

AZTEC MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO 2
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES **Draft – Not Official**
March 5, 2026

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Laci Newland, President
Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President
Katie Buchholz, Secretary
Amanda Sutherland, Member
Dr. Rebekah French, Member

SCHOOL PERSONNEL PRESENT:

Lauren Laws, Superintendent
Jonathan Acrey, Deputy Superintendent
Evelyn Garcia, Associate Superintendent of Finance - ZOOM
Jason Miller, Director of Technology
Brian Dowdy, CTE Director
Phyllis Cox, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction and Curriculum
Charda Sanders, Aztec High School Principal
Hayley Lewis, Public Operations Officer
Kimberly Zah, Indian Education Coordinator
Raechante Sandoval, Lydia Rippey Elementary School Vice Principal
Josh Adams, Lydia Rippey Elementary School Principal
Rebecca Long, Secretary
Gerin McClure, Teacher

VISITORS:

Barbara Black
Aiden Trujillo
Ian Vigil
Curtis Saiz
Delano Black
Baylon Black
Harvey Blackwater
Nathan Hare
Emily Saiz
Jana Saiz
Carson Saiz
Tatiana Hare
Ryan Hare
Dallin Hare
Jordyn Thornburg
Magie French
Ron Long
Gabe Leininger
Graham McClure
Kamryn Magee
James Moore

Ethan Vigil
Levi Stout
Josh Vigil
D. Vigil
Scarlett Jones
Raymond Blackwater
Melanie Stout
Layla Stout
Tiffany Castillo
Kiara Cornish
Fabilyn Tsosie
Taner Olguin

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Board Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Board President Mrs. Laci Newland in the Board Room at Central Office. The Aztec Board of Education welcomes you to this meeting. This meeting is streamed live on the Aztec Schools Website via Zoom

VERIFICATION OF QUORUM/ROLL CALL

Roll call:	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	HERE
	Laci Newland, Board President	HERE
	Amanda Sutherland, Member	HERE
	Katie Buchholz, Board Secretary	HERE
	Dr. Rebekah French, Member	HERE

WELCOME/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

The Aztec Board of Education welcomes you to this meeting.

If you wish to express an opinion or ask questions unrelated to the agenda, please direct those to the appropriate administrator and/or board member(s) outside of this meeting.

It is our intent to maintain a professional atmosphere during this meeting. Public input is always welcomed, pursuant to board policy BEDH. Please refer to our handout on the website under Board Meetings that describes the appropriate procedures and decorum for public input.

If you are present in the Board Room, please turn off or silence your cell phones and avoid side conversations. If a need arises for a side conversation, please step out of the room to not disrupt business at hand.

Board President Mrs. Laci Newland welcomed those attending. Mr. Taner Olguin led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Pledge to the New Mexico State Flag.

We would ask now that you please stand for our pledge of allegiance and the salute to the state flag. Official Salute to the New Mexico Flag: "I salute the flag of the State of New Mexico and the Zía symbol of perfect friendship among united cultures.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA*

Board President Mrs. Laci Newland presented and recommended to approve the agenda as presented. Board Secretary Mrs. Katie Buchholz made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; second Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

Roll call:	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	AYE
	Katie Buchholz, Secretary	AYE
	Laci Newland, Board President	AYE
	Amanda Sutherland, Member	AYE
	Dr. Rebekah French, Member	AYE

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES*

Board President Mrs. Laci Newland presented and recommended to approve the minutes from the February Board Meetings as presented. Board Secretary Mrs. Katie Buchholz made a motion to approve the minutes from the February Board Meetings as presented; second Board Vice President Mr. Jimmy Dusenbery; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

Roll call:	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	AYE
	Katie Buchholz, Secretary	AYE
	Laci Newland, Board President	AYE
	Amanda Sutherland, Member	AYE
	Dr. Rebekah French, Member	AYE

Motion carried.

Recognition and Presentations

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recognized the Koogler Middle School Chess Team. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recognized the Aztec High School Student Council. Students from the Student Council were present for any questions. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recognized the Aztec High School 2026 State Champion Wrestlers. Mr. Levi Stout and the Aztec High School Wrestlers were present for any questions. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented Lydia Rippey Elementary School to present the School Highlight. Mr. Josh Adams, Lydia Rippey Elementary School Principal, Ms. Raechante Sandoval, Lydia Rippey Elementary School Vice Principal, and students were present for any questions. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws introduced Ms. Hayley Lewis, Public Information Officer, to present the Public Information Presentation. Ms. Hayley Lewis, Public Information Officer, was present for any questions. Discussion was held.

PUBLIC FORUM

Description:

The Aztec Municipal School District Board of Education welcomes public comments during its regular board meetings to offer suggestions on topics relevant to the District. Topics may include suggestions for improving district services, policies, items currently on the meeting agenda, etc. Per board policy BEDH, please keep in mind the following practices:

- Questions of fact asked by the public shall, when appropriate, be answered by the President or referred to the Superintendent for reply. No action or discussion shall transpire among Board members regarding such questions or comments. Questions requiring investigation shall be referred to the Superintendent for later report to the Board. Questions or comments on matters that are currently under legal review will not receive a response.
- The President has set a time limit on the length of the comment period. This time limit is five (5) minutes and the lending or borrowing of time is not permitted. The time limit may be shortened depending on the number of speakers signed up to speak during public comment to allow more speakers to be heard.
- Personal attacks upon Board members, staff personnel, or other persons in attendance or absent by individuals who address the Board are prohibited. Presenters are cautioned that statements or representations concerning others that convey an unjustly unfavorable impression may subject the presenter to civil action for defamation.

