



Dolores Huerta

“A Dual Language Charter Middle School”

1480 N. Main Street

Las Cruces, NM 88001

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Regular Governing Council Meeting
Thursday April 6th, 2014 6:00
1405 S. Solano Dr. Las Cruces, NM 88001

1) Roll call and establish quorum

Ms. Bertha Silva, President, called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Bertha Silva, President; Mr. John Vasquez, Vice-President; Ms. Norma Martinez Arrieta, Secretary/Treasurer; Mr. Robert del Plain, Member; Mr. Saul Hernandez, Member; Total of (5) members present

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

FACULTY/ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Mr. Octavio Casillas, Principal; Ms. Gina Trujillo, Business Manager of LADH; Mr. Rene Salazar, Teacher; Mr. Jose Tena, Teacher; Mrs. Gary Chapman, Teacher

PUBLIC PRESENT: Mr. Davis, Owner of Educational Facility Solutions; Mr. Rick Serrano, NMSU Student and Volunteer Videographer

Let the record show that a quorum of Governing Council members is present, that this meeting has been called and that this meeting has been posted in accordance with the Open Meetings Act.

2) Open forum-Public Input

No one signed up for public input at this meeting

Action items

3) Approval of consent agenda items

- **March 6, 2014 meeting minutes**
- **Financial Statement dated March 31, 2014**
- **BAR Title 1 Increase for after school program \$20,266**
- **BAR for Spaceport grant \$6436**
- **Revised Performance Indicators**

Motion to remove March 6 minutes from the agenda due to unavailability was made by Mr. Vasquez and seconded by Mr. del Plain. Motion was approved in the unanimous.

Motion to approve consent agenda items with only approval of the financial statement, BARS for Title I & Spaceport Grant and Revised Performance Indicators was made by Mr. Vasquez and seconded by Mr. Saul Hernandez. Motion was approved in the unanimous.

4) Facilities Presentation

Mr. Davis, Owner of Educational Facility Solutions, provided a presentation to the council on the remodel plans of the proposed building located at 1405 S. Solano Dr. Las Cruces, NM 88001.

Mr. Davis explained to the committee his business' role in the remodel is to provide LADH administration and GC the guidance needed in obtaining a future facility for LADH in the most structurally and economically feasible manner possible. Mr. Davis has many years experience in architecture, educational administration, and also in charter school facility financing.

Mr. Davis clarified he will not be the Contractor for the remodel and will be happy to provide Mr. Casillas a list of contractor if so needed. His priority in obtaining occupancy status for LADH at the proposed building is safety for students and staff at a cost that can be maintained economically for many years to come by LADH.

5) Closed Session

Mr. Casillas excused himself from closed session and Ms. Silva requested that Gina Trujillo remain in closed session with GC members.

Motion to convene into closed session was made by Mr. del Plain and seconded by Ms. Arrieta
Motion was approved in the unanimous.

Meeting convened into closed session at 7:37 p.m.

No action was taken during closed session.

Meeting was reconvened from closed session at 8:12 p.m.

Non-Action items

6) Principals Report

PSFA has approved the facility master plan. Mr. Casillas said LADH saved \$18,000 by drafting the master plan himself and not contracting an architect. Ms. Silva requested a copy of the facility master plan and Mr. Casillas agreed to send it to all GC members.

NMSU Student architect finalized blueprints and they were approved by the architects. A large sum of money was saved by using a student architect as he only charged a total of \$1500 where as a professional could have cost the school up to \$30,000.

Owner financing contract for the purchase of the proposed facility is currently being reviewed by LADH attorney. Mr. Casillas clarified that in a couple of weeks financial figures that go along with contract will be available for GC to review. After meeting with Mr. Davis, Mr. Casillas is confident other economically feasible means for purchase along with remodel will continue to be explored in the next few weeks.

Establishment of the LADH Charter School Foundation is in the final stages. LADH 501(3)c status has officially been attained through this process.

April 9-12: 8th grade trip: \$3,300 was fundraised for this event. Hotel rooms have been secured for all (35) participants at a discounted rate of \$52/room/night which includes a hot breakfast.

Performances will be made at Arizona State University and at Rosie's House, a community center which focuses specifically on Mariachi. While in Phoenix, AZ, students will also be touring the largest instrument museum in the world and also go watch Diamondbacks play the Dodgers baseball team on Friday. Mr. del Plain asked what would students who would not be attending the trip do at school. Mr. Casillas explained there will be special instruction provided on Thursday with a focus on high school and revisit on goals. No classes on Friday, April 10th. Ms. Silva asked how many 8th graders would not attend trip and Mr. Casillas said (18) chose not to go.

Today Mr. Casillas was called by Belinda Valenzuela, Bilingual Coordinator for State of NM, that LADH Bilingual program was identified as one of the best dual language programs in the state. LADH will be made a model dual language school for the state and provided free professional development for teachers.

Arrowhead Early College High School accepted every student from LADH who applied. Mr. Casillas is very proud of all the students for this accomplishment.

LADH has admitted its first student with Down Syndrome for next school year. Mr. Casillas has met with the student and parents and feels this is going to be a wonderful opportunity for this particular student and all students of LADH. (55) Students total have been admitted to LADH for 6th grade next school year. A lottery was not needed this year.

May 9th is the last day for 8th graders and May 16th is 8th grade graduation at Alma d'Arte Charter High School.

7) Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Hernandez and was seconded by Ms. Arrieta

Motion was approved in the unanimous

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

*Any individual attending a board meeting may sign in to participate in the Public Input section of the Agenda, if any. Such persons may speak on any item after the individual is recognized by the President of the Board and introduces himself/herself at the podium. The Governing Council of La Academia Dolores Huerta will not take action on any item presented under Public Input, until an opportunity to do so is afforded. La Academia Dolores Huerta will provide an interpreter for the Hearing Impaired upon request. Requests should be submitted to the chancellor's office three days prior to the meeting. Simultaneous Spanish translation will be provided at the meeting.