

# BELEN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

## REGULAR MEETING

### AUGUST 27, 2024 MINUTES

**Board Members Present:** Jim Danner, Board President  
Larry B. Garley, Board Secretary  
Aubrey E. Tucker, Board Member  
Joanne Silva, Board Member

**Board Members Absent:** Ralph Fernandez, Board Vice President

**Administrators Present:** Lawrence A. Sanchez, Superintendent  
E. Renee Sanchez, Assistant Superintendent  
Ben Kingsolver, Technology Coordinator

**Others Present:** Julia Dendinger, Valencia County News Bulletin  
Arthur Melendres, Modrall Law Firm  
Erik Harrigan, RBC Capital Markets, LLC  
Approximately (4) individual in attendance  
Approximately (17) individuals watched via streaming

**A. CALL TO ORDER-5:00pm**

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/SALUTE TO THE FLAG OF NEW MEXICO-**Mr. Danner led the pledges.

**C. MODIFICATIONS/ADOPTION OF AGENDA-**Superintendent recommends adopting agenda as is. Motion to adopt the agenda as is made by Mr. Tucker and seconded by Mr. Garley. Motion passes with all members saying "Aye".

**D. APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS-**Superintendent recommends approval of consent items. Motion to approve consent items made by Mr. Danner and seconded by Mr. Tucker. Motion passes with all members saying "Aye".

1. AP Report: 08/08/2024/2024-08/21/2024

2. Board of Education Regular Board Meeting Minutes: 8/13/2024

3. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with:

a. Valencia County Government to ensure evidence-based programs are being used to provide services to students and funds being used appropriately

b. The Socorro County Objective Transition Success (SCOTS); updating existing MOU

4. School supply donation from Central New Mexico Probation and Parole Correctional Facility to be used to replenish supplies for teachers in the office and classroom semester 1 & 2 with a value up to \$2000

5. BARs as listed below

Fund	Fund Name	Bar	Adjustment
11000	Operational	087-000-2425-0016-M	\$0.00
11000	Operational	087-000-2425-0017-M	\$0.00
24106	Entitlement IDEA-B	087-000-2425-0018-T	\$0.00
27528	Community School Initiatives	087-000-2425-0019-T	\$0.00
13000	Pupil Transportation	087-000-2425-0020-M	\$0.00
22000	Athletics	087-000-2425-0021-M	\$0.00
24101	Title I Part A - ESEA	087-000-2425-0022-M	\$0.00
24106	Entitlement IDEA-B	087-000-2425-0023-M	\$0.00
24109	Preschool IDEA-B	087-000-2425-0024-M	\$0.00
24154	Teacher/Principal Training & Recruiting	087-000-2425-0025-M	\$0.00
24189	Title IV Student Support and Enrichment	087-000-2425-0026-M	\$0.00
24190	Comprehensive Support and Improvement	087-000-2425-0027-M	\$0.00
25153	MEDICAID	087-000-2425-0028-M	\$0.00
25157	Child Care Block Grant CYFD	087-000-2425-0029-M	\$0.00
27407	Family Income Index	087-000-2425-0030-M	\$0.00
24101	Title I Part A - ESEA	087-000-2425-0031-M	\$0.00
24113	Education for Homeless	087-000-2425-0032-I	\$30,000.00
27407	Family Income Index	087-000-2425-0033-M	\$0.00

**OPEN FORUM** –Public comments/observations regarding non-agenda items will be considered at this time. Action will not be taken on items presented but may be referred to staff/others. Derogatory comments regarding personnel or matters under litigation will not be allowed. Any person or persons addressing the Board are liable for their own statements NOT the Board

#### E. SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

1. Finance Plan Update-Erik Harrigan, RBC Capital Markets stated there are two items on the agenda. One is paying off early for interest savings while maintaining the debt service tax rate in place and the other is issuing the Ed Tech Notes. Currently the Districts tax base continues to see strong growth the past year. Tax base has grown from \$655 million back in 2020 to a little over \$800 million. This helps with bonding capacity, retiring debt quicker, more capacity in the future. Mill levy rates the District has imposed:

