



EAST OTERO SCHOOL DISTRICT R-1
301 RATON AVENUE
LA JUNTA, COLORADO 81050

BOARD WRAP-UP

Board of Education Meeting
August 24, 2026

1. **ROLL CALL** – Ayala, Bickel, Hines, Kolomitz, Salzbrenner.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **CELEBRATIONS**
Superintendent Krumholz shared the district had a great first week of school and activities are beginning. He stated there are a lot of good things happening!
4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – **AGENDA APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
 2. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. **Kyra Bierbaum – New Hire as a Paraprofessional at the Primary School for the 2026-2027 school year - Added 8- 24-26**
 - D. **Approve Building Extra Duty – Added 8-20-26**
5. **CONSENT AGENDA** - **APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED**
 - A. **Personnel Approval**
 - Briana Gonzales - Resignation as Paraprofessional at the Intermediate School effective July 30, 2026
 - Scott Cuckow - Resignation as Social Studies Teacher at Tiger Trades Academy effective July 30, 2026
 - Ken McNerney - New Hire as Social Studies Teacher at Tiger Trades Academy for the 2026-2027 school year
 - Arthur Gumke - New Hire as an Activity Bus Driver for the 2026-2027 school year
 - Kaden Ramirez - New Hire as High School Head Boys Basketball Coach for the 2026-2027 season
 - Vanessa Avila - New Hire as Assistant Cheerleading Coach for the 2026-2027 season
 - Theodore Guerra - New Hire as a Paraprofessional at the Junior/Senior High School for the 2026-2027 school year
 - Kyra Bierbaum – New Hire as a Paraprofessional at the Primary School for the 2026-2027 school year
 - B. **Approve Additional Substitute Teachers for the 2026-2027 School Year**
 - C. **Approve Additional Out-of-District Students for the 2026-2027 school year**
 - D. **Approve Building Extra Duty for the 2026-2027 School Year**
6. **FINANCIAL REPORT** - **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

Kim Griego with Abacus, reviewed the July financial reports. She began with the financial statistics report. This report has been refined to give the Board a clearer picture of the district's financial status. Superintendent Krumholz shared this report will allow the district to continue to financially prepare for when the hold harmless status ends. Ms. Griego pointed out the student count trend. Director Hines inquired about how much funding is lost due to declining enrollment. The current enrollment is at 1121 students. The district, while being held harmless, is being funded at an enrollment number of 1210.83. The difference in funding is \$1,197,359.75. Ms. Griego said the daily burn rate is at \$56,588.71. She said salaries have dropped significantly from last year. The district is running on 170 days' cash on hand. Director Kolomitz at what point does the district have enough cash on hand as the state recommends having 90 days. Ms. Griego said notification was received that property taxes will no longer be received and shared this number will begin to drop. Superintendent Krumholz said this was expected and a rainy day was created to get the district through until taxes are received again once all audits are completed.

The operating cash report was reviewed and showed the district has earned \$22,578.99 in interest. Superintendent Krumholz gave a shout out to the grants team who were able to get \$400,000 in back Title and grant funds that was reimbursed before the deadline. Superintendent Krumholz gave a shout out to Abacus and Jared Wilson in obtaining the past grant funds. Director Kolomitz stated he is worried about the accounts payable being significantly higher than last month and the checking account balance being significantly lower than last month. Ms. Griego said the majority of that is payroll liabilities. This also included insurance payments. She said everything has been paid since then, but these amounts were what were on the books as of July 31.

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The next report reviewed was the balance sheet. Ms. Griego said the accounts are being cleaned up. As of July 31, the general fund (Fund 10) as well as Funds 21 and 43 are all pooled cash and that is why there is a negative balance in Fund 10. She said most of the cash is sitting in either Fund 21 or Fund 43. In the general fund, most of the cash is sitting in the investment accounts, in order to gain interest. Ms. Griego pointed out this report is showing a loss of \$540,070.60 due to crossing fiscal years. Fund 18 is the insurance account. Ms. Griego said she has been working with the auditor and Ms. Siegrist on this account. She said the insurance is being paid through the operating fund versus a separate fund so it makes it uniform. She said once she is completed with the audit prep for fiscal year 2025, this fund will be cleaned up. Fund 19 is the preschool fund. Ms. Griego said those amounts are rolling forward from prior years. Fund 21, the food service fund, shows in the month of July a profit of \$243.75. The grant fund (Fund 22) shows a deposit of over \$400,000 and is part of the receivables on these books. Fund 23 is the athletics fund and right now shows a loss of \$900, but the year is just beginning and there is not a concern. Fund 31 is the bond fund. Ms. Griego shared there were bond discussions last week and talking about where the bond is at and making plans for the remaining bond funds. Fund 41 is the capital projects fund. This was what was the BEST grant and Ms. Griego is working with the auditor to make sure this is cleaned up. Fund 43 is the capital projects fund. This is where the projects that were on the approved list are. Many of these projects have been started and are ongoing or have been completed.

Ms. Griego added that the income statement summary and the income statement summary with details have also been included.

Director Kolomitz stated he appreciates all the work being put into the financial report and said it is informative information. He thanked Abacus.

