

AZTEC MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO 2  
REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES **Draft – Not Official**  
July 7, 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  
Brian Dowdy, CTE Director  
Kimberly Thornton, Counselor  
Taylor Martinez, Health Educational Assistant  
Hayley Lewis, Public Information Officer  
Jason Miller, Director of Technology  
Caleb Bellah, Director of Maintenance

VISITORS: Sarah Cruz  
Aimee Kerschion  
Alana Garcia  
Iesha Gilbert  
Riley Halstead  
Nicole Lamphere  
Danica Dilyou  
Scarlett Jones  
Lesha A. Gilbert  
Madison Blair

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. Mr. Caleb Bellah 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 Zia 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 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, Member	AYE

Motion carried.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES\*

Board President Mrs. Fran Dobey presented and recommended to approve the minutes from the June Board Meetings as presented. Board Member Mrs. Katie Buchholz made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 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, Member	AYE

Motion carried.

#### Recognition and Presentations

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the New Mexico School Boards Association – 2025 Scholarship Recipient. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Aztec Chamber of Commerce – Educator Of The Year. Mrs. Kimberly Thornton was present for any questions. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws introduced Ms. Sarah Cruz to present on the New Dance Studio at Lydia Rippey Elementary School. Ms. Sarah Cruz and the Tiger Paw Dancers were 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.

Ms. Aimee Kerschion addressed the Board. No discussion was held.

### Board Discussion Items

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposal Deletion of Board Policy – GBED – Tobacco Use By Staff Members/Smoking – First Read. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposed Deletion of Board Policy – JICG – Tobacco Use By Students/Smoking – First Read. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposed Deletion of Board Policy – KFAA – Tobacco Use/Smoking On School Premises – First Read. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposed Deletion of Board Policy – KFAA-R - Tobacco Use/Smoking On School Premises – First Reading. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposal to Revise Board Policy – IA – Instructional Goals and Objectives – First Reading. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposed New Board Policy – JLCEC – Cardiac Emergency Response Plan – Automated External Defibrillators – First Reading. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposed New Board Policy – JLIH – Parental Guidance For Water Safety – First Reading. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposal to Revise Board Policy – GE – Retiree Return To Work – First Reading. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposal to Revise Board Policy – ADB/ADC – Drug, Alcohol, And Tobacco/Nicotine-Free Schools – First Reading. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposed New Board Policy – ADB/ADC-R – Drug, Alcohol, And Tobacco/Nicotine Free Schools – First Reading. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposal to Revise Board Policy – EEA-R – Student Transportation – First Reading. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposal to Revise Board Policy – GBEBB-EA – Staff Conduct With Students – First Reading. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposal to Revise Board Policy – GCQF – Discipline, Suspension, Termination and Discharge Of Professional Staff Members – First Reading. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposal to Revise Board Policy – GDQD – Discipline, Suspension, Termination And Discharge Of Support Staff Members- First Reading. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposal to Revise Board Policy – IJOC-E – School Volunteers – First Reading. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposal to Revise Board Policy – JIC – Student Conduct – First Reading. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposal to Revise Board Policy – JK-R – Student Discipline – First Reading. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposal to Revise Board Policy – KFA – Public Conduct On School Property – First Reading. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposal to Revise Board Policy – KF-EA – Community Use Of School Facilities – First Reading. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposal to Revise Board Policy – JK – Student Discipline – First Reading. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposal to Revise Board Policy – EBC – Emergencies – First Reading. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Proposal to Revise Board Policy – JLCD – Administering Medicines To Students – First Reading. 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.

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

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Curriculum and Instruction Report. Ms. Phyllis Cox included the Curriculum and Instruction Report in Board Book. Discussion was held.

## ACTION ITEMS\*

### Approve Fundraiser Requests – Action Items 10-A to 10-N\*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve Fundraiser Requests – Action Items 10-A to 10-N as presented. Board Member Vice President Mr. Jimmy Dusenbery made a motion to approve the Fundraiser Requests – Action Items 10-A to 10-N as presented; 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, Member	AYE

Motion carried.

### Approval Board Policy – KJA – Relations With Booster Organizations\*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve the Board Policy – KJA – Relations With Booster Organizations as presented. Board Secretary Mrs. Laci Newland made a motion to approve Board Policy – KJA – Relations With Booster Organizations 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, Member	AYE

Motion carried.