Tax Year	Operational		Two Mill Levy		Debt Service			Total	
	Resid.	Non-Resid.	Resid.	Non-Resid.	G/O Bonds	ETN	Total	Resid.	Non-Resid.
2019	\$0.265	\$0.500	\$2.000	\$2.000	\$7.621	\$0.000	\$7.621	\$9.886	\$10.121
2020	0.266	0.500	2.000	2.000	7.611	0.000	7.611	9.877	10.111
2021	0.261	0.500	1.963	2.000	7.610	0.000	7.610	9.834	10.110
2022	0.268	0.500	2.000	2.000	7.610	2.000	9.610	11.878	12.110
2023	0.267	0.347	1.995	1.386	7.603	2.000	9.603	11.865	11.336

Source: New Mexico Department of Finance & Administration.

Current outstanding debt:

Issue	Credit Type	Issue Type	Original Par Amount	Amount Outstanding	Call Date	Coupons	Final Maturity
Series 2014	General Obligation	Public	\$9,500,000	\$2,400,000	08/01/2023	3.00%	2026
Series 2016A	General Obligation	Public	5,200,000	2,070,000	08/01/2025	2.00% - 2.75%	2030
Series 2017	General Obligation	NMFA	4,500,000	2,795,000	08/18/2026	0.10% - 2.66%	2031
Series 2018	General Obligation	NMFA	6,300,000	5,190,000	12/14/2028	2.39% - 3.29%	2032
Series 2020	General Obligation	NMFA	2,000,000	1,485,000	05/22/2030	0.00%-2.04%	2033
Series 2021	General Obligation- Refunding	NMFA	7,255,000	4,015,000	Non-Callable	0.56%-0.96%	2027
Series 2021A	General Obligation	NMFA	2,000,000	915,000	06/18/2031	0.00%-1.14%	2034
Series 2023	General Obligation	NMFA	4,000,000	3,900,000	06/16/2033	0.00%-3.33%	2035
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$40,755,000</b>	<b>\$22,770,000</b>			

Back in November 2023 voters authorized bond up to 13 million. \$6,000,000 to be issued in 2025 or as directed by the District. \$7,000,000 to be issued in 2027 or as directed by the District. Next bond election planned for November 2027 between \$18,000,000 and \$20 million. The finance plan maintains District’s 7.60 mil levy rate. The tax rate has been in place for a very long time and has been level. The importance of maintaining the tax rate, most important if over 10mil in total tax rate you can ask for a waiver from PSFA to help with the match you have to come up with. The other is because the District strong growth funds have been cumulated in the debt service fund without paying off bonds earlier, the tax rate can drop and then you won’t need that 10 mil waiver. Maintaining the tax rate is important because you are paying off debt and saving about \$80,000 in interest by paying the bonds off early. Mr. Sanchez stated the thing important to him is the PED sets the tax rate, so one of the things RBC does, they go to bat for us to keep it there. Right now, we aren’t spending a lot of money because we are maintaining everything for the building of Dennis Chavez. Mr. Harrigan stated by paying off the bonds early you see that capacity in the future. We did estimate the 2027 election without tax increase estimate it to be about \$20 million. In conjunction with the redemption the District also issues Education Technology Notes estimated at \$1.3 million. Redemption: The District will have approximately \$3.8 million of excess debt service fund balance going into FY 2025, taking the August 1st payments into consideration. The District’s 2014 Bonds are currently callable and can be redeemed at any time. To prevent the District’s debt service tax rate from falling, the District can redeem a portion of the 2014 Bonds with excess funds. Redeeming prior debt increases future bonding capacity while reducing interest costs to the District. Redemption will maintain the District’s 7.60 mil levy rate. Mr. Sanchez thanked Mr. Harrigan. Mr. Tucker stated he is thrilled what this administration and this board has done the last five years. We have been responsible with the funds and the money the people have put the trust in us.

