

REGULAR MEETING

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Osowski called the Los Lunas Schools Board of Education meeting to order at 6:00 pm and welcomed those who were participating in the board meeting in person and those who were watching the board meeting via livestreaming on YouTube. She asked that anyone addressing the Board use the microphone at the podium and to be sure to identify themselves for the record. Dr. Osowski added that, as a reminder, the link to the meeting was on the District’s webpage, under the Board of Education page. She stated that the streaming would run through the end of the meeting. In the event there was a disruption in the audio portion, she would pause the meeting until it was reestablished.

**LLS Board Members Present:** Dr. Michelle Osowski, President  
 Monica Otero, Vice President  
 Justin Talley, Secretary  
 Bruce Bennett, Member  
 P. David Vickers, Member

**Administrators Present:** Dr. Ryan Kettler, Superintendent  
 Brian G. Baca, Deputy Superintendent  
 Susan Chavez, Chief Student Service Officer  
 Andrew Saiz, Chief Personnel Officer  
 Sandy Traczyk, Chief Finance Officer  
 Jessica Montaña, Interim Chief Academic Officer  
 Miranda Baca, Dir. of Finance  
 Carlos Castillo, Business Office Supervisor  
 Suzy Chavez, Dir. of Professional Learning Innovations  
 Karla Dow, Dir. of Assessment Innovations and Accountability  
 Tiffany McMinn, Dir. of Maintenance/Construction  
 Michelle Romero, Dir. of Purchasing  
 Albert Aragon, Principal, Valencia High School  
 Teri Gough, Principal, Katherine Gallegos Elementary  
 Paul Carder, Asst. Principal, Valencia High School  
 Jennifer Otero, Asst. Principal, Valencia High School  
 Chelsea Servantes, Asst. Principal, Valencia High School  
 Michaela Coffin, Assistant Principal, Valencia Middle School

# LOS LUNAS SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

MAY 21, 2024

## REGULAR MEETING

### A. CALL TO ORDER (Continued)

**Others Present:** May Ann Chavez, NEA-Los Lunas  
Felina Martinez, Valencia County News Bulletin  
Approximately 15 additional individuals were in attendance.  
A range of 12-14 individuals watched via live streaming.

#### 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Amy Viramontes, Principal of Peralta Elementary, led the audience in the Pledge.

#### 2. ASCERTAIN QUORUM

- **Dr. Michelle Osowski, Board President**
- **Monica Otero, Board Vice President**
- **Justin Talley, Board Secretary**
- **P. David Vickers, Board Member**
- **Bruce Bennett, Board Member**

Dr. Osowski had the Executive Assistant called for a roll call of the board members. It was noted that all board members were in attendance.

### B. ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETING

Dr. Osowski asked Dr. Kettler to announce the meeting.

Dr. Kettler reported the meeting had been announced in accordance with the NM Open Meetings Act and LLS Open Meetings Resolution, and was a legally constituted meeting of the Los Lunas Schools Board of Education.

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**C. EXECUTIVE: APPROVAL OF PRIORITIZED AGENDA**

Dr. Osowski announced that took them to Item #C. EXECUTIVE: APPROVAL OF PRIORITIZED AGENDA. She asked Dr. Kettler if there were any changes or deletions to the agenda. Dr. Kettler asked for Item L. APPROVAL OF LOCAL APPLICATION: IDEA B Basic Entitlement (24106) and Preschool Entitlement (24109) Sub-Grant Authorization for the 2024/25 SY Funding to be removed from the agenda, as the information had not been received by the State. He added that Ms. Chavez had spoken with the State and they anticipated that the award should be received in the next couple of days. Dr. Kettler stated that once it was received, he would schedule a special meeting for the week of June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Mr. Talley moved, and Mr. Bennett seconded, to approve the agenda as amended. Dr. Osowski asked if there was any discussion. There being none, she called for a vote with the following results: Mr. Vickers - yes; Ms. Otero – yes; Mr. Talley – yes; Mr. Bennett - yes; and Dr. Osowski - yes. The motion to approve the prioritized agenda as amended passed: 5/0.**

**D. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS’ REPORTS: Dr. Ryan Kettler, Superintendent  
(Discussion/Informational)**

**1. Recognition: NMSBA/ LLS Student Achievement Recognition Award Recipient:  
Jamie Giron – Director of Student Nutrition**

Dr. Kettler announced that the Los Lunas Schools Board of Education, in conjunction with the New Mexico School Boards Association (NMSBA), chooses a person, or persons, they felt had gone above and beyond to further excellence in student achievement. This year, the Los Lunas Schools Board of Education, would like to honor Jamie Giron, Director of Student Nutrition.

Ms. Giron was presented with a plaque in honor of her accomplishments. Dr. Osowski told Ms. Giron that she did amazing work for our students and she did it for 9,000 students two or three times a day. They could not be more proud of anyone in our district. She thanked her for her service to the schools. It was very well-deserved and well achieved, and noted that she had been nominated by Mr. Bennett, they all offered their congratulations.

## REGULAR MEETING

**D. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS' REPORTS: Dr. Ryan Kettler, Superintendent  
(Discussion/Informational)****2. Construction Report: Tiffany McMinn, Director of Maintenance & Construction**

Dr. Kettler stated that Tiffany McMinn, the Director of Maintenance and Construction, was there to provide them with an update on things going on in the District.

Ms. McMinn stated that they had many small projects going on, then highlights some of the larger ones they were doing right now including the following.

- VMS: Window & Door Project is 70% Completed
- RGE: Kitchen Roof Replacement 100% Complete
  - The kitchen has been opened for use
- Scheduling summer carpet cleaning and flooring replacements
- LLHS Stadium Project: Over the past a little over a year now probably, their committee had gotten together and looked at the master plan for much-needed renovations of the Los Lunas High School Stadium. Part of that was to address the dire need of the restrooms to make sure they were ADA compliant for people that came and visited our campuses. In addition, the infrastructure was quite old, so there was a bit of plumbing maintenance that had been catching up with them. It was time they updated those. The ADA compliance had changed from the time they were built.

Ms. McMinn showed a rendering of what the new building and noted that it would be located north of the bleachers. It would be a concession facility to adequately meet the standards and capacity of the school. They had their preconstruction meeting coming up in the coming weeks and anticipated starting this project and rolling it out during the summer.

- Peralta Elementary: The beams had started going up. As one drove by, they can see the shell of that building come together. They anticipated continuing to pick up speed as school let out and they would be able to take over the whole campus and get more construction done at a faster rate.

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**D. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS' REPORTS: Dr. Ryan Kettler, Superintendent  
(Discussion/Informational)**

**2. Construction Report: Tiffany McMinn, Director of Maintenance & Construction**

Dr. Osowski called for discussion. The board members individually thanked Ms. McMinn for her presentation. In response to Dr. Osowski's inquiries, Ms. McMinn stated that no, there had not been any leaks on the kitchen roof. Dr. Osowski asked how long the kitchen was closed down, and how did they provide food for the kids during that time. Dr. Kettler stated that the kitchen was closed down for a couple of weeks, and that food was prepared at the Century High School location and taken by van to RGE during that period of time.

Ms. McMinn was thanked for her report.

**3. Budget/Finance Report: Sandy Traczyk, Chief Finance Officer**

Ms. Traczyk presented information on the following areas:

Revenue for this fiscal year: Ms. Traczyk showed a graph depicting the revenue. She noted that the last column was the budgeted amount, and they could see the revenue kept increasing each month. When calculating out the rest of the SEG and also, they had a couple months left of taxes, as well as, the last quarter of indirect costs coming, she was confident they would meet the budgeted amount.

Expenses: Ms. Traczyk showed a graph that depicted actual expenses. It showed what had all been paid out, ignoring any encumbrances, which would include open purchase orders or the portion of our contracts that had not been paid yet. That still showed 42% available remaining of that budget. However, they knew that the majority of those expenses would go through.

## REGULAR MEETING

**D. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS' REPORTS: Dr. Ryan Kettler, Superintendent  
(Discussion/Informational)****3. Budget/Finance Report: Sandy Traczyk, Chief Finance Officer (Continued)**

Year-to-date expenses including encumbrances: The next graph showed the year-to-date expenses including encumbrances. Some of those could be open purchase orders that might not be paid by the end of the year, but if you were to include them all, they were looking at a remaining 22% left. That came out at this point at 28, 245,000. In both cases she felt confident that they had the revenue that was being budgeted and would not go over the expense that had been budgeted. She felt confident that they would meet that 25 million going into excess for cash reserves.

State of finances for all funds: The next slide showed the state of finances for all of our funds. The first column was the budget authority that they had on those funds, and the next column shows this point, and as of current numbers, what had been spent and obligated, so it had a purchase order or an open contract, and finally, the balance remaining on the percentage that was left.

Ms. Traczyk noted that there was a slight difference. The report was done yesterday and the other was done today, so there was a teeny tiny difference. Just in case they were wondering. What a difference a day made.

