

August 27, 2026 at 5:30 PM - Los Alamos Public Schools Board Meeting

Final Minutes

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Call to Order, 5:30 pm

3. Roll Call

President Wyman, Here

Vice-President Coupland, Here

Secretary Colgan, Here

Member Jaurigue, Here

Member Baker, Here

Superintendent Guy

Recording Secretary Brugh

4. Routine Business/Approval of Agenda

Secretary Colgan: I MOVE the School Board approves the agenda for August 27, 2026, as presented.

All in Favor, AYE

Motion Carries

5. Recognition by the Board – None

6. a. Student Liaison Representatives

b. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Guy updated the Board that both the high school and the middle school admin teams are working on student liaison applications and will send them on to our board members. President Wyman and Secretary Colgan are the committee members for the high school; Vice President Coupland and Member Jaurigue are the committee members for the middle school.

Superintendent Guy also discussed the NMSBA Fall Region II Meeting which LAPS is hosting at Pinon Elementary school on Monday, September 14.

c. **Public Comment for items not on the agenda.** The only comment was a phishing scam we have been receiving. The comment was deleted.

7. Routine Business/Consent Agenda Items

Budget Adjustment Report

Disposals

Draft Minutes, August 11, 2026

Member Jaurigue: I MOVE the Board approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

All in Favor, AYE

Motion Carries

8. Mutual Termination of Lease Agreement

Ms. Thornton presented a Neutral Termination of Lease Agreement for our tenant in Suite Q2. The tenant would like to vacate the suite by October 31, 2026. This is contingent upon the board approval, her approval and conditions which include removing her fixtures and making any repairs. Ms. Thornton already has another tenant who wishes to assume the space. That will be presented at a future meeting since that lease is not ready to be presented.

Member Baker: I MOVE the School Board approve the Mutual Termination of Lease as presented.

All in Favor, AYE

Motion Carries

9. Request for Los Alamos Public Schools to Authorize Bank Signatures

Assistant Superintendent Johnson presented the authorization for bank signatures. We have had some personnel changes, and this is also part of the annual review of the accessibility and authorization of signatures.

Vice President Coupland: I MOVE the School Board approve to authorize bank signatures for the banks listed.

All in Favor, AYE Motion Carries

10. First Read of Draft Policy on Grading

Assistant Superintendent Payne presented a draft grading policy for its first reading. The policy aims to provide high-level direction on grading, distinguishing between board policy (broad guidance) and regulation (implementation details).

The committee worked extensively to condense the policy to one page, focusing on four guiding principles and general philosophy statements.

Input was gathered from administrators and teachers at various school levels, and feedback was incorporated into the draft.

The policy is intended to:

Focus grading on demonstrated content, knowledge, and skills rather than behavioral factors (e.g., lateness).

Promote consistency and fairness across courses and teachers, while affirming professional teacher judgment.

Encourage teacher collaboration to ensure grades have comparable meaning across classrooms.

Board members discussed:

The importance of clear, high-level policy language that avoids being overly prescriptive or corrective toward teachers.

Concerns about the tone and potential legal implications of certain statements, especially regarding what counts toward grades (e.g., participation, homework).

The need to balance consistency with respect for teacher autonomy and the diverse needs of students (e.g., IEPs, modifications).

Suggestions to reword or restructure guiding principles to emphasize collaboration and common standards without implying identical assignments or assessments.

The policy has not yet undergone legal review but references applicable laws and administrative codes.

The board acknowledged the significant effort involved and welcomed further feedback and revisions before a second reading.

11. Discussion on Potential New Mexico School Board Association Legislative Resolutions

Presented by Superintendent Guy

The board reviewed and discussed draft resolutions to be submitted to the New Mexico School Board Association (NMSBA) for legislative advocacy. The process included:

Review and Editing: Board members provided feedback and suggested edits to the draft resolutions. Staff will incorporate these changes and present revised drafts at the next board meeting for final approval before submission.

Resolution Topics:

Math and Reading Interventionists: The board discussed the need for state funding to ensure every public school in New Mexico has at least one qualified, full-time math and reading interventionist. Emphasis was placed on equity across all districts, referencing the Martinez-Yazzie decision, and the need for recurring funding for both literacy and math intervention programs for all districts in all schools.

Nepotism Policy: Updates were suggested to align with recent legislative changes and clarify language regarding exemptions and risk mitigation. The board also discussed the importance of staff diversity and cultural representation in schools.

State Equalization Guarantee (SEG) Modernization: The board considered splitting the SEG resolution into two: one focusing on consistent, inflation-adjusted annual funding increases, and another on establishing permanent, recurring funding streams for technology and safety. The rising costs of technology and utilities were highlighted as significant budget challenges. Revised resolutions will be shared with the board for one more review at the next meeting, after which they will be submitted to NMSBA. Board members were encouraged to review the NMSBA website for examples of past resolutions.

12. Board Committees Update

The Policy Committee has started work on an AI policy. There are not many policies available to look at. The National Education Association has a guidance sample policy.

JJAB is facing some severe funding challenges this upcoming year.

The first Native American Parent Council (NAPAC) meeting is September 2, the first Wednesday of the month. They will be hosting a Back-to-School dinner. Board Chair Harvey is stepping down as chair.

The LAC/LAPS/UNM-LA meeting was held. Discussion center around CTE programs and student internships, and creating more opportunities for students to get credit for the work they do. They also discussed the capital improvement match and the bond cycle.

13. Future Business

Tues, Sept 8, LAPS Board Meeting, LAPS Board Room 5:30 pm

Mon, Sept 14, Region II Fall NMSBA Meeting, Hosted by LAPS

Fri, Sept 18, Homecoming Parade, 2:30 pm

Fri, Sept 18, Homecoming Game, LAPS is hosting Cibola High School, 7:00 pm

Sat, Sept 19, Homecoming Dance, 7:00 pm

Thurs, Sept 24, LAPS Board Meeting, Chamisa Elementary

Tues, Oct 13, LAPS Board Meeting, LAPS Board Room, 5:30 pm

Thurs, Oct 22, LAPS Board Meeting, Los Alamos Middle School, 5:30 pm

14. Adjournment

Member Baker: I MOVE we adjourn this meeting.

All in Favor, AYE

Motion Carries

Meeting Adjourned, 7:05 pm