



Minutes

Taos Municipal Schools Board of Education Regular Board Meeting Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 6 PM Via Zoom-Taos, NM 87571

A. Call to order-The regular board meeting of the Taos Municipal Schools Board of Education was called to order by President Sanborn at 6:08 pm.

B. Roll Call-Nicole Cardenas conducted a roll call. The following members were present Via Zoom Webinar: President Sanborn, Secretary Goler, Member Trujillo, and Member Maestas.

Absent: Vice President Flores

C. Organization of the Board

President Sanborn opened up the organization of the board for discussion and nominations from the board for President, Vice President and Secretary. After a short discussion Secretary Goler made a motion for the next year to retain the same school board organizational positions continuing with James Sanborn as President; Mark Flores as Vice President and Whitney Goler as Secretary, seconded by Member Trujillo. Roll call: President Sanborn-yes, Secretary Goler-yes, Member Trujillo-yes, and Member Maestas-yes. Motion carried 4-0. President Sanborn thanked the board for the vote of confidence and for their support.

D. Approval of the Agenda- President Sanborn made a motion to approve the agenda moving item I. a) Taos Schools Education Technology Notes, Series 2021 to follow presentations, seconded by Secretary Goler. Roll call: President Sanborn-yes, Secretary Goler-yes, Member Trujillo-yes, and Member Maestas-yes. Motion carried 4-0.

E. Student Report-Jonnea Trujillo & Alejandro Acostos

Jonnea reported on how hard the pandemic has been on students but stressed that safety is priority. Senior Senate is coming up with ways where Seniors will meet as a class every month on zoom to keep them informed about graduation and other activities. Honor Society has been having weekly meetings on Wednesday's to come up with more community service projects. Bridges is meeting with students to help them get on the right track. THS Blood Drive will take place tomorrow, January 21st. Picture retakes for yearbook are scheduled for February 10th from 8-5pm. Alejandro stated that this will be the first year that EdRising Club will have an honor cord and is proud to say he will be receiving one.

F. Presentations

a) Dr. Effie H. Jones Humanitarian Award Recipient (Dr. Lillian Torrez)-*CJ Grace*
Ms. Grace honored Dr. Torrez who was selected by the AASA (The School Superintendent's Association) as one of this year's recipients of the Dr. Effie H. Jones Humanitarian Award. Recipients of the award have demonstrated deep and enduring commitments both professionally and personally to diversifying the field of education and ensuring the best for all students. Ms. Grace shared letters from staff that stated working with Dr. Torrez closely throughout the pandemic has highlighted how committed she is to making sure that all students have what they need. Dr. Torrez is committing to doing whatever it takes from finding food, shelter, devices/internet, or a person to connect with so that students in TMSD feel cared for and can be successful during remote learning. President Sanborn recognized Dr. Torrez for her success and dedication as well and thanked her for all she has done for the district. Dr. Torrez thanked the staff and board for their support.

b) Black Story/Black Song Presentation (*Nikeshia Breeze/Raashan Ahmad*)-*Dr. Lillian Torrez*

Nikeshia Breeze and Raashan Ahmad presented a power point on the project they are working on "History through the African American Lens" and would like to see it incorporated into schools across New Mexico. They asked if we would consider an official resolution to recognize Black History Month in February. After some discussion by the board Dr. Torrez stated that she would post the presentation on the school website and the board was also in support of a Resolution to recognize Black History for the month of February. Member Maestas will draft a resolution to recognize Black History Month and present it at the board meeting of February 10th for approval.

c) Local Demonstration of Competency for Class of 2021 Cohort (Approval)-*CJ Grace*

Ms. Grace presented a power point on this to the board and asked the board to consider some shifts to graduation requirements, which included the following:
Approving requested local demonstrations of competency – pending verification of whether this requires a policy change-

- competency for graduation assessment requirements of allowing a letter of admission to college for the Class of 2021. Discontinue after 2021.
- 2. Permit local demonstration of competency of an alternative demonstration of competency for graduation assessment requirements by allowing Seniors who has passed all classes to be deemed to have met the requirement. Discontinue after 2021.
- 3. Exempt current high school students (Classes of 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024) from local policy requiring 26 credits for graduation and following the state requirements of 24 credits required for graduation. Discontinue after 2024.

President Sanborn made a motion to approve the requested Local Demonstration of Competency listed above for the class of 2021 and the current students at THS, freshman through seniors and asking Dr. Torrez to verify whether or not it requires any policy change, seconded by Member Maestas. Roll call: President Sanborn-yes, Secretary Goler-yes, Member Trujillo-yes, and Member Maestas-yes. Motion carried 4-0.

