

Board of Education

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CAPITAN MUNICIPAL SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

AGENDA ITEM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Board Meeting Date: September 21, 2026
2. Item Title: V.B.1 Discussion of Pre-K staff professional development opportunity for Conscious Discipline National Conference (DISUSSION ONLY)
3. Name of Presenter: H. Gutierrez, Superintendent
4. This item is for: ___ Action ____ Consent Agenda XX Discussion ____ Report/Information
5. Proposed Motion (Action Items Only): Discussion as presented.

Executive Summary: Please see attached.



Capitan

Elementary School

Pre-K Professional Development Proposal

Conscious Discipline: Elevate 2026 S.A.F.E. Starts With Us.

Professional Development Opportunity

Capitan Elementary School is proposing to send four Pre-K staff members to the **Elevate Conscious Discipline 2026: S.A.F.E Starts With US** national professional development conference in Orlando, Florida, in October 2026.

Elevate Conscious Discipline is a professional development conference designed by educators for educators. The conference provides practical, inspiring sessions focused on helping educators develop comprehensive and personalized strategies that can be implemented immediately in the classroom. Sessions address a variety of age levels and areas of specialization and provide opportunities for educators who are new to Conscious Discipline as well as those who are ready to deepen their existing practice.

The Capitan Elementary Pre-K staff has already implemented Conscious Discipline strategies in their classrooms and has shared their learning and practices with the elementary staff. Their participation in this national conference will allow them to expand their knowledge, strengthen their implementation, and bring additional strategies and resources back to Capitan Elementary School.

Our Pre-K staff's photograph is also featured on the conference website for the 2026 conference, highlighting their involvement and connection to the Conscious Discipline community.

Professional Development Goals

Participation in the conference will allow our Pre-K team to:

- Strengthen the implementation of Conscious Discipline strategies in Pre-K classrooms.
- Learn advanced strategies for supporting students' social-emotional development and self-regulation.
- Develop additional tools for creating safe, connected, and supportive classroom environments.
- Strengthen classroom management practices through relationship-based strategies.
- Bring new strategies and resources back to Capitan Elementary School.
- Provide professional learning and share conference takeaways with elementary staff.
- Build consistency in social-emotional and behavioral practices across the school.

- Support student success by addressing students' emotional and behavioral needs through developmentally appropriate practices.

Attendees

Capitan Elementary School proposes sending the following four Pre-K staff members:

1. **Rebecca Jackson** – Pre-K 4 Certified Teacher
2. **Kayla Hacker** – Pre-K 3 Certified Teacher
3. **Torri Whipple** – Pre-K 4 Educational Assistant
4. **Tyla Gibson** – Pre-K 3 Educational Assistant

The inclusion of both certified teachers and educational assistants will allow the entire Pre-K team to receive consistent professional learning and implement shared strategies across classrooms.

Travel

The Pre-K team will travel from El Paso, Texas, to Orlando, Florida.

- **Departure:** October 14, 2026
- **Origin:** El Paso, Texas
- **Connection:** Dallas/Fort Worth (DFW)
- **Destination:** Orlando, Florida
- **Return:** October 18, 2026

Rationale and Expected Impact

Investing in this professional development opportunity will directly support the instructional and social-emotional needs of Capitan Elementary's youngest learners. Conscious Discipline strategies are already being utilized by our Pre-K staff, making this conference an opportunity to deepen existing practice rather than introduce an entirely new initiative.

The Pre-K team will serve as a professional learning resource for the entire elementary school. Following the conference, staff members will share key learning, strategies, and resources with colleagues through staff professional development and ongoing collaboration.

This investment will strengthen the capacity of our Pre-K staff, promote consistency in classroom practices, and support a positive school culture centered on connection, self-regulation, student engagement, and student success.

Conference: Elevate Conscious Discipline 2026: LEVEL UP and Leave a Legacy

Location: Orlando, Florida

Dates: October 14–18, 2026

This picture of our staff was taken directly from the Conscious Discipline Website. Capitan Pre-k is representing New Mexico nationally.

