

**Travis L. Dempsey**  
Superintendent

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*DRAFT 03/03/2022*  
*FINAL 03/10/2022*

**REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES**  
*For February 24, 2022*

1. The Gadsden School Board convened in regular session at 5:01 p.m. Vice-President Castillo presided at the meeting held at the Mesquite Elementary School Cafeteria.

Introduction  
And Roll Call

Members present: Armando Cano, Daniel Castillo, Arlean Murillo, and Claudia Rodriguez.

President Laura Salazar Flores arrived at 5:16 p.m.

Pledge &  
Mission Statement

2. The Pledge of Allegiance and the Pledge to the New Mexico flag was led by Alejandro Valdiviezo and Ariana Lujan.

3. Superintendent District updates and recognitions:
  - A. Superintendent Dempsey introduced Representative Ray Lara. On behalf of the House of Representative, Representative Lara recognized Principal Silvaggio with two certificates for the NM Legislative Acknowledgement of Mesquite Elementary Blue-Ribbon Recognition and the Terrell Bell Award for Outstanding Leadership.
  - B. Mrs. Lopez, Principal at Chaparral High School, recognized the Business Professional of America winners:  
First Place in Podcast Production Team: Gideon Potts, Kayla Rojas, and Jose Alaniz. First Place in Digital Communication & Design Concepts: Eliha Hernandez. Second Place in Video Production Team: Eileen Sandoval and Eliha Hernandez. They will be traveling in May to Dallas, TX for nationals.

Superintendent's  
Report

Mrs. De La Garza, Principal at Alta Vista Early College High School, introduced Mrs. Candis Brinegar, BPA sponsor. Mrs. Brinegar recognized the Business Professional of America winners:  
Fifth Place in Podcast Production Team: Alejandra Cenicerros and Fourth Place-Allyah Dominguez. Third Place in Prepared Speech: Leslie Gonzalez. First Place in Digital Media Production and \$50 scholarship: Ricardo Ramirez. First Place

in Graphic Design Promotion and \$500 scholarship: Allyah Galvan.

- C. Mrs. Burciaga, Director for Early Childhood, introduced Marisol Diaz who presented information on the Save the Kids Network. Mrs. Diaz shared that Save the Kids Network is a global organization that is built bipartisan support to make sure every child has a strong start in life and advocating for high-quality early learning and ending child hunger.
- D. Superintendent Dempsey presented information on the Legislative Update. He explained that in Bucket One: which is a retention stipend an amount for all staff that would be provided this year. Bucket Two: minimum salaries for teachers, Level I-\$50,000; Level II-\$60,000; Level III-\$70,000 and \$15 per hour minimum wage for hourly employees under House Bill 2. Bucket 3: is tied to Extended Learning Time Program and K12 Plus. Additional 10 days that were added to the calendar which in essence a base contract and then addendum additional dollars for the Extended Learning Time. Superintendent Dempsey stated that the governor still needs to sign and NM PED needs to provide very detail guidance on how to make these calculations.
- E. Superintendent Dempsey presented information on the COVID Update. He explained that mask requirements were changed to a local decision which parents, students, employees can choose to wear a mask indoors. All other COVID safe practices remain in place. He stated he anticipates for the state releasing a new Toolkit which is a guiding document behind COVID safe practices. Daily health screenings, social distancing to the greatest extent possible, and contact tracing remain a responsibility of the district.
- F. Student Representative-Briana Hernandez, a freshman from Alta Vista Early College High School, reported that they have 74 8th grade applicants who applied to attend Alta Vista Early College High School as Freshmen next school year. Alta Vista has accepted 44 students for the 2022-2023 school year. The letters of acceptance have been sent out; however, 18 were accepted from Chaparral Middle School, 20 were accepted from Gadsden Middle School, and 6 were accepted from Santa Teresa Middle School. The team is still reviewing applications; however, application process is still open through March 18th. She stated that they are excited for their incoming Freshmen students to join the school community. The school teams and organizations have been doing great this year. Esports is in full swing this semester. They have 9 players and their 4th game was on Tuesday, February 22nd. All students participating are sophomores and are hoping to recruit more players from all grade levels. On November 20th, the Chess Club received the 3rd Place Team Award at the Park Hills Invitational where Bianca Navarrete and Dulce Zubia participated. They are

