

REGULAR MEETING OF THE RATON BOARD OF EDUCATION

****RHS Krivokapich Media Center****

1535 Tiger Circle, Raton, New Mexico

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 2026 @ 6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

President Phillips called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was led by President Phillips.

III. Swearing in of Elected Board Members

The Honorable Judge Steven A. Romero swore in newly re-elected Board Members Jason Phillips and Ryan Boone for another 4 year term on the Raton School Board.

IV. Board Reorganization

Brenda Ferri made a motion to re-elect Jason Phillips to the President position, Ryan Boone to the Vice-President position, and Brenda Ferri to the Secretary position. Motion was seconded by Mr. Kamp. Motion carried 5-0

V. Recognition of Students, Staff and Visitors

Board Members

Jason Phillips – President
Ryan Boone – Vice President
Brenda Ferri - Secretary
Ted Kamp – Member
Dustin Walton - Member

Staff

Kristie Medina, Superintendent, Myra Baird,
Business Manager, Joleene Starr,
Deia Craig, Justin Mattorano, Olga
Neurauter, Nick Cardenas, John Brown,
and Johonna Petrie

a. Student Senate Representative Report

Azden Romero, Senior Class President, reported on the plans for Tiger Fest, which are taking place this week. The theme for this year is: Night on the Bayou.

Tiger Fest Schedule:

Monday: Powerlifting – Dora, Clayton & Des Moines attended. The next two meets are in February in Clayton and Logan. The majority of the 11 powerlifting students are currently in the state rankings.

Wednesday: Early Release – After lunch: Rowdeo, After School Assembly, Royalty and Mums – King Elijah Kenney & Queen Ava Machuca
Prince Gage Fleming & Princess Savannah Brashear

Fri./Sat.: Wrestling – in Trinidad

Saturday: Basketball Games starting at 1 p.m.
Prince and Princess crowning during half time of the Varsity Girls Game.
King and Queen crowning during half time of the Varsity Boys Game.
Bonfire after both games.

- b. Requests to be recognized -- (5 minute limit)
None

VI. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Kamp made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion was seconded by Mr. Boone. Motion carried 5-0.

VII. Approval of Minutes – December 18, 2025 – Regular Meeting

Mr. Kamp made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 18, 2025 regular meeting. Motion was seconded by Mr. Walton. Motion carried 5-0.

VIII. Informational Items

a. Superintendent Report

Ms. Medina reported that Geotechnical boring is currently being done on campus. A water line was hit today, but the City was quick to get it fixed. A Page Turner meeting is scheduled for January 22. Ms. Medina and President Phillips will both attend. They also have an appointment with the architects that day. The fact that the Page Turner meeting was delayed may slightly slow progress on the new school, but everything else is going according to plan. The HVAC system for the new building has been chosen. Ms. Baird reported that the utilities for the stand alone gym will be discussed at the Page Turner Meeting.

b. Principal/Director Reports

Principals had nothing to report besides what was in the Board Packet.

c. Board Member Reports

It was reported that all board members had completed their required training for 2025. Mr. Phillips reported that the City of Raton has received a grant to resurface the walking trails, along with other improvements, on the grounds around the Aquatic Center.

IX. Action Items

a. Discuss/Approve Financial Report & Budget Adjustments/Transfers

Ms. Ferri made a motion to approve the Financial Report & Budget Adjustments/Transfers. Motion was seconded by Mr. Kamp. Motion carried 5-0

b. Discuss/Approve Open Meetings Act Resolution 2026-01

Ms. Ferri made a motion to approve the Open Meetings Act Resolution 2026-01. Motion was seconded by Mr. Walton. Motion carried 5-0.

c. Nick Cardenas, Transportation Director, reported that the district has been awarded a \$150,000 Capital Outlay grant to install propane fueling infrastructure for propane-powered buses. Mr. Cardenas reviewed the potential benefits of transitioning the district's bus fleet to propane, including lower fuel and maintenance costs, the ability for buses to start and operate efficiently in cold conditions with automatic warming, and reduced noise levels.

Mr. Kamp asked about the timeline for acquiring new buses. Mr. Cardenas stated that the district is scheduled to receive one new bus in approximately one year, with two additional buses due for replacement in two years. He suggested that the next bus

include underbody storage compartments so it could be used for activity trips if needed. He also noted that a bus equipped with a 100-gallon propane tank could travel to Albuquerque and return without refueling.

District Mechanic John Brown presented a cost comparison between diesel and propane buses, demonstrating that propane buses would result in clear cost savings. President Phillips stated that he trusted Mr. Cardenas's judgment as Transportation Director and noted that the grant-funded propane infrastructure significantly reduces the financial risk to the district.

Ms. Ferri made a motion to accept the Grant for Alternative Fuel Infrastructure. Motion was seconded by Mr. Kamp. Motion carried 5-0.

X. **Adjournment**

Mr. Boone made a motion to adjourn. Motion was second by Mr. Kamp. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting was adjourned at 6:32 p.m.



Jason Phillips, President



Brenda Ferri, Secretary