

AZTEC MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO 2
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES **Draft – Not Official**
May 15, 2025

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Fran Dobey, President
Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President
Katie Buchholz, Member
Laci Newland, Secretary
Amanda Sutherland, Member

SCHOOL PERSONNEL PRESENT:

Lauren Laws, Superintendent
Evelyn Garcia, Associate Superintendent of Finance
Jonathan Acrey, Associate Superintendent of Human Resources
Russell Florez, Deputy Superintendent of Operations
Josh Adams, Lydia Rippey Elementary School Principal
John Welch, Safety Supervisor
Warman Hall, Director of Federal Programs
Phyllis Cox, Associate Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction
Jessica Sledzinski, Park Avenue Elementary School Principal
Panda Baird, Teacher
Brooke Hawkins, Teacher
Sarah Blake, Counselor
Kimberly Zah, Indian Education Coordinator
Pat Sannes, Math Instructional Coach
Afton Yazzie, Teacher
Becky Long, Secretary
Hayley Lewis, Public Information Officer
Justin Harcrow, Teacher
Cassandra Brown, Teacher
Kyla Cordell, Bookkeeper
Angie Hall, Teacher
Windy Shult-Hellewell, Teacher
Angela Martinez, Teacher
Sarah Thomason, Educational Assistant

VISITORS:

Michelle Meyering
Tami Nothstine
Tiffany Akin
Kaycee Akin
Emily Collins
Bianca Aguirre
Devin Prescott
Brenda Perez
Ben Samora
Terry Jones
Charliss Jones

John Jones
Sherry Lierz
Jeffrey Lierz
Aaron Lierz
Ashley Vilchiz
Natalie Litschke
N. Hernandez
Erick Vilchiz
Danny Cox
Carolyn Cox
Amanda Litschke
Danny Roberts
Isabella Bannowsky
Peyton Johnston
Makoda Wolfe
Jeremy Cordell
Emilia Cordell
Daniel Hall
Jordyn Thornburg
Amanda Peter
Amanda Knight

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Board Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Board President Mrs. Fran Dobey 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:	Fran Dobey, President	HERE
	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	HERE
	Laci Newland, Secretary	HERE
	Amanda Sutherland, Member	HERE
	Katie Buchholz, 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. Fran Dobey welcomed those attending. Danny Cox 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. Fran Dobey presented and recommended to approve the agenda as presented. Board Secretary Mrs. Laci Newland made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; second Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

Roll call:	Fran Dobey, President	AYE
	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	AYE
	Katie Buchholz, Member	AYE
	Laci Newland, Secretary	AYE
	Amanda Sutherland	AYE

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES*

Board President Mrs. Fran Dobey presented and recommended to approve the minutes from the April Board Meetings as presented. Board Member Mrs. Katie Buchholz made a motion to approve the minutes from the April Board Meetings as presented; second Board Vice President Mr. Jimmy Dusenbery; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

Roll call:	Fran Dobey, President	AYE
	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	AYE
	Katie Buchholz, Member	AYE
	Laci Newland, Secretary	AYE
	Amanda Sutherland	AYE

Motion carried.

Recognition and Presentations

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Park Avenue Elementary School Science Fair Winners. Mrs. Jessica Sledzinski, Park Avenue Principal and students were present for any questions. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Koogler Middle School Poetry Slam Winners. Ms. Ms. Cassandra Brown, Teacher, Ms. Panda Baird, Teacher and students were present for any questions. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Boys & Girls Club of San Juan County NM Youth of the Year Runner Up. Ms. Michelle Meyering and the student were present for any questions. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the National Merit Scholar. Mr. Daniel Hall, student, was present for any questions. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Daniels Fund Scholarship Recipient. The recognition was presented at the Working Meeting. No discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the SkillsUSAANM Winners. Students were present for any questions. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Aztec High School Key Club Winners. Ms. Sarah Blake, Counselor, and students were present for any questions. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws introduced Mr. Josh Adams, Lydia Rippey Elementary Principal, Mrs. Becky Long, Secretary, Mrs. Sarah Thomason, Educational Assistant and Mrs. Angela Martinez, Teacher, to present the Lydia Rippey Elementary Spotlight. 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

Board Discussion Items

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposal to Revise Board Policy – KJA – Relations With Booster Organizations – First Reading. Board Secretary Mrs. Laci Newland was present for any questions. Discussion was held.

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. Discussion was held.

Personnel Report - Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Personnel Report. Mr. Jonathan Acrey, Associate Superintendent of Human Resources, included the Personnel Report in Board Book. Discussion was held.

Policy Committee Report – Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Policy Committee Report. Board Secretary Mrs. Laci Newland was present for any questions. Discussion was held.

ACTION ITEMS*

Approve Early Graduation Request From Vista Nueva High School*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve the Early Graduation Request From Vista Nueva High School as presented. Board Secretary Mrs. Laci Newland made a motion to approve the Early Graduation Request From Vista Nueva High School as presented; second Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

Roll call:	Fran Dobey, President	AYE
	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	AYE
	Katie Buchholz, Member	AYE
	Laci Newland, Secretary	AYE
	Amanda Sutherland	AYE

Motion carried.

