

MINUTES
Capitan Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
February 16, 2026

The Board of Education of the Capitan Municipal School met in Regular Session in Room 101 of the Administration Building and virtually at 6:00pm.

I. Introduction

1. **Call to Order/ Roll Call** – Mr. Rich, Board President, called the session to order at 6:00pm. Roll Call was taken.
 1. **Ascertain a Quorum** – Mr. Rich ascertained that there was a quorum with the following members present:

Zeke Greer	President
Dennis Rich	Vice President
Wes Hacker	Secretary
Brett McInnes	Member
Cynthia Black	Member

Staff attending the meeting in person included *J Vance Lee – Superintendent, Jamie Shepperd – Chief Financial Officer, Leslie Shepperd – Administration Assistant, Wesley Harkey – Operations Supervisor, Briana Gibson – Elementary Principal, Becky Huey – MS/HS Principal,*

Guests attending in person included – Savannah Sewell, Craig Westbrook, Candra Acuna, Sarah Bailey, Linda Conner, Jenny DeSalvo, Christian Marquez, Gaby Marquez, Andrea Marquez, Xavier Wilson, Uriah Rubio-Saenz, Malakai Rubio-Saenz, Danielle Rubio Saenz, and Amber Kennemer.

Guests and Staff are given the option to view all meetings virtually on the District Facebook and YouTube channel.

I. Introduction – President Rich

1. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Mr. Rich led the pledge to the United States Flag and the official salute to the New Mexico Flag.
2. **Prayer** – Mr. Greer offered a prayer over the meeting.
3. **Approval of Agenda** – Ability to float items within the agenda (Action)
Mr. Lee recommended the approval to float items within the agenda, as presented. A motion to approve the agenda with the ability to float items within, was offered by Mr. Rich, seconded by Ms. Black. The motion passed with a 5-0 voice vote as follows:
Mr. Greer - Yes Mr. Rich – Yes Mr. Hacker – Yes Mr. McInnes – Yes Ms. Black – Yes
4. **Approval of Minutes from the January 19, 2026, Regular Board Meeting**
Mr. Lee recommended the minutes from the January 19, 2026, Regular Board Meeting be approved, as presented. A motion to approve was offered by Ms. Black, seconded by Mr. Rich. The motion passed with a 5-0 voice vote as follows:
Mr. Greer - Yes Mr. Rich – Yes Mr. Hacker – Yes Mr. McInnes – Yes Ms. Black – Yes

II. Presentations/Recognitions - None

III. Finance

A. Discussion and Possible Action on the following items:

2. *Cash Balance Report
3. *MTD Expenditures in Check Voucher Report
4. *Payroll Fund Totals
5. *Budget Adjustment Requests

6. *Utility Comparison
7. * Large Donations
8. * Approval of Consent Agenda Items (ACTION)

Mrs. Shepperd provided the Board with information regarding checks and balances. Mr. Lee recommended the consent agenda be approved, as presented. A motion to approve the agenda was offered by Mr. Rich, seconded by Mr. Hacker. The motion passed with a 5-0 voice vote as follows:

Mr. Greer – Yes Mr. Rich – Yes Mr. Hacker – Yes Mr. McInnes – Yes Ms. Black – Yes

IV. Public Comment (Limited to 3 minutes per individual or 5 minutes per group and must pertain to posted Board Items) Danielle Rubio-Saenz read a letter from concerned parents regarding basketball coaching for the JV/V Boys team. Please see attached.

Joshua Kennemer also wrote a letter to the board with concerns about boys' basketball. Letter is also attached. Amber Kennemer spoke briefly, echoing Mrs. Rubio-Saenz concerns.