She said that they could see all of the funds that they had budget authority for and the remaining balances on there. The negatives, and reminded them not to be scared when they saw large negatives, those were already planned to be covered by operations. There were two funds in the negative. That happened every year, so she always budgeted to plan on picking those up part of operation.

There being no questions from any of the board members, Ms. Traczyk was thanked for her presentation.

## REGULAR MEETING

**D. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS' REPORTS: Dr. Ryan Kettler, Superintendent**  
*(Discussion/Informational)***4. 3 Mill Update**

Dr. Kettler reported that at the last meeting, one of the board members, maybe Mr. Talley, requested that they put a 3-mill update on the agenda now through the election. Dr. Kettler said he wanted to let them know this evening, that based on Mr. Bennett's recommendation from a presentation that he had attended in Santa Fe, he (Dr. Kettler) had reached out to Gino Zamora who was an attorney. Mr. Zamora had extensive background and experience in passing special elections, and he had spent about one hour with him learning some of the things that he believed made special elections successful.

Specifically, Mr. Zamora had recommended number one, that they hire consultants, which, Dr. Kettler appreciated, but they were very expensive and that was not in the budget. From there, they'd moved to creating a plan that included where they wanted to target or were targeting, including parents, teachers, students and residents using a variety of media; specifically, online resources such as our district website and social media. There were newsletters that went out, specific to the community, as well as, the County. Dr. Kettler reported that they would have print media ready to go this summer in the form of postcards and they'd also put together, with the help of KRQE, some ads. One was 30 seconds and one was 15 seconds. They were currently running, and they would be on the website, if they were not already, as well as, on social media. Dr. Kettler then had the Tech show the 30-second commercial on the screen.

Dr. Kettler stated that they were also working on some ads created by students, in which they expressed in their voice about the use of technology and how important it was for them to be able to use it as part of their education in the classroom.

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**D. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS' REPORTS: Dr. Ryan Kettler, Superintendent  
(Discussion/Informational) (Continued)**

**4. Other Comments**

Dr. Kettler stated that the graduations were held over the past weekend had been nice, and had been very successful. With all of the graduates that they'd had, it was an all-day event that celebrated Los Lunas High School, Valencia High School, and finished with Century High School. It was well attended by family, and with that completed, they were transitioning into the end of this year. He then wished all of our community a happy, safe and relaxing summer.

Dr Osowski thanked Dr. Kettler for the Superintendent's Report. She noted that the items were for informational purposes only, and that no action was needed or warranted at this time.

**E. BOARD COMMENDATIONS**

- Dr. Osowski asked if any of the board members had any commendations. There being none, she said that she had a few:
  - Dr. Osowski commended the Los Lunas Schools' Maintenance Team. She said that they did an amazing job at graduation. The changed things around and moved things for the ceremonies from Los Lunas High to Valencia High to Century High.
  - Dr. Osowski commended the administration and staff of the three high schools. They did an amazing job getting the students to the finish line. They (the Board) were really impressed with the robing ceremonies, the academic award ceremonies, and noted that they'd had so many students receive some form of scholarship, or acknowledgment of their achievements while they attended their last four years of school. It was a joy to see so many students walk across the stage for Century. There were so many staff that participated in the process and she congratulated them again for getting those kids to the end of the finish line.



REGULAR MEETING

**F. PUBLIC COMMENT** *(In Accordance with Board Policy B-2150 Public Address to the Board)*

Dr. Osowski asked if they were individuals who had signed up to speak. Ms. Wolfe replied that they had six.

Dr. Osowski stated that before they moved to public comment, she would like to remind the audience of the Board’s procedures regarding the handling of public comment, which followed Board Policy B – 2150 BDE eight. Public comment was limited to five minutes per individual speaker; however, the Board President might further restrict or waive those time limits based on the number of speakers. The Board welcomed their input. The Board did not prohibit public criticism or comment upon personnel matters but did discourage personnel content. There can conscience that statements concerning others that convey the unfavorable position may subject the pursuit of civil action. Any person making public comments would be solely responsible for the content of his or her comments. The Board neither adopted or assumed any responsibility for comments made by individuals in the public comment section of the board meeting.

Six individuals, Ms. Benavidez, Ms. Waites, Ms. Wells, Mr. Mascarena, Ms. Avent, and Ms. Chavez addressed the Board regarding the closure of Raymond Gabaldon Elementary. Two individuals, Ms. Benavidez and Ms. Chavez, submitted their comments to be added to the board minute book. In addition, Ms. Chavez submitted letters written by students asking the Board not to close RGE.

- **Ms. Jessica A Benavidez**

Ms. Benavidez discussed several issues associated with the item regarding closing of RGE. She asked why the people weren’t notified, and spoke about many positive things happening at RGE, including the community enhanced learning programs, festivals, and other community events. She discussed the fact that at the beginning of March they approved the District’s Five-Year Plan and that the plan was in there was renovation of the RGE, not the closing. Will there be room with the other schools? Why weren't families notified of this? Why wasn't the public?

REGULAR MEETING

F. PUBLIC COMMENT *(In Accordance with Board Policy B-2150 Public Address to the Board)*

- **Ms. Jessica A Benavidez** (Continued)

If they needed to save money and she could only think that's what it's for, why was it stated at a previous meeting that board members wanted to change the operating system to Windows or Chrome when they had a perfectly good system. Did things matter more than humans? Research has shown that stronger actions and better parental engagement all lead to a successful life. In sending all of the students to different schools, they were breaking stability in their students' lives. Sending them to APE did not make clear outcomes. She stated she would send her comments to Ms. Wolfe for the minute book.

Dr. Osowski thanked her very much. She said that she appreciated the time that she took to prepare that.

Dr. Osowski asked if she might invite Ms. Wells to the podium.

- **Ms. Lietta Wells**

Ms. Wells stated that her question was in line with Ms. Benavidez's statements. Why were they closing RGE when there was a Five-Year Plan in place. She had heard that the District had reserves. Her question was what could be done to use those reserves that she'd heard about, to keep RGE open.

Dr. Osowski told her that she appreciated her taking the time, and thanked her very much for doing that.

Ms. Osowski stated that she would like to invite the third speaker up, Mr. Mescarena.

## REGULAR MEETING

**F. PUBLIC COMMENT** *(In Accordance with Board Policy B-2150 Public Address to the Board)*

- **Mr. Brian Mascarena**

Mr. Mascarena stated that by moving kids to another school, 20 students or 15 students. That's impossible. He said that he was actually, an eagle - he was from Belen originally. RGE had made him a tiger. That couldn't lose that. He knew that it was a recommendation from the State, but the State was not always right. They had to look at the heart of the kids. If they wanted to make it a Pre-K, they would be bringing kids from all over the district so they were going to have four or five-year-old kids coming to one area, and they were going to be on the bus all that time. Four and five-year-old kids should not be on that long of a bus ride.

Also, as they knew, there was going to be a lot of growth in the area. Once they built the bridge, there was going to be new subdivisions going up. They were looking at anywhere from 6 to 800 homes going up in the areas close by, so they could not send them all to Los Lunas Elementary. They want to make that like a small high school when they had a perfectly good school. He understood that it was older, but it was a tradition. His cousins went there and their children all went there. He said he was asking them as a parent, to at least think about it. There were better ways to save money than to close the school. RGE should not be closed - those kids should not be going to a different school, having fully different teachers where overwhelmed teachers would be teaching 25-30 students when they were at a school that they knew. It was a great school. His son had learned so much from his teachers there. His son loved his teacher. He could not go through the day without talking about her, so again, he asked them, as a parent, let's keep the school open for the kids. He knew what they were going through, but in the long run, he felt there were better ways of saving money.

Dr. Osowski thanked him very much. She noted that he still had ten seconds left. His comments were perfectly timed. She appreciated his comments.

Dr. Osowski invited the next speaker, Ms. Avent to come to the podium to address the Board.

## REGULAR MEETING

**F. PUBLIC COMMENT** *(In Accordance with Board Policy B-2150 Public Address to the Board)* (Continued)

- **Ms. Adrianna Avent**

Ms. Avent stated that she had a lot of emotions. She found out last week from her principal that RGE was closing. She had two students that go to school there. She was infuriated from Monday until this meeting today, because she'd had no communication from the Board, none from the district. Did they know how hard it was to sit through graduation and look at all the board members and the cabinet. She just wanted to say why? So that was her question. Why? She had two children who were in special education. One will would be starting Pre-K at LLE. Her other child was receiving interventions in her classroom thanks to Ms. McGee, but if she transferred to LLE, she would have to start over again with new teachers.

Her fifth-grader who was going to be in sixth grade, RGE was the only school she had known. They chose their house in that location because they wanted their children to walk to school. She said that a lot of them (the Board) did not know her or her family. She was raised here in Los Lunas. She and her husband were both Los Lunas graduates. A lot of their friends were serving on the Cabinet, which was amazing. She worked in the school as a teacher herself, and was working to get an MBA because she wanted to speak and be a voice for our children.

