



**EAST OTERO SCHOOL DISTRICT R-1**  
301 RATON AVENUE  
LA JUNTA, COLORADO 81050

**BOARD WRAP-UP**

**Board of Education Special Meeting  
December 4, 2023**

1. **ROLL CALL** – Ayala, Derbigny (via telephone) and Leyba.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **OATH OF OFFICE**  
Newly Elected Board Members (Dellinger) **JILL DELLINGER ADMINISTERED OATH OF OFFICE TO STACEY AYALA AND SARA HINES**
4. **ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**  
Organizational Meeting to select officers of the Board (Board of Education) **BOARD OFFICERS ARE AS FOLLOWS:**
  - President – Dee Leyba
  - Vice President – Angela Ayala
  - Secretary/Treasurer – Darlene DerbignyStacey Ayala will serve as the district's BOCES Representative, Darlene Derbigny will serve as CASB Legislative Representative and CASB Voting Delegate.
5. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – **AGENDA APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
6. **CONSENT AGENDA** - **APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED**
  - A. **Personnel Approval**
    - Kristina Lofing - New Hire as Junior High Assistant Girls Basketball Coach for the 2023 season
    - Nikolas Carson - New Hire as High School Assistant Boys Basketball Coach for the 2023 season
  - B. **Approve the District Advisory Charge for the 2023-2024 School Year**
  - C. **Approve Resolution to Declare School Buses as Surplus**
  - D. **Approve Resolution to Declare District Vehicles as Surplus**
7. **MINUTES** – Minutes of the Regular Meeting on November 13, 2023 **APPROVED AS PRINTED**
8. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Superintendent Lovato said the new scoreboard has been installed and is operational. He said the sound system is very good. \$160,000 was received in donations by sponsors which left \$170,000 for the district's cost. He explained a new plain scoreboard without donor help would run around \$110,000. The Athletic Director, Mr. Grasmick is thinking about possibly using the scoreboard for community movie nights, etc.

The district auditor will be coming on December 18, 2023. Superintendent Lovato informed the Board an audit extension was filed with the Colorado Department of Education in case it is needed.

Superintendent Lovato shared there is not a need to have the December 11 Board meeting. Typically, the mill levy certification is the biggest agenda item for the December agenda. Governor Polis have moved the mill levy certification to January due to a recent proposition not passing on the ballot. Superintendent Lovato shared he met today with Mr. Adam Frisch who is running for Congress and they had a discussion regarding tax revenues and school districts. Superintendent Lovato also shared the majority of the district funding comes from the state equalization and property tax revenue.

Facility use was discussed. Superintendent Lovato said he is amazed by how much the district's facilities are used. Gyms at all buildings get used by athletes, as well as city rec leagues. Outside facilities get used as well. Superintendent Lovato shared he has lobbied with the City to try and get a rec center in La Junta similar to what Lamar has. He feels something like that is needed in order to attract younger families.

## **BOARD WRAP UP – December 4, 2023**

### **Page | 2**

Superintendent Lovato thanked staff for their hard work before break.

Director Derbigny informed Superintendent Lovato the scoreboard at the swimming pool isn't functioning. He said he is looking at replacing it. Director Derbigny asked if progress has been made in the Tiger Trades Academy gym on repairs. Superintendent Lovato said the materials still have not come in and maintenance is currently working on installing the handicap swing at the Intermediate. He said once the swing is installed, repair work will begin at TTA.

Director Leyba inquired about a possible metal building being looked at to house athletic practices since there is a second wrestling team now. Superintendent Lovato said he is looking at purchasing a second practice mat to keep at one of the gyms. This might encourage the wrestlers to use another gym if a mat is already there.

Director A. Ayala shared she was at the swimming pool and noticed a sign stating the heater was broken. Superintendent Lovato said it was but has been fixed. She also asked about the cupulas at the Intermediate School and getting them painted. Superintendent Lovato said he has reached out to several companies but received no commitment from them. He said the district has to certificates of deposits in the bank and he plans to use the annual interest earned on those CDs for capital improvement. He also shared he is planning on putting out a bid in January to have the exterior of the Intermediate School painted, which would include the cupulas. Director Leyba asked if repairs could be made to the circle in front of the building. Superintendent Lovato said he will speak with Mr. Schmidt regarding the original plan of that.

Director A. Ayala asked about the Junior/Senior High School roof. Superintendent Lovato said we will need to wait for moisture to see how bad it is leaking now. He said it will cost around \$4,000,000 to replace the roof. Director A. Ayala asked about the life of the roof and Superintendent Lovato said it has been exceeded.

#### **9. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. EASI Grant Approval (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

#### **10. BOARD COMMENTS**

- ✓ Director Derbigny apologized for not being able to be in person at the meeting but welcomed Directors S. Ayala and Hines to the Board. She asked Superintendent Lovato when his last day will be. Superintendent Lovato said June 30, but is willing to stay on a year to year basis if necessary.

#### **10. ADJOURNMENT – MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:06 p.m.**

### **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**DEE LEYBA, President**      **ANGELA AYALA, Vice President**  
**DARLENE DERBIGNY, Secretary/Treasurer**      **STACEY AYALA, Director**  
**SARA HINES, Director**