

**MINUTES –SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING AND WORK SESSION – AUGUST 27, 2009,
AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE BOARDROOM**

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. CALL TO ORDER

The Los Alamos School Board held a Special Board Meeting and Work Session on August 27, 2009, in the boardroom. Ms. Ahlers called the meeting to order at 6:02 P.M.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Joan Ahlers, President
Kenneth Johnson, Vice President
Jody Benson, Secretary
Thelma Hahn, Board Member
Melanie McKinley, Board Member
Gene Schmidt, Superintendent
Kate Thomas, Assistant Superintendent
John Wolfe, Director of Business Services
Cathy McAnally, Recording Secretary

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Since the United Way Youth team would be arriving late due to soccer practice, the Board agreed to delay agenda item six until their arrival. Mr. Wolfe notified the Board that the presentation under item ten (Lease of 1 Acre Tract of A15) should be deleted. Ms. Benson made a **MOTION** to approve the agenda as amended. The **MOTION** passed unanimously.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING August 11, 2009,
and SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING August 20, 2009**

Ms. McKinley made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes of the Regular School Board meeting of August 11, 2009, as amended, and the Special School Board meeting of August 20, 2009. The **MOTION** passed unanimously.

6. SOLAR PANEL PROJECT PRESENTATION

Mr. Wolfe introduced three representatives from Solar Energy Initiatives, Inc. who outlined the company's credentials, reviewed the utility date received from Los Alamos and identified a path to solar photovoltaic and overall utility cost reduction plan. The plan included the installation of solar panels at no cost to Los Alamos Public Schools. The energy collected by this system would be sold back to Los Alamos Public Schools at a reduced rate. The Board organized a study committee for consideration of this project, which will include Dr. Schmidt, Ms. Hahn and Ms. Benson. The Board requested that the company representative provide the study committee with a sample copy of the contract and examples of their other projects, similar to this project, along with references. The Board thanked the company representative for bringing this prospective project for their consideration.

7. TRINITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Ms. Ahlers told the group that there was nothing to report on the Trinity Development Project.

8. LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Dr. Johnson provided the Board and administrators a newspaper article regarding scenario financial planning. Ms. Thomas and Mr. Wolfe have identified a list of potential members for this committee, as well as, studying the scenario approach to financial planning versus the “salami approach”. The administrators requested that the Board provide the committee with any particular scenarios that they would like the committee to consider.

9. ACCEPTANCE OF PUBLIC SCHOOL CAPITAL OUTLAY COUNCIL FUNDS

After a discussion of the funds from the Public School Capital Outlay Council funds, Ms. Ahlers requested that Mr. Wolfe check with the PSCOC on the timeline for the additional \$7 million for the project so that the district would be in compliance with all requirements for these funds. Ms. Benson made a **MOTION** to accept the Public School Capital Outlay Council funds in the amount of \$495,320. The **MOTION** passed unanimously.

10. APPROVAL OF BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUESTS

Mr. Wolfe responded to Board questions regarding the budget adjustment requests. Ms. Benson made a **MOTION** to approve the budget adjustment requests. The **MOTION** passed unanimously.

11. UNITED WAY YOUTH TEAM SPONSORED BY LAPS

Carla Gray Weiser, Marketing Director of the United Way of Northern New Mexico provided the Board with a copy of the annual report for this group for the year of 2008. Students from the Youth Campaign group introduced themselves to the Board and provided the Board with information on their goal for 2009 along with descriptions of several of their fundraising activities including Dinner over Diamond and Hamburger Night at the Hill Diner. The Board thanked the students for their presentation and their participation in this event.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Ahlers adjourned the School Board meeting at 7:31 P.M.

WORK SESSION

1. 40 DEVELOPMENTAL ASSETS SURVEY

Dr. Morrie Pongratz presented the results of the 2009 Search Institute survey. Los Alamos Public Schools continues to survey students to identify trends in order to provide information and assistance to the students and their families. Dr. Pongratz also reviewed the 40 Developmental Assets and the relationship between a student’s asset level and a student’s success, such as the higher number of assets a student possesses, the less likely the student is to engage in risky behaviors. Several cross-correlations were

examined and ditching school was often associated with risky behaviors such as contemplating suicide, alcohol and drug use. Mr. Pongratz noted that the survey indicated that alcohol use among teenagers is down since the previous survey. He noted the increase of citations from the local police department for minor in possession of alcohol as a deterrent to this behavior in the community.

Dr. Pongratz listed conclusions including:

- Survey numbers are credible
- Not much change from 2006 to 2009
- Alcohol use is a serious problem but we're making progress
- Suicide is a serious problem
- Skipping school, getting in trouble at school and smoking are outward signs of problems – tips of icebergs

Dr. Pongratz listed several recommendations including:

- Continue to survey in secondary school; we are a data-driven district
- Get help to students and families based on the identified outward signs of problems
- Spread the word- not the information to keep secret – show parents at open houses!

The Board thanked Dr. Pongratz for his report.

2. MONEY SMARTS CLASS INFORMATION

Ms. Romero and Dr. Jebbanema from the high school Family and Consumer Sciences department presented information to the Board on the Money Smarts class. Ms. Romero currently teaches this class and Dr. Jebbanema has taught the class in the past. The class is currently listed as an elective class and includes setting smart goals and identifying needs versus wants. Several local financial institutions provided written information and guest speakers for the class, which is currently available for enrollment by 10th, 11th and 12th graders. Ms. Romero will be revising the listing for this class in the schedule of classes in order to advertise the class. Both instructors enjoy teaching this class and believe the class is of great benefit to all students. The Board thanked the teachers for their presentation.

3. E-MAIL USER AGREEMENT

Dean Obermeyer, Coordinator of Technology, reviewed the changes to 6144.1R and 6144.2R, Ethical Use of Technology, and responded to Board questions. Since Board members use the district's e-mail system, Mr. Obermeyer requested that each member sign both agreements.

4. LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE

This task force consists of Ms. Ahlers, Ms. Benson, Dr. Schmidt and Mr. Wolfe. The group set the first meeting for Tuesday, September 1st at noon in Dr. Schmidt's office.

Ms. Ahlers adjourned the work session at 8:35 P.M.

Draft Prepared and Respectfully Submitted
on Friday, August 27, 2009

Cathy McAnally, Recording Secretary

Approved:

Attested:

President

Secretary