

AZTEC MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO 2
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES **Draft – Not Official**
May 7, 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
Jason Miller, Director of Technology
Evelyn Garcia, Associate Superintendent of Finance
Phyllis Cox, Associate Superintendent of Instruction and Curriculum
Charda Sanders, Aztec High School Principal
Kari Milam, McCoy Elementary School Principal
Jessica Sledzinski, Park Avenue Elementary School Principal
Regina Atencio-Torres, Vista Nueva High School Principal
Catherine Olson, Counselor
Tina Webb, Koogler Middle School Assistant Principal
Jena Arambula, Koogler Middle School Principal
Robin Rivera, Teacher
Brooke Randall, Teacher
Kayla Wing, Secretary
Rebekah Deane, Counselor
Anna Marie Dusenbery, Teacher
Kenny Adam, Teacher
Rhonda Candelaria, Teacher
Gina Carter, Teacher

VISITORS:

Sarah Cruz
Officer Troy Morris
Stormi Valdez
Reese Randall
Austin Randall
Naysin Hernandez
Ashley Vilchiz
Kimber Eldred
Amanda Knight
Tami Nothstine
Amanda Peter
Shelby Mortensen
Steven Carter
Memphis Randall
McKay Mortensen

Camila Dominguez

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. Mrs. Anna Marie Dusenbery 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.

Tell Me Something Good

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.

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|------------|---------------------------------|-----|
| 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 April Board Meetings as presented. Board Vice President Mr. Jimmy Dusenbery made a motion to approve the minutes from the April Board Meetings as presented; second Board Member Dr. Rebekah French; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

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|------------|---------------------------------|-----|
| 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 introduced the Park Avenue Elementary School 4th and 5th-grade Science Fair Winners. Mrs. Robin Rivera, Teacher, and Mrs. Jessica Sledzinski, Principal, were present for any questions. Discussion was held.

McKay Mortensen – First Place – 5th Grade Winner

Memphis Randall – First Place – 4th Grade Winner

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws introduced the CKH National Showcase Schools:

Vista Nueva High School, Mrs. Regina Atencio Torres, Vista Nueva High School, Ms. Kayla Wing, Secretary, Mrs. Anna Marie Dusenbery, Mr. Kenny Adam, Teacher, and Mrs. Rebekah Deane, Counselor, were present for any questions. Discussion was held.

Park Avenue Elementary School, Mrs. Jessica Sledzinski, Park Avenue Elementary School Principal, was present for any questions. Discussion was held.

McCoy Elementary School Principal, Ms. Kari Milam, McCoy Elementary School Principal, was present for any questions. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Excellence In Student Achievement Award. The Award was presented by Board President Mrs. Laci Newland to:

Ms. Jena Arambula, Koogler Middle School Principal

Mrs. Tina Webb, Koogler Middle School Assistant Principal
Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Dual Credit Presentation. Mrs. Charda Sanders, Aztec High School Principal, and Ms. Catherine Olson, Counselor, were present for any questions. Discussion was held.

Stormi Valdez
Camila Dominguez
Ashley Vilchiz
Kimber Eldred

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.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the "Curriculum And Instructional- HQIM Adoption". Ms. Phyllis Cox, Associate Superintendent of Instruction and Curriculum, was present for any questions. Discussion was held.

BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposal to Revise Board Policy – BEDBA – Agenda Preparation And Dissemination – First Read. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposal to Revise Board Policy – BEDB – Agenda – First Read. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented Board Policy - KCD – Public Gifts/Donations To Schools – First Read. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposed Approval of Aztec Municipal Schools Handbook of Special Education Procedures. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Resolution Of Censure of Board Member Dr. Rebekah French. Discussion was held.

ACTION ITEMS*

Approve Possible Action Of The 26/27 District Calendar*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve the 26/27 District Calendar as presented. Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland made a motion to approve the 26/27 District Calendar as presented; second Board Vice President Mr. Jimmy Dusenbery; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

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| 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 Possible Action Of The 27/28 District Calendar*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve the 27/28 District Calendar as presented. Board Secretary Mrs. Katie Buchholz made a motion to approve the 27/28 District Calendar as presented; second Board Member Dr. Rebekah French; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

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| 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 Possible Action On The Aztec Municipal Schools Handbook Of Special Education Procedures*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve the Aztec Municipal Schools Handbook Of Special Education Procedures as presented. Board Member Dr. Rebekah French made a motion to approve the Aztec Municipal Schools Handbook Of Special Education Procedures as presented; second Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

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| 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 Student/Field Trip Requests Action Items 10-D to 10-E*

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

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|------------|---------------------------------|-----|
| 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 Requests Action Items 10-F to 10-G*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve the Fundraiser Requests Action Items 10-F to 10-G as presented. Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland made a motion to approve the Fundraiser Requests Action Items 10-F to 10-G as presented; second Board Member Dr. Rebekah French; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

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| 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 Possible Action Of The FY2627 Mosaic Academy Financial Budget*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve the FY2627 Mosaic Academy Financial Budget as presented. Board Secretary Mrs. Katie Buchholz made a motion to approve the FY2627 Mosaic Academy Financial Budget as presented; second Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland; vote unanimous. Discussion was held. Ms. Tami Nothstine from Mosaic was available for any questions.

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 Possible Action Of The FY2627 AMSD Financial Budget*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve the FY2627 AMSD Financial Budget as presented. Board Member Dr. Rebekah French made a motion to approve the FY2627 AMSD Financial Budget 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.

Approve Possible Action Of The Math Materials Adoption*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve the Math Materials Adoption as presented. Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland made a motion to approve the Math Materials Adoption 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.

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 for any questions. Board Vice President Mr. Jimmy Dusenbery made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; second Board Secretary Mrs. Katie Buchholz; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

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| 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

Regular Board Meeting – June 11, 2026 @ 6:00 P.M.

Working Meeting – June 11, 2026 @ 5:00 P.M.

Vista Nueva High School Graduation – May 19, 2026 @ 6:00 P.M. – Henderson Fine Arts Building – San Juan College

Aztec High School Graduation – May 20, 2026 @ 7:00 P.M. – Fred Cook Stadium

Kindergarten Graduation – May 18, 2026 @ 9:00 A.M. – Fred Cook Stadium

NMSBA Law Conference – June 4 – 6, 2026 – Albuquerque, New Mexico

Executive Session - Discussion Of Collective Bargaining Agreement Pursuant To NMSA 1978, 10-15-1(H)(5)

Board President Mrs. Laci Newland recommended the Board of Education Convene In A Closed Executive Session Pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1(H)(5) For Discussion Of Collective Bargaining Agreement as presented. Board Secretary Mrs. Katie Buchholz made a motion to Convene In A Closed Executive Session as presented; second Board Vice President Mr. Jimmy Dusenbery; vote unanimous.

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| 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.

The Board went into Executive Session at 7:00 p.m.

Board Member Dr. Rebekah French made a motion to return to the Regular Board Meeting at 7:10 p.m.; second Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland, vote unanimous. No decisions were made.

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.

ACTION ITEM*

Approve Possible Action Item Approval Of Collective Bargaining Agreement*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement as presented. Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland made a motion to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement 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.

Board Vice President Mr. Jimmy Dusenbery made a motion to adjourn the meeting; second Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland; Vote 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 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