7. MINUTES -

A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting on July 27, 2026. **APPROVED AS PRINTED**

8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION -

Superintendent Krumholz said test scores are in and are under embargo. He shared the frameworks will be received Monday. He is feeling positive on where the district is at and there will be a press release when the results are released.

The district administration, using grant funds, attended the annual CASE conference. Superintendent Krumholz said there were a lot of great sessions to attend and good connections were made.

Superintendent Krumholz had Richard Romero, Director of Operations share an update. Mr. Romero said the recent rain storm showed leaks in the roofs at the Junior/Senior High School, the Intermediate School and the Maintenance shop. He said there were 29 leaks at the Junior/Senior High and the leaks are the normal leaks and there were no new leaks, the Intermediate School leaked in the commons area and at the maintenance shop, there are several holes in the roof since the fire in 2019. Mr. Romero said he was able to contact the roofers who are currently here repairing the holes.

Mr. Romero said he has been working with No Moore Pests out of Pueblo on the bat problem at the Intermediate School. One way tunnels have been installed to allow the bats to evacuate the building. These tunnels will be in place for about ten days, then the holes will be repaired. Mr. Romero said lights were installed in the attic years ago to help with the bat problem. These lights have been turned on and that has helped decrease the bat activity.

The HVAC at the Intermediate School has two blown motors in the gym unit. Mr. Romero said he is currently waiting for TRANE to repair the motors as the parts can't be purchased any other place besides TRANE. The occupancy setting for the HVAC at the Intermediate School is also not working properly and instead of decreasing the air conditioning on the weekends, it is shutting it off. The occupancy setting is being looked at to see if it can be changed or deleted while still conserving energy.

Mr. Romero said he has been in contact with the City of La Junta regarding re-pouring curb and gutter on Topeka Avenue. He said new curb and gutter will help with the water runoff from Topeka Avenue. He shared the parking lot at the Primary School has been repaired.

Superintendent Krumholz said the money spent last year for the Junior/Senior High School roof patchwork helped a lot. It cost around \$30,000 last year for repairs and this year, the cost was decreased to around \$9,000. Director Kolomitz asked if these were new holes and Mr. Romero said the roofers told him there is something that is blowing

around on the roof creating the holes. Mr. Romero said he has checked and doesn't see anything and is wondering if it might be dry rot.

Director Hines asked how old the RT units at the Intermediate School are. Mr. Romero said they were purchased around 2021-22. She asked if that is a normal life span for the motors and said it seems awfully quick for them to have blown. Mr. Romero said one motor went down last week and the other motor blew because it was overworked. He said he will get TRANE here as quickly as possible.

Director Kolomitz asked Superintendent Kolomitz to explain how the Booster Club is operating. He said he is asking because the Booster Club is in the financial report. Superintendent Krumholz said the Booster Club got approved in the last couple of weeks for their 501(c)(3). He said their money will be transferred out of the district's account to the 501(c)(3) and they will be operating independently.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Approve TNTP Contract (Krumholz) **APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$160,000.00 AS PRESENTED**
- b. Approve Participation in the BOCES Partnership with Schneider Electric (Krumholz) **APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$46,513.00 AS PRESENTED**
- c. Approve Revised Policies JKA, DJB, JLCB, GBI, GBEB, and JLF on First/Revised Reading (Krumholz) **APPROVED ON FIRST/REVISED READING AS PRESENTED**
- d. Approve Revised Regulations JKA-R, DJB-R, JLCB-R and JLF-R and Exhibits JKA-E-1 and JKA-E-2 on First/Revised/Final Reading (Krumholz) **APPROVED ON FIRST/REVISED/FINAL READING AS PRESENTED**

10. BOARD COMMENTS

- ✓ Director Kolomitz congratulated staff for the Back to School Bash. He said it was a great event, had a good turnout and hopes the district will do it again next year. He also likes the handouts Superintendent Krumholz shared with the Board and is looking forward to getting them distributed to the community.
- ✓ Director Salzbrenner said thank you for continuing working on the roofs and the bat issues.
- ✓ Director Ayala thanked staff for working with families and students during the fair weeks. She said it has been a little rough and asked for patience with the students. Director Ayala said she didn't want to announce the fair winners since it is not over yet, as there is still the shooting competition and the State Fair. She did announce that anyone can join the TTA 4-H club, not just TTA students. Director Ayala shared the names of the students who went to state: Carmen Martinez, 7th grade, cake decorating; Daniella Pineda, 4th grade, for cake decorating (flower cupcakes); Mars Danner, 12th grade, fishing project; Anakin Ayala, 7th grade, cat project; Violet Ayala, 5th grade, cat project as well as an ice dyed tie-dyed dress. Director Ayala shared Arya Garcia, 5th grade, won junior for cake decorating in the open class, Violet Ayala for crafts. Director Ayala said she will share a list and said there were a lot of grand champions and reserve grand champions.
Director Hines said she appreciates all of the hard work everyone is putting in to keep the district moving forward. She asked where the district is at with the audit. Superintendent Krumholz said things are getting prepared and the auditor will begin looking at it in the next couple of weeks.

11. ADJOURNMENT – MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:21 p.m.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

SARA HINES, President

CAMERON SALZBRENNER, Vice President

STACEY AYALA, Secretary/Treasurer

ROD BICKEL, Director

GREGORY KOLOMITZ, Director