REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
CLOVIS MUNICIPAL SCHOOLS
1009 Main Street
March 16, 2021

A regular meeting of the Board of Education was held virtually, via Zoom, on Tuesday, March 16, 2021. School Board members present were: Paul Cordova, Vice President; Shawn Hamilton, Secretary; Cindy Osburn, Member; and Terry Martin, Member. Kyle Snider, President, was unable to attend. School personnel present were Renee Russ, Superintendent; Mitzi Estes, Deputy Superintendent of Academic Services & Leadership; Joe Strickland, Deputy Superintendent of Employee Services, Shawna Russell, Deputy Superintendent of Finance; and John King, Deputy Director of Operations. Additional individuals present virtually were: Jelayne Curtis, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent; *Eastern New Mexico News* representative, staff, and the public.

In light of the public health emergency due to the COVID-19 virus, Clovis Schools is taking extra precautions with Board of Education meetings. The March Board meeting will be a virtual meeting. Agenda items requiring Board action will be voted on by roll call.

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85077517267?pwd=VGd2aXhPNXM2alhRSThrUHdBTis5Zz09

Meeting ID: 850 7751 7267
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Speaking during the Open Forum or to a specific agenda item - Speaker's Registration Online Form must be submitted no later than 30 minutes prior to the start of the meeting by accessing the form at the following link: Speaker registration form

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mr. Cordova called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. A quorum of the Board was present.

II. *CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES - February 23, 2021 Meeting

Mr. Hamilton made a motion to approve the February 23, 2021 meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Member Martin, yes; Member Osburn, yes; Secretary Hamilton, yes; and Vice President Cordova, yes. The motion carried unanimously.

III. *CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Osburn made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Member Martin, yes; Member Osburn, yes; Secretary Hamilton, yes; and Vice President Cordova, yes. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. OPEN FORUM

No speaker's registration cards were submitted for the Open Forum.

V. *CONSENT AGENDA

Those items are placed on the agenda so that the Board, by unanimous consent, can designate those routine agenda items that they wish to be approved or acknowledged by one motion. If an item does not meet with the approval of all Board members, that item will be heard when reached under the regular agenda.

A. Consider Accounts Payable Check Listing/Voided Check Listing/Bank of America Purchasing Card Charges - February
B. Consider Activity Report - February
C. Consider Student Nutrition Report - February
D. Consider Investment Report - February
E. Consider Budget & Expenditure Report - February
F. Consider Budget & Revenue Report - February
G. Consider Budget Adjustments - March
H. Consider RFP
1. RFP 2021-203 Barry ES Classroom Addition, Roofing, & HVAC

Replacement/Above Ceiling Plumbing Replacement: A recommendation was made to award the contract to Weil Construction as shown in the attachments provided to the Board.

Mr. Martin made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Hamilton seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Member Martin, yes; Member Osburn, yes; Secretary Hamilton, yes; and Vice President Cordova, yes. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. *CONSIDER CLARIFICATION OF SUPERINTENDENT'S CONTRACT DATES

Ms. Osburn indicated she requested this item be included on the agenda because in her motion at the last Board meeting she used some unspecific language in regards to the timeline for the renewal dates of the Superintendent's contract so she was wanting to correct that through a motion this evening. She also stated, "One of the reasons we did not provide an additional amount of money on the Superintendent's salary was because she explicitly asked us not to. If her staff and team are not getting a salary increase, then she was very clear with us that she was not wanting one either."

Ms. Osburn said in her previous motion she stated summer of 2023, so she made a motion to recommend the date to be June 30, 2023 for the extension of the Superintendent's contract. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Member Martin, yes; Member Osburn, yes; Secretary Hamilton, yes; and Vice President Cordova, yes. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Renee Russ

A. Cannon Air Force Base Update – Sara Williams

Sara Williams was unable to attend the Board meeting.

