

**LANDER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
450 E. 6TH STREET
BATTLE MOUNTAIN, NV 89820
April 13, 2021
5:30 P.M.**

A recorded CD is available for review of this meeting in its entirety.

A. CALL TO ORDER

President Mike Chopp called the meeting to order at approximately 5:39pm at the Lander County School District Office, 450 E. 6th Street, Battle Mountain, Nevada.

President Mike Chopp led the assembled group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call - Taken by President Mike Chopp

Present:

Mike Chopp	(President)
Doug Staton	(Clerk)
Linda McMahon	(Trustee)
Manuel Villanueva	(Trustee)
Russell Klein	(Superintendent)
Sondra Torgerson	(Principal)
Lorrie Sparks	(Principal)
Toby Melver	(Principal)
Scott Shakespeare	(Director of Administrative Programs)

Absent:

Dr. Todd Thompson	(Trustee)
Laken Sullivan	(Trustee)
Elizabeth Valdovinos	(Trustee)

B. PUBLIC COMMENT-*The following may not be verbatim. A copy of this meeting's recording is available.*

- Krissi Tucker expressed her heartfelt thanks for what the school board, the superintendent and administrators have done to keep the students and staff safe during this time. She read her letter in support of how the district is handling everything, adding how the actions of people towards the school district is disappointing.
- Destiny Villanueva spoke regarding some CTE Agriculture Science classes going away.
- Shayne Villanueva also spoke in support of keeping the Ag Science program.
- Cindy Clark spoke on the issue of the kids wearing masks in school as part of the governor's mandate.
- Amy Nelson talked about as "American citizens all we want is choice" her handout is a part of these minutes.
- Brock Uhlig spoke in support of keeping the Ag Science program as he was a member of the FFA in high school.
- Kaybrie Nield expressed how the Ag Science classes helped her to have a greater understanding of food, where it comes from and how it gets to each of us. She also is forming a green thumb.
- Layliah Torres came to the Board as a concerned parent regarding the district's online learning program used for distance learning. She also questioned why the district hasn't advertised for another science teacher so that the Ag Science program can still be offered.

C. APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF NOTICED AGENDA- For Possible Action

Trustee Staton made the motion to approve and adopt the noticed agenda. Trustee McMahon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by those present.

Vote:

**Aye – President Mike Chopp, Trustees Doug Staton, Manny Villanueva, and Linda McMahon
Nay – 0**

Abstain – 0

D. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- 1. Technology Update** - The Board will hear about the current state of technology in the district. Representatives from Oasis Online will be present to answer questions.

Dan Slentz presented the updates

- They just finished the phishing campaign in the district. The district did very well. The industry standard is about 17% failure rate and we got about 11%.
- 20 Promethean boards got installed.

- 2. NASB & Legislative Update-** Trustee Linda McMahon will update the Board with any NASB news and on the Legislative Interim Committee on education.

POOL/PACT is offering a future training on school board governance. One legislative concern is the state appointed school board members, this is now only limited to Clark County. County dues to NASB will remain the same as last year.

- 3. Quarterly Budget Update-** Finance Director, Keith Piazza, went over his quarterly update.

- 4. COVID Update-**

- One student absent due to possible exposure

E. CONSENT ITEMS - For Possible Action

- 1. Approval and Payment of Bills and Warrants totaling \$1,387,009.52**

(Accounts Payable for March 4th \$265,723.78, March 11th \$50,344.96, March 18th \$105,636.61 and March 25th \$66,966.03 ----Payroll for March \$898,338.14)

- 2. Approval of Minutes for the Meeting Held on March 9th**

- 3. Approval of Employee Resignations and/or New Hires-** Kashia Gray-BMHS Math Teacher, Kim Hernandez High school Science, Cori Warwood- HS dean of students

- 4. Receipt, Review, and Approval of Requests for Religious Exemption from Immunization**

- Item number 2 will be removed from the consent agenda.
- Mr. Klein stated that the resignation was from Mr. Gordon Hunt.
- Trustee Staton requested that item number 4 be removed and has requested additional information on immunization waivers.

Trustee Staton made the motion to approve the consent items 1 and 3. Trustee McMahon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by those present.

Vote:

Aye – President Mike Chopp, Trustees Doug Staton, Manny Villanueva, and Linda McMahon

Nay – 0

Abstain – 0

F. ACTION ITEMS- For Possible Action

- 1. Zone Variance Requests for FY22-**Requests from multiple families will be reviewed to attend Nye County schools.

Trustee Staton made the motion to approve the Zone Variance Requests for FY22. Trustee Villanueva seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by those present.

Vote:

Aye – President Mike Chopp, Trustees Doug Staton, Manny Villanueva, and Linda McMahon

Nay – 0

Abstain – 0

- 2. Approval of the 2nd Reading of the Lander County School District Policy of Distance Learning**

One change was needed to a word.

Trustee Staton made the motion to approve the 2nd Reading of the Lander County School District Policy of Distance Learning with the corrections. Trustee Villanueva seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by those present.

Vote:

Aye – President Mike Chopp, Trustees Doug Staton, Manny Villanueva, and Linda McMahon

Nay – 0

Abstain – 0

- 1. Early Graduation Request-**The Board will review and possibly take action on approving Early Graduation requests.

The students requesting to graduate early read their letters to the Board.

Trustee Staton made the motion to approve the Early Graduation Request for Alexander Colver. Trustee Villanueva seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by those present.

Vote:

Aye – President Mike Chopp, Trustees Doug Staton, Manny Villanueva, and Linda McMahon

Nay – 0

Abstain – 0

Trustee Staton made the motion to approve the Early Graduation Request for David Traweek. Trustee Villanueva seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by those present.

Vote:

Aye – President Mike Chopp, Trustees Doug Staton, Manny Villanueva, and Linda McMahon

Nay – 0

Abstain – 0

G. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

- Mr. Klein went over a presentation regarding growth the students have had by cohort based on MAPS testing even during the pandemic. It includes both in person and distance learning children.
- Promethean boards have been installed.
- Final stages of negotiations.
- We are applying for a grant for summer and after school programs. President Chopp suggested that a survey go out to the parents and staff to see what the main desire is across the district.

H. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS- The Board may make suggestions for items or topics to be placed on future agendas for Board consideration. Items suggested here may not necessarily be placed on a future agenda.

Report on the summer school program.

Trustee McMahon reminded the board of the annual Austin meeting is May 11th and would like to discuss the happenings there.

Report on the status of other subjects concerning the growth during the pandemic.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT *The following may not be verbatim. A copy of this meeting’s recording is available.*

- Sondra Torgerson- Announced that Heather Nield received an award, Prestigious NV Agriculture Foundation Excellence in Education Outstanding Agriculture Teacher award in addition to other awards. She was recognized during the state conference.
- Trustee Staton received a call from a parent expressing her thanks for the robotics program and how it has helped her child. Mrs. Sparks will extend those thanks to the teachers supporting the program.
- Heather Nield wanted the Board to know that the students in the first public comment presented on their own accord and found the information themselves.

J. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Staton moved to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:55 p.m. Trustee McMahon seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Vote:

Aye – President Mike Chopp, Trustees Doug Staton, Manny Villanueva, and Linda McMahon

Nay – 0

Abstain – 0

**Respectfully Submitted,
Rebecca Killeen, Board Secretary**

These minutes were approved at the meeting of May 11, 2021.

Mike Chopp, President

Doug Staton, Clerk