There was a reason why she and her husband chose to stay in this community. They were raised by this community. They loved this community. They had other options to go to other places but this was their home, and their children's home. For them to go to LLE, nothing against LLE, she went there when it was a brand-new school, but her children had known nothing but RGE. They had known all those teachers, and those teachers knew their families.

It was heartbreaking to hear that there were teachers having to be separated, who had worked there for their whole careers. That's heartbreaking. When they said that they were doing it for the children, numbers, whatever, it didn't make any sense to her. Again, she had a special education child. She needed interventions in the classroom.

**F. PUBLIC COMMENT** *(In Accordance with Board Policy B-2150 Public Address to the Board)*  
**(Continued)**

- **Ms. Adrianna Avent (Continued)**

Ms. Avent stated that they could not get interventions when there were 30-35 kids in the classroom. She was very upset as a parent, and as a staff member, that she did not hear about this from anyone except for the principal at her school, and that was extremely frustrating. She said that she'd hoped that they (the Board) would reconsider. They'd just preregistered their kids for RGE. That felt like it was a complete waste of time now at this point. They hadn't told their third-grader that she'd have to go to LLE after next year. That was awful.

Ms. Avent stated that she hoped they reconsidered the two-year, five-year plan, whatever it was. She could see that they were getting new facilities for sports. Cool. She couldn't tell them the last time they'd won a championship. Last she'd heard, they were 'student' athletes.

If they could not make them good students in the elementary level, how would they have good athletes at the high school level? This town had done nothing but grow. When her parents moved here 40 years ago, it was a cow town. She said she loved telling students that they didn't have a movie theater or Walmart for the longest time. She said that she thought the Board needed to double check their priorities.

Dr. Osowski thanked Ms. Advent and told her that she appreciated her time in preparing that. She then invited Mary Ann Chavez to the podium.

- **Mary Ann Chavez**

Ms. Chavez stated that she was the union president and employee, and was there as a voice for the district employees, but most importantly, for their students. She handed the board members and Dr. Kettler, items, then added that she wanted her statement submitted and the artifacts that she'd just presented to them to be on the records and minutes for the school board meeting book.

## REGULAR MEETING

**F. PUBLIC COMMENT** *(In Accordance with Board Policy B-2150 Public Address to the Board)*  
(Continued)

- **Mary Ann Chavez**

Ms. Chavez stated that she was lifelong resident of Los Lunas and a product of Los Lunas Schools. She was also a product of RGE. Ms. Chavez took a moment, then apologized and stated that she could usually speak, but it was very hard for her.

She asked the Board if they understood that RGE was an old school? She understood that it was old and so did many parents and staff members. It's made an impact on this the community and on her in several ways. Mostly for her peers. She'd been through this before and it was hard. This was the second time she'd gone through a school closure and the second time she'd been through a boundary change. She'd had to move several schools. She had seen superintendents go, administrators go, but she hadn't seen her students go. They always come back. She saw them in the community, and she saw them working at the school now. The biggest thing that hit her was when they were going to go when it was time for their senior walk. They were going to go find their favorite teacher at a school that they did not know and didn't go to.

Ms. Chavez stated that they were not only my colleagues, they were not only her students. They were her family. She had been in the district, 25 years. She had devoted so much time and support to this community. She supported RGE and was at every community event that she could, and she was there for everything because of the students. She was at Ann Parish before, same thing. She was there for the students because of the population that they had. They were different. They were unique.

They could see when they had students from Sundance, Katherine Gallegos, Peralta, and Bosque Farms. They loved them just like she did, because they were our students in the district. But, the students at RGE were unique because they came from all over.

They had interventions, and community enhanced learning. They had more coming next year. She had been planning IEPs for the students coming.

## REGULAR MEETING

**F. PUBLIC COMMENT** *(In Accordance with Board Policy B-2150 Public Address to the Board)*  
**(Continued)**

- **Mary Ann Chavez**

What was she to tell parents when they said they were looking forward to next year? She looked forward to whatever teacher they were going to be getting. How did she tell them that they may have to go to another school next year? When she saw her students out in the community, what would she tell them? You can't find me there anymore?

It was hard. It was a social injustice because she had been there. It had happened to her at Daniel Fernandez. They told them they were closing it, but new people were put there instead of the staff that were already there.

Ms. Chavez thanked the Board for listening to her and said she really wanted them to consider the letters that she'd handed to them from the students at their school. She added that she didn't approach them. They approached her and asked if she could take them. They asked her if she could go into their classroom to talk about what was going on. Of course, she couldn't do that because that was Ms. Campbell's school. Ms. Campbell was busy today. She herself had IEPs today, so didn't have a chance. She said that she would like for them to reconsider. She knew, at some point, it could get rebuilt like Peralta and like Bosque Farms. She didn't have plans of retiring. She had planned to work for as long as she could. Thank you.

Dr. Osowski stated that she'd had a few moments to read through a couple of these. The letters were priceless. She thanked Ms. Chavez for giving them to them, and added that her time was up.

Dr. Osowski invited Ms. Yvette Waites to come up.

## REGULAR MEETING

**F. PUBLIC COMMENT** *(In Accordance with Board Policy B-2150 Public Address to the Board)*  
**(Continued)**

- **Ms. Yvette Waites**

Ms. Waites stated that she had two children that attended RGE. She had a Pre-K student, and a 4<sup>th</sup> grader. They moved to Los Lunas last July even though they hadn't called RGE home. They had lived anywhere from as close as Odessa Texas, to Louisville, Idaho. She was being honest with them in that they had never been welcome to a school like they were at RGE. When they attended the back-to-school night, her boys were greeted by all of the staff and said you guys are new. She knew that it's a small town - everybody knew that. But they noticed, they came up, they took the initiative and talked to her kids. On the first day of school as she was crying saying goodbye to her son in Pre-K Mrs. Campbell told her, no worries Mama Waites, he's in good hands. I thought she was just being nice, but here they were at the end of the year and she could promise them that her kids had been taking care of - from like her Pre-K losing his water bottle in the car and then she had multiple staff members call her and say your son needs his water bottle, is he okay?

So all of the staff made sure that her son was learning in a good environment. They made her feel like my son was cared for and they were excited to be advocates for him in his education. She'd had the pleasure of serving on the school committee for the past few months this school year, and was just selected as PTO President for the upcoming school year. She and her husband believed that RGE was just getting started in some ways. They were so excited to help the school grow and help the school be there, and help all of these kids in the community.

The thought of closing the school down made her heart ache, not only for her children but for all of the children. Their kids had gone to school in different states, and now that they have gotten into a school they really enjoy, they had never had a bad day where they have woken up and said to them, I don't want to go to school today. That was something that happened with kids, and she did believe it was something to do with the close-knit community that RGE offered.



## REGULAR MEETING

**F. PUBLIC COMMENT** *(In Accordance with Board Policy B-2150 Public Address to the Board)*  
**(Continued)****• Ms. Yvette Waites** **(Continued)**

Ms. Waites stated that she worried about the children being allocated to other schools and that the teachers were going to be more overwhelmed. They loved the intimate community RGE offered, and the relationship each teacher had with the students. They were not just a number in the class.

She was not a parent that just dropped Mikey off at school – she was involved in their community activities, and was happy to see that there was something more there. It made her so happy to walk to school. She had a two-year-old and they go in and help with popcorn sales - they knew her two-year-old daughter. Again, it was just not like any other school.

In closing, Ms. Waites stated that she hoped this decision was based primarily on what was best for the children in our community, not just the budget and finances. She thanked the Board for their time.

Dr. Osowski thanked Ms. Waites. She said that she would like to say that she knew it took a lot of effort and sometimes overcoming some fears to stand up in front of a group, and express your opinions, and your emotions. She thanked them more than anything for being a part of the conversation and the discussion. She added that she'd taken copious notes, had a bunch of comments, and she knew that the Board listened intently.

The next item was actually going to be a continuation of this topic, so to please not feel like she was dismissing them. She asked them to please direct their attention to the screen. She then asked the Tech to put a presentation on the screen. Mr. Talley asked Dr. Osowski if she only got five minutes. She responded she did not – not for her presentation.

REGULAR MEETING

**G. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ACTION REGARDING RAYMOND GABALDON ELEMENTARY**

- 1. Movement of Some Students to Ann Parish Elementary**
- 2. Closure of School**

Dr. Osowski stated that the Board of Education received all sorts of information from various consultants that were invited in to help them maintain requirements that were determined by the Public Education Department or the New Mexico State Legislative. She noted that those were just some of the many pages that they had received regarding enrollment and attendance boundaries, and recommendations for this Board, and all previous boards before this board. They had to consider things like how did they prioritize which buildings they would like to ask the State for assistance with money. A good example was Peralta Elementary. They were going to see some other examples, and they would see at least one of this presentation. The information was coming from a summary of the information that the Board had received since this Board was put into place in January. She added that if they would like to see this, to let her know, and they would see what they could do to email them a copy of various presentations.