V. Board Items

A. Old Business – NONE

B. New Business

1. Discussion and possible action to dispose of Obsolete Equipment (Discussion/Action)

Mr. Lee recommend the approval to dispose of obsolete equipment, as presented. A motion to approve was offered by Mr. Rich, seconded by Mr. Hacker. The motion passed with a 5-0 voice vote as follows:

Mr. Greer – Yes Mr. Rich – Yes Mr. Hacker – Yes Mr. McInnes – Yes Ms. Black – Yes

2. Discussion and possible action to approve a Maintenance Agreement for HVAC systems (Discussion/Action)

Mr. Lee presented the Board with an equipment coverage agreement with Trane Technologies and recommended approval, as presented. A motion to approve was offered by Ms. Black, seconded by Mr. Rich. The motion passed with a 5-0 voice vote as follows:

Mr. Greer – Yes Mr. Rich – Yes Mr. Hacker – Yes Mr. McInnes – Yes Ms. Black – Yes

3. Discussion and possible action to nominate an individual for the NMSBA Student Achievement Award (Discussion/Action)

Mr. Lee presented the Board with the application for nominations. The Board requested to postpone the nominations until the Special Board Meeting on February 23, 2026. A motion to approve was offered by Ms. Black, seconded by Mr. Rich. The motion passed with a 5-0 voice vote as follows:

Mr. Greer – Yes Mr. Rich – Yes Mr. Hacker – Yes Mr. McInnes – Yes Ms. Black – Yes

VI. Public Comment (Limited to 3 minutes per individual or 5 minutes per group and must pertain to posted Board Items) No Comments

VII. Superintendents Report – Mr. Lee

1. **School Security Systems Update – Elite is working on installing new cameras. Tiger Stadium north fence has been moved and finished. Quotes are still being gathered for interior security fencing to separate the parking lot from the campus. New Gates will be in the quote and well as removing the Tiger Drive big gate into the main parking lot.**
2. **Personnel Updates –**
 1. **District math Instructional Coach (1)**
 2. **CHS Assistant Track Coach (1)**
 3. **Varsity Head Volleyball Coach (2026-27) – Filled by Ms. Pam Allen**
 4. **Head Cheer Coach (2026-27)**
 5. **Educational Assistant (2)**

3. **Tiger Stadium Scoreboard Update – Maintenance is waiting for warmer temperatures but the holes have been drilled for supports. Track concrete curbs are done, backfill is almost complete.**
4. **Enrollment Update – 207 – CES, 101 – CMS, 151 – CHS Total is 459**
5. **Upcoming Events**
 1. **2/16-20 – National FFA Week**
 2. **3/9-13 – NMAA State Basketball Tournament – Albuquerque**
 3. **3/16-20 – Spring Break – District Closed**
 4. **3/18-20 – NMASBO Spring Budget Workshop**
 5. **4/6-11 – State FFA CDE**

VIII. Executive Session – Limited Personnel Matters as permitted under § 10-15-1(H)(2), specifically to discuss the Evaluation of the Superintendent.

1. A motion to dismiss to a 5-minute break and resume into Executive Session was made at **6:34pm by Mr. Rich, seconded by Mr. Hacker. The motion passed with a 5-0 Roll Call vote as follows:**

Mr. Greer – Yes Mr. Rich – Yes Mr. Hacker – Yes Mr. McInnes – Yes Ms. Black – Yes

2. Report on Executive Session

“Matters discussed in closed session were limited to those specified in the notice of the meeting and a motion for closed meeting. No action was taken in the closed session.”

A motion to reconvene into open session at 7:25 pm was offered by Mr. Hacker, seconded by Mr. Rich. The motion passed with a 5-0 roll call vote as follows:

Mr. Greer – Yes Mr. Rich – Yes Mr. Hacker – Yes Mr. McInnes – Yes Ms. Black – Yes

II. New Agenda Items for Next Meeting – Board Members

1. **Mid-year Testing report**
2. **Code of Ethics/Staff Drug Testing**
3. **Discussion on LCSO/SRO**
4. **5-year Facility Master Plan Steering Committee’s next meeting**

III. Adjournment – at 7:29 PM, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Rich, seconded by Mr. Hacker. The motion passed with a 5-0 voice vote as follows:

Mr. Greer – Yes Mr. Rich – Yes Mr. Hacker - Yes Mr. McInnes – Yes Ms. Black - Yes

APPROVED:

President, Zeke Greer

Secretary, Wes Hacker

Capitan 02.16.26

Dear Board Members,
Capitan Municipal Schools

We are here as a group of concerned parents, guardians, and community members regarding the February 5th incident during 7th period athletics, when multiple student athletes reported a strong odor described as marijuana inside the school gym. Staff and volunteers were reportedly aware at the time. This gym is used not only for school sports but also for Little League, cheer, and other youth activities, raising serious concerns about the environment in which our children participate.

Parents were told an investigation would be conducted, yet no official communication has followed. The lack of transparency has created frustration and uncertainty. We ask: What district, state, and federal guidelines apply in cases of suspected impairment on school grounds? What protocols ensure that no student or adult is on campus impaired while supervising or interacting with minors? Why are some individuals immediately placed on leave pending investigation while others are not? What is the consistent standard?

No one—student, teacher, coach, staff member, or administrator—should be allowed on school premises impaired. When incidents are not clearly addressed, it risks normalizing what should never be acceptable.

Beyond this incident, several seasons of struggling athletic programs point to a deeper concern. As a community, we keep saying “next season” or “next coach,” but persistent underperformance and instability raise questions about leadership, expectations, and accountability at the administrative level.

This is not meant to be accusatory, but it is a call for clarity and leadership. Silence only deepens division and erodes trust.

Finally, please give us an answer to this question: **Who will apologize to our children for normalizing mediocrity? Who will help them understand that this is not what their school experience should look like?** Our students deserve leadership that inspires excellence, reinforces high standards, and demonstrates through action that their efforts matter. They deserve to see accountability at every level.

We are united because we care deeply about our district and our children. We respectfully request transparency, answers, and a clear path forward.

Thank you.

John Smith
Bob Sedell

Alvin
Alvin

Nathan Wilson
Candice Allen
Sarah Bailey

Dorela
Kyara + Riken Rodriguez

Casey Garry

Linda
Ronald Zamora
Ryden Zamora

Capitan 02-16-2026

Urgent Concerns Regarding Coach Robinson and the Basketball Program

Good evening School Board members,

I am writing to bring to your attention several serious concerns regarding Coach Robinson. As a parent deeply involved in our community and invested in the wellbeing of our students, I have followed all proper channels to address these issues. I have filed formal complaints and spoken directly with the athletic director, the assistant coach, the high school principal, and even our superintendent. Despite these efforts, I feel compelled to escalate these concerns to the School Board as the issues persist without adequate resolution.

The concerns include allegations of underage drinking at Coach Robinson's residence, as well as his encouragement of physical altercations between underclassmen and upperclassmen during practice sessions and at his home . Additionally, there is frequent use of profanity directed at the students, accompanied by threats that go unresolved, contributing to an environment that is hostile and uncomfortable for the children involved.

The children have been personally affected, having witnessed Coach Robinson physically handle another student in an inappropriate manner, which is entirely unacceptable.

Regrettably, no meaningful action or follow-up has occurred despite multiple complaints filed not only by me but also by other parents and staff members. Meanwhile, the basketball program under Coach Robinson's leadership has significantly declined, driving parents to consider transferring their children to other school districts. Complaints are also potentially being submitted to the New Mexico Activities Association (NMAA) underscoring the gravity and breadth of these issues.

We respectfully urge the School Board, as elected officials entrusted with safeguarding the interests of our children and the integrity of our school programs, to intervene decisively. It is imperative that Coach Robinson's misconduct not be allowed to set a harmful precedent within our athletic and academic community. Our children deserve a safe, respectful, and professionally led environment where their growth and well-being are prioritized.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter. We look forward to your prompt and effective action to protect our students and restore the standards that our community expects and deserves.

Joshua Kennemer
Kennemerjoshua@gmail.com