Public Comments** Any interested person may submit data, views, or arguments in writing to the Board on any school related topic. An individual or representative wishing to give public comment shall register prior to participating in public comment. Additionally, when registering for public comment, the speaker shall be required to identify the subject matter of their proposed comment when they register. Speakers are allotted three minutes, or an amount otherwise designated by the Board President at the beginning of the meeting. The Board President in his/her sole discretion may shorten/lengthen the comment period time to ensure that the meeting is efficiently and promptly conducted. All speakers are strongly encouraged to abide by all time-limitations, to avoid personal attacks, to utilize all administrative avenues for complaint resolution before bringing Issues to the board, and to avoid identifying students or staff in comments, and to present all comments professionally and respectfully. *Persons requiring special assistance or services, such as a sign language interpreter, should call (575) 758-5202 at least three days before the meeting.

No Public Comments

G. District Update

a) Administrator Reports

There were some questions and discussion on athletics, enrollment and attendance. The board thanked all administrators for their board reports.

b) Superintendent Report

Dr. Torrez reported that she had a meeting with the Taos Pueblo Governor and Officials, to discuss Native American needs, updated them on projects and curriculum. Most of the staff have taken the vaccination for Covid. Also, we are advertising for GEAR Coordinator (College & Career Readiness) since we just received the grant and posted the position today on our website. The grant is for five years. In addition, we are all set for the extended school year and teachers will be compensated for teaching the extra 10 days at the end of the year. Dr. Torrez showed a copy of the Cyber Magnet cookbook that students are selling for \$10 as a fundraiser. If you are interested, please email Ms. Jensen. Toolkit has been sent to all board members which includes all requirements before re-opening schools.

c) TMS Emergency Plan 2020-2021

Embedded in the Administrator Reports

H. Finance Office -Brenda Halder

1. BAR's-Budget Adjustment Requests

a) 076-000-2021-0046-IB	Elem. & Secondary Sch. Emergency Relief/	Initial Budget	\$101,218.00
	Governors Emergency Education Relief Fund (ESSER & GEER)		
b) 076-000-2021-0047-M	Operational	Maintenance	+/-(\$71,845.00)
c) 076-000-2021-0048-M	Capital Improvements SB-9	Maintenance	+/-(\$120,000.00)
d) 076-000-2021-0049-T	Capital Improvements SB-9	Transfer	+/-(\$842,565.00)

2. Financials

Dr. Torrez recommended the approval of the BAR's item H. 1. a-d) at this time. Secretary Goler made a motion to approve the BAR's as recommended item H. 1. a-d), seconded by President Sanborn. Roll call: President Sanborn-yes, Secretary Goler-yes, Member Trujillo-yes, and Member Maestas-yes. Motion carried 4-0.

I. New Business

a) Taos Schools Education Technology Notes, Series 2021-John Archuleta

This was presented and discussed following F. c) presentations.

John Archuleta presented a PowerPoint on information concerning our ED Tech Notes, an educational technology note. The board had a discussion on the technology notes presented. This was for information only and no action or decisions were made.

b) FY 2022 Impact Aid Application (Approval)-Renetta Mondragon/Rae Lujan

Rae Lujan presented both the FY 2022 Impact Aid Application and the Taos Municipal Schools and Taos Pueblo Native American Indian Policies and Procedures to the board.

Dr. Torrez recommended approval of item I. b) FY 2022 Impact Aid Application in

conjunction with item I. c) Taos Municipal Schools and Taos Pueblo Native American Indian Policies and Procedures at this time. President Sanborn made a motion to approve item I. b) and I. c) as recommended, seconded by Secretary Goler. Roll call: President Sanborn-yes, Secretary Goler-yes, Member Trujillo-yes, and Member Maestas-yes. Motion carried 4-0.

c) Taos Municipal Schools and Taos Pueblo Native American Indian Policies and Procedures (Approval)-*Renetta Mondragon*
Approved with item I. b) above.

J. Old Business

a) Board Policy Review Committee (Approval)-*Pascualito Maestas*

President Sanborn made a motion to approve the launch of the Policy Review Committee with the changes that were discussed, seconded by Member Trujillo. Roll call: President Sanborn-yes, Secretary Goler-yes, Member Trujillo-yes, and Member Maestas-yes. Motion carried 4-0.

K. Consent Agenda

1.Minutes

a) Approval of Minutes for November 11, 2020-Regular Board Meeting

b) Approval of Minutes for December 9, 2020-Regular Board Meeting

President Sanborn made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda Item K. 1. a-b) as presented, seconded by Secretary Goler. Roll call: President Sanborn-yes, Secretary Goler-yes, Member Trujillo-yes, and Member Maestas-yes. Motion carried 4-0.

L. Executive Session Pursuant to Section 10-15-1 H (4) NMSA 1978

a) Superintendent's Review

President Sanborn made a motion to go into executive session to discuss the Superintendent's Review at 9:30pm. Motion carried 4-0. Board resumed from executive session at 9:58 pm.

M. Upcoming meetings & Agenda Items

1) Future Topics

a) Regular Board Meeting February 10, 2021- @6:00 pm Via Zoom

N. Adjournment-President Sanborn made a motion to adjourn at 10:02 pm. Motion carried 4-0.

Signature:  _____

Date: 2/25/21

Attest: *Whitney Goler*
Approved 2.10.2021

Date: 2-18-2021