The Executive Assistant interjected and stated that she did not have a copy of the PowerPoint presentation that Dr. Osowski was showing and asked if they needed one. Dr. Osowski responded she had not gotten it to any of them They were her comments and then continued the presentation.

Dr. Osowski stated the topics that she was going to discuss were associated with this particular agenda item and included. They would be some background information that she would share with them, part of that information would then go into the projected enrollment for RGE they received from their consultants. including scores from the Facilities Master Plan presentation to the BOE on 8/23/23; projected enrollment for RGE; information they'd received from their consultants including the existing capacity and utilization; transfer practices going into and out of RGE; students who were currently assigned to RGE from the APE school community; and a proposed schedule.

REGULAR MEETING

**G. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ACTION REGARDING RAYMOND GABALDON ELEMENTARY (Continued)**

- 1. Movement of Some Students to Ann Parish Elementary**
- 2. Closure of School**

Background Information

One of our consultants Architectural Research Consults, Inc. (ARC) does an assessment of every school facility that is the public school in the state of New Mexico. They had a rating system for all schools – all public school buildings, campuses, schools etc. They looked for things to see if classroom spaces were adequate for people to be and when they knew the numbers that people were supposed to be in for the numbers of footage, before they had to do something like the number of aides, etc. compliance

They also include the square footage for a set number of students for lunch, as well as, specialty classrooms, such as the gymnasium or the multipurpose room. They presented that information to the Board in 2023.

Without considering the blue school where they did not have children and or the Opportunity School, RGE had the worst adequacy rating in the district. It was rated as a 43%, which was considered poor.

Dr. Osowski stated that she needed to let that sink in for them just a little bit. That meant that the permanent classrooms at RGE were rated, you will see numbers. 43%, for the overall score, 43% for adequacy ....That was a poor rating.

Many of the classrooms did not meet New Mexico Adequacy Standards for prekindergarten or kinder garden. She had a 14-month old grandson. That 14-month old grandson could enter RGE in the 28-29 school year. His father went to RGE. The principal was Mr. George Jackson and his first teacher was Miss Greta. She had roots in sentimentality about that building as well. But, would she put her 14-month-old grandson when he was five in a classroom that had a poor adequacy rating?

REGULAR MEETING

**G. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ACTION REGARDING RAYMOND GABALDON ELEMENTARY**

**1. Movement of Some Students to Ann Parish Elementary**

**2. Closure of School**

Background information (Continued)

The question in her mind. The physical plant of RGE had the worst rating up the remaining 20 sites, by the company that came in and graded our facilities. It was the only elementary / middle school site with the physical plant rating of borderline.

Dr. Osowski stated that in 2023, the estimated construction improvement project costs for RGE was 26.7 million. They did not have 26.7 million in cash reserves. They would not have \$26.7 million in cash reserves where we could handle just the renovations for RGE.

In 2023, the cost per square foot was rated at \$473. If they had constructed anything in the last couple of years, they would note that the prices had gone up. That was for 2023. That was 2.8 times the cost of remodeling or renovation cost for Valencia Elementary which was estimated at \$167 per square foot.

Projected Enrollment

The projected enrollment for the schools in the Tiger nation was expected to increase 11.2% overall from the 2023-24 SY, with elementary enrollments around 4,196, to the 2029-30 school year to 4,667. The housing developments expected in the Tiger nation are around nine. She said she listed those on the screen for them from the materials that were provided to the Board, whereas in the Jaguar nation, there was one... One estimated. Clearly there would be growth. They knew that.

When they were looking at historic enrollment, if they started the 2019 – 2020 SY year with 416, to the 2023 – 2024 enrollment of 378, they had a decline in enrollment at RGE by 9%. The projected enrollment beginning with the 2023, 2024 school year to the 2029, 2030 school year continued to decline at a projected rate to 13%.

REGULAR MEETING

**G. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ACTION REGARDING RAYMOND GABALDON ELEMENTARY**

- 1. Movement of Some Students to Ann Parish Elementary**
- 2. Closure of School**

Projected Enrollment

Dr. Osowski stated that another consideration when they were looking at buildings, was when the consultants came to school districts, they talked to them about how is the capacity of the buildings that were in place, how are they – what was the capacity and what was the current utilization? The classrooms there were a total of 29 classrooms at RGE. Nine of those were portables, 20 of those were constructed classrooms. 30% were portables. 30%. Seven of those classrooms that were permanent were considered below the New Mexico adequacy standards. Which meant that they were putting approximately 35% of the currently enrolled students in classrooms that were not adequate.

In comparison to the neighborhood schools, the number of students or classrooms that were considered not adequate or not meeting New Mexico Adequacy Standards in Los Lunas Elementary Schools were: 0 students at Sundance Elementary and Bosque Farms Elementary. 18 students at LLE, 34 students in Peralta Elementary, and 36 students in Katherine Gallegos Elementary. But around 123 of our RGE students were in classrooms that were below New Mexico Adequacy Standards.

Dr. Osowski stated that the community had been telling us - how they say it - if you don't like something, let your money do the walking. Or the talking? You don't shop there. Over 40% of students that live in the RGE attendance area transfer out.

It's not because the staff – it was not . They have an amazing, caring, wonderful and committed staff. She said that she believed that that staff and all of our staff were wonderful, caring, committed with high-capacity. Her son had that same staff when they came here to Los Lunas 23 years ago. He had that same staff. They had different names but they were just as loving. That was compared to the other elementary schools in the district, the number of students that transfer out. The community told the Board about the school.

REGULAR MEETING

**G. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ACTION REGARDING RAYMOND GABALDON ELEMENTARY (Continued)**

- 1. Movement of Some Students to Ann Parish Elementary**
- 2. Closure of School**

Dr. Osowski stated that they did have another issue. In order to keep enrollment at RGE, they took a little pocket of some students in the Ann Parish School Community, and they bus them daily from Ann Parish area to RGE. They put kids on a bus, 10 miles one way, to be in RGE so they could keep enrollment up.

She said that she understood community – she understood kids in the neighborhood knowing each other and growing up together. She had three of the most adorable boys that lived right next to her and they all attended RGE. She said that, trust her, they had been over to have a conversation with me. They had taken about 55 students from the Ann Parish Community and moved them by bus to another school community. The same thing happened with some students also from that community were sent to Valencia Elementary. She thought that was a problem. They were putting children on buses to prop up a school.

**Proposed Schedule**

Dr. Osowski stated that, first of all, if the proposal was passed by the Board of Education, it was only a proposal. They were not being blindsided. It was the first of many discussions. If the proposal was passed, there would be an announcement of the intention to all RGE stakeholders. It would be in English and in Spanish. They would use various communication media, print, digital, electronic. It would take about one year.

It was not happening tomorrow. That building was not intended to be destroyed. There would be community meetings – the minimum of three, as they went forward, to hear concerns. They heard overcrowding concerns. They understood that, but they had State laws that told them about how many children should be in a classroom by age. Mr. Saiz and his staff paid attention to those details when they looked at staff and budgeting. They could not ignore that. It was in State Statute. His staff had done a beautiful job in his community. She had no reason to believe that they would not continue with that level of care and consideration.

REGULAR MEETING

**G. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ACTION REGARDING RAYMOND GABALDON ELEMENTARY (Continued)**

- 1. Movement of Some Students to Ann Parish Elementary**
- 2. Closure of School**

Dr. Osowski stated she would like to, in the proposal, to establish planning committees for process. For instance, she would like to see a transfer process for students from RGE to the neighboring or original community schools.

They already knew KGE was overcrowded. It was not unknown. Would we stick more there? Not without understanding the transfer process, which may have to come with another hard conversation about attendance boundaries. They knew that and they understood that. She would like to see that committee start August 1<sup>st</sup> and make a final recommendation to the Board around the first of October.

If her proposal was approved by her colleagues, she would like to see another committee that talked about revised attendance boundaries for Sundance, KGE, LLE, RGE, and APE. She would like them to come to the Board with a final proposal and recommendations by the first of November.

She would like to see another committee complete an impact study for transportation. She was not a fan of transferring students every day. She rode a bus every day when she was a child 40 minutes every day, each direction. She would like to see an impact report on transportation.

Dr. Osowski stated she would like to see an impact study for food services and the reassignment of staff. That was an important consideration for everyone. Teachers, counselors, librarians, and custodians - every person that set foot on a school campus was important to them. Her son remembered the cafeteria ladies' names because they knew that he liked an extra grilled cheese sandwich. He was now 36. She understood the impact that our educators had on children. She would like to see a study of the reassignment of all the certified and classified staff. Again, that could start in November with the final recommendation in January 2025.

