of the Superintendent as permitted under NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1(H)(2) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act; Discussion pertaining to Threatened or Pending Litigation regarding legal advice as permitted under NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1(H)(7) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act

Motion to Reconvene in Open Session at 6:58 pm.

Motion by Gary J Montoya, second by Marion L Wells.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried, 5-0

Yes: Christina J Aspaas, Suzette J Haskie-Oberly, Marion L Wells, Gary J Montoya, Matthew Tso

3. REPORTS AND POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION:

A. Update on Budget Analysis and Staff Recommendation by Superintendent Carlson and Finance Director Sategna
Dominic Sategna and Steve Carlson presented the Budget Analysis Update: School Operating Costs As Percentage of SEG Income and Solutions Consideration by the Board. Revenue in Review for SEG Funds, Impact Aid, Grants; Average SEG Amount per Student in Review on Base Unit Value, Students and Per Students; 6-Year Historical Student Count by Grade; 5-Year Historical Birth Rate Trends San Juan County; School + District Shared Salaries & Benefits Costs and School + District Shared Operating Cost; Operating Costs As % of SEG Income for Elementary and Secondary; Conclusion: The district is operating at a deficit relative to SEG income. Solutions Previously considered by the Board: District Right-Sizing-focus on adjusting under-capacity classrooms and schools and maximizing . Why Right Sizing?; Teacher/Classroom Capacity Analysis and Capacity for Elementary and Secondary.

Break: 7:44 pm-7:49 pm

B. Update on Bond Analysis and Staff Recommendations by Superintendent Carlson and Finance Director Sategna
Dominic Sategna and Steve Carlson presented the Update on Bond Analysis and Staff Recommendation: Debt Service Update, Current financial advisor has reported The State of New Mexico will be reducing our mill levy for debt service next year 6.3% to 0%; Proposal-Issue 1-Year Education technology Note to maintain 6.3% tax levy through 2026 Funding would support new laptops and other qualifying technology purchases which requires only board approval and Issue Bond approval in November 2025. Funds will be available in 2027 for capital improvement projects which required board and public approval.

4. ADJOURNMENT:

A. Adjourn the Special School Board Meeting

Motion to Adjourn the Board Retreat Meeting at 8:19 pm.

Motion by Gary J Montoya, second by Marion L Wells.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried, 5-0

Yes: Christina J Aspaas, Suzette J Haskie-Oberly, Marion L Wells, Gary J Montoya, Matthew Tso

Respectfully Submitted,


Matthew Tso, School Board Secretary