Approve Proposed Calendar For 25-26 SY*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve the Proposed Calendar For 25-26SY as presented. Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland made a motion to approve the Proposed Calendar For 25-26SY as presented; second Board Secretary Mrs. Laci Newland; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

Roll call:	Fran Dobey, President	AYE
	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	AYE
	Katie Buchholz, Member	AYE
	Laci Newland, Secretary	AYE
	Amanda Sutherland	AYE

Motion carried.

Approve Proposed School Board Schedule For 25-26 SY*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to table the Proposed School Board Schedule For 25-26 SY as presented. Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland made a motion to table the Proposed School Board Schedule For 25-26 SY as presented; second Board Secretary Mrs. Laci Newland; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

Roll call:	Fran Dobey, President	AYE
	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	AYE
	Katie Buchholz, Member	AYE
	Laci Newland, Secretary	AYE
	Amanda Sutherland	AYE

Motion carried.

Approve Instructional Material Adoption*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve the Instruction Material Adoption as presented. Board Member Mrs. Katie Buchholz made a motion to approve the Instructional Material Adoption as presented; second Board Vice President Mr. Jimmy Dusenbery; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

Roll call:	Fran Dobey, President	AYE
	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	AYE
	Katie Buchholz, Member	AYE
	Laci Newland, Secretary	AYE
	Amanda Sutherland	AYE

Motion carried.

Approve Board Policy Request – BEDH – Public Participation At Board Meetings*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve Board Policy – BEDH – Public Participation At Board Meetings as presented. Board Secretary Mrs. Laci Newland recommended to table Board Policy – BEDH - Public Participation At Board Meetings as presented; second Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

Roll call:	Fran Dobey, President	AYE
	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	AYE
	Katie Buchholz, Member	AYE
	Laci Newland, Secretary	AYE
	Amanda Sutherland	AYE

Motion carried.

Approve Board Policy Requests Action Items 10-F To 10-I*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve Board Policy Requests Action Items 10-F To 10-I as presented. Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland made a motion to approve Board Policy

Requests Action Items 10-F to 10-I as presented; second Board Secretary Mrs. Laci Newland; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

Roll call:	Fran Dobey, President	AYE
	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	AYE
	Katie Buchholz, Member	AYE
	Laci Newland, Secretary	AYE
	Amanda Sutherland	AYE

Motion carried.

Approve Fundraiser Requests Action Items 10-J To 10-O*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve Fundraiser Requests Action Items 10-J To 10-O as presented. Board Vice President Mr. Jimmy Dusenbery made a motion to approve Fundraiser Requests Action Items 10-J to 10-O as presented; second Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

Roll call:	Fran Dobey, President	AYE
	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	AYE
	Katie Buchholz, Member	AYE
	Laci Newland, Secretary	AYE
	Amanda Sutherland	AYE

Motion carried.

Approve Student/Field Trip Requests Action Items 10-P To 10-Q*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve Student/Field Trip Requests Action Items 10-P To 10-Q as presented. Board Secretary Mrs. Laci Newland made a motion to approve Student/Field Trips Action Items 10-P To 10-Q as presented; second Board Vice President Mr. Jimmy Dusenbery; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

Roll call:	Fran Dobey, President	AYE
	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	AYE
	Katie Buchholz, Member	AYE
	Laci Newland, Secretary	AYE
	Amanda Sutherland	AYE

Motion carried.

Approve FY26 Mosaic Budget*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve FY26 Mosaic Budget as presented. Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland made a motion to approve FY26 Mosaic Budget as presented; second Board Secretary Mrs. Laci Newland; vote unanimous. Ms. Tami Nothstine was present for any questions. Discussion was held.

Roll call:	Fran Dobey, President	AYE
	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	AYE
	Katie Buchholz, Member	AYE

Laci Newland, Secretary	AYE
Amanda Sutherland	AYE

Motion carried.

Approve Annual Adoption Of NMPED Charter Performance Framework*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve Annual Adoption of NMPED Charter Performance Framework as presented. Board Member Ms. Katie Buchholz made a motion to approve the Annual Adoption of NMPED Charter Performance Framework as presented; second Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

Roll call:	Fran Dobey, President	AYE
	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	AYE
	Katie Buchholz, Member	AYE
	Laci Newland, Secretary	AYE
	Amanda Sutherland	AYE

Motion carried.

Authorization Of Superintendent To Sign The Mosaic Academy Charter Contract And Memorandum Of Understanding*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended Authorization Of Superintendent To Sign The Mosaic Academy Charter Contract And Memorandum Of Understanding as presented. Board Vice President Mr. Jimmy Dusenbery made a motion for the Authorization Of Superintendent To Sign The Mosaic Academy Charter Contract And Memorandum Of Understanding as presented; second Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

Roll call:	Fran Dobey, President	AYE
	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	AYE
	Katie Buchholz, Member	AYE
	Laci Newland, Secretary	AYE
	Amanda Sutherland	AYE

Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented and recommended the approval the Consent Agenda as presented. Mrs. Evelyn Garcia, Director of Finance, included the Consent Agenda in the Board Packet. 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:	Fran Dobey, President	AYE
	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	AYE
	Katie Buchholz, Member	AYE
	Laci Newland, Secretary	AYE
	Amanda Sutherland	AYE

Motion carried.