REGULAR MEETING

**G. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ACTION REGARDING RAYMOND GABALDON ELEMENTARY (Continued)**

- 1. Movement of Some Students to Ann Parish Elementary**
- 2. Closure of School**

Dr. Osowski stated that finally, she would like to see suggested uses of RGE. That committee would report to the Board. They did not want to give that building up. They knew it had wonderful ghosts walking its halls. They knew it had community value, but they had more than 30% of the classrooms that were not adequate.

The cost for renovation was \$26.7 million. She would like to see those committees be proposed 50% of community or parents who were not employees of Los Lunas Schools. She said she knew that Dr. Kettler was sitting over there cringing because she was talking about a lot of committee work before then and the end of January. She thought it was important to hear from their community. She thought it was important to have those conversations. She thought it was also very important to understand what they were putting children into right now.

Dr. Osowski stated that her proposal also included the closure for instruction of RGE by end of next school year. How they would use RGE, that would be determined. She did not have a proposal for that. Her neighborhood boys had lots of suggestions. They said it would be a great place to have snakes on display so the community could go in and look at snakes. So... that was one thing on her list.

In response to some community concerns - because they had received many emails and they thanked them for those. It took a lot of effort and emotion to sit down and pen their thoughts. Just like it took a lot of courage to come there and put themselves in front of a podium and maybe in front of strangers.

First of all, there was the concern that it was an unannounced closure of RGE. It was not unannounced. It was not a surprise, because her proposal and had not been accepted by her colleagues. There had been ongoing discussion for at least two years in numerous board meetings about what they would do with RGE. She said it was not a new topic, ladies and gentlemen.



REGULAR MEETING

**G. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ACTION REGARDING RAYMOND GABALDON ELEMENTARY (Continued)**

- 1. Movement of Some Students to Ann Parish Elementary**
- 2. Closure of School**

Dr. Osowski stated that she was just raising it to the level of a very explicit agenda item. She was not going to hide it in an enrollment agenda item or an attendance agenda item. She would call it what it was. That was the first time where she was formally announcing it.

No action from the Board of Education had been taken at that point in time about the closure of RGE. Plans could not be made or action taken until the Board of Education approved a proposal to close it. The idea that someone had said they would close RGE was a mistake. No action by the Board of Education had been taken at that point of time. They had looked at staff and student patterns.

As to not informing the community. That kind of dovetails into the first thing that had been going out. If the Board of Education approved the proposal, that she had presented included a proposed communication plan. Her colleagues were welcome to accept that. They were welcome to add to it. They were welcome to exclude it and say they wanted to do it again, or not to it.

Dr. Osowski stated that she had already explained to them about the sentiments of RGE. Her family was impacted by it as well. She owned property in that area. She traveled by that particular school and she enjoyed seeing children out playing. She enjoyed seeing the crosswalk guards. It was a wonderful, wonderful 85-year-old school. She told them to please not think that the sentiment or the loyalty was lost on me. It was not.

Dr. Osowski stated that was the end she thought of her presentation and would open it up for board discussion. She then called on the individual board members for their comments/discussion.

REGULAR MEETING

**G. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ACTION REGARDING RAYMOND  
GABALDON ELEMENTARY (Continued)**

1. **Movement of Some Students to Ann Parish Elementary**
2. **Closure of School**

Mr. Vickers stated that he would pass at that time as did Ms. Otero. Mr. Bennett stated that he would also like to pass and review her presentation. Mr. Tally stated that before he made any motion, he would like to have time to review it. That was the first time that he had seen it. He added that he thought it was the first time any of them had seen it.

Dr. Osowski said that it was the first time that they had seen it in that form. They had seen it since January. Mr. Talley responded that it was the first that he had seen her plan to execute. While he thought it was very well structured, he thought all of them needed time to digest it.

Dr. Osowski stated that was fair. At that point, no action was being taken, so it had been discussion only. She would then move on to Item 8, which was the presentation and approval of the district budget for the school year.

Mr. Talley asked for a five-minute break.

**BREAK**

A break was called for at 7:10 pm.

**REGULAR MEETING**

The meeting was called back in Regular Session at 7:16 pm

REGULAR MEETING

**G. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ACTION REGARDING RAYMOND GABALDON ELEMENTARY (Continued)**

- 1. Movement of Some Students to Ann Parish Elementary**
- 2. Closure of School**

Mr. Talley stated he would like to go back and touch base regarding the proposed movement. There was good group of students who lived in the school district that were being bussed daily to RGE. At some point, when the district realigned, they would actually be moving to their correct school, but they could move that forward and have it happen earlier. He asked Dr. Kettler if there were any impacts like construction or portables, etc.

Dr. Kettler stated that by his calculation, with the new boundary, there would be some students moved from Valencia Elementary in addition to the ones that would need to move from RGE, and the total would be 131 students. He was unclear as to the current capacity at APE. Given that with the construction on the horizon, he asked Tiffany McMinn if she would approach the podium and talk about what that would look like. Would it be increased additional portables, increased cost of construction, and would it throw the award that they were seeking in June into chaos?

Ms. McMinn stated that she would address what she could, and if not, she would get answers to any additional questions with the correct data and get it to Dr. Kettler. Part of the recent boundary and enrollment study that was approved by the Board at the last board meeting was sent to PSFA. As their direction was going forward, that was primarily focused on APE and their current award was determined whether they would renovate/rebuild that school. What were they going to the Council for was the design funding to move that project forward.

One of the questions that they got from the Council, was how they were going to make capacity of 540 students, which was they were designing that school for. The reason for that was that they were going to move kids from VE and RGE because they lived in the vicinity of Ann Parish. There would be ways that they could do that, as they got into the design of that.

REGULAR MEETING

**G. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ACTION REGARDING RAYMOND GABALDON ELEMENTARY (Continued)**

- 1. Movement of Some Students to Ann Parish Elementary**
- 2. Closure of School**

Ms. McMinn stated that once they had the award and hired an architect, they would look at what their options were. At this time, it was unclear if the school would need to be rebuilt, if it would be a partial rebuild, or a partial remodel. There were a lot of variables there.

When they met as a committee, and during the discussion regarding the five-year master plan, they discussed what was happening and the majority had consensus that what they felt would function the best would be that they would move the kids after the construction of Ann Parish. As many students go through the elementary school, the enrollment was lower at this time. Once Peralta was done, the enrollment would increase with the Pre-K. If they moved the kids now, before the construction, they did anticipate the challenge of housing all of those kids; especially, if they were remodeling existing classrooms, rather than rebuilding. That would mean moving kids around, throughout the year, from this room to that room due to having a large capacity at that school, without understanding how many of those kids fit into those grade levels. At that time, she didn't think they had looked in depth at the information regarding those students who lived in the APE community and attended VE and RGE to see if they could even fit there.

Extensive discussion ensued among board members, with input from several others including: the principals at RGE – Catherine Campbell and APE – Lisa Begay, Ms. Mary Ann Chavez – NEA President and teacher at RGE; Chief Student Services Officer Susan Chavez in regards to special education students, and Mr. Saiz regarding FTEs.

REGULAR MEETING

**G. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ACTION REGARDING RAYMOND GABALDON ELEMENTARY (Continued)**

- 1. Movement of Some Students to Ann Parish Elementary**
- 2. Closure of School**

Topics and factors that were part of the discussion included the following:

- The number of students who would be affected and moved to APE between VE and RGE – seemed to be a discrepancy on numbers
- When would the movement take place – this school year or later after the award was given
- Would they be voluntarily or mandated to move and at which grade levels – discussion possible configurations of movement i.e. student level / families would occur for this school year if passed including:
  - Kindergarteners
  - All students from the area
  - Kindergartners – fifth grade
  - If mandatory would transfers to RGE be allowed
  - Would transfer students be provided with transportation
- Housing issues currently and where would students go during the construction
- Ms. McMinn discussed current capacity at APE, as well as, the fact that the award for APE had not been awarded. That would be a factor if a remodel as to where they students would be placed/displaced.
- Portables and movement of students during construction – additional cost to project
- Classroom sizes and regulations regarding school footage and student numbers in classes dependent on multiple factors
- Ms. Begay discussed current and future class sizes and arrangements and provided numbers of the grade levels affected.
- Ms. Mary Ann Chavez discussed buses that went to/from APE Community
- Pre-K numbers
- Lack of before / after school program at APE
- Movement of staff dependent of FTEs and licensure issues
- Community input

REGULAR MEETING

**G. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ACTION REGARDING RAYMOND GABALDON ELEMENTARY (Continued)**

- 1. Movement of Some Students to Ann Parish Elementary**
- 2. Closure of School**

It was clarified that the boundary approved in 2022 was for board member districts. The final boundary for elementaries had not been finalized then.

Discussion ensued regarding mandatory or voluntary movement for the upcoming year. Ms. Begay stated that it would be hard for planning purposes in terms of teachers and staff needs and placement.

Dr. Osowski asked Dr. Kettler about a conversation they'd had in the break room during graduation. He responded about that he didn't really. She reminded him that he had told her that he had been speaking to Mr. Saiz about teacher movement if all those people agreed to go.

