



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

**BOARD WRAP-UP**

**Board of Education Meeting**  
**July 31, 2023**

1. **ROLL CALL** – Ayala, Bickel, Derbigny (via Zoom) and Leyba. Backes was absent.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – **AGENDA APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
  2. **CONSENT AGENDA**
    - E. **ADDITION** - Approve List of Substitute Teacher for the 2023-2024 School Year
    - F. **ADDITION** - Approve Additional Out of District Students for the 2023-2024 School Year
    - G. **ADDITION** - Approve Resolution Authorizing Signing of Checks/District Bank Account Colorado Bank and Trust
  5. **NEW BUSINESS**
    - G. **ADDITION** - Approve Job Description for Website Coordinator
4. **CONSENT AGENDA** - **APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED**
  - A. **Personnel Approval**
    - Alex Romero - Resignation as Bookkeeper at the Junior/Senior High School effective July 20, 2023
    - Aubrey Ayala - Resignation as Secretary at the Junior/Senior High School effective July 10, 2023
    - Amber Nelson - New Hire as Counselor at the Junior/Senior High School for the 2023-2024 school year
    - Rainie Samora - New Hire as Secretary at the Junior/Senior High School for the 2023-2024 school year
    - Estrella Leyva - New Hire as Secretary at the Junior/Senior High School for the 2023-2024 school year
    - Vanessa Flood - Resignation as Teacher at the Junior/Senior High School effective July 14, 2023
    - Cristian Estrada - New Hire as Elementary Teacher at the Intermediate School for the 2023-2024 school year
    - Kristina Lofing - New Hire as 8th Grade Social Studies Teacher at the Junior/Senior High School for the 2023-2024 school year
    - Martin Valdez - New Hire as Counselor at Tiger Trades Academy for the 2023-2024 school year
    - Rachel Ford - New Hire as Secretary at the Primary School for the 2023-2024 school year
    - Adriana Juki - New Hire as Elementary Teacher at the Intermediate School for the 2023-2024 school year
    - Sharee Flakes - New Hire as Elementary Teacher at the Intermediate School for the 2023-2024 school year
    - Hannah Gomez - New Hire as 9th Grade English Teacher at the Junior/Senior High School for the 2023-2024 school year
    - Britney Smith - New Hire as Junior High Art Teacher at the Junior/Senior High School for the 2023-2024 school year
    - Gwynn Root - New Hire as a Paraprofessional at the Junior/Senior High School for the 2023-2024 school year
    - Raelynn Romero - New Hire as a Paraprofessional at the Junior/Senior High School for the 2023-2024 school year
    - Eisa Guerrero - New Hire as a Paraprofessional at the Junior/Senior High School for the 2023-2024 school year
    - Zeta Mills - New Hire as Junior High Health Teacher at the Junior/Senior High School for the 2023-2024 school year
    - Rebecca Griffin - New Hire as Teacher at Tiger Trades Academy for the 2023-2024 school year
    - Jeffrey Fouracre - New Hire as Teacher at Tiger Trades Academy for the 2023-2024 school year
    - Rick Salazar - New Hire as Electives Teacher at Tiger Trades Academy for the 2023-2024 school year
    - Bianca Good - New Hire as Paraprofessional at the Intermediate School for the 2023-2024 school year
    - Dolores Chavez - New Hire as Paraprofessional at the Intermediate School for the 2023-2024 school year
    - Mercedes Garcia - New Hire as Paraprofessional at the Intermediate School for the 2023-2024 school year
    - Krystal Vigil - Resignation as Paraprofessional at the Primary School effective July 25, 2023
    - Sarah Lopez - New Hire as Student Advocate at the Junior/Senior High School for the 2023-2024 school year

- B. Approve Compliance Report for the 2022-2023 School Year
- C. Approve Revised Policy GBGD on First/Revised Reading
- D. Approve Fall Sports Extra Duty Assignments for the 2023-2024 Season
- E. Approve List of Substitute Teachers for the 2023-2024 School Year
- F. Approve Additional Out-of-District Students for the 2023-2024 School Year
- G. Approve Resolution Authorizing Signing of Checks/District Bank Accounts at Colorado Bank and Trust

**5. MINUTES** – Minutes of the Regular Meeting on June 26, 2023 **APPROVED AS PRINTED**

**6. PRESENTATIONS**

**La Junta Jr/Sr High School Agriculture Education Advisory Committee:**

Ryan Siefkas, Agriculture Education Teacher, along with Richard Wittman and John Polmiller, members of the La Junta Junior/Senior High School Agriculture Education Advisory Committee spoke to the Board. Mr. Siefkas stated he came to the Board in March relaying information on what he needed in order to obtain state approval for the FFA program at the school. One of those things was the installation of a chair lift for a wheelchair bound student for easier access to the ag shop in the school.