2. BCS Instructional Model-E. Renee Sanchez presented. The purpose of the instructional model is to build a streamlined instructional model, with teacher input, responsive to local school student data. To create a working instruction model that captures multiple strategies. To provide school-based training for teacher teams to access online student data aligned with standards-based curriculum. To develop common planning and a PLC structure to continue the production of Proficiency Scales and Assessment Strategies. Clarity for high quality instruction is for a safe, supportive and collaborative culture, effective teaching in every classroom, and a guaranteed and viable curriculum.

<b>Belen Consolidated Schools Instructional Model</b>		
<b>FEEDBACK</b>	<b>CONTENT</b>	<b>CONTEXT</b>
<p><b>Providing and Communicating Clear Learning Goals</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing Scales and Rubrics</li> <li>• Tracking Student Progress</li> <li>• Celebrating Success</li> </ul> <p><b>Using Assessments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Informal Assessments of the Whole Class</li> <li>• Formal Assessments of Individual Students</li> </ul>	<p><b>Directing Direct Instruction</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chunking Content</li> </ul> <p><b>Strategies That Appear in All Types of Lessons</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reflecting on Learning</li> </ul>	<p><b>Engagement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noticing When Students Are Not Engaged and Reacting</li> <li>• Motivating and Inspiring Students</li> </ul> <p><b>Rules and Procedures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Established Rules and Procedures</li> </ul> <p><b>Relationships</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding Students Backgrounds and Interests</li> </ul> <p><b>Communicating High Expectations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate Value and Respect for Reluctant Learners</li> </ul>

## THE NEW ART AND SCIENCE OF TEACHING

FEEDBACK	CONTENT	CONTEXT
<p><b><i>Providing and Communicating Clear Learning Goals</i></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Providing Scales and Rubrics</li> <li>2. Tracking Student Progress</li> <li>3. Celebrating Success</li> </ol> <p><b><i>Assessment</i></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Informal Assessments of the Whole Class</li> <li>5. Formal Assessments of Individual Students</li> </ol>	<p><b><i>Direct Instruction Lessons</i></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Chunking Content</li> <li>7. Processing Content</li> <li>8. Recording and Representing Content</li> </ol> <p><b><i>Practicing and Deepening Lessons</i></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9. Structured Practice Sessions</li> <li>10. Examining Similarities and Differences</li> <li>11. Examining Errors in Reasoning</li> </ol> <p><b><i>Knowledge Application Lessons</i></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12. Engaging Students in Cognitively Complex Tasks</li> <li>13. Providing Resources and Guidance</li> <li>14. Generating and Defending Claims</li> </ol> <p><b><i>Strategies That Appear in All Types of Lessons</i></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>15. Previewing</li> <li>16. Highlighting Critical Information</li> <li>17. Reviewing Content</li> <li>18. Revising Knowledge</li> <li>19. Reflecting on Learning</li> <li>20. Purposeful Homework</li> <li>21. Elaborating on Information</li> <li>22. Organizing Students to Interact</li> </ol>	<p><b><i>Engagement</i></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>23. Noticing When Students Are Not Engaged and Reacting</li> <li>24. Increasing Response Rates</li> <li>25. Using Physical Movement</li> <li>26. Maintaining a Lively Pace</li> <li>27. Demonstrating Intensity and Enthusiasm</li> <li>28. Presenting Unusual Information</li> <li>29. Using Friendly Controversy</li> <li>30. Using Academic Games</li> <li>31. Providing Opportunities for Students to Talk About Themselves</li> <li>32. Motivating and Inspiring Students</li> </ol> <p><b><i>Rules and Procedures</i></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>33. Establishing Rules and Procedures</li> <li>34. Organizing the Physical Layout of the Classroom</li> <li>35. Demonstrating "Withitness"</li> <li>36. Acknowledging Adherence to Rules and Procedures</li> <li>37. Acknowledging Lack of Adherence to Rules and Procedures</li> </ol> <p><b><i>Relationships</i></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>38. Using Verbal and Nonverbal Behaviors that Indicate Affection for Students</li> <li>39. Understanding Students' Backgrounds and Interests</li> <li>40. Displaying Objectivity and Control</li> </ol> <p><b><i>Communicating High Expectations</i></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>41. Demonstrating Value and Respect for Reluctant Learners</li> <li>42. Asking In-Depth Questions of Reluctant Learners</li> <li>43. Probing Incorrect Answers with Reluctant Learners</li> </ol>