She said she really appreciated the data from Ms. Begay and their desire to stay in the building, but when her kids went there they were in portables. She wondered if there were extra portables in the district that could be moved? Was that logistically possible?

Ms. McMinn stated that as far as portable went, they ran into the situation with Peralta Elementary. If moving any of the portables they currently had, they would have to move them up to CIV code. It was quite expensive. It would mean renovating the roof, walls, windows, etc. There was a lot that goes into that. Further, again, with Peralta, when they needed extra portables, they got one on loan from APS that was already renovated to those standards so they were able to move that in. That did take at least six months, just to go through the permit process, to put the foundations on those and all the hookups. It may seem simple to move a portable but there were requirements that they had to follow which would make it challenging. At this time, she would say no, they did not have a portable that would be suitable and it would be a bit more cost prohibitive if we were to use our existing ones at the school.

REGULAR MEETING

G. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ACTION REGARDING RAYMOND GABALDON ELEMENTARY (Continued)

- 1. Movement of Some Students to Ann Parish Elementary
- 2. Closure of School

Further discussion ensued on if they knew what the sentiment was of the parents. There was a mixed response – some would welcome it and others wanted to stay where they were because their families had gone from RGE to LLMS and LLHS - for some it would be traumatizing .

Discussion ensued regarding the status of the award from PSCOC. Ms. McMinn stated that they were hoping to hear at their June meeting. At that time, they would have a better timeframe. If approved they could move forward and work with purchasing on getting an RFP for design. At that time, they would look at the different options of housing kids on and renovating or a complete rebuild. They would then be able to determine what space they had to work with.

Additional discussion ensued whether it was better to take action to determine whether of not to start the movement now.

**Mr. Talley moved and Ms. Otero seconded to allow the kindergartners, the incoming kindergartners and their families that resided in the APE Community to go to APE.**

Discussion ensued whether to amend the motion to allow kindergartners to go to Ann Parish if they chose without going through the transfer process, whether they should wait and get more input, or if that would be harder on the staff and students if they waited. Mr. Vickers stated he was wondering – he didn't know that they needed to make that decision that night. He would certainly like to have a little more information and hear from the people affected by it.

REGULAR MEETING

**G. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ACTION REGARDING RAYMOND GABALDON ELEMENTARY (Continued)**

1. **Movement of Some Students to Ann Parish Elementary**
2. **Closure of School**

Ms. Susan Chavez stated that they had also not taken consideration, not that these are just students but also our special ed students, and how many that would affect them . Because again, that also affected our teacher, including the caseloads of our special education teachers.

Also they had to think that if they were making this optional versus mandatory, where did that go with the bussing? Was the bussing going to be mandatory if they had to go to RGE, and the VE to pick up kids too? If we made it mandatory? She wanted to make them aware of a few more considerations that need to take place. If they did mandate , it, to please remember they also had students with IEP's, and there were second-language learners, and they had to make sure that they would have those supports in place for our students also.

Discussion ensued regarding amending the motion . The executive assistant asked if she wanted to allow Mr. Talley to amend his original motion first before she asked someone to amend it. Dr. Osowski said she could have someone else amend it and confirmed that with Dr. Gardner, an audience member.

Dr. Osowski said she would restate it: The original motion as she understood it correctly was ... For the 24/25 school year, to mandate all kindergarten ready students and the siblings within that family that resided in the Ann Parish Elementary school community area to transfer to Ann Parish Elementary. Do I have that correct? She aske Mr. Bennett, if he wished to amend that motion? Mr. Talley said he would accept that motion

Discussion ensued and clarification give that was for all except sixth graders



REGULAR MEETING

**G. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ACTION REGARDING RAYMOND GABALDON ELEMENTARY (Continued)**

- 1. Movement of Some Students to Ann Parish Elementary**
- 2. Closure of School**

Mr. Vickers stated that he would not support it because he felt like they didn't have enough buy-in. They didn't have enough communication with the families who were going to be affected, and he was not prepared to make that move at this point.

Mr. Talley asked Dr. Kettler for his opinion. Dr. Kettler stated that he felt it was best if students started in the school they would be at eventually. He was comfortable with their motion and they would make that work; however, he did believe they needed to be flexible with the families who wanted to stay at RGE. Discussion ensued with how the transfer would be allowed, parent transportation would be needed if that was allowed.

Dr. Osowski stated that she would re-state the motion because they'd had a lot of conversation and wanted to make sure everybody was comfortable with the wording of the motion. For the 24/25 school year, they would mandate all kindergarten ready students and their siblings within that family that resided in the Ann Parish Community could transfer or enroll in Ann Parish Elementary school. Correct?

Discussion ensued with input from Ms. Begay and Ms. Susan Chavez during which they reminded them that they had several areas that they would like them to consider. There was no before or school program at APE and would not be there in the near future. They needed more information on the number of special education students and needed to discuss their setting especially with the construction. Further, by making the decision that night they would will start to move students, and they had not yet discussed Valencia Elementary and the impact it would have. They had to consider the pre-k students as well. There's already a Pre-K program at Ann Parish. She asked that they be able to have this topic in a work session sooner than later, then to move ahead with some decisions. They didn't have all the answers to all they questions they would be asked tomorrow when the decision was made that night.

REGULAR MEETING

G. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ACTION REGARDING RAYMOND GABALDON ELEMENTARY (Continued)

1. Movement of Some Students to Ann Parish Elementary
2. Closure of School

Dr. Osowski stated that she would like to amend Mr. Talley's motion. She believed she would like it to read as "for the 2024 – 25 school year allow voluntary enrollment of all kindergarten ready... so noted that she was writing as she read it... Students that resided in the Ann Parish School Community to enroll in Ann Parish as their resident school effective if that passed. She said that she had said that really bad but she would allow it to be a voluntary enrollment of all kindergarten-ready students.

Then a second motion may be to put in the proposed study for one year per her presentation. They would have a year to do this. But that would be a second motion. She believed she would like to amend his motion for the 2024 – 25 school year and allow voluntary enrollment of all kindergarten ready students to enroll in the Ann Parish School Community as their school of record. That may have been previously assigned to the RGE attendance area

Mr. Talley asked if they could amend to say volunteer.

Dr. Osowski stated that she would be willing to amend it to say that. For the 24 25 school year to allow voluntary enrollment of all kindergarten ready students and their siblings –again for 24 – 25 to enroll in the Ann Parish Elementary as their school of record that were previously assigned to RGE. because of the district attendance boundaries.

She asked if there was any discussion on the amended motion?

REGULAR MEETING

**G. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ACTION REGARDING RAYMOND GABALDON ELEMENTARY (Continued)**

- 1. Movement of Some Students to Ann Parish Elementary**
- 2. Closure of School**

Mr. Vickers said that it was starting to sound like a totally different motion.

Dr. Osowski stated that it was amended so maybe they should vote on the initial motion and then take up the second amendment. She then asked audience member Dr. Gardner his recommendation. She said that they had not voted on the original. Discussion ensued between Dr. Osowski and Dr. Gardner. Dr. Osowski stated that would be cleaner.

Mr. Bennett asked if he could say something. He thought Ms. Chavez had asked if they would consider having a work session on this before they went further to see the impact on the special education students and their needs, their ability to have additional Pre-K, as well as, before and after school programs. He thought that maybe they might want to wait and put together a work session.

Dr. Kettler stated that the new boundary for Ann Parish would be done once construction was completed and included students who currently went to Valencia Elementary. What he was hearing was leaving those students alone and only impacting RGE students. Was that correct?

Dr. Osowski responded that he was correct. They would worry about Valencia Elementary in a different motion and/or at a different time. She asked Mr. Talley if he wanted to retract the motion or if he wished for them to take a vote on the motion?

Mr. Talley stated that he thought the discussion was good, and had needed to happen at some point sooner than later he believed. But without enough information he did not know if they could make the decision properly.

REGULAR MEETING

**G. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ACTION REGARDING RAYMOND GABALDON ELEMENTARY (Continued)**

- 1. Movement of Some Students to Ann Parish Elementary**
- 2. Closure of School**

Discussion ensued during which Dr. Osowski stated that in the presentation she had given, she had provided for a calendar year with various committees. Did they need to see that again or have it placed on the next agenda and put it off for yet another month?

Mr. Talley asked if they can do this in a work session instead of making the decision that night in the board meeting. Dr. Osowski clarified he wanted to wait another month. Mr. Talley responded that he wasn't saying they had to wait a month for this. He was just tossing it out... there was obviously a lot of interest in this and it was something that needed to be looked at and the decision needed to be made. He did not know - Dr. Osowski interjected that they did not make decisions usually in a work session.

Discussion ensued regarding the timing and that he would be out of the country.

Dr. Kettler stated that they would need to have special meeting hoping during the week of June 3<sup>rd</sup> through the 7<sup>th</sup> as he'd stated earlier. He suggested that they add this particular item to that special meeting agenda. He would finalize the date and get it published.