B. Discussion of Bond Rating - Regina Gaysina, RBC Capital Markets

Ms. Russ introduced Regina Gaysina from RBC Capital Markets to give background information about a new methodology that is being used across the United States to determine credit worthiness of public school districts. Along with background information, she would discuss the outcome of the District's recent scoring with the new scorecard. Because a new methodology and scorecard are being used, Moody's was required to apply the new rules to a portion of their total portfolio, which led to the review of 15 districts in New Mexico, including Clovis Schools.

Ms. Gaysina indicated also present at the meeting was Heather Correia from Moody's. Ms. Correia would provide additional background to the District on the recent downgrade to A1 and details on the change of methodology. Moody's reevaluated how it gives credit ratings for school districts, previously treating them like other governmental entities. Ms. Correia indicated school districts have a different mission and structure. The rating methodology includes a scorecard, a tool providing a composite score of a school district's credit profile based on the weighted factors considered most important, universal and measurable, as well as possible notching factors dependent on individual credit strengths and weaknesses. The purpose is not to determine the final rating, but to provide a standard platform from which to analyze and compare school district credits. The four major points that determine Moody's rating is Economy, Financial Performance, Institutional Framework, and Leverage. Economy consists of resident income, full value per capita, and enrollment trend; Financial is based on available fund balance ratio and net cash ratio; Institutional Framework is the structure we operate in for funds; and Leverage relates to long-term liabilities and fixed-cost ratios.

As part of this process, Clovis Schools was one of 15 scores reviewed in New Mexico and one of 700 nationwide. Ms. Correia stated, "In Clovis' case, the socioeconomic profile was considered average, but that's definitely because you have the Air Force Base. Socioeconomics tend to skew down when there are a large number of government positions. Specific to Clovis, management is very strong and has a balanced budget and holds on to reserves, which is a challenge in New Mexico."

Ms. Correia also mentioned the biggest reason Clovis Schools was downgraded was Moody's considered the state's pension plan for educational employees to be a large liability going forward. Regina Gaysina stated that was out of Clovis Schools' control, but the state's role contributed about 20% to the District's overall score. Due to the District's balanced budget and healthy reserves, a two-score downgrade was avoided.

VIII. ACADEMIC SERVICES - Mitzi Estes

A. Introduce Curriculum

1. Visual Arts - Middle School Theater

Ms. Estes introduced the Visual Arts Theater I-B for middle school. She stated this was an extension of the curriculum for a second class. There were no questions from the Board.

IX. FINANCIAL MATTERS - Shawna Russell

***A. Consider Authorization of Bank Account/Transfer of Vehicles & Property Signatures**

Ms. Russell presented the Authorization of Bank Account/Transfer of Vehicles & Property Signatures and indicated the revision from the previous submission was the removal of Susan Benavidez and the addition of Heather Nieto.

Ms. Osburn drew Ms. Russell's attention to the Board meeting date on the signature form, which was incorrect. Ms. Russell indicated she would correct the error prior to the Board's signatures.

Mr. Martin made a motion to approve the Authorization of Bank Account/Transfer of Vehicles & Property Signatures as presented. Mr. Hamilton seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Member Martin, yes; Member Osburn, yes; Secretary Hamilton, yes; and Vice President Cordova, yes. The motion carried unanimously.

X. STAFF REPORTS

A. Employee Services Report

There were no questions from the Board regarding the Employee Services Report.

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Russ made the following announcements:

A. March 22 - 26	**Spring Break - No School for Students/Administrative Offices Closed**
B. April 2	**Spring Holiday - No School for Students/Administrative Offices Closed**
C. April 21	**Parent/Teacher Conference Day - No School for Students**
D. April 27	**Regular Board of Education Meeting, 5:30 PM**

XII. *ADJOURN

Mr. Hamilton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:58 PM. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Member Martin, yes; Member Osburn, yes; Secretary Hamilton, yes; and Vice President Cordova, yes. The motion carried unanimously.

/s/ Shawn Hamilton — CLERK

/s/ Kyle Snider — PRESIDENT

DATE MINUTES TO BE APPROVED:
April 27, 2021