

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE RATON BOARD OF EDUCATION**

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

**1535 Tiger Circle, Raton, New Mexico**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2026 @ 6:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

**I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

President Phillips called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge was led by President Phillips.

**III. Recognition of Students, Staff and Visitors**

Board Members

Jason Phillips – President

Ryan Boone – Absent

Brenda Ferri - Secretary

Ted Kamp – Member

Dustin Walton - Member

Staff

Kristie Medina, Superintendent, Joleene

Starr, Deia Craig, Justin Mattorano,

Olga Neurauter, Michaleen Delapp, Sue

Holland, Ambrosita Sintas, Lynette Simpson

and Johonna Petrie

a. Student Senate Representative Report

K'myaih Romero and Alayah Sandoval reported on Tiger Fest, that took place the week of January 17th.

Tiger Fest Schedule:

Monday: Powerlifting – Many students enjoyed attending the meet.

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.

The bonfire was canceled

March 4<sup>th</sup> – Student Senate will be hosting a Spring Sports Kick off and Clubs/Student Senate Recognition Assembly.

March 11<sup>th</sup> – Vitalant Blood Drive at RHS

The Student Senate is hoping to have a bonfire event in April.

b. Requests to be recognized – (5 minute limit)

FCCLA

Alayah Sandoval and Anastacia Lucero reported that 22 students are preparing to go to the State Conference. Fifteen members are competing and the other seven students are going to volunteer.

FCCLA is asking for donations of dress clothes for the Conference. Last week was FCCLA week. On Monday, the members received their placement medals for the Regional Competition. On Tuesday, FCCLA students gave Sonic drinks to all staff at the High School and Admin buildings, as a part of their day of service. On Friday FCCLA sponsored a “Red Day”. All students and staff wore red and took a picture for the yearbook. Everyone also participated in an FCCLA chant.

**IV. Approval of Agenda**

Mr. Kamp made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion was seconded by Mr. Walton. Motion carried 4-0.

V. **Approval of Minutes – January 15, 2026 – Regular Meeting**

Ms. Ferri made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 15, 2026 regular meeting. Motion was seconded by Mr. Walton. Motion carried 4-0.

VI. **Informational Items**

a. Principal/Director Reports

Mr. Kamp asked Ms. Neurauter about the grant that Longfellow received. Ms. Neurauter reported it was a \$1000 grant for Structured Literacy. The funds will be used for prizes for students who are reading at home. It will also be used to purchase 3 bikes to be given away on May 1<sup>st</sup> at the End of Year Celebration.

b. Superintendent Report

Ms. Medina reported that the architects were in District last week, meeting with the staff and making needed revisions to the new school plans. They will be back in 2-3 weeks for the staff to review the revisions from their prior visit. After those meetings, the District will be ready to push something out to the community about the plans for the new school.

Ms. Medina reported that the new insurance bill passed in the legislature that would provide all employees an 80/20 split on the cost of medical insurance. There is also a bill floating that would prohibit all electronic communication devices for students during the school day.

Mr. Walton asked Ms. Starr how enforcement of the electric device policy was going. Ms. Starr reported that there have been numerous issues recently with Meta glasses and smart watches. Meta glasses have been especially challenging because they can be difficult to detect. Students wearing these glasses are able to record at any time, including in bathrooms, and they can also be used to listen to music and receive text messages. These devices pose a test security concern as the district enters testing season.

Ms. Starr stated that Ms. Medina sent a notice to all families on Parent Square prohibiting these devices. She also reported that some days are worse than others, particularly when there are many substitute teachers in the building, as some students attempt to take advantage of the situation. President Phillips informed Ms. Starr that the Board is ready and willing to support staff with any policy deemed necessary.

c. Board Member Reports

President Phillips reported that the new percentages for all staff insurance policies is great for the District's employees. The accounting and funding for the change has not been provided yet. It could have a big impact on the District if it is not funded by the State. Raises were also passed at 1%. He reported that some of the other things that were passed for kids had to do with universal childcare.

Mr. Walton reported receiving a great deal of positive feedback from staff about the architects, particularly their willingness to make adjustments based on staff needs. He did express a concern regarding the level of access visitors might have to the office areas where the secretaries are located. It was explained that visitors would only have access to a vestibule unless they are buzzed in by one of the secretaries. Mr. Walton also noted that the plans appeared to show no administrative staff offices on the second floor of the high school. Ms. Starr added that the current location of her office limits her ability to quickly access the hallways and stairwells. Ms. Craig stated that she has requested that her office be relocated closer to her secretary and the resource room. Ms. Medina responded that these concerns could be reviewed when the architects return in a few weeks.

- d. Title 1 Report and Input
- e. Federal Programs Review and Input

Ms. Starr reported that she is currently working on all federal applications. She noted that all funds can be reported and requested through a single application, which simplifies both the reporting and application processes. At this time, she is completing the Needs Assessment and the Homeless Needs Assessment and will provide an update on both at next month's board meeting. Ms. Craig also reported that she is in the process of applying for a PreK grant.

**VII. Action Items**

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

Mr. Kamp made a motion to approve the Financial Report & Budget Adjustments/Transfers. Motion was seconded by Ms. Ferri. Motion carried 4-0

- b. Discuss/Approve Budget Workshop Dates

Ms. Ferri made a motion to begin the Budget Workshops before the next 3 Board Meetings at 6 p.m., with the regular School Board Meeting to follow immediately after. Motion was seconded by Mr. Walton. Motion carried 4-0.

- c. NMSBA Student Achievement Nominations(s)

After much discussion, Ms. Ferri made a motion to nominate the following:

Connie Shields – for her work and contributions at Longfellow

Darren Craig – for his work at Raton Intermediate School

Lynette Simpson – for her work at Raton High School with the Dual Credit Program.

Motion was seconded by Mr. Walton. Motion carried 4-0.

- d. Discuss/Approve Requisition to J3Systems for RHS Gym Roof

Mr. Kamp expressed a concern about the longevity of flat roofs. He agreed that the District needs to keep up the current gym roof, but he has concerns about the roofs at the new school. Ms. Medina and President Phillips reported that there will be several layers of research done before the roofing and pitch is decided for the new building. Ms. Medina also said that she would be happy to give the architects Mr. Kamp's phone number so that they could discuss this issue more. Ms. Ferri asked if the roof would be paid for through Capital Outlay. Ms. Medina replied that it had been applied for, but that the District also had several places that money could be transferred for this use. Mr. Kamp made a motion to approve the Requisition to J3Systems for the RHS Gym Roof. Motion was seconded by Ms. Ferri. Motion carried 4-0.

**VIII. Executive Session - Pursuant to the State "Open Meetings Act" Section 10-15-1 (H) (2) discussion of limited personnel matters. No action will be take in executive session.**

- 1) Discuss Superintendent Contract

Mr. Kamp made a motion to go into executive session. Motion was seconded by Ms. Ferri.

Roll was called as follows:

Mr. Phillips: Yes

Ms. Ferri: Yes

Mr. Kamp: Yes

Mr. Walton: Yes

Motion carried 4-0

The Board went into Executive Session at 6:42 p.m.


Mr. Walton made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Motion was seconded by Ms. Ferri. The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:39.

**IX. Discuss/Approve Superintendent Contract**

Mr. Walton made a motion to exercise the mutual consent option to add an additional year to Superintendent Medina's Contract. Motion was seconded by Mr. Kamp. Motion carried 4-0.

**X. Adjournment**

Mr. Walton made a motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Mr. Kamp. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

  
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Jason Phillips, President

  
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Brenda Ferri, Secretary