Their being no further discussion or vote, Dr. Osowski stated no action was taken on Item G.. 1 and 2.

Dr. Osowski stated that she never thought she would be so happy to see a presentation about the budget - ever. She then asked Dr. Kettler to please announce the next part or handle the next part.

REGULAR MEETING

**H. PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL OF DISTRICT BUDGET FY 2024-25**

Dr. Kettler stated that Chief Finance Officer, Sandy Traczyk, would present the information from the last presentation regarding the budget for the fiscal year 24-25 for their consideration and approval.

Ms. Traczyk stated that she would like to present the budget for the 24 – 25 FY, and that budget had been, as they knew, worked and reworked in hopes of agreement for approval that night. She had removed a lot of slides because they had gone over them over and over again, and her presentation was actually a repeat. It showed the proposed revenue amount, and the highlighted amount of \$101 million was the revenue she proposed to come in and the 25 million was the amount of reserves she was estimating for a total budget \$126,611,955.28.

She stated that, again the important notes was she was still trying to be transparent to make them aware that they would still be cutting into the reserves and operational estimating that to be \$4,865,368.17 and that future changes may be necessary, depending on the unit value.

They would continue to look for grants and other revenue sources for expenses however if the revenue did not change, i.e. the final unit value, cash reserves would still remain high but cutting into cash was not sustainable, so she wanted to make sure they were aware.

Ms. Traczyk said she believed that earlier the superintendent had expressed some ideas at the budget workshops. She was just going from the last presentation regarding some of the changes that had been made to this budget. As before, they had a large reduction in assistant principals in the elementaries. The last slide showed that they had only two assistant principals and elementaries – that being at Katherine Gallegos and Sundance.

Six social workers had been moved to Medicaid on this budget. Another change was moving .25 FTE of the director’s salary into impact aid. As she had mentioned before, they were talking about reducing the amount of employee travel take-home vehicles and it was not set in stone as to what that exactly meant. It would be just the directors of transportation maintenance, security and athletics. They had since then made some small, minor adjustments that she had worked with Dr. Kettler on and had just made a few cuts here and there.

REGULAR MEETING

**H. PPRESENTATION AND APPROVAL OF DISTRICT BUDGET FY 2024-25 (Continued)**

They were trying to estimate the change in the cash reserves. She had a markup of 6% and she brought that down to 5%. That's usually where they were at and she thought with cutting the budget before, she was a bit concerned about cutting so much, had to put it up to six but she brought that back down to the normal amount that they normally used, a 5% increase.

The big changes were good news. The medical insurance was set to increase 15.53% and that had been changed to 10%. That also, again, it means for both the district and employees. So, I didn't redo the presentation where I brought out the changes and the difference between the rates versus the insurance, however this should be a better and hopefully more employees will see a different increase in their pay. So, great news.

Also that only affected the district and the risk property insurance was worse at increased approximately 28.78% and then it was brought down to 14.99%. So, those were big differences in the change for this budget. Those were anticipated to happen and they'd received acknowledgment that those would happen.

With that cut, showing their cash reserves, she showed that what they were looking at comparing the 20% of their SGE revenue in this year and comparing it with the 4.8 cut, taking it from the estimated 25 million, which would leave them with 20,639,860. Also, just noted that she believed Mr. Talley had mentioned about the last cash sweeping, they were at 22%.

On the next slide she added in the budget our reserves, cash reserves into this budget and they could see a visual pie chart of the different functions, how they fell, and they could see the largest, largest was under the direct instruction. That's a visual but actual dollar amounts were on the next slide. It showed them the dollar amounts, what she had budgeted for, and then the percentages of that budget were in the next column. She said she believed Mr. Vickers asked what the comparison was for last year. Last year at this time, and those were the percentages for the 23 – 24 budget, so they could get an idea of the differences.

REGULAR MEETING

H. PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL OF DISTRICT BUDGET FY 2024-25 (Continued)

Ms. Traczyk stated that was all she had for this, and asked if they had any questions on anything that she had at this point?

Dr. Osowski asked if the board members had any questions or comments.

Mr. Vickers stated that he just wanted to thank her for sharpening her pencil and added that she'd done a great job. Ms. Otero thanked Ms. Traczyk for their hard work – she was very impressed with them. Mr. Bennett also thanked Ms. Traczyk and all the team that put it together. Mr. Talley stated that he had zero questions.

Dr. Osowski stated that she had no questions, but she did have a comment. She had given Dr. Kettler and his team a hard challenge last time, that she would support a budget where the Board ponied up for 4.9 million, and they'd cut 4.3. She knew it was difficult and it had not been easy. She knew they probably had a dartboard with my face in the middle but she appreciated that as well. Her biggest concern was that they demonstrate to our community fiscal responsibility and awareness; especially, when they would be asking for another mill levy of 3 million. She thanked them all sincerely for their work and said she knew it was not easy, and she appreciated it.

Dr. Osowski called for a motion to approve the proposed budget as presented that night

**Mr. Talley moved, and Ms. Otero seconded, to approve the budget as proposed with an addition of about \$500,000. That was roughly 0.58% and that would leave them at nearly 20% in reserves.**

That would leave them with almost exactly 20% in cash reserves. He thought that would be acceptable and he thought that would also help many of the schools that did not have an assistant principal, to have an assistant principal and be able to function better and serve the students in the way that they needed to. **He reiterated that his motion was that they approve the budget with the added funding for the five assistant principals.**

**H. PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL OF DISTRICT BUDGET FY 2024-25 (Continued)**

Ms. Traczyk suggested that she would estimate the cost to be \$616,000. She suggest that they add that amount to 2400 function and reduce it from function 2900. If that's was agreed upon, that would be something they could do,. They could still make those changes. . And still be able to – I can make those changes if you agree to that.

Mr. Talley adjusted his motion as follows:

**Mr. Talley moved, and Ms. Otero seconded, to approve the budget as proposed with moving \$618,000 to function 2400 School Administration and a reduction in fund 2900 other support services, which was cash reserves by the same amount for the same amount \$616,000 to add back in the five assistant principals. He felt that many of the schools needed to back their assistant principal.**

Dr. Kettler stated that he was just done some quick math and if we were going to then have a reduction of cash which took reserves to 20 million, \$23, which was a percentage of 19.96? so depending on how you round, you are in the 20s still.

**There being no further discussion, Dr. Osowski called for a vote with the following results: Mr. Vickers - yes; Ms. Otero – yes; Mr. Talley – yes; Mr. Bennett - yes; and Dr. Osowski - yes . Motion passed 5/0.**



REGULAR MEETING

I. APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

*(Discussion/Action)*

*(\* Indicates Items for Consideration by Consent. There will be no discussion of these items unless a board member so requests, in which event the item may be placed on the regular agenda.)*

Dr. Osowski stated that the next item was Item I. APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS and called for a motion.

**Mr. Vickers moved, and Mr. Bennett seconded, to approve all of the action items listed on the Consent Sheet as presented with the following exception: Item N. 1. APPROVAL OF PURCHASE Chalmers Ford for District Fleet Vehicles 11000 Operational.**

Dr. Osowski repeated the motion, then listed all of the items that were on the action agenda that were up for approval by consent individually. They included Item J. 1-2 Minutes, Item K. 1-2 Collective Bargaining Agreements, as well as, Finance Committee Items: M. 1, i. – v. Reports; 2. i. – xxiii. BARS, Item 3. i. – iii. BARS (not requiring PED approval); Item 4. i. Purchase to CES for A-Com for Fire Alarm Inspections; Item 5. i. Construction Contract to CES for LLHS Athletic Field Improvements, Item 6. Deletions; Item 7. Carl Perkins Grant Application; Item 8. Grant for House Bill 2; Item 9. Grant for NMPED Fine Arts Education Act; Item 11. Grant for Bilingual Multicultural Education Program, Item 12. Grant for Title IV 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools; Item 13. Grant for Title III; Item 14. MOU with NMSU for Student Teacher Placement; and Item 14. LLS Resolution 24-006 with Daniel Gutierrez. The only exception for consent was Item N. 1. APPROVAL OF PURCHASE - Chalmers Ford for District Fleet Vehicles 11000 Operational.

