AZTEC MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO 2
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES Draft – Not Official
October 1, 2026

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:	Laci Phillips Newland, President Katie Buchholz, Secretary Amanda Sutherland, Member Dr. Rebekah French, Member
ABSENT BOARD MEMBER:	Jimmy Dusenbery
SCHOOL PERSONNEL PRESENT:	Lauren Laws, Superintendent Levi Stout, Director of Operations
VISITORS:	Mr. Edward DesPlas Captain Troy Morris

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Board Meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Board President Mrs. Laci Phillips Newland in the Board Room at Central Office. The Aztec Board of Education welcomes you to this meeting. This meeting is streamed live on the Aztec Schools Website via Zoom.

VERIFICATION OF QUORUM/ROLL CALL

Roll call:	Jimmy Dusenbery, Vice President	ABSENT
	Laci Phillips Newland, Board President	HERE
	Amanda Sutherland, Member	HERE
	Katie Buchholz, Board Secretary	HERE
	Dr. Rebekah French, Member	HERE

WELCOME/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

The Aztec Board of Education welcomes you to this meeting.

If you wish to express an opinion or ask questions unrelated to the agenda, please direct those to the appropriate administrator and/or board member(s) outside of this meeting. It is our intent to maintain a professional atmosphere during this meeting. Public input is always welcomed, pursuant to board policy BEDH. Please refer to our handout on the website under Board Meetings that describes the appropriate procedures and decorum for public input. If you are present in the Board Room, please turn off or silence your cell phones and avoid side conversations. If a need arises for a side conversation, please step out of the room to not disrupt business at hand.

Board President Mrs. Laci Newland welcomed those attending. Captain Troy Morris led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Pledge to the New Mexico State Flag.

We would ask now that you please stand for our pledge of allegiance and the salute to the state flag.

Official Salute to the New Mexico Flag: "I salute the flag of the State of New Mexico and the Zía symbol of perfect friendship among united cultures.

Tell Me Something Good

APPROVAL OF AGENDA*

Board President Mrs. Laci Phillips Newland presented and recommended to approve the agenda as presented. Board Secretary Mrs. Katie Buchholz made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; second Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

Roll call:

Katie Buchholz, Secretary	AYE
Laci Phillips Newland, Board President	AYE
Amanda Sutherland, Member	AYE
Dr. Rebekah French, Member	AYE

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES*

Board President Mrs. Laci Phillips Newland presented and recommended to approve the minutes from the August Board Meetings as presented. Board Secretary Mrs. Katie Buchholz made a motion to approve the minutes from the August Board Meetings as presented; second Board Member Dr. Rebekah French; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

Roll call:

Katie Buchholz, Secretary	AYE
Laci Phillips Newland, Board President	AYE
Amanda Sutherland, Member	AYE
Dr. Rebekah French, Member	AYE

Motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS

Mr. DesPlas with San Juan College presented the Go Bonds Support Student Success and Campus Improvements. Discussion was held.

Athletic Department Presentation – (Presented During Working Session)

PUBLIC FORUM

Description:

The Aztec Municipal School District Board of Education welcomes public comments during its regular board meetings to offer suggestions on topics relevant to the district. Topics may include suggestions for

improving district services, policies, items currently on the meeting agenda, etc. Per board policy BEDH, please keep in mind the following practices:

- Questions of fact asked by the public shall, when appropriate, be answered by the President or referred to the Superintendent for reply. No action or discussion shall transpire among Board members regarding such questions or comments. Questions requiring investigation shall be referred to the Superintendent for later report to the Board. Questions or comments on matters that are currently under legal review will not receive a response.
- The President has set a time limit on the length of the comment period. This time limit is five (5) minutes and the lending or borrowing of time is not permitted. The time limit may be shortened depending on the number of speakers signed up to speak during public comment to allow more speakers to be heard.
- Personal attacks upon Board members, staff personnel, or other persons in attendance or absent by individuals who address the Board are prohibited. Presenters are cautioned that statements or representations concerning others that convey an unjustly unfavorable impression may subject the presenter to civil action for defamation.

No Public Forum Requests

REPORTS

Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Superintendent's Report. Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws included the Superintendent's Report in the Board Book. Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws was present for any questions. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Personnel Report. Mr. Jonathan Acrey, Deputy Superintendent, included the Personnel Report in Board Book. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Policy Committee Report. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Financial Report. Board Secretary Mrs. Katie Buchholz was present for any questions. Discussion was held.

BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the New Board Policy - GBC - Criminal History Information - First Read. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Board Policy KF-R - Community Use of School Facilities - Second Reading. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented the Board Policy - KF-EA - Application and Site Use Agreement - Second Reading. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented Board Policy - KF-EB - Community Use of School Facilities - Second Reading. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws - Board Policy - KF - Community Use Of School Facilities - Second Reading. Discussion was held.

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented Advisory 277 - Board Policy - JLCEC - Cardiac Emergency Response Plan - Automated External Defibrillators - Third Reading. Discussion was held.

ACTION ITEMS*

Consider And Approve Board Policies – Action Items 10-A – 10-E

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended approving Board Policies - Action Items 10-A to 10-E as presented. Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland made a motion to approve Board Policies –Action Items 10-A – 10-E as presented; second Board Secretary Mrs. Katie Buchholz; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

Roll call:

Katie Buchholz, Secretary	AYE
Laci Phillips Newland, Board President	AYE
Amanda Sutherland, Member	AYE
Dr. Rebekah French, Member	AYE

Motion carried.

Consider And Approve Fundraiser Requests – Action Items 10-F – 10-G

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve Fundraiser Requests - Action Items 10-F – 10-G as presented. Board Secretary Mrs. Katie Buchholz made a motion to approve Fundraiser Requests - Action Items 10-F – 10-G as presented; second Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

Roll call:

Katie Buchholz, Secretary	AYE
Laci Phillips Newland, Board President	AYE
Amanda Sutherland, Member	AYE
Dr. Rebekah French, Member	AYE

Motion carried.

Consider And Approval of Student/Field Trip Requests – Action Items 10-H – 10-M

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws recommended to approve the Student/Field Trip Requests - Action Items 10-H – 10-M. Board Secretary Mrs. Katie Buchholz made a motion to approve the Student/Field Trip Requests – Action Items 10-H – 10-M as presented; second Board Member Dr. Rebekah French; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

Roll call:

Katie Buchholz, Secretary	AYE
Laci Phillips Newland, Board President	AYE
Amanda Sutherland, Member	AYE
Dr. Rebekah French, Member	AYE

Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA*

Superintendent Mrs. Lauren Laws presented and recommended the approval of the Consent Agenda as presented. Mrs. Evelyn Garcia, Associate Superintendent of Finance, included the Consent Agenda in the Board Packet. Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; second Board Member Dr. Rebekah French; vote unanimous. Discussion was held.

Roll call:

Katie Buchholz, Secretary	AYE
Laci Phillips Newland, Board President	AYE
Amanda Sutherland, Member	AYE
Dr. Rebekah French, Member	AYE

Motion carried.

FUTURE BUSINESS

Working Board Meeting - November 5, 2026 @ 5:00PM
Regular Board Meeting - November 5, 2026 @ 6:00PM
NMSBA Annual Convention December 3-5, 2026 - Albuquerque, NM
Discuss Rescheduling December 3, 2026 Board Meeting Tentatively Scheduled for Monday December 7, 2026

Executive Session

Board President Mrs. Laci Newland recommended the Board of Education Convene in A Closed Executive Session Limited Personnel Matters: Discussion of Limited Personnel Matters Pursuant to NMSA 1978, 10-15-1(H)(2), Specifically Regarding the Annual Performance Evaluation of Superintendent Lauren Laws, Including the Evaluation Process, Criteria, Timeline, And Materials Relevant to The Superintendent's Evaluation, as presented

Board Secretary Mrs. Katie Buchholz made a motion to Convene in a Closed Executive Session as presented; second Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland; vote unanimous.

Roll call:

Katie Buchholz, Secretary	AYE
Laci Phillips Newland, Board President	AYE
Amanda Sutherland, Member	AYE

Dr. Rebekah French, Member	AYE

Motion carried.

The Board went into Executive Session at 6:41 p.m.

Board Member Dr. Rebekah French made a motion to return to the Regular Board Meeting at 7:13 p.m.; second Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland; vote unanimous. No decisions were made.

Roll call:

Katie Buchholz, Secretary	AYE
Laci Phillips Newland, Board President	AYE
Amanda Sutherland, Member	AYE
Dr. Rebekah French, Member	AYE

Motion carried.

Board Member Ms. Amanda Sutherland made a motion to adjourn the meeting; second Board Member Dr. Rebekah French; Vote 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

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Laci Phillips Newland, President

ATTEST TO:_____
Katie Buchholz, Secretary