Ms. Sanchez stated they are in year three of implementation and one of the toughest years. Mr. Sanchez and Ms. Sanchez are at the sites in the classrooms every week. Not at the sites to evaluate but at the sites to coach. To get the principals better, to teach them how to focus, how to coach, and give encouragement to teachers that make adjustments. This ties in with principals 90-day plan and student outcomes. Mr. Sanchez stated they are trying to model for the principal on what they want. Observation and feedback are important tools. It was recognized that sometimes other things get in the way. So, when he is at the sites, he makes sure they go to at least two classrooms, that way principals can't say they don't have time. We are providing that support, so those steps deemed important are taken care of. Ms. Sanchez stated in order to make a change, we have to be in the classroom. Some of our District leaders are committing to being responders for the principals as well. They will stay in the office and take care of anything that comes up so the principals can be in the classrooms. Mr. Sanchez stated they are working on how we can all work together to provide that professional learning to staff members. Mr. Danner asked what the percentage of teachers that utilize the District's curriculum in the classroom. Ms. Sanchez stated it is not 100%, but it should be. She also stated she is talking to those principals at the sites to make sure the standards are being met. Mr. Danner asked how, will the Superintendent identify the most critical areas that are not utilizing this model, based on what kind of interventions will take place. Mr. Sanchez stated that is a friendly stern discussion about the importance and understanding; if you don't understand this it is a directive. Mr. Danner stated from this board member's view, we have placed a lot of pressure on the Superintendent towards accountability. How is that accountability going to be shared for those that don't want to partake. Mr. Sanchez stated they haven't had any of those yet. The reluctance isn't because they don't believe in it, they don't understand. We are trying to model the behaviors we want to see. Mr. Danner thanked them for the presentation.