Approve FY2526 AMSD Financial Budget And Salary Schedule*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve FY2526 AMSD Financial Budget And Salary Schedule as presented. Board Vice President Mr. Jimmy Dusenbery made a motion to approve FY2526 AMSD Financial Budget And Salary Schedule as presented; second Board Member Mrs. Katie Buchholz; vote 4-1. Discussion was held.

Roll call:	Fran Dobey, President	NAY
	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	AYE
	Katie Buchholz, Member	AYE
	Laci Newland, Secretary	AYE
	Amanda Sutherland	AYE

Motion carried.

FUTURE BUSINESS

Regular School Board Meeting, Wednesday June 11, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m.

Working Meeting – Wednesday, June 11, 2025 @ 5:00 p.m.

NMASBO – Spring Budget Workshop – April 9 to 11, 2025 – Albuquerque, New Mexico

Aztec High School Graduation – Wednesday, May 21, 2025

Vista Nueva High School Graduation - Wednesday, May 20, 2025

Strategic Planning Meeting - Wednesday, May 28, 2025 @ 1:00 p.m.

Executive Session (With Roll Call Vote To Go Into Executive Session*) – The Board of Education Will Convene In A Closed Executive Session (1) Pursuant To NMSA 1978, 22-15-1(H)(2) Of The New Mexico Open Meetings Act, To Discuss Limited Personnel Matters; Specifically For The Board To Discuss And Legal Counsel To Advise Regarding Procedural Matters Related To The Upcoming Discharge Hearing For J. Botello

(2) Section 10-15-1(H)(5) Of The New Mexico Open Meetings Act To Discuss Collective Bargaining Negotiations, Specifically Article 19

Board President Mrs. Fran Dobey recommended the Board of Education Convene In A Closed Executive Session For The Following Purpose (1) Pursuant To NMSA 1978, 22-15-1(H)(2) Of The New Mexico Open Meetings Act, To Discuss Limited Personnel Matters; Specifically For The Board To Discuss And Legal Counsel To Advise Regarding Procedural Matters Related To The Upcoming Discharge Hearing For J. Botello

(2) Section 10-15-1(H)(5) Of The New Mexico Open Meetings Act To Discuss Collective Bargaining Negotiations, Specifically Article 19 as presented. Board Secretary Mrs. Laci Newland made a motion to Convene Into Executive Session as presented; second Board Ms. Amanda Sutherland; vote unanimous.

Roll call:	Fran Dobey, President	AYE
	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	AYE
	Katie Buchholz, Member	AYE
	Laci Newland, Secretary	AYE
	Amanda Sutherland	AYE

Motion carried.

The Board went into Executive Session at 6:40 p.m.

Board Secretary Mrs. Laci Newland made a motion to return to the Regular Board Meeting at 8:38 p.m.; second; Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland; vote unanimous. No decisions were made.

Roll call:	Fran Dobey, President	AYE
	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	AYE
	Katie Buchholz, Member	AYE
	Laci Newland, Secretary	AYE
	Amanda Sutherland	AYE

Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM*

Take Possible Action to Authorize The Board President In Consultation With Board Counsel To Rule On Prehearing Procedural Matters In The Discharge Hearing For J. Botello*

Board President Mrs. Fran Dobey presented the request to authorize The Board President In Consultation With Board Counsel To Rule On Prehearing Procedural Matters In The Discharge Hearing For J. Botello as discussed in Executive Session. Board Vice President Mr. Jimmy Dusenbery made a motion to approve the request to authorize The Board President In Consultation With Board Counsel To Rule On Prehearing Procedural Matters In The Discharge Hearing For J. Botello as discussed in Executive Session; second Board Member Mrs. Katie Buchholz; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

Roll call:	Fran Dobey, President	AYE
	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	AYE
	Katie Buchholz, Member	AYE
	Laci Newland, Secretary	AYE
	Amanda Sutherland	AYE

Motion carried.

Approval Of Collective Bargaining Request For Increase Compensation Per Article 19 Of The Collective Bargaining Agreement*

Board President Mrs. Fran Dobey presented the request to approve The Collective Bargaining Request For Increase Compensation Per Article 19 Of The Collective Bargaining Agreement as discussed in Executive Session. No motion was made; motion is dead.

ADJOURNMENT

Board Secretary Mrs. Laci Newland made a motion to adjourn the meeting; second Board Vice President Mr. Jimmy Dusenbery; Vote 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Roll call:	Fran Dobey, President	AYE
	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	AYE
	Katie Buchholz, Member	AYE

Laci Newland, Secretary
Amanda Sutherland

AYE
AYE

Motion carried.

Fran Dobey, President

ATTEST TO: _____
Laci Newland, Secretary