#### Approval Board Policy – BEDH – Public Participation At Board Meetings\*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve the Board Policy – BEDH – Public Participation At Board Meetings as presented. Board Member Mrs. Katie Buchholz made a motion to approve Board Policy – BEDH – Public Participation At Board Meetings 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, Member	AYE

Motion carried.

#### Approval Board Policy – JICJ – Student Possession And Use Of Personal Electronic Devices\*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve the Board Policy – JICJ – Student Possession And Use Of Personal Devices as presented. Board Secretary Mrs. Laci Newland made a motion to approve Board Policy – JICJ – Student Possession And Use Of Personal Electronic Devices 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, Member	AYE

Motion carried.

#### Approve Collective Bargaining Agreement\*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement as presented. Board Vice President Mr. Jimmy Dusenbery made a motion to approve the Collective

Bargaining Agreement as presented; 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, Member	AYE

Motion carried.

#### Approval Of New Course Offerings\*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve the New Course Offerings as presented. Board Member Mrs. Katie Buchholz made a motion to approve the New Course Offerings as presented; second Board Vice President Mr. 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, Member	AYE

Motion carried.

#### Approval of 2025-2028 Strategic Plan\*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve the 2025-2028 Strategic Plan as presented. Board Secretary Mrs. Laci Newland made a motion to approve the 2025-2028 Strategic Plan as presented; second Board Member Mrs. 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, Member	AYE

Motion carried.

#### Approval of AMSD Resolution 2025-2026 Budget Adjustment Requests\*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve the AMSD Resolution 2025-2026 Budget Adjustment Requests as presented. Board Vice President Mr. Jimmy Dusenbery made a motion to approve the AMSD Resolution 2025-2026 Budget Adjustment Requests 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, Member	AYE

Motion carried.

#### Approval of AMSD FY2324 Inventory Certification\*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve the AMSD FY2324 Inventory Certification as presented. Board Vice President Mr. Jimmy Dusenbery made a motion to approve the AMSD FY2324 Inventory Certification as presented; 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, Member	AYE

Motion carried.

#### CONSENT AGENDA\*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented and recommended the approval of 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, Member	AYE

Motion carried.

#### FUTURE BUSINESS

Special Board Discharge Meeting – July 8, 2025 @ 1:00 P.M.

Regular Board Meeting – August 14, 2025 @ 6:00 P.M.

Working Meeting – August 14, 2025 @ 5:00 P.M.

Special Board Meeting – August 21, 2025 @ 1:00 P.M.

Executive Session (1) Executive Session (With Roll Call Vote To Go Into Executive Session\*) - The Board of Education Will Convene In A Closed Executive Session Pursuant To NMSA 1978, 22-15-1(H)(2) Of The New Mexico Opens Meeting Act, To Discuss Limited Personnel Matters; Specifically:



A. For The Board To Present And Discuss With The Superintendent The Superintendent's Evaluation

B. For The Board To Discuss With The Superintendent, The Superintendent's Contract Status As Superintendent

C. To Discuss Pending Or Threatened Litigation As Permitted Under Section 10-15-1(H)(7) Of The New Mexico Open Meetings Act

Board President Mrs. Fran Dobey recommended the Board of Education Convene In A Closed Executive Session Pursuant to NMSA 1978, 22-15-1(H)(2) Of The New Mexico Open Meeting Act, To Discuss Limited Personnel Matters; Specifically:

A. For The Board To Present And Discuss With The Superintendent The Superintendent's Evaluation

B. For The Board To Discuss With The Superintendent, The Superintendent's Contract Status As Superintendent

C. To Discuss Pending Or Threatened Litigation As Permitted Under Section 10-15-1(H)(7) Of The New Mexico Open Meetings Act

Board Secretary Mrs. Laci Newland made a motion to Convene Into Executive Session as presented; second Board Member Mrs. Katie Buchholz; 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 6:35 p.m.

Board Vice President Mr. Jimmy Dusenbery made a motion to return to the Regular Board Meeting at 7:14 p.m.; second; Board Member Mrs. Katie Buchholz; 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.

## ADJOURNMENT

Board Member 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 7:15 p.m.

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

Motion carried.

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Fran Dobey, President

ATTEST TO: \_\_\_\_\_  
Laci Newland, Secretary