## **F. BOARD REPORTS**

- 1.** Finance Committee Meeting August 21, 2024- Ms. Silva stated they reviewed FY24 4<sup>th</sup> quarter revenue report, expenditure report, bank reconciliation, cash reports, and RfR summary reports. Ms. Torres received kudos from PED from the budget analysis for end of year reports and the timeliness of them. They were very pleased with the District and a big change from the past. They also shared that there are protocols in place this year and it show they are effective.
- 2.** Construction Committee Meeting August 21, 2024- Mr. Garley shared the Dennis Chavez Elementary demolition is still in progress and final construction progress walkthrough scheduled for Friday August 30<sup>th</sup>. Belen Middle School 500 wing restrooms subsurface plumbing completed and inspected passes. Interior wall framing completed. Plumbing top out tentatively scheduled to begin Monday August 26<sup>th</sup> and will take approximately one week to complete. HVAC updates include replacement of four units at various sites scheduled to be completed by Friday August 30<sup>th</sup> which include BHS Fieldhouse, BHS 9<sup>th</sup> grade academy, and BCS Transportation. Infinity High secure vestibule demolition complete. Materials were delayed and expected to arrive Aug 22<sup>nd</sup> with installation to be completed August 26-29<sup>th</sup> and all finish work begins week of September 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- 3.** Policy Committee Meeting August 21, 2024- Mr. Tucker thanked Ms. Oshiro for an in-depth presentation when it comes to Title IX. went over all that was discussed. Mr. Tucker gave a first read of all the following policies.
  - a.** First Read Policy A-0250 Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity with changes
  - b.** First Read Policy A-0300 Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex with changes
  - c.** First Read Policy A-0350 Nondiscrimination Related to Reproductive or Gender Affirming Health Care with changes
  - d.** First Read Policy A-0400 Human Rights Act Protection Gender or Gender Identity with changes
  - e.** First Read Policy G-0200 Equal Employment Opportunity with changes
  - f.** First Read Policy I-2550 Programs for Pregnant/Parenting Students with changes
  - g.** First Read Policy J-0150 Equal Educational Opportunities with changes
  - h.** First Read Policy J-3200 Pregnant/Parenting Student with changes
  - i.** First Read Policy J-3350 Married Students with changes
  - j.** First Read Policy G-1950 Drug and Alcohol Testing of Employees with changes
- 4.** Board Workshop August 26, 2027- Mr. Danner stated it was a good working process, spoke about possibly changing the evaluation of the superintendent since focusing on student outcomes, and how to do that. Once there is a rubric, they will need artifacts or processes that they can examine to make this an evaluative process. It will take a while, but it was the first meeting; some great things came out of it. Ms. Silva shared that even when creating a rubric, there are so many things/components that can be added. Currently exploring what it should look like and what type of tools will help guide the board. As an example, a particular artifact, a document, or a PowerPoint that speaks to the performance monitoring goal; working on a tool to help while evaluating and assessing. This provides evidence when looking at and assessing programs. It is also a document that reminds us of if it was from a board presentation, parent night, school event, etc. that speaks to this particular goal. Mr. Danner stated they are trying to have a model of board activity. So as a result, everything being done is about student outcome. As a result of that is a response to what the superintendent is doing. Ms. Silva stated it holds the board more accountable looking at what is being presented and that it is understood, what it is addressing or asking for clarification. Mr. Sancez stated the thing that he appreciates is when he saw Ms. Silva

making notes, he thought oh that is cool, she is doing what our principles are expected to be doing. You are taking notes, you are modeling what is expected; everything that is being talked about. Ms. Silva stated that is what is so good about workshops. It brings up new ideas.

## **G. ACTION ITEMS**

- 1.** Consideration of approval: Adoption of a Resolution determining the necessity for the Belen Consolidated School District to take all necessary action to enter into a Lease Purchase Arrangement with the New Mexico State Treasurer in the amount of \$1,300,000 to purchase education technology equipment-Superintendent recommends approval. Motion to approve made by Mr. Tucker and seconded by Mr. Garley. Individual votes 4-0, motion passes.
- 2.** Consideration of approval: Resolution authorizing Redemption and Defeasance of the Series 2014 Bonds-Superintendent recommends approval. Motion to approve made by Mr. Garley and seconded by Ms. Silva. Individual votes 4-0, motion passes.
- 3.** Consideration of approval: Goal 1 – Every student will demonstrate significant and appropriate academic growth in Literacy (Reading & ELA).
  - All students in Grade 3-8 will demonstrate 13% growth from the 23-24 EOY NMSSA ELA scale score compared to the 24-25 EOY NMSSA ELA scale score.
  - All students in Grade 9-12 will demonstrate 5% growth from the 24-25 BOY Galileo ELA DL score compared to the 24-25 EOY Galileo ELA DL score. -Superintendent recommends approval. Motion to approve made by Mr. Danner and seconded by Ms. Silva. Mr. Tucker asked if the goal is not met, what then. Mr. Danner stated that is part of the evaluation. Goal means what you want, not necessarily what you get. Mr. Tucker stated then the vote represents these are the expectations of the board and Mr. Danner stated yes. Individual votes 4-0, motion passes.
- 4.** Consideration of approval: Goal 2 – Every student will demonstrate significant and appropriate academic growth in Numeracy (Math).
  - All students in Grade 3-8 will demonstrate 10% growth from the 23-24 EOY NMSSA Math scale score compared to the 24-25 EOY NMSSA Math scale score.
  - All students in Grade 9-12 will demonstrate 4% growth from the 24-25 BOY Galileo Math DL score compared to the 24-25 EOY Galileo Math DL score. -Superintendent recommends approval. Motion to approve made by Ms. Silva and seconded by Mr. Tucker. Mr. Danner stated this is a result of the community engagement committee. Then Mr. Sanchez got involved to talk about what the numbers would be and to have a chance of success. Mr. Sanchez stated he likes the idea of a smart goal. Individual votes 4-0, motion passes.
- 5.** Consideration of approval: Goal 3 – The percentage of parents and community partners supporting student success through involvement in school activities and decisions will increase by 25% from SY 2024 to SY 2025, as measured by the Panorama Parent Climate Survey and District generated surveys. -Superintendent recommends approval. Motion to approve made by Mr. Tucker and seconded by Ms. Silva. Mr. Danner stated he has had some correspondence that says the target of parents and participation rate should be at 50%. Smart goals say you have to have a chance for success and 25% gives us a chance. Mr. Garley asked if the surveys are sent out. Mr. Sanchez stated it is something we sent out through the state. We are going to run the same survey through our side of panorama this year. Ms. Silva asked if there are certain times it is sent out. Mr. Sanchez stated it is posted on our web page and Facebook; there isn't a link sent out just that it is open and will close on this date. Ms. Silva asked what the window was. Mr. Sanchez stated he didn't remember but believes it is two weeks. Mr. Danner stated we do not want to do this until our