No Public Forum Requests

REPORTS

Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Superintendent's Report. Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws included the Superintendent's Report in Board Book. Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws was present for any questions. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Personnel Report. Mr. Jonathan Acrey, Deputy Superintendent, included the Personnel Report in Board Book. Mr. Jonathan Acrey, Deputy Superintendent, was present for any questions. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Policy Committee Report. Board Secretary Mrs. Katie Buchholz was present for any questions. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Financial Report. Board Vice President Mr. Jimmy Dusenbery presented the Financial Report. Discussion was held.

BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposal to Revise Board Policy – BAA – Evaluation Of School Board/Board Self-Evaluation – Second Read. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposal to Revise Board Policy – BBA – Board Powers

And Responsibilities – Second Read. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposal to Revise Board Policy – BCA – Board Member Ethics – Second Read. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposal to Revise Board Policy – BDG – School Attorney – Second Read. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposal to Revise Board Policy – BDE – Board Committees – Second Read. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposal to Revise Board Policy – BDB – Board Officers – Second Read. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented Board Policy – BEDH – Public Participation At Board Meetings – First Read. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented Board Policy – KE – Public Concerns/Complaints – First Read. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented Board Policy – KE-R – Concerns/Complaints-Regulation – First Read. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented Board Policy – KE-E – Public Concerns/Complaints-Form - First Read. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented Board Policy – KEB – Public Concerns/Complaints About Personnel – First Read. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented Board Policy – KEB-R – Public Concerns/Complaints About Personnel Regulation – First Read. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented Board Policy – KEB-E – Public Concerns/Complaints About Personnel Form – First Read. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented Board Policy – KEC – Public Concerns/Complaints About Instructional Resources – First Read. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented Board Policy – KEC-E – Public Concerns/Complaints About Instructional Resources – First Read. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented Board Policy – KED – Public Concerns/Complaints About Facilities And Services – First Read. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented Board Policy – KED-R – Public Concerns/Complaints About Facilities And Service Regulation – First Read. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented Board Policy – KED-E – Public Concerns/Complaints About Facilities And Services Form – First Read. Discussion was held.

No Action on the First Read Board Discussion Items 10-A to 10-R. These Board Polices will be taken to the Policy Committee.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposed School Board Tentative Schedule For 26-27SY – First Read. Discussion was held.

ACTION ITEMS*

Approve Board Policies 10-A to 10-F*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve Board Policies – 10-A to 10-F as presented. Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland made a motion to approve Board Policies – 10-A to 10-F as presented; second Board Member Dr. Rebekah French; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

Roll call:	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	AYE
	Katie Buchholz, Secretary	AYE
	Laci Newland, Board President	AYE
	Amanda Sutherland, Member	AYE
	Dr. Rebekah French, Member	AYE

Motion carried.

Approval of Student/Field Trip Request – 10-G to 10-M*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve the Student/Field Trip Requests 10-G to 10-M as presented. Board Vice President Mr. Jimmy Dusenbery made a motion to approve the Student/Field Trip Requests 10-G to 10-M as presented; second Board Secretary Mrs. Katie Buchholz; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

Roll call:	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	AYE
	Katie Buchholz, Secretary	AYE
	Laci Newland, Board President	AYE
	Amanda Sutherland, Member	AYE
	Dr. Rebekah French, Member	AYE

Motion carried.

Approve Fundraiser Request*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve the Fundraiser - Koogler Middle School – 2026 Color Explosion Fun Run and Community Business Donation Requests as presented. Board Vice

President Mr. Jimmy Dusenbery made a motion to approve the Fundraiser – Koogler Middle School – 2026 – Color Explosion Fun Run and Community Business donation as presented; second Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

Roll call:	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	AYE
	Katie Buchholz, Secretary	AYE
	Laci Newland, Board President	AYE
	Amanda Sutherland, Member	AYE
	Dr. Rebekah French, Member	AYE

Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented and recommended the approval the Consent Agenda as presented. Mrs. Evelyn Garcia, Associate Superintendent of Finance, included the Consent Agenda in the Board Packet. Mrs. Evelyn Garcia, Associate Superintendent of Finance, was present via Zoom for any questions. Board Vice President Mr. Jimmy Dusenbery made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; second Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

Roll call:	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	AYE
	Katie Buchholz, Secretary	AYE
	Laci Newland, Board President	AYE
	Amanda Sutherland, Member	AYE
	Dr. Rebekah French, Member	AYE

Motion carried.

FUTURE BUSINESS

Board Retreat Meeting – March 7, 2026 @ 8:00 A.M.
Regular Board Meeting – March 5, 2026 @ 6:00 P.M.
Working Meeting – March 5, 2026 @ 5:00 P.M.

Board Secretary Mrs. Katie Buchholz made a motion to adjourn the meeting; second Board Vice President Mr. Jimmy Dusenbery; Vote 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Roll call:	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	AYE
	Katie Buchholz, Secretary	AYE
	Laci Newland, Board President	AYE
	Amanda Sutherland, Member	AYE
	Dr. Rebekah French, Member	AYE

Motion carried.

Laci Newland, President

ATTEST TO: _____
Katie Buchholz, Secretary