looking forward to playing at Eastwood Knolls International School on March 26th in El Paso, Texas. She stated that they want to recognize their Teacher of the Year, Ms. Candis Brinegar. She is an excellent English and CTE Media Communications teacher and we are lucky to have her as part of the Mighty Owl Staff. Last week they had I-CAT meetings, which were student-led and we had the opportunity to speak to the parents and present the Next Step Plan and Xello goals for their future. Juniors will be participating in the UNM Mentoring Institute, which partnered with 21st Century Solutions to create a course called A Plus Soft Skills System. This course teaches soft skills such as personal skills, employability skills, and workplace communication skills to the juniors and will continue into their senior year. The juniors will receive a certificate of completion when they complete each course from the UNM Mentoring Institute. The students can use this to show employers or it can be attached to a college application. In preparation of graduation, seniors have already picked up their caps and gowns from Jostens. They will be having their graduation pictures taken tomorrow. Also, they have 4 seniors that qualified for the Bilingual Seal and are working on their presentations. In addition, NMSU advisors also visited with seniors during their Senior Seminar class to discuss the next steps in their application for NMSU. They will be attending orientation on May 12th. They will be allowed to register first as current DACC students. The advisors also presented scholarships Alta Vista Seniors received from NMSU.

- G. Mrs. Rodriguez thanked Principal Silvaggio for the hospitality. She congratulated Mesquite community for the Blue-Ribbon award. She stated she is happy that the mask mandate has been relaxed, however, following the safe practices. She stated she attended the Student District Leadership Council and amazing to hear students asking questions and to see how they are very interested in what is happening within the district. Also, she encourages the parents to participate in meetings. She thanked Marisol Diaz for presenting about advocating for children.

President Flores thanked Principal Silvaggio and staff for the hospitality. She stated as the legislative session ended, she thanked Representatives Ray Lara, Doreen Gallegos, Willie Madrid, and Senator Cervantes for their hard work. She wished good luck to all the spring athletes. She took the time to remember Dr. Karen Trujillo, former superintendent to Las Cruces Public Schools, on her 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary of her passing.

Mr. Castillo thanked Principal Silvaggio for the hospitality. He congratulated Mesquite Elementary for the well-deserved Blue-Ribbon award.

Mr. Cano thanked Principal Silvaggio for the hospitality and congratulated Mesquite Elementary for the Blue-Ribbon award. As he visited schools, he stated he was happy to see some students and parents still wearing a face mask.

Mrs. Murillo thanked Principal Silvaggio for the hospitality. She also congratulated Principal Silvaggio as one of the eight principals receiving the Terrell Bell Award for Outstanding Leadership. She thanked the cheerleaders for their performance. She stated she attended the Coffee with the Principal at Santa Teresa Elementary and Santa Teresa Middle School. She thanked Representatives Ray Lara and Willie Madrid, and Senator Cervantes for their hard work.

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| Personnel Report                                 | 4. The personnel report is included for the Board’s information with no action required.   |
| Approval of the Agenda                           | 5. Mr. Castillo made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Superintendent Dempsey recommended approval of the motion. Motion carried unanimously.                                  |
| School Board Minutes                             | 6. Mrs. Rodriguez made a motion to accept the Regular School Board Minutes for February 10, 2022. Superintendent Dempsey recommended approval of the motion. Motion carried unanimously. |
| Consent Agenda                                   | 7. Mr. Castillo made a motion to accept the consent agenda as presented. Superintendent Dempsey recommended approval of the motion. Motion carried unanimously.                          |
| Open Forum                                       | 8. Open Forum: None  |
| Action   | 9. Action Items: None  |
| Discussion<br>Gadsden & Chaparral<br>MS Ed Specs | 10. Discussion Items:  |
| Berino HVAC<br>Replacement                       | A. Mrs. Vela, Construction Coordinator, introduced Kerriane Wolf from Cooperative Strategies. Mrs. Wolf presented information on the Gadsden & Chaparral MS Ed Specs Presentation.       |
| Anthony HVAC<br>Replacement                      | B. Mr. Gallegos, Executive Director for Energy Management & Construction, presented information on the Berino HVAC Replacement.  |
| 2022-23 School<br>Calendar                       | C. Mr. Gallegos presented information on the Anthony HVAC Replacement.   |
|  | D. Mr. Wohlgemuth, Director for Secondary Schools, presented information on the 2022-23 School Calendar.   |

GISD Policy JKD:  
Membership of  
Review Hearing  
Authority

E. Superintendent Dempsey presented information on the GISD Policy JKD: Membership of Review Hearing Authority.

Annual Audit Report  
For The Fiscal Year  
Ended June 30, 2021

F. Mr. Cordova from Cordova CPAs LLC, presented information on the Annual Audit Report For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021.

Adjourn

11. Mr. Cano made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Superintendent Dempsey recommended approval of the motion. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

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Claudia Rodriguez, School Board Secretary

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Laura Salazar Flores, School Board President

Minutes taken by MaryLou Delgado