

DRAFT
HATCH VALLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
May 1, 2026

Board Members Present:

Rey Gonzalez, Chris Montez, Elva Garay, and Joaquin Legarreta

Board Members Absent:

N/A

School Personnel Present:

Fred Montalvo, Andrew Campbell, Sheila Stevenson, Victoria Olivas, Carrie Hernandez, Priscilla Garcia, Bobby Cordero, Sandra Williams and S. Elsa Ramirez

Visitors:

Phyllis Sims, Ruben Gutierrez, Alexa Garcia, Greg Mithcell, Dora Chairez, Laura Calderon, Steven Bouvet Jr., Lupe Castillo, Claudia Y. Rangel, Debbie Cordero, Tyson Adams, (via zoom)

Call to order 5:00 pm

Roll Call

Pledge of Allegiance & Salute to the New Mexico Flag

Purpose of Special Meeting: Board Member Interviews and Select new Board Member
Vice President Gonzalez announced the need to make two amendments to the agenda.

The first amendment: *After Item 3, he requested that Public Input be added.*

Action: Secretary Montez motioned to approve, seconded by Member Garay

Voice Vote: Gonzalez: YES, Montez: YES, Garay: YES, Legarreta: YES

Motion Carried

The second amendment is to acknowledge that a packet for the Board Member Vacancy was received slightly later in the day. The Board must confirm that all members are in agreement to accept the late-submitted packet for consideration.

Action: Secretary Montez motioned to approve, seconded by VP Gonzalez

Voice Vote: Gonzalez: YES, Montez: YES, Garay: YES, Legarreta: YES

Motion Carried to accept Dora Chairez packet.

1. **Approval of Agenda**

Action: Member Garay motioned to approve, seconded by Member Legarreta

Voice Vote: Gonzalez: YES, Montez: YES, Garay: YES, Legarreta: YES

Motion Carried to approve the amended agenda

2. **Approval of Budget Adjustments/Requests/Transfers/Cash Request Maintenance**
Maintenance BARS:11000,13000,26121,26204,27107,27149,31100 Increase BAR: 26107; Decrease BAR: 27149

Action: Member Garay motioned to approve, seconded by Secretary Montez

Voice Vote: Gonzalez: YES, Montez: YES, Garay: YES, Legarreta: YES
Motion Carried

3. New Business

A. Consider Approval of Out of State Student Travel; FFA to Oklahoma
Action: Member Garay motioned to approve, seconded Member Legarreta
Voice Vote: Gonzalez: YES, Montez: YES, Garay: YES, Legarreta: YES
Motion Carried.

B. Consider Approval of Bilingual Multicultural Education Application
Action: Member Garay motioned to approve, seconded Member Legarreta
Voice Vote: Gonzalez: YES, Montez: YES, Garay: YES, Legarreta: YES
Motion Carried.

C. Consider Approval of the Purchase Weight Room Flooring
Action: Member Garay motioned to approve, seconded Secretary Montez
Voice Vote: Gonzalez: YES, Montez: YES, Garay: YES, Legarreta: YES
Motion Carried.

D. Consider Approval of the FY 2026 Auditor Contract (Cordova CPAs LLC)
Action: Member Garay motioned to approve, Secretary Montez
Voice Vote: Gonzalez: YES, Montez: YES, Garay: YES, Legarreta: YES
Motion Carried

4. Limited Public Comment - Greg Mitchell addressed the Board

5. Interviews of Board Member Candidates

The Board conducted interviews for the Board Member Vacancy. The following candidates were interviewed: Ruben F. Gutierrez, Steven Bouvet Jr, Lupe Castillo, Debbie Cordero, and Dora Chairez.

The Board was informed that candidate Tyson Adams was unable to attend the meeting in person.

Action: A motion was made by Secretary Montez and seconded by Member Legarreta to allow the candidate to be interviewed via Zoom.

Voice Vote: Gonzalez: YES, Montez: YES, Garay: NO, Legarreta: YES

Motion Carried: The Board proceeded to interview Tyson Adams via Zoom.

6. Executive Session

The Board will go into Executive Session in accordance with Section 10-15-2, NMSA 1978 of the Open Meetings Act to discuss limited personnel regarding Candidates Interviews. No action will be taken until the Board returns to open session.

Action: Member Garay motioned to approve, Secretary Montez
Voice Vote: Gonzalez: YES, Montez: YES, Garay: YES, Legarreta: YES
Motion Carried. The Board entered executive session at 6:12 pm

7. Return to Open Meeting

Possible Actions Selection of the New Board Members

The Vice President called for a motion to return to the open meeting.

Action: Secretary Montez motioned to approve, seconded by Member Garay

Voice Vote: Gonzalez: YES, Montez: YES, Garay: YES, Legarreta: YES

Motion Carried.

The Board reconvened in open session following Executive Session at 6:41

Vice President Gonzalez called for any possible motion.

Action: Member Garay made a motion stating that the Board did not select a candidate during Executive Session to fill the Board Member Vacancy and that the names of the interviewed candidates be forwarded to the New Mexico Public Education Department Secretary of Education for appointment. The motion was seconded by Vice President Gonzalez.

Voice Vote: Gonzalez: YES, Montez: YES, Garay: YES, Legarreta: YES

Motion Carried.

The following candidates' names will be forwarded: Ruben Gutierrez, Debbie Cordero, Lupe Castillo, and Dora Chairez.

8. **Adjournment**

Vice President Gonzalez asked for a motion to adjourn. Member Garay made the motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Secretary Montez. On a voice vote the motion was passed unanimously by the Board. The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 pm

The above minutes are a true and correct reflection of the Board of Education's special meeting on May 1, 2026

AFFIRMATION:

ATTEST:

Rey Gonzalez, Vice President

Chris Montez, Secretary