**There being no discussion, Dr. Osowski called for a vote regarding the consent items with the following results: Mr. Vickers - yes; Ms. Otero – yes; Mr. Talley – yes; Mr. Bennett - yes; and Dr. Osowski – yes. Motion regarding the consent items passed: 5/0.**

**LOS LUNAS SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MAY 21, 2024**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**J. APPROVAL OF MINUTES\***

- 1. **April 23, 2024 Regular Meeting (Approved by Consent)**
- 2. **May 7, 2024 Special Meeting (Approved by Consent)**

**K. APPROVAL OF LLS/NEA-LOS LUNAS COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS\***

- 1. **Certified (Approved by Consent)**
- 2. **Educational Support Professionals (ESP) (Approved by Consent)**

**L. APPROVAL OF LOCAL APPLICATION: IDEA B Basic Entitlement (24106) and  
Preschool Entitlement (24109) Sub-Grant Authorization for the 2024/25 SY Funding\***

*(This item was removed from Agenda Under Item # C. - ksw)*

**M. FINANCE COMMITTEE ITEMS (Meeting Held May 14, 2024) \***

**1. Approval of Reports for April 202**

- i. **Monthly Check Summary (Approved by Consent)**
- i. **Cash on Hand (Approved by Consent)**
- ii. **Investments on Hand (Approved by Consent)**
- iii. **Monthly Budget Reports (Approved by Consent)**
- iv. **Revenue (Approved by Consent)**

**2. Approval of Budget Adjustment Requests (BARs)**

- i. **21000 Food Services Increase (Approved by Consent)**  
**(Budgeted cash to Audited cash)**
- ii. **23000 Non- Instructional Support Increase (Approved by Consent)**  
**Budgeted cash to Audited cash)**
- iii. **41000 GO Debt Services Increase (Approved by Consent)**  
**(Budgeted cash to Audited cash)**
- iv. **11000 Operational Increase (Approved by Consent)**  
**(Budgeted cash to Audited cash)**
- v. **31701 Capital Improvements SB-9 Increase (Approved by Consent)**  
**(Budgeted cash to Audited cash)**

**LOS LUNAS SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MAY 21, 2024**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**M. FINANCE COMMITTEE ITEMS (Meeting Held May 14, 2024) \***

**2. Approval of Budget Adjustment Requests (BARs)**

**(Continued)**

vi.	25145	Impact Aid Special Education (Budgeted cash to Audited cash)	Increase	(Approved by Consent)
vii.	25147	Impact Aid Indian Education (Budgeted cash to Audited cash)	Increase	(Approved by Consent)
viii.	15100	Impact Aid Operational (Budgeted cash to Audited cash)	Increase	(Approved by Consent)
ix.	25153	Medicaid (Budgeted cash to Audited cash)	Increase	(Approved by Consent)
x.	31200	Public School Capital Outlay (Budgeted cash to Audited cash)	Increase	(Approved by Consent)
xi.	31600	Capital Improvements HB-33 (Budgeted cash to Audited cash)	Increase	(Approved by Consent)
xii.	25157	CYFD (Budgeted cash to Audited cash)	Increase	(Approved by Consent)
xiii.	22000	Athletics (Budgeted cash to Audited cash)	Decrease	(Approved by Consent)
xiv.	31703	SB-9 State Match (Budgeted cash to Audited cash)	Decrease	(Approved by Consent)
xv.	28189	GRADS Child Care (Budgeted cash to Audited cash)	Decrease	(Approved by Consent)
xvi.	24153	Title III	Transfer	BAR (Approved by Consent)
xvii.	24174	Carl Perkins	Transfer	BAR (Approved by Consent)
xviii.	27502	Career Technical Education	Transfer	BAR (Approved by Consent)

**LOS LUNAS SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MAY 21, 2024**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**M. FINANCE COMMITTEE ITEMS (Meeting Held May 14, 2024) \***

**3. Approval of Budget Adjustment Requests (BARs)**

**(Continued)**

- xix. 27407 Family Income Index Transfer BAR  
(Approved by Consent)**
- xx. 27149 NM Pre-K Transfer BAR  
(Approved by Consent)**
- xxi. 24154 Title II Transfer BAR  
(Approved by Consent)**
- xxii. 31703 SB-9 State Match Increase  
(Approved by Consent)**
- xxiii. 21001 Food Services Decrease  
(Approved by Consent)**

**3. Approval of Budget Adjustment Requests (BARs)**

**(Not Requiring Public Education Department (PED) Approval)**

- i. 27149 NM Pre-K Maintenance BAR  
(Approved by Consent)**
- ii. 24109 Preschool IDEA B Maintenance BAR  
(Approved by Consent)**
- iii. 11000 Operational Maintenance BAR  
(Approved by Consent)**

**4. Approval of Purchases**

- i. CES c/o A-Com, District Fire Alarm Inspections 31701 2 Mill  
(Approved by Consent)**

**5. Approval of Construction Contract:**

- i. CES c/o A-Com Technologies, LLHS Athletic Field Improvements Phase I -  
Special Systems 31162 Bond (Approved by Consent)**

**LOS LUNAS SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**MAY 21, 2024**

**M. FINANCE COMMITTEE ITEMS (Meeting Held May 14, 2024) \***

**(Continued)**

- 6. Approval of Deletion of Fixed Assets (Approved by Consent)**
- 7. Approval of 2024-25 Grant Application for Carl Perkins & Next Gen (Approved by Consent)**
- 8. Approval of 2024-25 Grant for House Bill 2 Out of School Time (Approved by Consent)**
- 9. Approval of 2024-25 Grant for Innovation Zones to Support CTE (Approved by Consent)**
- 10. Approval of 2024-25 Grant Application to NMPED for Fine Arts Education Act (FAEA) for K-6 (Approved by Consent)**
- 11. Approval of 2024-25 Grant for Bilingual Multicultural Education Program (Approved by Consent)**
- 12. Approval of 2024-25 Grant for Title IV: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools (Approved by Consent)**
- 13. Approval of 2024-25 Grant for Title III: Language Instruction for English Learners & Immigrant Students (Approved by Consent)**
- 14. Approval of MOU Between NMSU and Los Lunas Schools for Student Teacher Placement for a Term of 3 Years, Culminating in May of 2027 (Approved by Consent)**
- 15. Approval of LLS Resolution No. 24-006 Daniel R. Gutierrez Custom Cabinets (Approved by Consent)**

REGULAR MEETING

N. APPROVAL OF PURCHASE\*

1. Chalmers Ford for District Fleet Vehicles 11000 Operational

Dr. Osowski called for a motion.

**Mr. Talley moved, and Mr. Bennett seconded, to approve Item B. 1 APPROVAL OF PURCHASE Chalmers Ford for District Fleet Vehicles 11000 Operational.**

Ms. McMinn reviewed the purchase, which was for two Ford Mavericks. One vehicle would replace the 2009 F150 that had high mileage, and which was need of repairs that would be cost prohibitive. The second truck was needed as there were no spare trucks. One would go to the new position of security specialist to carry ladders and tools used to service access control intercoms. The second vehicle would go to the construction supervisor. She noted that the cost was lower for these vehicles than other larger pickups and they were currently available on the lot.

Dr. Osowski called for discussion.

**There being no discussion, Dr. Osowski called for a vote with the following results: Mr. Vickers - yes; Ms. Otero – yes ; Mr. Talley – yes ; Mr. Bennett - yes ; and Dr. Osowski-yes. Motion passed 5/0.**

O. NEW BUSINESS: Board Member Requests for Topics for Upcoming Board Work Sessions and/or Board Meetings

Dr. Osowski noted that this item was for items board members would like to see on upcoming meetings and or work sessions .She asked the board members if they had anything they'd like to be added. The following items were requested:

- Mr. Bennett and Mr. Talley asked for the discussion of RGE to be at the next work session and possible action for RGE to be added to the upcoming special meeting the week of June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

REGULAR MEETING

P. ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETINGS

Dr. Osowski stated that took them to Item P. ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETINGS. She added that, as allowed by the NM Open Meetings Act and the District’s Open Meetings Resolution, on occasion, a quorum of the board members attend the same function, including those held at school sites - including site activities and end of year celebrations and ceremonies, sports functions, as well as, conferences, workshops, and trainings.

- May 30 – June 1, 2024 NMSBA Law Conference
- Week of June 3-7, 2024 Special Board Meeting  
*Topics: IDEA B Application and Pre-K School Entitlement, Movement of Students to APE and Closure of RGE*
- June 11, 2024 Finance Committee Meeting  
CO Board Room 3:00 pm
- June 11, 2024 Audit Committee Meeting  
CO Conference Room or Board Room 4:00 pm  
*(Attendance by Audit Committee Members only)*
- June 18, 2024 Board Work Session  
CO Board Room 3:00 – 5:00 pm  
*Topics to be Announced*
- June 18, 2024 Regular Board Meeting  
CO Board Room 6:00 pm

REGULAR MEETING

Q. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Osowski stated that before she called for a motion to adjourn, she would ask the board members to remain seated for a few moments after the meeting as they had signatures that the staff needed to obtain.

**Mr. Vickers moved, and Mr. Bennett seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Osowski called for a vote with the following results: Mr. Vickers -yes; Ms. Otero – yes; Mr. Talley – yes; Mr. Bennett - yes; and Dr. Osowski- yes. Motion to adjourn the meeting passed: 5/0.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 pm.



LOS LUNAS SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

MAY 21, 2024

REGULAR MEETING

Approved this 18<sup>th</sup> day of June 2024.

*Michelle J. Oroski, Ph.D.*  
Dr. Michelle Oroski, Board President

*Monica Otero (for Mr. Tally)*  
Justin Tally, Board Secretary



ksw