Mr. Siefkas said at his June meeting, his advisory committee asked about the status of the lift and Mr. Siefkas said he would speak with Superintendent Lovato to get an update. At the advisory committee July meeting, Mr. Siefkas said he was not able to report any progress. Mr. Siefkas mentioned the email that the Board received which included a letter from the advisory committee as well as from the state outlining the need for the lift.

Superintendent Lovato introduced Crispin Miell, Maintenance Director, who informed the audience and Board that a chair lift has been purchased and will be installed on August 8, 2023. It will be installed in the stair well, which will provide access to both the ag shop and the art room.

Director Leyba asked Mr. Siefkas if he was required to do a local needs assessment or a regional needs assessment. Mr. Siefkas replied that there are national quality program standards (NQPS) released by the National Agriculture Association. He said the standards contain over 100 pages of different items that are looked at to see where the program is at. Mr. Siefkas said last year the advisory committee, administration and students went through a portion of the standards. Based on that, the findings were submitted through that as well as expectations for Colorado and that became the needs assessment. A regional needs assessment for the Perkins Grant is completed every five years. Mr. Siefkas stated each program has to do that for approval. Director Leyba asked, as stakeholders, who should be asked for a copy of the NQPS. Mr. Siefkas said he would get one to her before the next meeting.

**7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The plumbers have been working at the bus barn and are nearing completion. There are some finish items that have been ordered but not yet received such as bathroom partitions, etc. Superintendent Lovato said the district has applied for certification and are waiting an on-site inspection from CDE. He added access from Lacey Avenue is being looked at to decide the proper amount of curb removal.

Other projects throughout the district that are being or will be worked on:

*Tiger Trades Academy-*

- Vent for shop class
- Greenhouse
- Flooring on north side of building
- Gym walls
- Inside and outside basketball hoops
- Pickle ball court painting
- Shade structure where old playground stood
- Electrical in gym

*Junior/Senior High School-*

- Roof leaks
- Ceiling tile replacement
- Gym leak

*Intermediate School-*

- Have had roofer look at cupulas
- Flooring project
- Playground surface for ADA swing, EOSD working on the surface prep

- Gym air conditioning
- Xeriscaping
- Inside and outside basketball hoops

*Primary-*

- Roof leak in lunchroom
- Sink holes

*District-wide-*

- Electrical issues due to outdated systems
- HVAC programming still in progress
- Curb and crosswalk painting

Director Ayala asked what the plan is for the previous bus barn. Superintendent Lovato said it holds two freezer units and is used for storage. The maintenance workers use the front of the building as it only sustained smoke damage that has been cleaned up. Director Ayala said that is a big building to just use for storage and would be interested to see if it would sell.

Director Ayala voiced a concern with cars parking next to the Tiger Trades Academy gymnasium. She is concerned about the students when school starts and people driving where students would walk. Superintendent Lovato mentioned looking into mechanical gates and fencing. Director Ayala asked if there is a goal to fix the gym roof at TTA. Crispin Miell said the roof is fine and that a gutter scupper was completely plugged. He cleaned it out and the drainage is fine now.

Director Leyba asked about new wrestling mats. Superintendent Lovato said at least one needs to be replaced and some may be surplus out due to their age.

Superintendent Lovato would like to hold a Board work session on August 9 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. He said he will use this time to discuss the district's finances and where things currently sit as well as review the extra duty salary schedule to make sure the district is fair and competitive. Director Leyba mentioned she would like professional development for the Board and would like the Board to focus on goal setting and policy work.

Superintendent Lovato also mention the Board will need to start thinking about a transition plan for bringing in a new superintendent. He said many school districts hire a new superintendent in March or April for a start date of July 1.

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

- Approve Rotary Membership (Lovato) **APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25.00 PER MONTH AS PRESENTED**
- Approve the Extra Duty Salary Schedule (Lovato) **TABLED UNTIL THE AUGUST MEETING**
- Approve the Capturing Kids' Hearts Renewal (Lovato) **APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$52,500.00 AS PRESENTED**
- Approve Revised Superintendent Contract (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED WITH A REVISED MOTION**
- Approve the Junior/Senior High School Swim Program Co-op (Lovato) **MOTION FAILED WITH A UNANIMOUS VOTE**
- Approve the Children's Literacy Center Tutoring Program (Lovato) **TABLED UNTIL A LATER DATE**
- Approve Job Description for Website Coordinator (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

**9. BOARD COMMENTS**

- ✓ Director Leyba commented it was a short summer!

**11. ADJOURNMENT – MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:34 p.m.**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**DEE LEYBA, President**      **ANGELA AYALA, Vice President**  
**DARLENE DERBIGNY, Secretary/Treasurer**      **KIDRON BACKES, Director**  
**KRISTIN BICKEL, Director**