principals have a chance to get involved in the process. Mr. Sanchez has discussed with the principals the need for parental input and school committees. We need to give it a chance to see if it works. We may not want them to take the survey until April or late March. Mr. Sanchez stated last year they took it twice, so that is something they need to look at. Ms. Silva stated she was thinking of aligning it when parents will be in the schools; like during parent teacher conferences. Mr. Sanchez stated Rooms is another thing we have brought on. Parents like it, haven't had a chance to ask teachers if they like it. This is also something we can send a link through. Individual votes 4-0, motion passes.

6. Consideration of approval: Purchase from Imagine Learning, LLC for Edgenuity Renewal in the amount of \$52,923.50 fund 11000 Operational-Superintendent recommends approval. Motion to approve made by Mr. Garley and seconded by Ms. Silva. Motion passes with all members saying "Aye".
7. Consideration of approval: Purchase from Central Region Education Coop for contracted Speech Therapist in the amount of \$95,423.13 fund 11000 Operational-Superintendent recommends approval. Motion to approve made by Mr. Danner and seconded by Mr. Garley. Motion passes with all members saying "Aye".
8. Consideration of approval: Purchase from Gifted Nurses, LLC for contracted Speech Therapist in the amount of \$101,175.00 fund 11000 Operational-Superintendent recommends approval. Motion to approve made by Mr. Tucker and seconded by Ms. Silva. Motion passes with all members saying "Aye".
9. Consideration of approval: Purchase from Sanchez Demolition for demolition of Dennis Chavez Elementary in the amount of \$248,268.68 fund 31100 Bond-Superintendent recommends approval. Motion to approve made by Mr. Garley and seconded by Mr. Tucker. Motion passes with all members saying "Aye".

As allowed by the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, on occasion a quorum of board members will attend the same function, including those held at school sites, at the district level, as well as sports functions, conferences, workshops, trainings, and community events. Members agree to refrain from discussing and/or acting upon board issues in those settings.

#### **H. ADVANCED PLANNING**

1. Special Board Meeting September 10, 2024 4:30pm-ETN
2. Regular Board Meeting September 10, 2024

**I. BOARD COMMENTS**-Mr. Garley stated when he left the girls' soccer game, the girls were leading.

**J. ADJOURNMENT**-6:36pm

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Jim Danner, Board President

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Larry B. Garley, Board Secretary

Respectfully submitted:

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Cyndi Shawver, Recording Secretary